

is absolutely forced upon you. For however bad you may be, it is by no means impossible that the other fellows are doing just as much, if not even more, than you.

Even supposing that you have been caught and passed without having had the necessary reserve to "sprint" and make good, it can still keep running, it would be a safe bet that it, take an "easy" for a mile or a mile and a half, and then spurt. The others may then come in and make quite surprising fashion. In any event, you will be in a better position than the worse, and hence your position is improving.

SCIENCE OF SHORT MARK

In this situation, or in any similar one, your first aim will be to improve it. There are a lot of men of your own age with whose form you are more or less acquainted, and of whom you must get in front. If you cannot get in any idea of being the first to break the tape.

These leaders may or may not be the best themselves. But you can have no idea or guess about more than a few of them. You may have of any dark horses who may enter. But what can go by is the probability of the powers of the leaders known by the handicapper when arranged in the race, and you can only hope that he has not erred on the side of generosity to your rivals, and handicapped you out of the race.

Well, you know your own form, or ought to. So as there is a bigish field strung out ahead you must set about your work of cutting them down in double-quick style.

Quicken, but don't lengthen, your stride, and do your first mile in a few seconds better than your average best. If this hasn't accounted for enough of them, get along for a second mile at the same "bat."

They will possibly sprint and wait, and generally carry on as they were advised above, but you mustn't let that