

WESTERN DISTRICT RELAY CHAMPIONSHIP.

The annual relay championship of the Western District of the National Cross-Country Union of Scotland was decided from the pavilion of Sheffieldton Harriers at Gartocher Road, Sheffieldton, on Saturday. The distance was some 40 miles, divided into four legs of 2½ miles, over practically the same course as last year. Out of a total entry of 20 teams drawn from 21 clubs, three were non-starters. Both Harriers B team were not forward, while the other absentees were Maryhill Harriers A and B teams. Just before the start of the race a scrutiny meeting was held, at which objection was taken to a member of Maryhill B team on the ground that he had not put in the necessary qualifying race. The protest was sustained, and the Maryhill Club then withdrew from the race.

At the end of the first circuit, S. K. Tombs, Pictish Harriers, led F. Stevenson, Monkland Harriers by 50 yards, with C. M. Blue, Garscube Harriers, some 10 yards further in the rear. The next round saw Garscube increase the lead, which they held until the later stages of the final circuit, when Gunn (Pictish) displaced Roxburgh, to win by 25 yards. C. H. Johnston (Glasgow University H. and H.), who ran third for his team, recorded the fastest lap—time, 14 mins. 7 secs. S. K. Tombs (Pictish H.) was second fastest with 14 mins. 18 secs. Results:—

- 1, Pictish Harriers (S. K. Tombs, E. James, M. Bayne, W. J. Gunn), 59 mins. 18 secs.
- 2, Garscube Harriers (C. M. Blue, J. Girvan, A. B. Brooks, R. Roxburgh), 59 mins. 17 secs.
- 3, Both Harriers (J. Calder, D. Jamieson, A. Fitzsimmons, D. F. McKechnie), 59 mins. 29 secs.
- 4, Monkland Harriers (F. Stevenson, T. Haas, J. Tennand, W. C. Plant), 59 mins. 33 secs.
- 5, Dogs Harriers (G. Dick, Alex. McHattie, W. Dick, Adam McHattie), 60 mins. 14 secs.
- 6, Sheffieldton Harriers (holders) (H. McDonald, A. B. Fraser, J. Whittier, W. Hart), 60 mins. 22 secs.

CROSS-COUNTRY

Better Times of Western District Relay

LATEST CLUB ITEMS

The latest race for the Western District relay championship compares favourably with previous contests, though an analysis of times suggests three things—(1) That the distance was, if anything, slightly curtailed ~~as compared with previous circuits~~; (2) ~~or that the~~ conditions favoured faster running; (3) ~~or that the~~ standard of running was an improvement on previous ones.

A fair instance is the performance of C. H. Johnston (Glasgow University), whose time of 14min. 9sec. represented a "speedier" circuit than any other—even Tom Riddell's last year. Many of the other competitors also show improvement in times returned for the 2½ miles test.

Here is the individual lap times of a few of the leading teams which will no doubt be of interest.

Lap Times

Plebeian—S. K. Tomlin (14-18), E. James (15-28), M. Rayne (14-47), W. J. Gunn (14-39).

Garscube—C. H. Blue (14-29), J. Girvan (14-39), R. Roxburgh (15-16), A. S. Brook (14-53).

Beith—J. Calder (14-36), D. Jameson (14-51), A. Fitzsimmons (15-17), D. F. McKechnie (14-49).

Monkland—F. L. Stevenson (14-27), T. Rae (15-16), J. Tennant (15-2), W. C. Plant (14-48).

Doon—G. Dick (15-25), Alex. McHattie (14-46), W. Dick (15-17), Adam McHattie (14-46).

Shettleston—H. McDonald (15-15), A. S. Fraser (14-57), J. Whitters (15-2), W. Hart (15-8).

Glasgow University—15-28, 16-2, 14-9, 15-6.

Springburn—15-10, 15-15, 15-47, 14-51.