

29<sup>th</sup> Aug.

# ILFORD SPRINT STAR CLASHES WITH OFFICIAL AT WHITE CITY



Making long-jumping look easy is Ilford's June Bruty, who was third in the handicap event at White City on Saturday

**I**LFORD AC sprinter Ron Bugden found himself involved in the seemingly unending war between athletes and officials at the White City on Saturday when he clashed with senior AAA referee Phil Gale.

The arguments began when Bugden inadvertently missed the final of the 100 yards open handicap, having literally seconds earlier assisted the Ilford sprint relay team through their heat of the AAA 4 x 110 yards championship.

In accordance with the rule which forbids an athlete from withdrawing from a final without permission, Bugden was summoned before Mr. Gale. He subsequently told his colleagues in the relay team that there had been a SUGGESTION during the interview that he would be barred from competing again during the meeting.

Hearing no official pronouncement, however, Bugden ran the first leg of the AAA relay final in which Ilford finished fifth. Thereupon Bugden learned he was in fresh trouble for "disobeying the referee!"

A further approach by Bugden to Mr. Gale brought a curt reply: "I don't want to see you."

## 'Serious trouble'

But moments later the official was publicly debating the happenings with Bugden's team-mates John Blagden and Donald Allen. They demanded to know under what rule he had been "banned"—if ever he had been banned—and were promptly told by Mr. Gale: "My rule."

The referee also said that Bugden "had been a fool" and got himself into serious trouble.

He again refused to see Bugden but requested the presence of team manager Alf Pells and instructed him to reprimand the Ilford runner.

Duly "reprimanded", Bugden said later he had been most anxious to run in the 100 yards final but had just not been able to get to the line in time. "I had got through two rounds and there were after all four prizes at stake," he added.

Approached by the Recorder on Monday, Mr. Gale said: "The boy was probably inexperienced and didn't compete in the final as he should have done."

"It's right I would not discuss the matter with him, but I did see the team manager. He was not, and is not being suspended, and there the matter ends."

## Phyllis Perkins breaks southern 880 yds. record

**I**LFORD ATHLETIC CLUB'S Phyllis Perkins set a new record in winning the Southern Counties WAAA 880 yards championship at the White City on Saturday. She returned 2min. 12.7sec., beating the old record by half a second.

At the same meeting—promoted by the London Fire Brigade AA—Peter Harrison, the club's rapidly improving walker, worked his way through a big field from a rear mark to win the two-miles walk handicap. With Colin Williams (22nd) and Ray Belts (20th) completing a trio, Ilford were placed third in the team race. Harrison—off 220yds.—clocked 13min. 38.6sec.

The club's relay teams were placed fifth in the finals of both AAA relay championships.

The makeshift 4 x 110 yards team of Ron Bugden, Don Allen, John Blagden and Gareth Curtis surprised themselves with their time of 43.8sec. in their heat. In a star-studded final, where they were the only team not to field at least one international, they improved to 43.6sec.—a new club record.

The 4 x 440 yards team of Don Powell, Chris Surety, David Searle and Pat Jones qualified for the final as fastest losers in 3min. 22.1sec., which was also a club best performance. In the final, won by Birchfield Harriers, the quartet were a second slower but both Surety and Jones were clocked at inside 50sec.

In the Southern Counties WAAA 660 yards relay the Ilford team of Valerie Cutting, Pat Stanley, Ruby Pottit and June Bruty were placed fourth.

In other handicap events June Bruty was third in the long jump and Ron Bugden qualified for the 100 yards final.

