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SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR.

~~SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR~~ 13/4/54.

At the Sportsman of the Year ^{Trophy} Presentation in London --- the famous Bedser twins were among the prominent sportsmen present. On the feminine side, ice-skating ^{was represented by} champion Yvonne Sugden; ~~received a big round of applause;~~ and here's Pat Smythe, the great little show-jumper who got a special award as the year's Sportswoman.

But the star of this meeting -- as at so many others -- was Gordon Pirie. He was nominated Sportsman of the Year and received the Trophy from Lord Aberdare. ^

That Pirie should receive this honour for 1953 seemed so natural, it was quite a surprise to hear him say:

Then --- a reference to the great Zatopek,

And now --- from Old Palace Yard in Westminster, begins the ~~News of the World~~ London-to-Brighton relay race; a distance of over fifty-four miles, in which seventeen runners broke course records.

Taking over the baton on the seventh leg of the race at Lowfield Heath --- is Gordon Pirie. And this great young athlete soon outdistanced all the opposition. His fine performance played a major part in giving the victory to South London.

It was a team affair --- and all the team ran well; but the architect of the Brighton victory --- was the Sportsman of the Year.

Well done London --- & well done, Pat!