

ATHLETICS.

BOTANY TRIUMPH.

Club's Four Victories.

NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIP.

Botany Harriers' long-distance members on Saturday gave a display reminiscent of past glories in the days when the club was supreme in cross-country and winter racing. For some years the team has occupied an obscure position, but new officials of the club, co-operating with senior long-distance runners, succeeded in bringing the representatives again into prominence.

Individual and teams' honours were attained by Botany men in the 18th race for the five miles novice cross-country championship of New South Wales, promoted by the East Sydney Club at Kensington racecourse on Saturday, and a quartette of successes was completed by winning the five miles senior open handicap and fastest time honours. J. Patterson, who last year collapsed within a mile of the finish, obliterated W. J. Hyland's record of 29m 17s, created in 1929, winning by nine seconds in 27m 50s. Botany won the team honours for the first time since 1924, although they had seven previous successes. A. Rogers, also of Botany, secured the five miles senior open handicap, and his club mate, H. Hayden, registered the fastest time.

Of an entry of 83, 63 runners competed. Botany, East Sydney, Kensington, St. George, South Sydney, and Western Suburbs provided full teams with individual nominations from Manly, Newcastle, and Northern Suburbs. It was the second year that the race was held at Kensington. The course comprised nine furlongs on the main track, thence along the hills surrounding the eastern and southern sides, another lap on the track, followed by a second run around the slopes and finishing with a circuit of the course proper.

When the runners lined up at the two furlongs post individual competitors were allotted the inside position, St. George team drew second place, with Western Suburbs, South Sydney, Kensington, and East Sydney in that order, and Botany on the outside. The Kensington quartette,

sington, and East Sydney in that order, and Botany on the outside. The Kensington quartette, Simpson, Wills, Fell, and Stevens, piloted the field along the straight on the main racing track, a circuit of which was completed. As they passed the stands for the second time the order was Wills, Stevens, Birrell, and Patterson.

Leaving the course proper the runners moved up the hill to the north-east corner of the ground led by Wills, Birrell, Patterson, and McAlister. Birrell assumed the lead around the hilly country at the back of the course, and when they again reached the straight he was slightly in advance of Patterson. Bowman, of Newcastle, had then moved into third place, and Wood was nearest of the others. On the tan track with one lap of the course to cover Birrell had a few yards' advantage on Patterson, a hundred yards ahead of Wood, followed by Fullarton. The Botany man moved away from Birrell, and as he raced around the track further increased his advantage. Birrell failed to respond, and Patterson beat him by about 50 yards in 27m 50s. Wood was 36 seconds behind Birrell, beating Fullarton by 14 seconds for third place. The merit of Patterson's achievement may be gauged by the fact that his time surpassed the course record by 1m 27s. The first eleven men also had better figures, an indication that the novice runners on Saturday were superior to those of last year. It is also worthy of note that Patterson and Birrell ran the journey faster than the best of the runners engaged in the senior open race on the same course.

In an interesting teams' race Botany won with 31 points. As in many similar races, the club finishing the first four men required to complete a team did not secure the leading position. Kensington had the number in before Botany, but the latter's places in the race when totalled gave the Botany men an advantage of eight points over Kensington and Western Suburbs, each team with 39 points being equal. Under international rules Western Suburbs gains second place by reason of the club's first man finishing in front of a Kensington runner.

St. George had won the teams' race for the previous five years, but failed badly on Saturday. The club was fully represented by 17 men, yet finished last; whilst Botany had the smallest number of nine, an example of quality prevailing over quantity. South Sydney's team, with 44 points, was in fourth place.

R. Oxley, of Western Suburbs, prevented Botany men gaining all honours of the day by annexing the sealed handicap. His club also secured third place, and Kensington men filled second and fourth positions.

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ship, and securing fastest time honours, opened their list of victories. This event was decided prior to the novice race, and attracted 33 starters. Limit man P. James, on the 5m 15s mark, did not start, and the first man despatched was the veteran. A. B. Stephens, of South Sydney, who had an allowance of 4m 55s. State champion M. J. Mackenzie, of Western Suburbs, was on scratch. Stephens held command until two laps were to be covered, when he was overhauled by A. Rogers, of Botany. Rogers passed the stands, with seven furlongs to run, in advance of W. Pearce, and Stephens retired in the straight. J. Cramsie moved into third place. In the final stages Rogers maintained his position, and beat Cramsie by five seconds, with V. Sly 27 seconds behind in third place. H. Hayden, of Botany, who has reached the stage where many other runners would have been long since retired, gave a glimpse of past form by finishing ninth and securing fastest time, 28m 18s. The winner's time was 57 seconds slower than Hayden's, and Mackenzie, second fastest, recorded 28m 26s.

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP.

J. Patterson (Botany), 27m 50s, 1; D. Birrell (South Sydney), 27m 59s, 2; J. Wood (West. Subs.), 28m 35s, 3; A. Fullerton (E. Syd.), 28m 49s, 4; H. Gapes (W. Subs.), 28m 55s, 5; S. Bowman (Newcastle), 28m 57s, 6; J. F. Wills (Kens.), 29m 1s, 7; C. Patterson (Botany), 29m 4s, 8; P. Marsh (Botany), 29m 5s, 9; T. McAlister (South Syd.), 29m 7s, 10; H. Stevens (Kens.), 29m 11s, 11; A. Fell (Kens.), 29m 20s, 12; G. Simpson (Kens.), 29m 21s, 13; E. McGuinness (South Sydney), 29m 26s, 14; R. Dent (W. Subs.), 29m 27s, 15; W. Walder (Botany), 29m 29s, 16; A. L. Cowdroy (E. Sydney), 29m 38s, 17; R. Batty (W. Subs.), 29m 54s, 18; N. Young (St. George), 29m 58s, 19; R. Young (St. George), 30m 1s, 20.

TEAMS' RACE.

Botany Harriers.—J. Patterson 1, C. Patterson 7, P. Marsh 8, W. Walker 15—31 points, 1.
 Western Suburbs.—J. Wood 3, H. Gapes 5, R. Dent 14, R. Batty 17—39 points, 2.
 Kensington.—J. F. Wills 6, H. Stevens 10, A. Fell 11, G. Simpson 12—39 points, 3.
 South Sydney.—D. Birrell 2, T. McAlister 9, E. McGuinness 13, L. Bellamy 20—44 points, 4.
 East Sydney 5, St. George 6.

SEALED HANDICAP.

R. Oxley (W. Subs.), all. 4m handicap, time 26m 33s, 1; G. Simpson (Kens.), 2m 30s, 26m 51s, 2; H. Gapes (W. Subs.), 1m 35s, 27m 20s, 3; H. Stephens (Kens.), 1m 50s, 27m 21s, 4.

FIVE MILES OPEN HANDICAP.

A. Rogers (Botany), all. 2m 40s, actual time 29m 15s, 1; J. Cramsie (Kens.), 1m 55s, 28m 35s, 2; V. Sly (Manly), 2m, 29m 7s, 3; A. Gainsford (St. George), 1m 20s, 28m 37s, 4; B. C. Button (St. George), 1m 45s, 29m 3s, 5; A. J. Hodsdon (W. George), 1m 50s, 29m 10s, 6; J. Cramsie (W. George), 1m 55s, 29m 15s, 7.

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 Subs.), 2m 15s, 29m 38s, 6; R. B. Casimir (W.
 Subs.), 1m 45s, 29m 9s, 7; W. Pearce (St. George),
 2m 50s, 30m 20s, 8; H. Hayden (Botany), 45s,
 28m 18s, 9; R. Chadwick (St. George), 1m 50s,
 29m 24s, 10; S. Vance (St. Sydney), 3m, 30m 37s,
 11; E. Hunter (E. Syd.), 1m 40s, 29m 34s, 12; A.
 Strainey (St. George), 2m 10s, 30m 11s, 13; A.
 Blythe (St. George), 30s, 28m 42s, 14; M. J. Mac-
 kenzie (W. Subs.), scr., 28m 26s, 15.

SOUTH SYDNEY CHAMPIONSHIP.

In conjunction with the championship the South
 Sydney Club's novice title was contested. Result:—
 D. Birrell, 27m 50s, 1; T. McAllister, 29m 7s, 2;
 E. McGuinness, 29m 26s, 3.

NEW SOUTH WALES WALKING CLUB.

Twelve miles scratch road walk, at Marrickville.—
 W. J. Clarke, 1h 47m 33s, 1; G. A. Smith, 1-54-5, 2;
 H. W. Barrett, 2-4-48, 3; W. J. White, 2-5-20, 4;
 W. H. London, 2-13-10, 5; W. J. Groves, 2-34-38, 6.
 Sealed Handicap.—W. J. Clarke (allid. 4m 30s),
 1h 43s 3a, 1; G. A. Smith (10m 45s), 1-43-20, 2; W.
 J. White (20m), 1-45-20, 3.

MOZART JUNIOR CLUB.

At Erskineville Oval.—A grade—88yds Handicap:
 C. Grant, scr., 1; C. Mungoven, 95yds, 2; V. Beattie,
 60yds, 3. 100 yards: L. Cook, scr., 1; C. Mungoven,
 12yds, 2; V. Beattie, 10yds, 3. B grade—440yds:
 S. Williams 95yds, 1; E. Corr, 25yds, 2; D. Lowe,
 scr., 3. 100 yards: A. Boyce, scr., 1; H. Lowe,
 10yds, 2; D. Lowe, 5yds, 3. 75 yards: E. Corr, scr.,
 1; H. Sparks, 11yds, 2; J. Gingham, 3yds, 3. 150
 yards: A. Bowden, 8yds, 1; J. Hilton, scr., 2; J.
 Smith, 10yds, 3.