

12th Feb. 54

In France, they call it sport. A cross-country, with more carrying than cycling. Five times round Mont Valerien, with the ups tougher than the downs, and the ditches, toughest of all.

Fifty competitors seemed to prefer this form of sport to dodging Paris taxicabs. After about 12 miles, No 17, Jodet won with ^{minutes} ~~minutes~~ and some breath to spare.

From labouring France to gay-spirited Germany, for the 1954 Two-Men Bob-Sled Championships, staged in the Hartz mountains. Five teams from Eastern Germany competed. This sport is like playing pontoon, it's so easy to go "over the top". Fortunately no one was hurt.

~~The winners were Olympic champions Götler and Nieberl.~~

Now for thrills on another track. Athletics at Madison Square Garden.

With the Vaulting Vicar, the Rev. Bob Richards, winning his eight Millrose Games title. (2)

In the High Jump, Herman Wyatt (sharing first place with six foot eight) tries to clear an extra inch. But settled for the tie.

A huge field for the 880, with Mal Whitfield, twice Olympic champion and already winner of the 600 yards event, in the pack.

An Air Force officer in two world wars - Mal comes in to a happy landing - a unique Millrose double.

Lastly, ^{TO BELGIUM} ~~back to the Continent~~ ^{WHERE} ~~to follow the fortunes of~~ a British athletic star, Gordon Pirie, ^{(HE) RUNS} ~~running~~ against Gaston Reiff, a former Olympic champion, in a 2½ mile Cross Country Race ~~in Belgium.~~

To Gordon, ^(No 2) ~~who runs about ten miles every day,~~ this is just a training spin - though Gaston Reiff hangs grimly to his heels.

But Pirie ~~comes in to win~~ wins in 13 minutes, 51.2 seconds. Reiff was second. So Gordon prepares for the forthcoming European championships and ~~catch~~ ~~Emile Zatopek.~~ Emile Zatopek.