

# THE SPORTS PARADE

## Prospects Not Promising for Another Unbeaten Track Team at Southern California Although All Hope Not Lost

BY BRAVEN DYER

San Francisco track writers are inclined to pooh pooh the pre-season announcements that the University of Southern California track team won't approach its strength of 1936 when it swept over everything by overwhelming scores, including an N.C.A.A. championship with the record number of 1031-3 points. The boys up north are apparently trying to build Dean Cromwell's team up bigger than ever, no doubt with the thought that the bigger the build-up the bigger will be the fall if Stanford or California should upset the Trojans in either dual meet or N.C.A.A. competition.

Best way to figure a track team's probable strength is to take its outstanding showing of the past season, see what is lost and what is returning and then size up the potentialities of the new boys. Best showing of the Trojans in 1936, of course, was in the N.C.A.A. meet when the boys scored in fourteen events and displayed their all-around strength to the fullest extent. A study of the summary of the big championship meet shows that half of the 1031-3 points are lost for the 1937 team. To be exact, boys representing 51 1-3 points return; athletes who made 52 are lost. The lost points include six that George Boone made in the hop, step and jump, because although George is back on the S.C. track team the event is not used in the N.C.A.A. except during Olympic years.



Dean Cromwell

### Three Good Runners Missing

On the track the Southern Californians lose 30 points, scored mainly by Foy Draper in the sprints and by Al Fitch and Hal Smallwood in the quarter-mile. Nineteen of the points made on the track return, and if you will consult the chart below you will see that the boys who made these points are good bets to score just as many or more this year.

The Trojans lost 22 of their field event points, the biggest loss being Ken Carpenter's first in the discus throw, but 32 1-3 points are returning. Field event strength this year as last will again be exceptionally potent in the pole vault with Earle Meadows, the Olympic champ, and Bill Sefton, and in the broad jump, with three N.C.A.A. place winners last year in Boone, Don Skinner and Clark Crane.

With the improvement that we may reasonably expect from the boys after a year of experience, it is logical to expect that the returning 51 1-3 points may expand to about 60 for the 1937 championships. Frequently this is enough to win the N.C.A.A. However, both California and Stanford will be greatly improved this year and may be able to beat this figure, the Bears having been handicapped last season by a great many injuries and illnesses, while the Indians were in their only bad slump of the past decade. To be sure of N.C.A.A. victory, the Southern Californians need about 75 points. Looking to the new men for them, we find only Phil Gaspar, sophomore discus thrower, and Bob Fisher, soph shot putter, as possibilities on the basis of their work last year. Gaspar had one throw in 1936 of 149ft. 9in., while Fisher at one time hit 48ft. 3 3/4 in the shot. Aside from these boys the '36 freshman team, weakest yearling squad in the past fifteen years at Troy, appears to give Cromwell little hope.

### Prospects Not Promising

The prospects for another unbeaten Trojan track team therefore are not too promising at present. Even with half their N.C.A.A. points gone, the Southern Californians have far more returning than any other university. Their potentialities for developing new point winners this season are not good, however, and because of this the Trojans, still rating the favored spot at the start of the year, may not be able to go through without one or two downfalls during the big meets to come.

Here is the chart on returning and lost N.C.A.A. points for the Trojans: (Because of the Olympics last year, races were run in meters instead of yards.)

Event	Points returning		Points lost	
100 meters	Talley (4th)	4	Draper (2nd)	8
	Boone (6th)	1		
200 meters	Crane (6th)	1	Draper (3rd)	6
			Fitch (2nd)	8
400 meters			Smallwood (3rd)	6
			Cassin (6th)	1
800 meters	Bush (2nd)	8		
5000 meters			Lantz (6th)	1
High hurdles	Staley (4th)	4		
Low hurdles	LaFood (6th)	1		
Pole vault	Meadows and	18	Dey and Hooker	3
	Sefton (tie 1st)		(tie 5th)	
High jump	Thurber (tie 4th)	2 1/2		
Broad jump	Boone (3rd)	6		
	Skinner (4th)	4		
	Crane (5th)	2		
Hop, step and jump			Boone (3rd) (event not in '37 meet)	6
Shot put			Schleimer (6th)	1
Discus throw			Carpenter (1st)	10
Javelin throw			Milner (5th)	2
		51 1/3		52