

THE ORIGIN OF THE CLUB

Why Cambridge? This is always the first question which a stranger to the club asks. It does appear incongruous that an Athletic Club, born in Surrey, domiciled in Kent, should be named Cambridge. However, there is a reason for most things, and in this case a very simple one. Over seventy years ago, abutting on Southwark Park was the Clare College, Cambridge, Mission Church, then in charge of the Rev. Amos, a Rugby blue. The church is still there. The Mission Church which most of the local youths attended, had a cricket club named "Clare College C.C." The Club had a surplus of members which made it difficult to get into the eleven. Therefore a number decided to form another Club. They desired to associate the new club with the Church in some way, but found it difficult as the name had been taken. Eventually it was decided to name the Club "Cambridge C.C." The Club became popular and successful. After the close of the cricket season some of the members felt that they would like some activity during the winter months. After some discussion, a harrier section was formed and named after the cricket club. Thus the "Cambridge Harriers" was started sixty years ago, helped to make athletics what they are to-day. Its parent, the cricket club, gradually faded out.

(To be continued)

HON. SECRETARY'S NOTES

W. H. Bingley, our Fixtures Secretary for the past eighteen months, has been forced to resign from that position for business reasons which have entailed his moving to Penge. Our thanks for his very excellent work! T. W. Bedford, 12, Methuen Road, Bexleyheath (Bexleyheath 7560), has stepped into the breach, and will we feel sure be a worthy successor.

Members of the Committee are asked to note that as from May, the monthly Committee Meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month, commencing 7.30 p.m., at St. Luke's Hall, Westmount Road, Eltham. The first meeting at this venue will be on May 4th.

Now that the Club Magazine is to be issued bi-monthly, the circulars previously sent out monthly will be discontinued except in cases of emergency. Members should therefore preserve their fixture cards carefully, and also refer to the weekly press notes and to notices on the board at Charlton Park for current information on Club activities.

Members are reminded of the necessity of notifying the Hon. General Secretary of changes of address promptly. If this magazine has had to be reforwarded to you, please forward your current address.

Pre-war members will be interested to know that A. A. (Bert) Post, Club Hon. Secretary from 1920 to 1931, is now Hon. Secretary of Staffordshire County A.A.A. He is living at Kingswindford, Staffs., but hopes to be with us for our Diamond Jubilee Dinner in September.

R. J. Whelan, one of our winning team in the A.A.A. Junior Relay Championship, 1948, writes from Somerset where he is now stationed with the Army, and hopes to be able to compete for us occasionally this summer.

Our congratulations to Arthur Butler (Cross-Country Secretary), whose wife has recently presented him with a second son. Two more for a complete relay team!

Congratulations also to Alf Pinnegar on his recent marriage, and best wishes from all Club colleagues.

Dudley Hoile's remarks in the last issue on the "disappointing" performance in the Kent Youths Championship made interesting reading, and were indicative of the high standard now expected (and usually achieved) of Club teams in Championship events. May that spirit continue! However, a third place in a County Championship must be considered a good performance, especially against the strong opposition encountered in Kent, and it is worthy of mention that Cambridge Harriers were the only Club to be placed in all Kent Cross-Country Championships this year.

Preparations are well in hand for the Club's Diamond Jubilee Celebration

Invitation Relay Meeting to be held at Danson Park on Saturday, May 20th. Invitations have been accepted in Men's events by Polytechnic H., Belgrave H., Blackheath H., Ilford A.C., Essex Beagles, City of Rochester A.C., Kent A.C., and Dartford H., and in Ladies' events by Spartan Ladies, Mitcham A.C., Ilford A.C., Essex Ladies, London Olympiads, Middlesex Ladies and Orpington A.C. Many leading walking clubs will be competing in a two-miles team walk. Naturally, we shall ourselves be competing in all events with, we hope, our full share of success. We only need a fine day and a large crowd for a real "celebration." Do your best to advertise the meeting.

ROG.

"FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD . . ."

Once upon a time, there was a man who loved a life of solitude. He needed not the noisy company of his fellow beings and sought only to live in loneliness with his own satisfying thoughts and crafts. He travelled many miles away from the cities so popular with his brothers until he found a barren cave high in the mountains, with all the beauty that nature can display at his very doorstep. For a brief space he had found his goal, but spring and the sunny days brought an invasion of climbers and walkers, their noisy songs and laughter intruding into his peacefulness.

He fled from them, searching again for complete loneliness—and he could have found it, at the Progress Hall on February 4th and at "The Welcome Inn," March 24th. The occasions were the Cambridge Harriers' dances, and the Social Secretary, with a handful of familiar stalwarts who never let him down, was about the loneliest man in the whole district—even if he was listening to the best band in the district.

The story is sadly applicable to every social function organised for the Club. The emphasis is on "for the Club" and who is that but you? The pleasure is yours for the taking and any profit goes towards the expenses of the club, YOUR CLUB!