

GREAT BRITAIN

by Philip Barker

For the British, the Olympic Games in Athens in 1906 were a milestone. There had been competitors from the British Isles in each of the first three celebrations but these were the first under the aegis and partial funding of the *British Olympic Association* (BOA).

The build up to the games had been dominated by harrowing news from Italy where the Vesuvius volcano erupted.

In due course, the Italians would formally withdraw from hosting the 1908 games. At the IOC meeting in Athens, British representatives were asked if London would be prepared to step in to stage them. By the end of the year London was confirmed as host city for the IVth Olympiad.

Britain's Olympic agitators were intimately involved in the expedition to Greece. Sir Theodore Andrea COOK wrote a delightful account of the games. *The Cruise of the Branwen* which provides considerable detail on the activities of the British team. He relates how the British were first told about the games by a member of the Greek diplomatic core in 1905.¹

Desborough named as team leader

William Henry Grenfell, Lord DESBOROUGH, the first Chairman of the BOA² was appointed as team leader. At the time fifty years old, the great sporting all rounder took part in the Fencing competition. He was also approached by the foreign office to see if he would find time to undertake certain diplomatic duties whilst in Athens.³ A newspaper also wrote to DESBOROUGH asking him to contribute an article on the Olympic movement.⁴

Whilst in Athens DESBOROUGH was to be assisted by an early Olympic attaché Professor Robert BOSANQUET, director of the British School in Athens.⁵

The Press were bombastic: "*The greatest gathering the world has ever seen*" trumpeted the *Daily Mail*⁶

Preparations

The Greek organisers made available approximately £ 200 for use by the British Olympic authorities in travel and expenses and approximately a quarter of this was passed over to the *Amateur Athletic Association*.⁷

The BOA helped distribute other funding,⁸ and British athletes competed in Athletics, Cycling, Fencing, Gymnastics, Shooting, Swimming and Diving. In addition they provided members of international jury.

The athletes warmed up with the Spring meeting of the *South London Harriers* on the grass at the Oval Cricket ground in South London. There, Henry HAWTREY and Wyndham HALSWELLE both won their races before leaving from Victoria station on the boat train a week before the games.⁹

The *Daily Mail* included a full page on British prospects and identified HALSWELLE as a key medal hope. "*He will be a hard nut to crack in the 400m.*"

Others were finding form more elusive and chose to travel out ahead of the main party.

"AR [Arnold Robertson] Churchill has been unable to find his form and thinks that perhaps a longer sea trip will do him good."¹⁰ Unfortunately when the time came in the 5 miles event his form was still elusive and he failed to even finish.

The Cruise of the Branwen

Meanwhile COOK, DESBOROUGH and Sir Cosmo Duff GORDON travelled in style on Sir Howard de WALDEN'S yacht "The Branwen".

When they reached Athens they were met by other team members at their hotel, and COOK was despatched to the team leaders meeting.

Accommodation for the competitors was made available at the Zappeion though many chose to stay in living quarters arranged by their own teams outside. Even then the problem of athletes competing at different times in the schedule was a live issue for team managers. COOK himself suggested mooring a ship in harbour would be a better solution to accommodation for the British team in future.¹¹

The Opening Ceremony

King EDWARD VII and his wife Queen ALEXANDRA travelled to Greece and joined King GEORGE of the Hellenes and Queen OLGA for the opening ceremony.

A.E. JOHNSON wrote in the EXPRESS:

"Athens is these days full to overflowing [...] the city is a modern tower of Babel. One has seen crowds as large and larger in England but to compare the dull hues of an English crowd with extra colours so intense and vivid as that which gathered in Athens.

*First came King GEORGE of Greece accompanied by the graceful figure of Queen ALEXANDRA, behind King EDWARD VII with the Queen of Greece."*¹²

Both monarchs were dressed in naval uniform. The Queen was still in mourning dress.

The British Team

Officials

Sir Theodore Andrea COOK
1867-1928

An oarsman and fencer who participated in the 1906 Games which he chronicled in *The Cruise of the Branwen*.

Cook became a member of the Organising Committee of the 1908 Olympics and is credited as the author of the Official Report. He also edited the booklet *A response to certain Criticisms* which responded to the Americans who were unhappy at aspects of the 1908 games. Editor of the *St. James' Gazette* from 1900. Joined the *Daily Telegraph* in 1901 and became editor of *The Field* in 1910 and wrote a number of books on Rowing. IOC Member 1909-1915.

Sir George Stuart ROBERTSON
1872-1967

Member of International Jury 1906. Competed in the discus at the 1896 Olympics and also competed in the tennis tournament.

Fencing



Lord Howard
de Walden

Lord Howard de WALDEN
1889-1946

Born Thomas Evelyn SCOTTELLIS in 1899 he became 8th Lord Howard de WALDEN, inheriting including Dean Castle in Kilmarnock, which he restored. He took a great interest in literary matters, writing books and plays, using his own money on many occasions to stage large scale productions. He had a keen interest in music and art and supported many orchestras and artists. Other interests

included horse racing, as owner and breeder, in the week of the Athens games he won the Craven Stakes at Newmarket and fencing which he pursued to international level and became a collector of swords, weapons and armour which are now housed within Dean Castle.

Edgar SELIGMAN
1867-1958

Former amateur champion at both Foil and Epée, the only man to win the British championship at all three weapons twice. Also a talented artist.

His Olympic career was a long one - his last appearance came in 1924.

Sir Cosmo -
Edmund Duff GORDON
1862-1931

Chosen for the British team when C. Leaf DANIEL was unable to attend because he was fencing in Paris.

The Times 28 February 1906
Still involved in the fencing circuit by the 1908 London Olympic Games and later as a judge



Sir Cosmo,
Edmund Duff Gordon

Charles Edmund NEWTON ROBINSON
1853-1913

Responsible for the development of Epée fencing in Britain. Finished 2nd in the first Open Epée tournament held in the UK and won the strangers prize at the International Championship in Paris and also the Tournoi International in Brussels. The first Briton to do so.

Oliver J. BAUSCHER
German Gymnastics Society

Athletics

Sidney Solomon ABRAHAMS
1885-1978

Older brother of Harold ABRAHAMS - won his blue at Cambridge in 1904 and competed in 100 y and Long Jump in Athens. Won the Midlands Long Jump in 1910 and 1911 and was selected in that event at the Stockholm Olympics. Later a distinguished lawyer he was knighted in 1936 and also became a Privy Councillor.

William Davidson ANDERSON
†1915

Irish born he moved to Scotland aged only six months. Scottish AAAs champion in 1905 he represented Britain at 400 m and 800 m in Athens. Killed in action during World War II.

Stephen Henry CARNELLY
1880-c1936

Born in Scotland he was educated at Rugby School and Exeter College Oxford. He won his blue at Cross Country in 1905 and also appeared in the 3 miles. He left University without taking a degree but joined the Colonial service serving in the Malay states, the Gold Coast and Kenya as a senior magistrate. It is thought that he died around 1936.

Arnold CHURCHILL
1883-1975

Caius College Cambridge. Won 3 miles for Cambridge University in 1904, and won the University Cross Country Championship in 1903

and 1904. Out of form at the time of the Athens games. He qualified as a barrister and returned to his legal practice after serving in the war.

Joseph Norman CORMACK

An Anglo Scot, he began as a middle distance runner and won the Scottish AAAs 880 yds title in 1902. Emigrated to South Africa in 1903 and returned to Europe after winning a 25 mile race to take part in the 1906 marathon. In his entry for the marathon in 1906 he was listed as Transvaal, Scottish AAAs and London AC. He was the last of the runners to finish.

Reginald Percy CRABBE

1883-1964

Corpus Christi Cambridge University. 2nd over 880 yds in the 1905 AAAs championship, he represented Great Britain in both 800 m and 1500 m in Athens reaching the finals of both. Later a distinguished church figure he was Bishop of Mombassa from 1936-1953.

Francis Milward EDWARDS

1886-1976

Queens College Cambridge. Gained his blue over 3 miles on four successive occasions. He also won the Varsity Cross Country Race but failed to finish in Athens. Selected for the three mile team race at the 1908 London Olympics but did not run. Studied Theology at University and served with the Camel Corps during the war. Later a teacher.

Wyndham HALSWELLE

1882-1915

Edinburgh Harriers and Army. London born Scot who later won the 1908 400 m in controversial circumstances. When one of his American rivals was disqualified for boring, the other members of the team pulled out in protest leaving HALSWELLE to run to victory alone. Saddened by the episode he retired shortly afterwards and was killed by a sniper's bullet whilst serving in France during World War I.

Henry Courtenay HAWTREY

1882-1961

London Athletic Club. In 1901 finished fourth in the AAAs aged only 19 but set a UK junior record which lasted 38 years. Finished second in the AAAs the following year. A career soldier he joined the Royal Engineers but represented Britain in the 5 mile race which he won by 50 yards despite suffering an injured ankle. Won the Distinguished Service Order during his Military career and retired from the army with the rank of brigadier.

Alfred Hearn HEALEY

1879-1960

Lincolnshire born he won the silver in the 110 m hurdles. Represented Britain at the 1908 London Olympics where he failed by a foot to qualify for the final. Also an accomplished sprinter who won Northern Championships over the sprints as well as the hurdles.

John William HORNE

*1877

Pembroke College Cambridge. Born at Dudley in Worcestershire, he was the Midland counties 440 yds champion in 1904. Entered 400 m and 800 m in Athens but failed to qualify in either.

John MCGOUGH

1877-1967

Bellahouston Harriers. Irish born but moved to Scotland when only six months old. Leading Scottish middle distance runner who won 12 Scottish AAAs titles, and also enjoyed success in Ireland winning the 2 and 3 mile championships in 1905. Won the Irish AAA one mile championship in 1907 and took part in 1500 m at 1908 Olympic Games but did not qualify for the final. Later worked as a postman.

Reginald Charles REED

*1883

Durham University and London AC. A Theological Exhibitioner at Durham University he won his 100 m heat but did not take part in the second round and finished last in his 400m heat.

David Wallis WATERS

1878-1952

University College Cardiff AC. Competed in 110 m hurdles at Athens and also at the 1908 London Olympics but was also Welsh Long Jump champion. Later became a schoolmaster after graduating from University College Cardiff.

Henry Guy WEBER

1885-1959

Clare College. Won his blue at cross country in 1905 and after appearing in the 1906 Olympic Games in Athens he represented the University once in the Varsity match. Called to the bar in 1908, he later forged a career in oil and was stationed in India and Spain. Joined the Stock Exchange and later joined the censorship department. Eventually settled in Trinidad where he became director of the Globe Theatre.

Robert Edward WILKINSON

Sefton Harriers Liverpool. Qualified for Athens by finishing 2nd in the 2 miles AAAs championship in

1905 but was disqualified after finishing first both races in Athens.

John James DALY
1880-c1972

Irish AAA champion over 1 mile and 4 miles in 1902, he won the steeplechase at the 1904 games in St Louis. Stayed on in America but returned to Europe to take part in the Athens Games. Unlike the other Irish athletes he received no sponsorship and had to pay his fare and find his own lodging in Athens. He finished 3rd in the five mile race but was disqualified for obstruction. In the Marathon he completed 18 miles before blisters forced him to retire and hospitalised him for 3 days. Selected for the Olympic Games in 1908, he did not actually race. Later emigrated to the USA.

Cornelius LEAHY
1876-1921

One of seven brothers, all outstanding athletes. Won AAAs title four years in succession from 1905-1908 in high jump. He won gold in high jump and silver at triple jump in Athens and two years later Olympic high jump gold. In 1909 he emigrated to the USA.

Peter O'CONNOR
1874-1957

Primarily a long jumper, he won the AAAs title six times in a row from 1901-1906. In 1901 his leap of 7.61 m was later acknowledged as the first official world record by the IAAF. However had trouble

with his run up at the 1906 Games and could only take silver so concentrated on his secondary event the triple jump where he beat the favourite Con LEAHY to gold. Retired in 1906 to concentrate on his legal career but did officiate at the 1932 Los Angeles games and also attended the Berlin Olympics.

Cycling

Herbert Clifford BOUFFLER
*1881

Polytechnic Club. Although named, it was not originally thought he would be free to make the trip.

Herbert CROWTHER
Leeds

Thomas John MATTHEWS
1884-1969

Putney Cycling Club. At time of the games formed an untried pairing with Arthur RUSHEN. Together they upset the odds in the Tandem to win gold. His pairing with Leon MEREDITH at the 1908 Olympics was less successful and the two men fell out over a disagreement about tactics. A carpenter by trade he later became a publican.

William James PETT
1873-1954

Did not take up the sport of cycling until he was 20 years of age. Initially a member of *Southern CC* and *Putney CC* before joining *Norwood Paragon Cycling Club*. Worked in the Wine Cellars at *Harrods*. Later a judge at the 1948 Olympic Cycling events.



The British Cyclists
in Athens 1906

Arthur RUSHEN

Followed up their victory in the Athens Games with victory at the NCU but by 1908 had a different partner and did not place in London. A builder's labourer by trade.

Diving and Swimming

Gordon Melville CLARKE

1882-1950

Highgate Lifebuoys - later had an ASA diving trophy named in his honour

Harold Nelson SMYRK

*1889

Zephyr Swimming Club. ASA champion on high board.

Robert Stanley COOPER

†1918

Competed in the 1 mile swimming and also in Gymnastics.

John Henry DERBYSHIRE

1878-1938

Manchester born he was a member of the successful British water Polo team at the 1900 Olympics in Paris. Began his career with *Manchester Osborne Swimming Club*, eventually joining the *Old Trafford Swimming Club* and later swimming in London.

William HENRY

1859-1928

Zephyr Swimming Club. Team Manager for the British swimming squad in Athens. Was aged 47 when he won his medal in the relay.

John Arthur JARVIS

1872-1933

The first great British swimmer, he represented his country at the 1900 Olympic Games in Paris winning gold in 1000 m Freestyle and 4000 m freestyle. Between 1897 and 1906 JAVIS won an incredible 24 *Amateur Swimming Association* titles and was thus expected to win gold in Athens. His last Olympic appearance came in 1908 and afterwards he became a specialist in lifesaving techniques.

Paul RADMILOVIC

1886-1968

An outstanding Water Polo player he won three gold medals in successive Olympic teams and was also a member of the victorious 4 x 200m freestyle relay team in 1908. His last games came at the age of 42. A Welshman, he lived most of his life in the English resort of Western Super Mare where he represented the local swimming club. He was also a useful golfer and footballer. In 1967 he was the first Briton to be

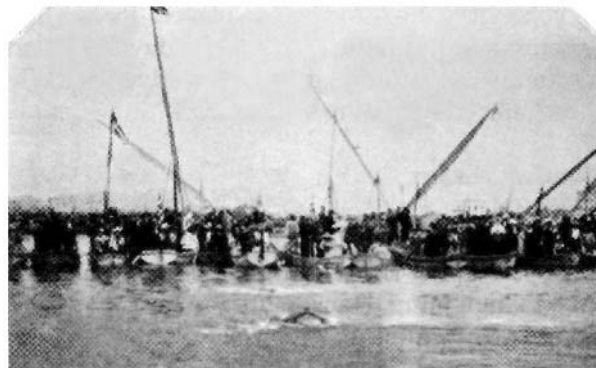
inducted into the International hall of fame and kept active in the sport right up to his death.

Henry TAYLOR

1885-1951

The most successful Olympic swimmer Britain has ever produced, TAYLOR rose from working in the Lancashire cotton mills. In 1906 he pulled off the major surprise of the games beating John JARVIS in the 1000m

At the 1908 Olympics he won Olympic gold and won medals at four successive Olympiads.



Taylor, swimming through the bay of Neo Phaleron

Shooting

Gerald Eustace MERLIN

1884-1945

Athens born, he nonetheless took advantage of his British parentage to represent the mother country at the Athens games where he took gold in the Clay Pigeon Single shot. He also competed at the 1908 Olympics in London but finished 19th.



Gerald Merlin

Sydney Louis Walter MERLIN
1856-1952

The only British shooter to take part in the 1896 Olympics, a decade later he competed in all the events. Athens born he married the daughter of the Greek Prime Minister. Sidney was the son of the British vice Consul for Athens.



Sydney Merlin

Team Uniform

Photographic evidence indicates that the British team paraded in jackets but there was no team uniform.

Theodore COOK reports however that Lord DESBOROUGH himself led the team resplendent in top hat and other team members were similarly dressed. It is unclear, who if any one carried the Union Flag on behalf of the team.¹³

The advice from the foreign office on dress code suggested that those in uniform (i.e serving in the military) should bring them and recommended that the travelling wardrobe also included frock coat and top hat, a far cry from the tracksuits of today.

In competition they wore the Union Flag on their sports gear. The cyclists wore this across the entire front of their uniform and the athletes on the left breast of their white vest.

COOK reports that the fencers wore *"a little union jack on our left arms and the white international cap with the Tudor rose which commemorates the first royal recognition of English swordsmanship by Henry VIII."*¹⁴

Fencing

The Royal party went to the Zappeion to see the fencing match between Great Britain and Germany and the match prompted a Royal wager. The Kaiser had apparently written to his sister the Crown

Princess predicting success for the German team. King EDWARD VII heard about this and had a bet with the Crown Princess.

*"The English swordsmen were distinctly nervous when King Edward called them to him [...] He cured that nervousness by collecting the swords which he gave to Queen Alexandra who returned them with a charming smile and expressed the hope that the team from Great Britain would win."*¹⁵

Thus energised the British beat the Germans by 9 bouts to 2.

Lord Howard de WALDEN had originally been named only as a reserve but was eventually included in the team. He lost the preliminary pool after a *"splendid struggle"*. He was beaten by German CASIMIR who fenced in the Italian style.

Edgar SELIGMAN was the most impressive of the British fencers and after he had won his bout the King summoned him to offer congratulations.

Britain then beat Belgium in a match that lasted into a second day after it got too dark to complete proceedings on the first evening.

The British then faced France and the match ended in a 9-9 tie. However in the fence off which happened almost immediately the French team finished on top.

Theodore COOK is critical of the judging. *"Lord Desborough was at the top of his game with the Epée and no one has ever been worse treated by an international jury than he was in our most critical fight against the French."*¹⁶

NEWTON-ROBINSON and SELIGMAN didn't stay for the presentation ceremony. They were already off to Paris to take part in another fencing competition.¹⁷

By this time too the Royal party had gone to Olympia to see the excavations of the site and apparently spent a quarter of an hour examining the statue of Hermes.

Athletics

News from Athens was reported for British Audiences by the correspondent of the *Reuters* agency but photographs took a little longer to find their way back. A week after the opening ceremony photographs of the athletes training on board ship were shown in the British press. Wyndham HALSWELLE was pictured training. The reports explained this was why he was so successful. In the final he took silver behind Paul PILGRIM, the American who had apparently paid his own way to the games.

F.A.M. WEBSTER'S Olympic cavalcade described HALSWELLE'S exploits in 1906: In the 400 m *"It looked as if the Scot would prove the stronger finisher and must win [...] then came the shock, a slightly built youth seemed to come from the back of the field at amazing speed."*

In the jumps Irishman Peter O'CONNOR was the star. He was to be accompanied by his wife "*whose joy will be unbounded should O'Connor win*" predicted the *Daily Mail* again.¹⁹ In the Long Jump he finished second and three days later won gold in the Triple Jump so presumably Mrs. O'CONNOR was delighted although less so by the raising of the Union Flag. O'CONNOR and Con LEAHY the second place man were both proud Irishmen but at this stage Ireland was not a separate nation state but it did not stop the two men unfurling a green flag to celebrate an Irish success.

There was also success on the track for Lieutenant HAWTREY in the five mile race and in the 110 m hurdles a marvellous struggle for supremacy won eventually by American Robert LEAVITT from the Briton Alfred HEALEY but the winning margin was only a foot.

Sir George ROBERTSON had won his blue for hammer throwing on four successive occasions but although originally entered for the discus he instead joined the international jury of appeal alongside John Fowler DIXON the noted long distance runner.

The Marathon was won by a Canadian but COOK sounded a cautionary note for the future of the race and observed that anyone taking part in the race in future would need at least a fortnight to acclimatise to local conditions.²⁰

Shooting

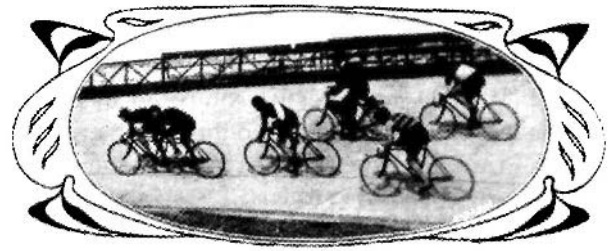
Some members of the team did not have to travel. Gerald and Sidney MERLIN had both been born in Athens and were part of the diplomatic set. Both had indeed competed in the 1896 games and now a decade on they went again to the shooting range at Kallithea Gerald won the Single Shot Clay Pigeon after a shoot off with the Greek John PERIDIS and also took silver in the double shot. He also finished fourth in the pistol shooting and Sidney won the double shot and took bronze in the single to give the British success certain symmetry.

Swimming and Diving

The Swimmers who represented Britain were chosen after a trial in Manchester less than a fortnight before the opening of the games. Led by William HENRY who would also take part in the relay, the group stopped off in Torino en route. There they delighted their hosts by swimming across the River Po at the point where its current was strongest.²¹

It would be good practice for the competition in Neo Phaliron bay. Paul RADMILOVIC later a prolific British Water polo player won his heat of the 100 m and finished fourth in the final. RADMILOVIC also finished 5th in the 400 m freestyle.

Henry TAYLOR had not yet won an ASA title but he surprised everyone by taking the one mile race by over 200 yards from the pre-race favourite and 1900 Olympic champion John JARVIS.



Pace was not forbidden in 1906. This way the British tandem winners could "work" for Pett at his race

TAYLOR went for a second gold in the 400 m, delayed for a day by bad weather but was beaten by the Austrian teenager Otto SCHEFF in one of the closest events of the games.

Cycling

In the one lap time trial cycling Herbert CROWTHER from Leeds punctured a tyre starting off but was allowed to go again and was involved in a three way tie for second place. In the run off for second, CROWTHER equalled the winners time.

William PETT won the 20 km track race paced by the tandem winners John MATTHEWS and Arthur RUSHEN.

Homecoming

When the British team finally left Athens, they left behind a letter of thanks to their Greek hosts.

*"On behalf of the British representatives [...] we desire to express to your committee our grateful recognition of all the kindness courtesy and hospitality we have received in Athens at your hands. The memory of the great Olympic festival [...] in your historic and beautiful city will ever remain one of our most prized and happy possessions."*²²

As the team returned home with London all but certain to host the next games, teams were still notionally at least expecting to return to Greece for another celebration in 1910, but COOK'S writings betray a lack of certainty that these games would ever take place.²³

A note on British sources

The early history of the *British Olympic Association* is not well documented in contemporary sources. Much of the information here has been taken from contemporary newspapers.

The details of competitions were left to *Reuters* and other agencies to report and are frustratingly economical. Ian BUCHANAN and Bill MALLON'S studies have been used to compile the register of competitors. Other useful works are BUCHANAN'S *Who's Who of UK International Athletes 1896-39* and Pat BESFORD'S *Encyclopaedia of Swimming* Hale 1978.



The German tandems Götze/Götze, placed second, Küpferling/Arnold, third, and the successful Britons Mathews/Rushen

Notes

- 1 "The secretary of the Greek Olympic committee in London was Mr Marinaky of the Greek legation and as soon as he explained that an athletic gathering of an important international character was to be held in Athens in 1906, I felt that it would be an unrivalled opportunity to take out a British fencing team." COOK, Theodore Andrea, *The Cruise of the Branwen*, London 1908, p. 20.
- 2 Lord DESBOROUGH, 1855-1945, First Chairman of the *British Olympic Association* and great sporting all rounder, President of *Oxford University Athletic Club* 1876 and the OUBC in 1878. Placed 2nd for Oxford in the 3 miles in 1876 and rowed twice in the Boat Race including the famous dead heat of 1877, Swam across the base of Niagara falls twice, the second time in a snowstorm and climbed the Matterhorn three times. Won the Punting Championship three successive years from 1888. His political career saw him as Member of Parliament for Salisbury 1880, 1885, Hereford 1892, Wycombe 1900-1905. Also Mayor of Maidenhead. President of the *Epee Club*
- 3 "Dear Desborough,
The Greek Government has applied to us to appoint a representative of His Majesty's government to attend the Olympic Games to be held at Athens next month and as we hear you are going out to Athens with the fencing team, Sir Edward Grey is of the opinion that this country could not be better represented than by you and he has entrusted me to ask if you would kindly undertake the task. We are all a little vague as to what these special duties may be but whatever they may be we are sure you will fulfill them to everybody's complete satisfaction." Sir Edward Hardinge to Desborough, Letter dated March 14 1906; Buckinghamshire County archive Aylesbury
- 4 "My Lord, Might I ask whether you would be kind enough ... to write a fourth page article on the Olympic Games ... I need hardly say that an expert introduction from your Lordship would be most keenly appreciated by our readers" Foreign Editor Daily Mail to Desborough Letter dated 19 March 1906, Buckinghamshire Aylesbury Archive.
- 5 Robert Carr BOSANQUET, 1871-1935, Acted as Olympic attaché for the British team. Director of the British School in Athens 1900-1906, responsible for key excavations at the turn of the 20th century. Sent his own cook to prepare meals for the members of the marathon team. His wife also staged a garden party during the games.
- 6 *Daily Mail* (April 10, 1906)
- 7 *The Time* (February 14, 1906) gives the amount pledged by the Greek government at £ 200. This is at odds with COOK's account which sets the figure at nearer £ 80 offered by the Greeks.
- 8 COOK, *Cruise*, p. 96. The British Olympic Association subsequently coordinated fundraising for all British Olympic teams
- 9 *Daily Graphic* (April 13, 1906)
- 10 *Daily Mail* (April 14, 1906)
- 11 COOK, *Cruise*, p. 95
- 12 *Daily Express* (May 3, 1906)
- 13 COOK, *Cruise*, p. 63
- 14 COOK, *Cruise*, p. 26
- 15 COOK, *Cruise*, p. 66f.
- 16 COOK, Theodore Andrea, *The Sunlit Hours*, p. 229
- 17 COOK, *Cruise*, p. 24. In 1907 the British team minus DESBOROUGH reunited for a challenge match against the Rest of England which they won 17-10.
- 18 WEBSTER, F.A.M., *Olympic Cavalcade*, p. 51
- 19 *Daily Mail* (April 13, 1906)
- 20 COOK, *Cruise*, p. 93. COOK pays tribute to the work of R.C. BOSANQUET who sent his cook to prepare food for the Marathon runners.
The winner (SHERRING, CAN) had come over two months before hand and it is quite possible that neither he nor any of the British competitors would have done so well if it had not been for the care of Mr. BOSANQUET of the British School who sent his own cook with various necessities the night before the race to Marathon. This is a race it will be difficult to reproduce elsewhere ... any British competitor should understand his chances will be most remote unless he arrives at least a fortnight beforehand.
NB No British runner male or female has ever won the Olympic marathon.
- 21 *The Times* (April 23, 1906)
- 22 *The Times* (May 2, 1906)
- 23 COOK, *Cruise*, p. 9. "it may without discourtesy be suggested that until railway communication becomes better developed some difficulty will be experienced by other countries in sending athletes to Greece so soon after the official quadrennial games."