

THE BRANTFORD TO HAMILTON MARATHON RACE



Crowd on James Street South, Hamilton, May 24th, awaiting the arrival of the runners.



G. Cook, of the 91st Highlanders Athletic Association, who ran Second.



Claude Pearce, who ran Third.



E. Cotter, of Burlington, winner of the Race. Distance 26 miles. 176 yards, time 2.51.53

THE HAMILTON MARATHON

By DONALD B. SINCLAIR

HAMILTON is the home and centre of the Marathon industry in Canada. Ever since "Billy" Sherring, her favourite son, galloped home ahead of the world's fleetest footed at the Athens Olympic some three years ago, there has been a constant crop of budding aspirants to long distance honours sprouting up in the footsteps of the doughty hero. Several of them, with others from other Canadian sporting towns, making in all forty-three, faced the pistol on May 24th for the long lung-testing contest between Brantford and Hamilton.

Great interest was manifested in the holiday race because of the value of the prizes offered. The leader of the field was to receive an opportunity to exhibit his prowess as the representative of Canada at the next Olympic games at Athens, all expenses guaranteed by the *Spectator* Co. of Hamilton.

J. H. Crocker, the well-known Y. M. C. A. athletic trainer, started the runners upon their gruelling journey on the Paris road at 9.18.52. For the first five miles all ran well, with Bennett, the chap who showed Chicagoans a few things at the Marathon there in the fall of 1906, leading. At ten miles Bennett continued to lead. A few "also rans" dropped out at this stage. Cook of Hamilton, Harry Lawson of Toronto, Near of Toronto, and Eddie Cotter chased Bennett closely now till the seventeenth mile. At that point, Cotter shot up into the front, and Bennett was forced to drop behind. Cook came right after Cotter, but the latter soon began to run away from him in fine style. It was all Cotter from there to the end.

Cotter finished fresh, six minutes ahead of Cook, whose time was 2.54.3. Claude Pearce, the I. C. A.

C. runner of Toronto, was next in 3.00.03. Lawson was fourth.

Nine others, making thirteen of the forty-three starters, stuck to the end.

The race, as a whole, in the opinion of Hamilton sporting writers, was not quite of the class to which Hamiltonians are accustomed. The reason given is that the best young blood are envying the pecuniary advantages enjoyed by Shrubbs and Longboat, and are joining the professional ranks.

Eddie Cotter, the Hamilton boy, who will spend the *Spectator's* loose change at Athens, came first into prominence in the *Herald* race of 1905. All Canada joins in wishing him the same good fortune that attended him the other day, and hopes that he, like Sherring before him, will fulfill the Marathon ambitions of the Ambitious City.

America and the Masters

By common report, which may be exaggerated, the United States possesses a great number of "Old Masters" which are spurious. Some of these forgeries have been made in Europe and some in America. The following "skit" on the subject appeared recently in *Punch*:

CAUGHT by our representative at the Savoy Hotel, Mr. Cyrus K. Garner, the famous millionaire collector of Chicago, willingly consented to discuss the removal of the 60 per cent. tariff on all works of art imported into the United States.

"It will," he said, "make a great difference to me. In fact, that is why I am visiting Europe. Now that one can freely take back whatever one buys I mean to buy in earnest. I mean to make this effete island and that old back number of a continent contribute the best there is to my walls.

"I'm a bit of a poet in my way," he went on. "I've made my money out of pork, and artists paint their pictures with hogs' bristles, I'm told. Do you see? My idea is that a man who has made his money out of pig's flesh can't spend that money more poetically than on the products of pig's hair. That's why I'm out for old masters.

"Now they tell me there's a house here in London called Artford House, or something like that, that's full of Old Masters. Well, I'm here to buy it. I'm here, too, to do a deal over your National Gallery, if you've got enough business enterprise to consider it. Then I shall go over the Paris, where I'm told there's a unique called the 'Venus of Milo.' That's my programme, young man. But I wouldn't have thought twice about it as long as the 60 per cent. tariff was on."

Our American correspondent telegraphs that the consternation which was expected to reign at Coromaker's great fine art store in Pittsburg is quite absent. "Yes," said Mr. Coromaker, when asked his opinion, "the lifting of the impost will no doubt tend to cause many of our connoisseurs and collectors to go to Europe direct for their pictures; but that will not injure our business. We were prepared for it, and have now a number of agents in London and on the continent whom we shall keep supplied with excellent works of the Barbizon school. The only difference will be that these pictures will now cross the Atlantic twice, instead of never having travelled at all; but a corresponding rise in price will recoup us for the outward journey, and of course the journey back is the connoisseur's affair."