

## ADELAIDE'S FIRST MARATHON.

The Walking and Field Games Club will conduct the first South Australian Marathon race in Adelaide to-day. The distance will be 26 miles 385 yards. A similar contest was held in Victoria last May, and victory rested with Ernest Roberts, who will be a competitor in to-day's contest. Another visitor, P. L. Collins (who triumphed in last Saturday's 10-miles crosscountry championship) was leading at the 23 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles post when he retired. His time at that point was 2 hours 35 minutes. Roberts was content to trail Sgt. Sinton Hewitt (the Australian Olympic representative), and was a long way behind Collins when the latter retired, but he proved the victor in 3h. 5m. 50s. T. H. Byrnes, of Queensland, is also here to contest the Marathon. He has previously started in two such races. The best of the Adelaide quartet will probably be Clement Duncan, who finished second to Collins last week. He is a pronounced stayer, and a "pocket Hercules." Duncan won the South Australian 10-miles C.C.C. last year. The start of the race will be from the Kingston Statue, Victoria square. The contestants will run along Grote street and West terrace, and proceed to St. Leonards Inn, Glenelg, and return to a point near to Morphettville, and journey to the big tree at Glen Osmond. The route will then be along Portrush, Greenhill, Burnside, and Payneham roads to the Glynde Hotel, across to the O.G. Hotel, and back to the city by way of the North-east road, Walkerville, Finnis street, and Avenue road, North Adelaide. The race will end on the University Oval. The probable starters at 1 o'clock will be.—P. L. Collins (Carlton Harriers), E. Roberts (Essendon Harriers), T. H. Byrnes (Boonah Harriers, Brisbane), C. G. Duncan, T. H. Terrell, and H. E. Wolter (South Australian Walking and Field Games Club), and J. W. H. Mason (Adelaide Harriers).



# MARATHON RACE.

## WON BY A VICTORIAN.

The first Marathon Race decided in South Australia in connection with amateur athletics was contested on Saturday afternoon, under the auspices of the South Australian Walking and Field Games' Club. It was originally intended that the contest should be over a modified marathon race (15 miles), but owing to the correct distance (26 miles 385 yards) being chosen by the Victorian authorities for a contest held last May, the Walkers' organization decided to come into line, and Gawler to Adelaide was mentioned as the probable course to be run. Subsequently an Adelaide and suburban route was considered preferable, and the final decision was:—Start at the Kingston Statue, Victoria square, along Grote street, West terrace, to St. Leonards Inn, Glenelg, returning to a point north of Morphettville, and along a direct road to the big tree at Glen Osmond, thence to Burnside by way of the Port-rush and Greenhill roads, to the Glynde Hotel, along Payneham, Felixstowe and Marden roads to the O.G. Hotel, and to the University Oval by way of the North-East road, Northcote terrace, Walkerville, Mann terrace, McKinnon parade, and Avenue road, North Adelaide. The competitors who finished were then within 915 yards of the end of the long journey, and they covered a lap and a half on the playing arena. The half-dozen runners stripped at the City Baths, and arrived at Victoria square shortly after 1 o'clock. After having been addressed by the starter (Ald. L. Cohen) they were dispatched at 11 minutes past the hour. The field comprised:—P. L. Collins (Carlton Harriers), E. Roberts (Essendon Harriers), T. A. Byrnes (Boonah Harriers, Queensland), and C. G. Duncan, H. E. Wolter, and T. H. Terrell (South Australian Walkers' Club). Their respective attendants were A. J. N. Rumsby, E. N. Hill, A. D. Spriggins, G. B. Lockwood, G. Stone, and A. N. Smith. The secretary of the South Australian Amateur Athletic Association (Mr. R. F. Middleton) was present, and there was a large attendance of representatives of amateur clubs. Terrell and Byrnes were prominent early, and the former was still in front at Keswick. Byrnes then took a turn at the pacing, and piloted the field to Plympton, where Duncan ran to the front, and arrived at St. Leonards in 40 minutes. This time was in advance of his schedule, and he was about 150 yards ahead of Terrell, who was leading Collins and Wolter by 200 yards. The distance covered was then six miles 340 yards. The other competitors' times were:—Terrell, 49.24; Collins and Wolter, 51.7; Roberts, 41.11; and the Queensland veteran, 42.16. When Duncan turned off the Bay road to run to Glen Osmond he had traversed another two miles. He was clocked 53m. 13s., and was nearly five minutes ahead of his estimated time. Collins and Wolter were close together, their time being 54.27. Terrell arrived in 55.15, and Roberts and Byrnes were plodding along. At the intersection of the Cross roads and Unley road Duncan was about a quarter of a mile ahead of Collins, who led Wolter by 70 yards. Terrell was still fourth, about 500 yards away.



54.27. Terrell arrived in 55.15, and Roberts and Byrnes were plodding along. At the intersection of the Cross roads and Unley road Duncan was about a quarter of a mile ahead of Collins, who led Wolter by 70 yards. Terrell was still fourth, about 500 yards away. The runners sought the shelter of the hedges along this stage, as the sun's rays had a tiring effect on them. Duncan arrived at the big tree turning point in 1h. 32m. Thirteen and three-quarter miles (less 90 yards) were then left behind, and Collins was running strongly. He passed two and a quarter minutes later, and Wolter registered 1.36.22. The Victorian performed splendidly along Postrush road, and had got within 170 yards of Duncan, who turned into Greenhill road in 1.44.5. The pair were together at Tusmore (16 miles), and then Duncan's leg muscles gave him trouble, causing his retirement. Terrell and Roberts came along in motors, and it transpired that the Victorian had stopped at Glen Osmond, and the South Australian "heel-and-toeite" at the 14½ miles point. Collins arrived at Burnside (16 miles 530 yards) in 1.52.25, and Wolter in 2.1.35. When the Glynde Hotel was reached the watches recorded 2h. 16m. 55s. for the 19 miles and 1,230 yards. Wolter came along (walking and running alternately) 15½ minutes later, and Byrnes was reported to be "making it comfortably." At the O.G. Hotel (21 miles 170 yards), Collins was jogging along quietly, and had taken 2.37.40. Along the straight stretch his speed had slackened appreciably, but remembering his former experience in the Victorian Marathon (he was leading by about a mile at the 23½ point in 2h. 35m.) he took no chances of falling over the concluding stages, and arrived at the Buckingham Arms, Walkerville (24½ miles) in a second outside three hours. He was met there by the members of the Y.M.C.A. Harriers, who ran close behind him to the University Oval. The interstate man was naturally very tired, and he walked and trotted around the track, but when nearing the tape he sprinted past the judges. His time was 3h. 18m. 22 3/8s. Wolter appeared about half an hour later, and ran in good style to the line in 3.44.40. Byrnes (after another long wait) turned up, and finished in 4.28.19 1/5. The race must be considered a success, although the time does not compare favourably with the best Australian figures, but the course is somewhat hilly, and the weather was rather warm. A pilot led the way all through, and Mr. Cotton acted as referee. Valuable assistance was rendered by members of the Motor Cycle Club of South Australia, who transported officials along the route, and also assisted the competitors retired. Terrell's feet gave trouble, but he was apparently fresh when he had to give up. Duncan was the disappointment of the race, as he has always given evidence of remarkable stamina. Roberts (who triumphed in the Victorian race in 3h. 5m. 53s.) was early troubled with the heat, and is said to be much better on cold days. Officials:—Referee, Mr. G. A. Cotton; Judges, Messrs. J. R. Crocker, G. M. Edwards, and R. F. Middleton; Starter, Ald. L. Cohen; Time-keepers, Messrs. R. A. Dalton, A. H. Simmons, and J. Smith; Clerk of the Course, Mr. C. T. Fry; Pilot, Mr. A. E. T. Hall; Stewards, Messrs. J. Smith, C. M. Falkner, R. Lee, R. Hill, R. Prul, C. S. Fergusson, A. H. Simmons, and S. J. Brber.

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—Presentation of Prizes.—

A social was given in the evening at the Odd-fellows' Hall, Franklin street. There was a large attendance of members of the different clubs and lady supporters. The chair was occupied by the secretary of the association (Mr. R. F. Middleton), who paid a tribute to the fine work accomplished by the Walkers' Club, which was heartily appreciated by the governing body. The club was formed on November 25, 1918, and since that time Terrell has lowered Australian walking records over 10 and 25 miles. Duncan has won a 10-mile S.A. cross-country championship, and W. Williams also succeeded in the five-mile race last year, when the Walkers' Club won the teams' race in both contests. This year they were again successful in winning the Richard Smith shield, and Duncan and Wolter finished second and fourth respectively in the individual race. All three interstate runners were present, and each made eulogistic reference to the excellent arrangements for the distance races, and to the fine sporting spirit displayed by the "heel-and-toe" organization. Collins was handed a gold medal for first prize in the 10 miles cross-country championship, and a cup for his victory in the Marathon. He was heartily congratulated upon his dual success, and subsequently "chaired" by four athletes from the Harriers and Walkers' Clubs. Duncan received a silver medal for second in the C.C.C., and gold medals were presented to Wolter and Byrnes for having finished second and third respectively in the Marathon. The handsome shield presented to the S.A.A.A.A. for annual competition was handed back to the walkers by the Chairman, who wished Mr. Terrell success in next year's race, which would give his club absolute possession of it. A capital musical programme was submitted by Mr. Fergusson, and those who assisted were:—Misses N. Anderson (at the piano) and K. McPaul, and Messrs. W. Burman, D. Fraser, A. D. Spriggins, and C. S. Fergusson. Miss F. Wolter recited admirably. Light refreshments were served. The hall was decorated with the club's colours (brown or white), and asparagus fern.



## A Marathon Runner.

There is, perhaps, none better known in the amateur pedestrian world than Hugh Wolter, the winner of the metropolitan club's modified Marathon race last Saturday. He is 40 years old, and is running almost as well as ever. He believes in plenty of fresh air, exercise, and physical culture. The veteran has had a varied career.

Hugh Wolter was born in Knightsbridge on May 4, 1884. His first school days were spent at Broken Hill, and he subsequently went to live at Mount Pleasant, where he was kept at the school until he was 11½ years old. His uncle (Mr. A. B. McLean) owned racehorses, and Hugh soon learned to gallop them on the track, and in public. He was successful on several occasions. The boy then came to live with his parents in Adelaide, and went to school until he was 13 at Sturt street.

### His First Race.

The first important race in which he took part was at Simpson's picnic, when he was 16. The distance was the most severe of all—the quarter-mile. The virtual scratch mark was 4 yds., Wolter was placed on 12, and the limit was 38 yds. The subject of this article won, running away by 25 yds. in 52s. Sheffield Handicap running then occupied his attention, but he found that he could do better over the longer course. Several times he won quarter-mile events inside 50s—fast travelling. He was again successful in mile contests, and on one occasion he completed the course in 4m. 29 1-5s.—a record for the course. While at Broken Hill, he won

Wolter has run 1,136½ miles. His records show 10 firsts, 8 seconds, and 6 thirds. His time for 15 miles last Saturday was 1h. 44m. 6s.

### A Good Walker.

The full distance covered in this all-round athlete's walking career is 685½ miles. He has scored 9 firsts, 6 seconds and 3 thirds. He has won walking events from half-mile to 25 miles. The times registered when Wolter won over the longer journey last year was 4h. 28m. 10s. Wolter's best time for a five-miles walk is 43m., but in his first novice competition he took 48m. 45s.

### Fond of Athletics.

Wolter's wife and little son are intensely fond of athletics. Mrs. Wolter's best performance was in a 75 yards race. She conceded 15 yards to the limit women, and was only beaten by inches. Their son won the prize for the best stylist in a boys' walking contest arranged by the Metropolitan Club last summer.

### Story of the Race.

I knew that I was in a fit condition to run the modified course. I was not in any way disturbed to learn that Jack Foote was running strongly well ahead of me when half the distance had been traversed. In fact, I could watch him myself, and I hazarded a guess that he would not be so fresh after the 10 miles post was passed. This turned out to be correct. I made up my mind to "cut loose" in the tenth mile, and after I caught the leader I had no misgivings concerning the result, as I felt that I had shaken off my cold, which my doctor thought might considerably interfere with my breathing. My knee troubled me somewhat over the last couple of miles, but I was determined to stick to it when I felt I had the race in safe keeping. I would like to have another go at the big Marathon race, and I fancy I could get well within three hours.

### Fixtures.

September.

13.—Brighton to Adelaide.

15.—Adelaide Oval (S.A.A.A.A.).



(2)



**HUGH WOLTER,**  
winner of the Metropolitan's modified Marathon run.

### The League Conference.

The annual conference of the South Australian Athletic League will be held at the Prince Alfred Hotel to-night. Each of the affiliated clubs have been invited to send a delegate. Messrs. A. Gower, M. J. McInnis (club representatives), and H. S. Chapman (pedestrian representative) automatically retire, but each of them offer themselves for re-election. Several matters of importance having a bearing on the summer meetings will be discussed. The prospects are very bright.

### The First Modified Marathon.

Full details of the inaugural modified marathon run appeared in Monday's Register. The Metropolitan Club officials were eulogized on all sides for the very excellent arrangements made for this notable engagement. Some of the competitors, however, might have foreseen the advisableness of making better provision for the care of their feet. This is a very necessary precaution. Hugh Wolter is a great man on his day, and the old saying comes in here, "An old dog for a hard road." He certainly is an old-stager at journey running. Jack Foote was a winner up to 10 miles, but the race was not won in the first half. Wolter quite realized that, as his story of the race will show. The veteran of the party, however, was Jimmy Cole, the ex-English "heel and toeite." The little man got through just inside two hours; but there was a time (25 years ago) when he could have walked the journey nearly as fast. George Stone, who was second, is an ex-State track champion. Three of those who finished are walkers. They are Cole, MacNamara, and Wilson. These journey men certainly do come at any old kind of contest.

### A Letter of Appreciation.

The following letter of appreciation anent the modified Marathon run was received by Mr. R. W. Dorling (hon. secretary). It was signed "Also Ran":—Please allow me, in behalf of my fellow-competitors, to express my gratification for the most efficient manner in which you and your committee handled the contest. The country route was ideal from a competitor's viewpoint. The hills were somewhat precipitous, but they added to the fascination of the race, and the beautiful eastern view was much enjoyed as we progressed. The greenclad hills, together with the vegetation which abounded, pleasantly relieved the mental strain associated with this kind of race. The feeding and dressing-room arrangements were admirable, and materially aided us to get through in creditable time. Wishing your progressive club every continued success, I am, &c."

Plympton Social.

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(3)

Professionals there always ran the quarter right out. There was no loafing on the way. To Tanunda, Eudunda, and further north went Wolter in search of prize-money. On the Adelaide Oval he ran 5 miles 165 yards in 26 minutes, and 10 miles in 56 minutes. The longest distance covered was 30 miles on a country track, and the time occupied was 3 hours 58 seconds. During his varied career he has always trained assiduously and indulged in vigorous physical exercises.

As an amateur, five years ago last winter, Hugh Wolter was admitted to the amateur ranks, after having stood down for the prescribed period (two years). He competed as an amateur on June 24, 1918. His first contest in the new sphere was a 3-miles run. He soon began to win trophies, and has taken part in distances from a quarter-mile to 26 miles 385 yards (the full Marathon course). Some of his amateur performances are:—One mile, 1m. 40s.; two miles trial run for the Australasian championships, 16m. 7s.; four miles on the road, 22m. 23s.; five miles C.C.C., 30m. 29s.; seven miles on the road, 41m. 40s.; Marathon road run (26 miles 385 yards), 3h. 34m. 22s. He finished second to P. L. Collins, of Victoria. He started in the State five-miles C.C.C. five times, and was placed four times, and in the 10-miles C.C.C. he was placed three times in five starts. During the five years and three months



# FIRST MODIFIED MARATHON.

*Register, Mon 10 Sep 1923*

## Won By a Veteran.

(1)

Two years ago the Metropolitan Athletic Club conducted the inaugural Marathon race in South Australia. The contest was run over a rather severe course of 26 miles 386 yards, and it was considered preferable on this occasion to reduce the course to the modified Marathon, which is 15 miles. There were 15 entrants for the event, which was arranged by the Metropolitan Club, and the course chosen was:—Start from Parkside Hotel, run along Park terrace, turn north, pass Prince Alfred College to Hackney road, continuing on to a point beyond the O. G. Hotel, on the North-east road, by way of Park terrace, Walkerville, and the Buckingham Arms. An E.P. Cup was selected for the winner of the contest, and three other prizes were given away. The field comprised:—G. Stone, P. J. W. MacNamara, and J. W. Cole (Metropolitan A.C.), J. J. Foote (Adelaide Harriers), H. E. Wolter and H. G. Wilson (Y.M.C.A.), J. K. Quinn (Port Adelaide and Suburban A.A.C.), and C. C. Pike (Glenside A.A.C.). The competitors began together shortly after 3 o'clock. The yacht system was chosen, and times corrected at the finish of the race. Foote led Quinn MacNamara at the Prince Alfred College. Then came Wolter, Stone, Wilson, and Cole. At the car barn, Hackney, Wolter had found his pace, and was striding along in convincing style, and making up ground. Stone had dropped back a furlong. At the Buckingham Arms Hotel Foote was still pacing the field, which was beginning to lengthen out. Quinn was lying second when the winners went "over the hill." At the Hampstead, Foote was a furlong in front of Quinn and Wolter, who was followed by Pike, MacNamara, Wilson, Stone, and Cole. The roads were very bad at this point. Away they went along the North-east road, and Foote arrived at the O. G. Hotel a quarter of a mile ahead of Wolter, Quinn, and Pike. Stone and MacNamara were 250 yards away, and Cole and Wilson turned up five minutes later. Foote covered the outward journey in 51m., and returned past the hotel on the homeward trip 600 yards in advance of Wolter. Insufficient care of the feet was then made apparent on the part of the leader, who experienced considerable trouble with his toes, which were blistered.

Wolter, on the other hand, seemed to be particularly fit, and he began to lessen the distance between himself and Foote. At the Hampstead Hotel, Stone appeared on the scene running in third position, and Wolter seemed likely to wrest the lead from Foote within the next mile. This he actually did, but Quinn and Pike slowed down to a walk. Wolter also struck trouble. His knee weakened after passing Northcote terrace, Walkerville, on the way to the Royal Hotel, Hackney. He battled along, however, well clear of Foote, who was subsequently overtaken by Stone. Wolter won by a third of a mile, and registered 1h. 44m. 6s. Stone



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Results:—H. E. Wolter, 1h. 44m. 6s.; G. Stone, 1.47.40; J. J. Foote, 1.56.40; P. J. W. MacNamara, 1.58.0; J. W. Cole, 1.59.10; H. G. Wilson, 2.0.27. The corrected times were:—Wolter (allowed 3m. 10s.), 1.40.56; Stone (4m.), 1.43.40; Cole (11m. 30s.), 1.47.40; Wilson (10m.), 1.50.27; MacNamara (6.30), 1.51.30; Foote (scr.), 40. Quinn and Pike retired.

(2)

Register, Mon 10 Sep 1923