

PIRIE BECOMES CROSS COUNTRY CHAMP

At Caversham Park, Reading it looked like a human wall on the move. All the best runners in the country were there, competing in the English Senior Championship. 66 clubs sent teams and 57 men entered as individuals. Altogether there were 490 men in the field. It must have been the biggest turn-out in the history of cross-country sport. Out in front pretty well from the start was the man who came second last year, when he was handicapped by a damaged foot, Gordon Pirie, Olympic star. ~~He set what even veterans thought a reckless pace,~~ considering there were 9-and-2-thirds miles to go, many runners in the bunch further back counted on it being a stayers' contest.

Barefooted Hand won a team race

(4 x)

Pirie had a good 300 yds of England all to himself at the finish, running as if he could have done ten miles more. Time, 49 minutes, 15 seconds. Frank Sando, of Lylesford, Kent, was second.

Poor Frank was all in, but bravo to him and the great winner, Gordon Pirie.