

PLEBEIAN FIRST AGAIN

Relay Champions' Great Running

BRILLIANT FINISH BY GARSCUBE HARRIER

Plebeian Harriers more than justified the good opinion held of their chances to retain the Western District 10-Mile Relay Championship at Thornliebank on Saturday. The manner of their victory over Shettleston Harriers left no doubt of their merit.

The conditions were not at all propitious and the course was all the more trying on that account. Thirty-one teams out of a total entry of 32 made a start. Wellpark "B" was the absent team.

Monkland Harriers, through Frank Stevenson, led the way over the first circuit, returning the fast time of 12min. 29sec. W. T. Anderson (Shettleston) did uncommonly well to chase Stevenson to a 13sec. margin. S. K. Tombe (Plebeian) occupied third place, a further 3sec. behind Anderson.

Steady Plebeian

In the next lap E. James (Plebeian) moved up to first place, time 25min. 34sec. Monkland dropped back a place, and so did Shettleston.

M. Rayne held the lead for Plebeians in the third lap (time 38min. 30sec.), and after that Plebeian looked all over winners, for W. J. Gunn went off with a 20sec. advantage over J. Hood (Shettleston).

Garscube Harriers came into the picture over the final lap by the superb running of J. Girvan, who surprised everybody by overhauling and passing D. M'Lean (Maryhill) to bring his club into third position.

Hopelessly Handicapped

Maryhill Harriers faltered mainly because their first man failed to get nearer than thirteenth place; thereafter the task of the national champions was a hopeless one.

Individual and full times of the leading clubs are:—

- 1.—Plebeian—S. K. Tombe (12.45), E. James (12.49), M. Rayne (12.56), W. J. Gunn (12.50) 51m. 20s.
- 2.—Shettleston—W. T. Anderson (12.42), H. Hassan (13.13), H. M'Donald (12.55), J. Hood (12.52) 51m. 42s.
- 3.—Garscube—C. H. Blue (13.2), R. Roxburgh (13.22), E. Loudon (13.5), J. Girvan (12.22) 51m. 51s.
- 4.—Maryhill—A. H. Blair (13.22), A. Kellas (13.12), W. H. Calderwood (12.41), D. M'Lean (12.54) 52m. 9s.
- 5.—Monkland (52.19). 6.—Glasgow University (52.59). 7.—Glenpark. 8.—Plebeian "B." 9.—West of Scotland. 10.—Maryhill "B." 11.—Beith. 12.—Motherwell Y.M.C.A.

Fastest times were accomplished by—1, J. Girvan, Garscube (12.22); 2, F. L. Stevenson, Monkland (12.29); 3, W. H. Calderwood, Maryhill (12.41); 4, W. T. Anderson, Shettleston (12.42); 5, S. K. Tombe, Plebeian (12.45); 6, E. James, Plebeian (12.49).

HARRIERS.

WESTERN DISTRICT RELAY CHAMPIONSHIP.

The third annual relay championship of the Western District of the National Cross-Country Union of Scotland was decided at Thornhillbank on Saturday. Twenty-five clubs were represented in the record entry of 32 teams, several clubs having entered two teams, while Marshall Harriers made a triple entry. With the exception of Greenock Westpark Harriers' "B" team, all the entrants were forward. The two previous winners—Shettleston Harriers (1926) and Picheian Harriers (1927) were strongly represented, the latter having the same quartette as won at Shettleston a year ago. Big things were expected of the Marshall Harriers' team, which contained the Scottish mile champion, D. M'Lean, and W. H. Calderwood; but the national champions' first two men did not quite come up to expectations, and, despite a fine third lap by Calderwood, M'Lean could make no impression on the leaders.

At the end of the first of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles' circuit of stiff country, P. L. Stevenson, Monkland H., led the field in 12 mins. 29 secs., and this turned out to be the fastest lap, the next best individual effort being that of J. Girvan, who ran hot for Garraube H. in 12 mins. 30 secs.

At the first change-over, Picheian H. (holders) were third, but at half-distance they had taken the lead, which they retained until the end, to win comfortably by 120 yards from Shettleston H., with Garraube H. almost as far again in the rear. Result:—

1. Picheian Harriers (S. K. Tombs, E. James, M. Rayne, and W. J. Gunn), 51 mins. 20 secs.
2. Shettleston H. (W. T. Anderson, H. Hassan, H. MacDonald, and J. Hood), 51 mins. 42 secs.
3. Garraube H. (G. H. Blue, J. Roxburgh, E. Louden, and J. Girvan), 51 mins. 59 secs.
4. Marshall H. (A. H. Blair, A. Kiffin, W. H. Calderwood, and D. M'Lean), 52 mins. 9 secs.
5. Monkland H. (P. L. Stevenson, D. Scott, W. Tennant, and W. C. Plant), 52 mins. 19 secs.
6. Glasgow University H. and H. (N. Morrison, W. H. Irving, J. K. Hill, and W. A. Dunlop), 52 mins. 59 secs.
7. Greenock Glenpark H.; 8. Picheian H. "B" team; 9. West of Scotland H.; 10. Marshall H. "B" team; 11. Both H.; 12. Motherwell Y.M.C.A. H.