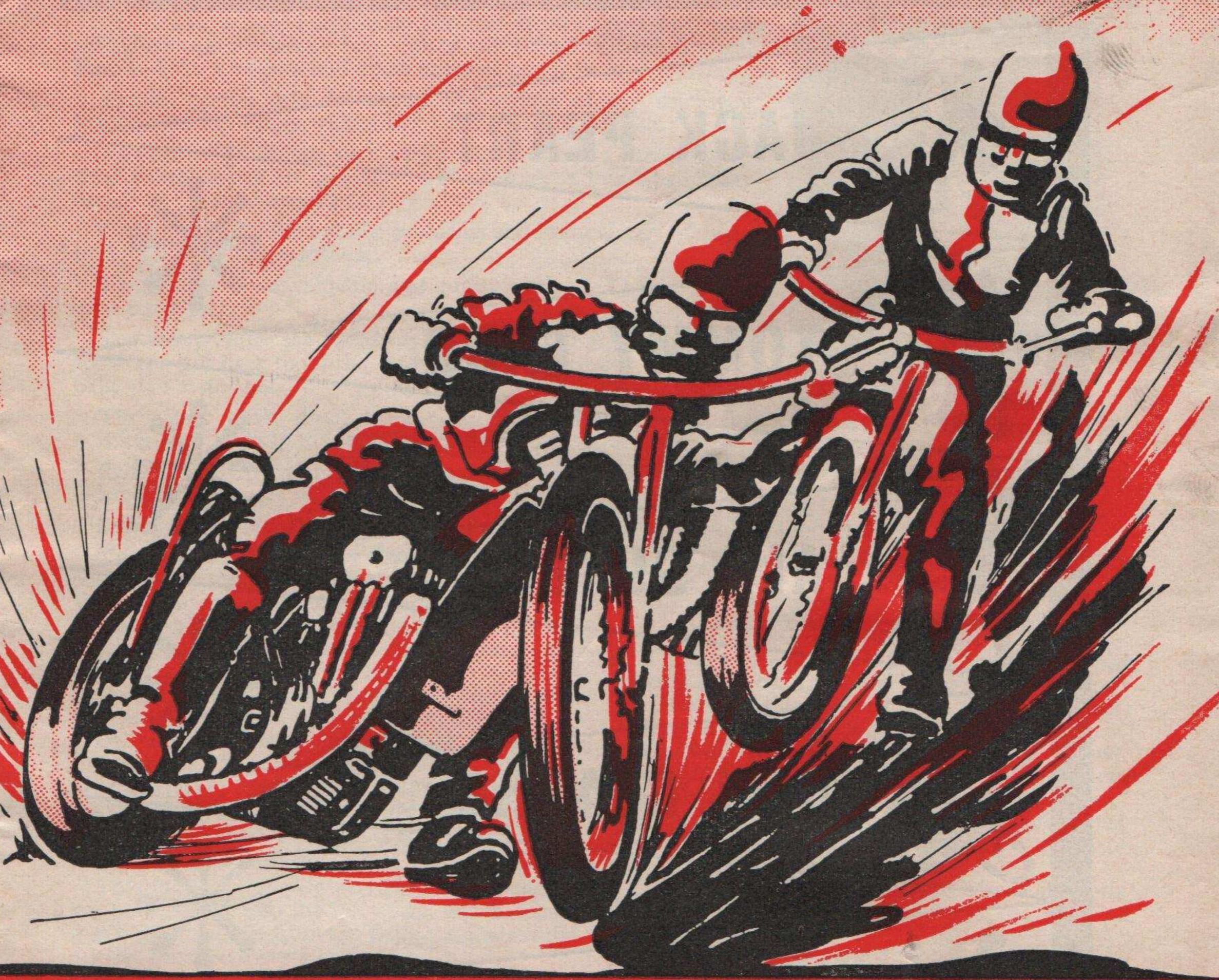
# SPEEDWAY CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD 1958



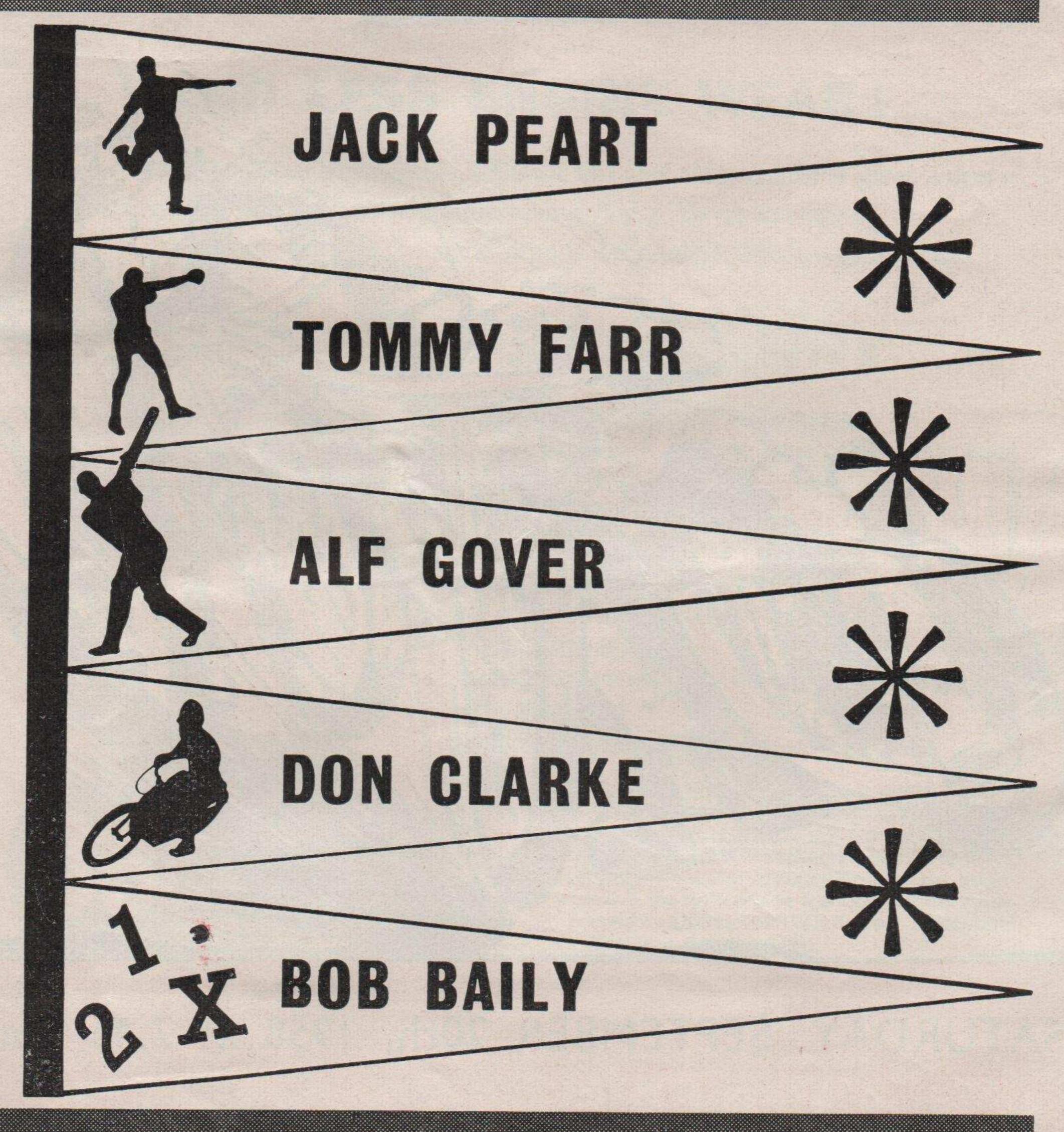
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th, 1958 at 7.45 p.m.

EMPIRE STADIUM

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME :

ONE SHILLING

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THE 'PIC' for all sports

### WORLD'S BEST RIDERS CHASING 'PIC' £500 WINNER'S PRIZE & £350 TROPHY

By GEORGE CASEY ("Sunday Pictorial" Sports Editor)

THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WITH THE NEW LOOK. THAT'S THE 1958 SPEEDWAY BATTLE YOU WILL WITNESS IN THE NEXT TWO HOURS OR SO. THE SUNDAY PICTORIAL ARE THE NEW SPONSORS AND ARE PRESENTING PRIZE MONEY TO THE VALUE OF £1,250. IN ADDITION A BRAND NEW AND MAGNIFICENT TROPHY WORTH NEARLY £350 HAS BEEN DESIGNED SPECIALLY FOR THE EVENT.

Above all, a new enthusiasm for this family sport has been rekindled and everyone—fans, riders, promoters and the Control Board—earn a worthy and equal share of praise.

Typical of the new drive were the actions of two stars you know so well as riders—Cyril Brine and Split Waterman.

The task of producing such a magnificent World Championship trophy (which you see on page 10) in a few short weeks had many technical snags to overcome.

Cyril and Split heard of our problems and immediately 'phoned to offer advice and assistance.

Their ideas were valuable and praiseworthy. Their motives even more so.

Too many critics say speedway riders take too much out of the sport and put back too little. Brine's and Waterman's sentiments belie that statement.

They gave their time, trouble, energy and experience for nothing—just to help the sport which has helped them in the past.

Believe me, they were almost the very words Cyril and Split uttered to me.

#### I feel it fair to them that the facts be recorded.

Twelve World Speedway Championships have passed since the inception in 1936. The Second World War caused a ten-year gap.

The competition, like speedway itself, has had to surmount terrific obstacles and prejudices and has had to change with the times.

Continental riders are becoming a bigger force than ever before.

Of the 16 riders tonight, four hail from Sweden and one from Germany.

IT MIGHT NOT BE LONG BEFORE REPRESENTATIVES OF POLAND—AND EVEN RUSSIA—FORCE THEIR WAY TO A WEMBLEY FINAL.

This is the third year the reigning champion has been seeded into the last stage, which meant that only ten riders from the British rounds could qualify for Speedway's greatest prize.



Sunday 'Pic' columnist

Don Clarke (right) explains

a knotty speedway point to

'Pic' Sports Editor, George

Casey.

It's tough at the top—and even tougher getting there!

#### Thank You, Donald Campbell

The three riders who take the Sunday Pictorial awards of £500, £200 and £100 from the hands of Donald Malcolm Campbell, C.B.E., tonight, will appreciate that fact to the full.

Donald Campbell is a king of speed. He's the fastest man in the world on water. He holds the record at 239.07 miles per hour.

He's also planning to capture the land speed record of 394.196 m.p.h., made by the late Sir John Cobb.

The Sunday Pictorial thanks him most sincerely for coming along to pay tribute to the kings of speedway.

May the best man win!

#### THANK YOU!

On behalf of Members of the Speedway Control Board, Promoters, Riders and Supporters throughout the country, we extend our grateful thanks to the Sunday Pictorial for so generously sponsoring this Championship.

We are particularly grateful to Mr. Colin Valdar, Editor of this great newspaper, also Mr. George Casey, the Sports Editor, and it is with immense pleasure that we welcome

executives of the Sunday Pictorial here this evening.

A warm welcome to the Empire Stadium is also extend

A warm welcome to the Empire Stadium is also extended to the thousands of speedway supporters who have made the journey from all parts of the country to cheer on their favourite riders: and, in particular, we should like to greet a contingent of visitors from the continent who are here to encourage their compatriots.

We trust that all present will have a pleasant and memorable evening at Wembley.



#### BARRY BRIGGS (Wimbledon and New Zealand)

Present World Champion who won the title at Wembley last year after a run-off with Swede Ove Fundin. Twenty-three years of age, Christchurch-born Briggs is the Kingpin of the Dons. First rode for the South London club in 1952. Since then has never looked back. His familiar flat-out, full bore tactics are popular with fans everywhere. Under F.I.M. regulations was "seeded" into tonight's big Final. Obviously will not surrender his world crown without a fight. A very keen grass-track and scrambles enthusiast. Averaged nearly 15 League points per match this season. His fourth Final.

#### MIKE BROADBANKS (Swindon and England)

His first-ever World Final, Broadbanks's meteoric rise to cinder fame in the last couple of years is nothing short of fantastic. Was unheard of in 1954, but won the Southern Area Championship a year later on his 21st birthday. Joined the famous Wembley Lions in 1956 and his full throttle, never-say-die riding soon established him as a great favourite. Lost a run-off to Ron How for a first-round World Championship cheque; at Swindon also went close in the Leicester semi-final round, being second with 14 points. Is certain to make a few of them sit up tonight.

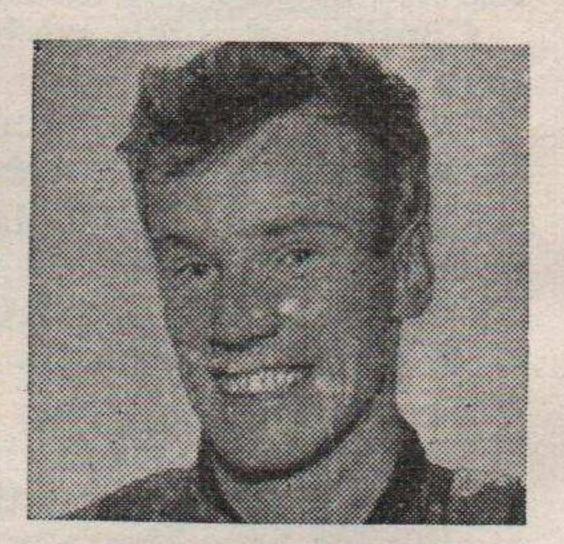


#### PETER CRAVEN (Belle Vue and England)

World Champion, 1955 and one of the greatest English riders of all time. Only a shade over five feet, this "mighty midget" is the pride of the North. Has averaged almost 15 League points per match for the Mancunians this season. Peter, who always wears pyjamas under his riding leathers, won the Wimbledon World semi-final round. His spectacular cornering is one of the highlights of present day speedway. Watch him tonight! His fifth Wembley Final and possibly his second Final win.

#### OVE FUNDIN (Norwich and Sweden)

Champion of the World, 1956, who is probably the greatest Swedish rider of all time. At the time of writing heads the British League averages Exceedingly fast from the gate, believes in a big handful of throttle at the first bend, no wonder he's dubbed the firebrand of the continent. Won this year's European Zone Final in Warsaw with an unbeaten 15 points. Was the first foreign rider to win the Sunday Pictorial Golden Helmet, red-headed Fundin is a hot favourite to regain his World mantle. His fifth Final.





#### JACK GERAN (Leicester and Australia)

A finalist for the first time 12 months ago when he tied for ninth place. Won this year's £50 cheque at the Southampton semi-final round. Reached tonight's Final after a run-off. Melbourne-born, has represented Australia on numerous occasions. Favours a big track, stockily-built Jack always wears a St. Christopher medallion for good luck. One of the three Hunters in tonight's Final, Geran is expected to improve on his last year's total of seven points. His second Final.

#### FINALISTS

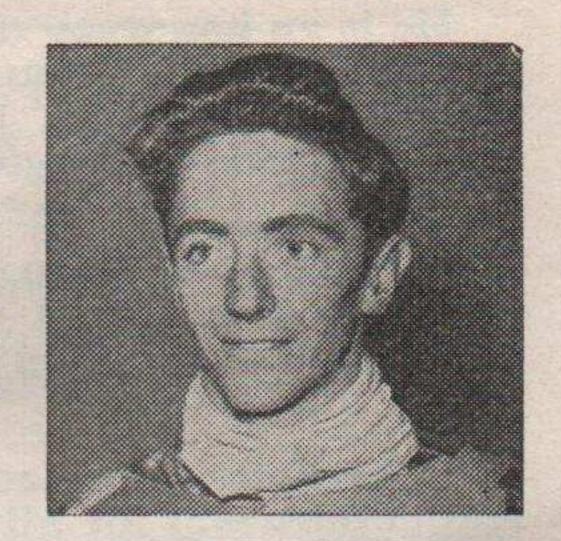


#### JOSEF HOFMEISTER (Germany)

Appeared in last year's Final but failed to gain a solitary point. Twenty-four years of age, is the champion of his country and holds a crop of records in Australia, Czechoslovakia and Germany. Works in his father's garage at Abensberg, a small town in Bavaria. His father acts as his mechanic and pit adviser. Josef is the only German to have competed in a World Final. Having experienced one big Wembley occasion, is confidently expected to do better this time. His second Final.

#### RON HOW (Wimbledon and England)

His third Final—last year he collected seven points and in 1952 finished last! One of England's most consistent riders, won the Swindon first-round World Championship meeting after a run-off. Has an unorthodox style—crouches well forward over the handlebars—but gets there just the same. A great favourite at the home of the Dons for whom he has averaged 13 League points per match this season.





#### GERALD HUSSEY (Leicester and England)

A Final reserve three years ago, scored three points in the 1956 Final. A mere novice in 1952, dark-haired Hussey came to the front at West Ham and, more recently, has distinguished himself on the large Australian bowls. "Heady" type of rider, 27-year-old Gerry fights the entire four laps. His home is at Wood Green (London). Third Leicester rider on show tonight. Qualified for Wembley after a run-off at Oxford.

#### JOEL JANSSON (Sweden)

Skipper of the Vargarna club (Norrkoping), is 34 years of age and takes his place in tonight's big Final at a distinct disadvantage. In the 1957-58 winter season he severely injured his left arm as the result of a collision with a Finnish rider in an ice-racing "Test match" in Stockholm. The arm wound required 17 stitches, but he has yet to undergo an operation to regain full use and ability of the arm. Visited England in 1953, also rode in the 1954 World Championship meetings at West Ham and Norwich. Regular Swedish Test rider, is now in his tenth season, and this Wembley appearance marks a great milestone in the career of a very courageous rider.





#### RON JOHNSTON (Belle Vue and New Zealand)

Figured prominently in last year's Wembley Final, scoring nine points. Only previous other Final appearance was in 1955 when he finished tenth with six points. Won the Belle Vue first round Championship meeting with 14 points. A Manchester stalwart for eight years, poker-faced Ron has numerous international appearances to his credit. Could upset the favourites tonight. Figured in the Oxford run-off before clinching his Final 'ticket' this time.

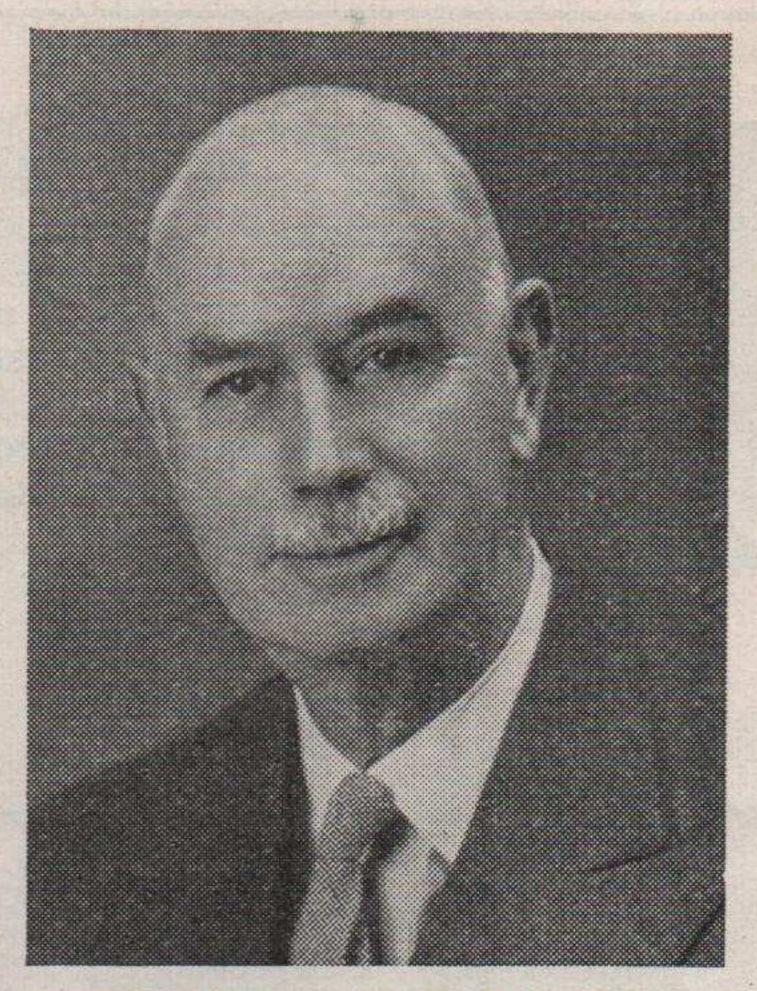
#### F.I.M. STEWARD FOR TONIGHT

FOR all international meetings the Federation Internationale Motocycliste appoints one of its most experienced officials whose task it is to watch all the points, particularly with regard to the detail of the organisation of the event, and to report back to the Council of the F.I.M. at an appropriate time.

We welcome this year Major H. R. Watling, C.B.E., J.P. Major Watling is an Englishman and has been associated with motor-cycle sport since 1919 and has officiated as Steward at the T.T. Races in the Isle of Man and at International Six-Day Trials on numerous occasions.

He is an honorary member of the Auto-Cycle Union and has been a delegate to the F.I.M. since 1923 where, among other things, he has represented the Motor-cycling Union of England for 32 years.

He has also been Treasurer of the F.I.M. since 1946 and has served the F.I.M. as a member of the International Sporting Commission since its formation.



Major H. R. WATLING, C.B.E., J.P.

Currently President of the Sunbeam Motor-Cycle Club, Major Watling's experience and enthusiasm for all motor-cycle sports provide him with a unique ability to represent the World Controlling Authority at Speedway's greatest event. We are honoured to have him with us.

#### TONIGHT'S A.C.U. REFEREE

Mr. E. G. COPE was appointed secretary of the East Midland centre of the A.C.U. in January, 1950, also a member of the Competitions Committee of the A.C.U. in London for the last four years.

Became a speedway referee in 1946 and has officiated at meetings throughout the country, particularly at Midland tracks.

Is also a keen trials, grass track and road racing enthusiast, and has officiated on behalf of the A.C.U. at many of these meetings.

Served four and a half years with the Royal Air Force, being an Instructor in the Flight Mechanics' Training School.

Mr. Cope has been interested in motor-cycling for 25 years and owned his first machine in 1922.

Has himself taken part in competition riding, chiefly in reliability trials in which he usually entered the side-car class with his wife as passenger!

Mr. Cope lives at Burton-on-Trent.

#### OUR FRONT COVER

OUR front cover drawing was produced by the Secretary of the Control Board and is taken from a photograph by a Sunday Pictorial staff photographer.

The riders are Peter Craven and Ove Fundin, and the occasion was a heat in a duel between the two riders for the Sunday Pictorial Golden Helmet Match Race Championship.

The drawing shows the typical "balancing act" which is so much a part of Peter Craven's riding—particularly when he is riding the inside edge of the track.

Ove Fundin is shown riding hard up to Peter Craven awaiting his opportunity to get his front wheel in, prior to making one of his brilliant efforts to pass on the inside.

Craven, on the other hand, appears to be quite determined—in spite of his apparently precarious position—to keep the dashing Swede behind him, and in this particular heat he was successful.

The series resulted in Fundin retaining his title as the holder of the "Golden Helmet." Present champion, however, is the dashing Southampton star, Brian Crutcher, who captured the title from Fundin after a neutral track run-off at Wimbledon.



#### **OFFICIALS**

F.I.M. Steward of the Meeting: MAJOR H. R. WATLING, C.B.E., J.P.

A.C.U. Referee: E. G. COPE

A.C.U. Judge: H. W. SHUTTLEWORHT

Clerk of the Course: E. A. SIMCOCK

Medical Officer: D. H. CAMPBELL, M.B., Ch.B.

A.C.U. Machine Measurer: F. A. LOWE

Announcer: J. TETLOW

Meeting held under the International Sporting Code of the Federation Internationale Motorcycliste and the Speedway Regulations of the Auto-Cycle Union

Permit No. S.P. 319

#### PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

7.00 p.m.

THE MASSED BANDS OF THE TERRITORIAL ARMY (MIDDLESEX)

7.40 p.m.

By Kind permission of Commanding Officers comprising the Bands of 571 L.A.A. Regiment R.A. (9th Bn. Middlesex Regiment—D.C.O.) T.A., 114 Army Engineer Regiment R.E., T.A., 7th Bn. Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.) T.A., 8th Bn. Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.) T.A., Pipe Band of 57th (Middlesex), General Hospital R.A.M.C. (T.A.).

INTERVAL MARCHING DISPLAY BY THE T.A. (MIDDLESEX).

7.45 p.m.

INTRODUCTION AND GRAND PARADE OF RIDERS LED BY THE 1957 WORLD CHAMPION, FOLLOWED BY THE EUROPEAN COMPETITORS AND BRITISH RIDERS IN ORDER OF QUALIFYING

Riding Number	Name		Country and Track
4	BARRY BRIGGS (Holder)		New Zealand and Wimbledon
13	OVE FUNDIN		Sweden
16	RUNE SORMANDER		Sweden
5	OLLE NYGREN		Sweden
I	JOEL JANSSON		Sweden
12	JOSEF HOFMEISTER		Germany
3	PETER CRAVEN		England and Belle Vue
II	KEN McKINLAY		Scotland and Leicester
15	MIKE BROADBANKS		England and Swindon
14	RON HOW		England and Wimbledon
9	PETER MOORE		Australia and Ipswich
10	RONNIE MOORE		New Zealand and Wimbledon
8	JACK GERAN		Australia and Leicester
2	AUB LAWSON		Australia and Norwich
6	GERRY HUSSEY		England and Leicester
7	RON JOHNSTON		New Zealand and Belle Vue
British:	BRIAN CRUTCHER : PEO SODERMAN	Reserves	England and Southampton Sweden

## 1958 Speedway Champion

For the Gold Medal and Championship Diploma

Points will be awarded: 3—1st; 2—2nd;

Riders starting positions are indicated by their helmet colours. Red number I posit

Event	No. Colour	RIDERS		Result
IST Race HEAT ONE	I Red 2 Blue 3 White 4 Yellow	Aub Lawson (Australia) .		1st
2nd Race HRAT TWO	5 Red 7 Blue 6 White 8 Yellow	Olle Nygren (Sweden) Ron Johnston (New Zealand) Gerry Hussey (England) Jack Geran (Australia)		1st
3rd Race MEAT THREE	10 Red 11 Blue 9 White 12 Yellow	Ronnie Moore (New Zealand). Ken McKinlay (Scotland) Peter Moore (Australia) Josef Hofmeister (Germany)		1st
4th Race HEAT FOUR	15 Red 14 Blue 16 White 13 Yellow	Mike Broadbanks (England).  Ron How (England)  Rune Sormander (Sweden)  Ove Fundin (Sweden)		13t
5th Race MEAT FIVE	13 Red 1 Blue 5 White 9 Yellow	Joel Jansson (Sweden) Olle Nygren (Sweden)		1st       2nd       3rd       Time
6th Race HEAT SIX	14 Red 10 Blue 2 White 6 Yellow	Ron How (England) Ronnie Moore (New Zealand). Aub Lawson (Australia) Gerry Hussey (England)		2nd
7th Race HEAT SEVEN	11 Rad 15 Blue 7 White 3 Yellow	Ken McKinlay (Scotland) Mike Broadbanks (England) Ron Johnston (New Zealand) Peter Craven (England)		1st       2nd       3rd       Time
Sth Race  HEAT BIGHT	4 Red 8 Blue 12 White 16 Yellow	Barry Briggs (New Zealand)  Jack Geran (Australia)  Josef Hofmeister (Germany)  Rune Sormander (Sweden)	•••	1st
9th Race HEAT NINE	6 Red 16 Blue 1 White 11 Yellow	Joel Jansson (Sweden)		1st
HEAT TEN	12 Red 5 Blue 15 White 2 Yellow	Josef Hofmeister (Germany). Olle Nygren (Sweden) Mike Broadbanks (England) Aub Lawson (Australia)		1st

INTERVAL

MARCHING DISPLAY BY THE TERRITORIAL ARMY (Middlesex)
MASSED BANDS

## ship of the World—Final

of the F.I.M. and the "Sunday Pictorial" Trophy

-3rd. Individual Score Chart on page 10.

on, Blue number 2, White number 3, and Yellow number 4, counting from the inside.

Byent	No. Colour	RIDERS	Result
II th Race	8 Red 9 Blue 3 White 14 Yellow	Jack Geran (Australia)Peter Moore (Australia)Peter Craven (England)Ron How (England)	2nd
12th Race HEAT TWELVE	13 Red 4 Blue 10 White 7 Yellow	Ove Fundin (Sweden)  Barry Briggs (New Zealand)  Ronnie Moore (New Zealand)  Ron Johnston (New Zealand)	2nd
13th Race HEAT THURTEEN	7 Red 12 Blue 14 White 1 Yellow	Ron Johnston (New Zealand)  Josef Hofmeister (Germany)  Ron How (England)  Joel Jansson (Sweden)	2nd
I 4th Race HEAT POURTEEN	2 Red 13 Blue 8 White 11 Yellow	Aub Lawson (Australia)  Ove Fundin (Sweden)  Jack Geran (Australia)  Ken McKinlay (Scotland)	2nd
15th Race HEAT PIPTEEN	16 Red 3 Blue 10 White 5 Yellow	Rune Sormander (Sweden)  Peter Craven (England)  Ronnie Moore (New Zealand)  Olle Nygren (Sweden)	and RANGER  Time 74
I 6th Race HEAT SIXTEEN	9 Red 6 Blue 4 White 15 Yellow	Peter Moore (Australia)  Gerry Hussey (England)  Barry Briggs (New Zealand)  Mike Broadbanks (England)	2nd 3rd Time
17th Race HEAT SEVENTEEN	I Red 8 Blue 15 White 10 Yellow	Joel Jansson (Sweden)  Jack Geran (Australia)  Mike Broadbanks (England)  Ronnie Moore (New Zealand)	and A A B Time A
r8th Race HEAT EIGHTEEN	9 Red 2 Blue 7 White 16 Yellow	Peter Moore (Australia)  Aub Lawson (Australia)  Ron Johnston (New Zealand)  Rune Sormander (Sweden)	2nd 3rd Time 4.8
Igth Race HEAT NINETEEN	3 Red 12 Blue 13 White 6 Yellow	Peter Craven (England)  Josef Hofmeister (Germany)  Ove Fundin (Sweden)  Gerry Hussey (England)	1st
20th Race HEAT TWENTY	5 Red 14 Blue 11 White 4 Yellow	Olle Nygren (Sweden)  Ron How (England)  Ken McKinlay (Scotland)  Barry Briggs (New Zealand)	2nd 3rd Time

PRESENTATION OF TROPHY AND AWARDS BY DONALD MALCOLM CAMPBELL, C.B.E.

#### SPEEDWAY CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD-FINAL-continued

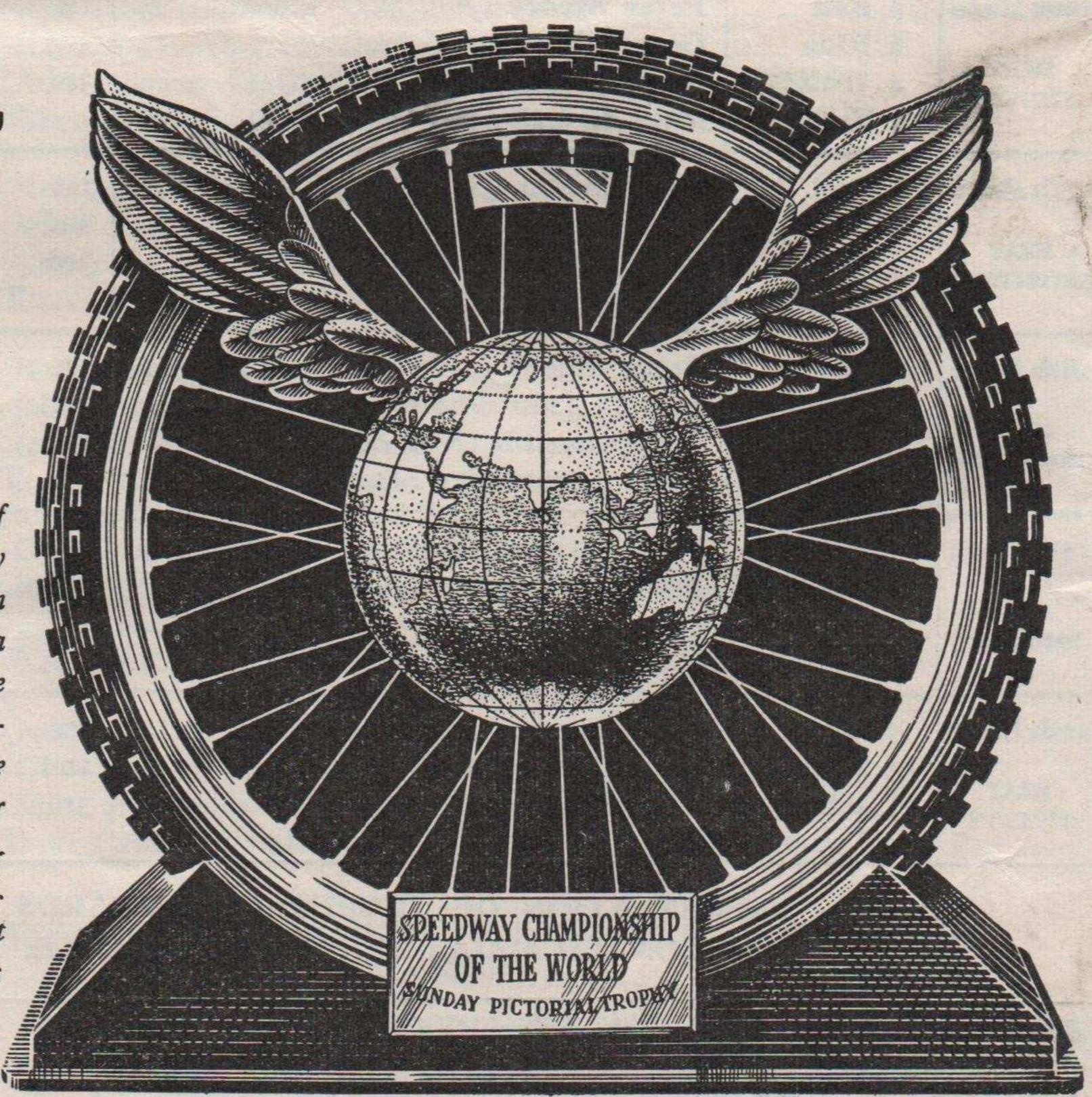
Event	No. Helmet Colour	Riders	Result		
21st Race	Red Blue White Yellow	To be run only if two or more riders tie for first place.	1st		
22nd Race	Red Blue White Yellow	To be run only if two or more riders tie for Second or Third places.	1st		

#### RIDERS' INDIVIDUAL SCORE CHART

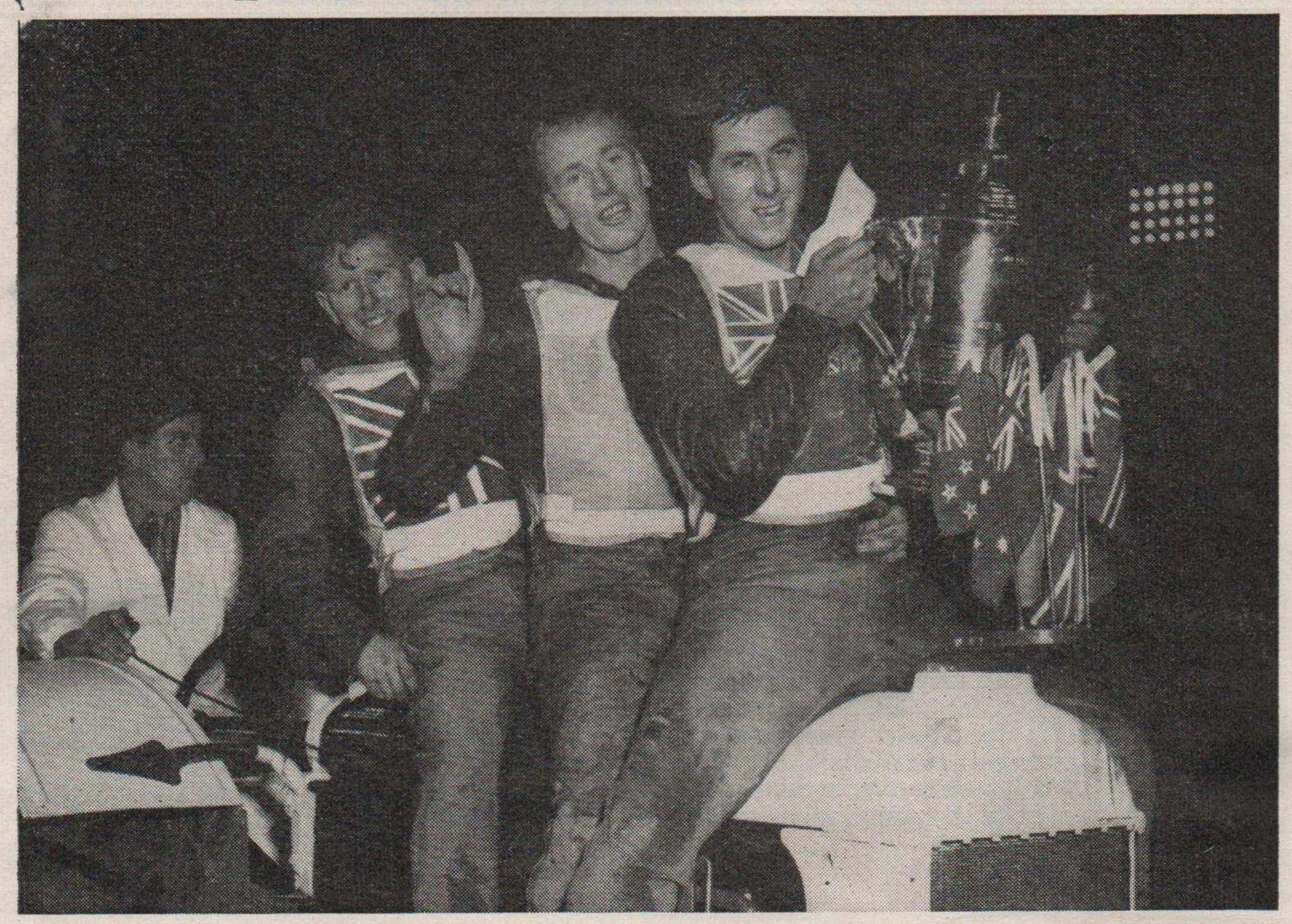
RIDERS	Ist	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	Tot.	RIDERS	Ist	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	Tot.
I J. JANSSON				0	ES avis	0	10 R. MOORE			5	6	9	
2 A. LAWSON				X	11	11	II K. McKINLAY				9		
3 P. CRAVEN			5	8		11	12 J. HOFMEISTER				7		2
4 B. BRIGGS			9	12		15	13 O. FUNDIN				11		13
5 O. NYGREN			7				14 R. HOW				6		
6 G. HUSSEY			4	6		7	15 M.BROADBANKS			3	3	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	3
7 R. JOHNSTON				1	9	The state of the s	16 R. SORMANDER			3	3	y	-4
8 J. GERAN				2	3	5	17 B. CRUTCHER R.						
9 P. MOORE			4	5		5	18 P. SODERMAN R.					N. and N.	

# 'PICTORIAL' WORLD FINAL TROPHY

The tyre is an exact replica of the type used on a speedway machine. Hand carved from wood, it is the work of a craftsman. Interlocking, tyre levers are not required for dismantling. The wheel is the same dimensions as used for racing. The wings are silverglobe and wheel are silvered. This magnificent Trophy cost in the region of £350 and is insured for that amount.



#### THE 'BIG THREE' OF 1957



Ready to do a lap of honour are the first three in the 1957 Wembley Final—Barry Briggs (New Zealand), Ove Fundin (Sweden) and Peter Craven (England). All three are again chasing the £500 winner's cheque

# HOW THEY REACHED THE 1958 FINAL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINALS

#### BELLE VUE

K. McKinlay 15, P. Moore 14, R. How 13, G. Hussey 11, R. Moore 10, G. McGregor 9, A. Hagon 8, J. Geran 8, J. Biggs 7, C. New 6, J. Unstead 6, D. Newton 3, G. Jackson 3, E. Boothroyd 3, D. Fisher (reserve) 2, R. Genz 1, R. Cresp 1.

#### WIMBLEDON

P. Craven 14, K. McKinlay 12, G. McGregor 11, M. Broadbanks 11, N. Street 9, D. Bradley 9, C. Taylor 9, B. Duckworth 8, C. Maidment (reserve) 8, B. Crutcher 7, J. Unstead 6, A. Hagon 5, H. Edwards 4, J. Young 3, A. Forrest 2, E. Boothroyd 1, P. Clarke 0, C. Brine (reserve) 0.

#### SOUTHAMPTON

J. Geran 14, R. Moore 13, R. How 11, A. Lawson 11, G. Hussey 11, P. Moore 10, R. Johnston 10, G. White 8, B. Bales 7, R. Genz 6, J. Biggs 4, D. Newton 4, G. Jackson 3, R. Cresp 2, R. Mountford 0, C. New 0.

#### LEICESTER

B. Crutcher 15, M. Broadbanks 14, P. Craven 13, R. Johnston 12, A. Lawson 11, J. Young 10, G. White 9, B. Bales 7, D. Bradley 6, N. Street 5, H. Edwards 5, C. Taylor 4, P. Clarke 3, A. Forrest 3, B. Elliott (reserve) 2, R. Mountford 1, B. Duckworth did not ride.

(Names in **bold type** are finalists and reserves)



#### AUB LAWSON (Norwich and Australia)

Evergreen Aub, the only pre-war rider in tonight's Final, has a splendid World Final record, yet he's never won the sport's blue riband! Rode in the 1949, 1950, 1951, 1953, 1954 and 1957 Finals—injury kept him out in 1955. Though well past forty, Aub still remains as one of the sport's greatest tacticians. Tied for third place last year with 11 points. Qualified for tonight's Final after a run-off at Oxford. Has lost count of his international appearances—but it must be hundreds. Will spare no effort in pursuit of that £500 winner's cheque this evening. His seventh Final.

#### KEN McKINLAY (Leicester and Scotland)

Dubbed the "Flying Scot" is rated the cleverest Scotsman ever to ride a speedway machine. His third successive Final—last year he failed to score on his first two outings, then virtually "cleaned up" by taking eight points from his last three rides. Jointly led the British qualifiers—with Craven—27 points apiece. Cheque winner at the Leicester (first round) and Belle Vue (semi-final) meetings this season. Leicester's most consistent racer who is certain to be in the thick of it tonight. Is one of speedway's globetrotters—regularly makes the trip 'down under' each year.





#### PETER MOORE (Ipswich and Australia)

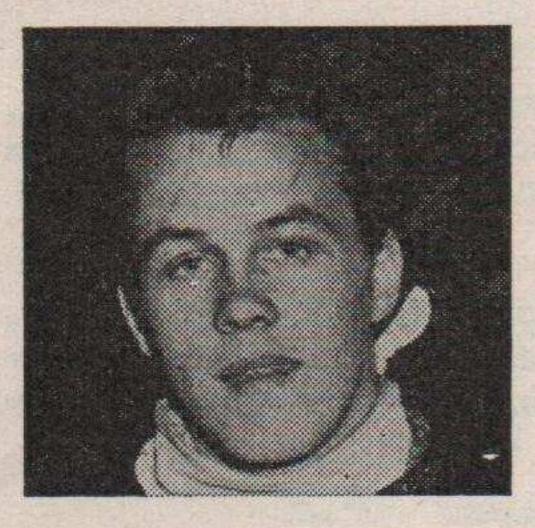
Very fast gater, this is Peter's second World Final. Scored seven points in the 1956 event. This flaxen-haired racer is the shining light of the Ipswich side for whom he has averaged well over 13 League points this season. Formerly at Wimbledon, Aussie Peter is hardly the robust type and finds each four laps a stamina-testing task. However, he possesses the ability to carry off one of the big prizes this time, particularly as he favours the Wembley circuit.

#### RONNIE MOORE (Wimbledon and New Zealand)

Twenty-five years of age, this is Ronnie's eighth World Final—a record. He won the crown in 1954 when he gallantly overcame the handicap of an injured leg. Was runner-up to Swede Over Fundin in the 1956 Final. Did not take part in last year's racing but emerged from cinder retirement this summer and has proved that he's still in the top flight of cinder-shifters. Rode motor-cycle before he was in long pants and, at 17 years of age, was a member of the Wimbledon League side. Has captured every honour the two-wheeled sport has to offer. An expert swimmer and diver, is married to Windmill girl, Jill Turner. Don't be surprised to find Ronnie going for another tractor ride tonight.



#### FINALISTS



#### OLLE NYGREN (Sweden)

Is no stranger to Wembley. Was fourth in the 1953 Final, third in 1954 and seventh three years ago. Olle qualified for last year's Final but, at the last moment, was unable to make the journey to Wembley. Very little has been seen of Nygren on U.K. tracks in the past couple of years, just the same he's greatly fancied to be in the top half-dozen tonight. Olle loves speedway, hill climbs, scrambles, road-racing—an out-and-out motor-cyclist in the true sense of the word. His biggest thrill?—hurtling round the Isle of Man T.T. course at 90 m.p.h.! A typical Swedish full-throttle speed merchant, Nygren is bound to be in the hunt tonight. His fourth Final.

#### RUNE SORMANDER (Sweden)

Gave a terrific performance in last year's Final when he collected 11 points and tied for third place. Slight of build, but terrier-like on the track, is very familiar with Wembley, having assisted the Lions five years ago. Has been champion of his country and skippered Sweden in a great number of international matches. For winter recreation likes speedway racing on ice! Rune is the Swedish "dark horse" of this year's Final, so be prepared for shocks! Sormander also rode in the 1953 Final.





#### BRITISH RESERVE

#### BRIAN CRUTCHER (Southampton and England)

One of the highest-priced speed stars; as in 1953 Wembley paid Poole £2,500 for Crutcher's signature. Joined the Saints' at the start of last season and has been their outstanding rider ever since. Is a garage proprietor, and one of the few bearded riders of the present time. At the time of writing, is the holder of the 'Pic' Golden Helmet. Reserve at Wembley 12 months ago, it's a big disappointment for Crutcher fans to see him occupying a similar position this time.

#### CONTINENTAL RESERVE

#### PEO SODERMAN (Sweden)

Rode in the 1956 and 1957 Finals, and scored ten and seven points respectively. Like so many of his Swedish colleagues, 25-year-old Soderman is a tough and resolute rider, who will steer his machine through the narrowest gap. Has been assisting Coventry this season, and made many fine scores. If the opportunity of a track appearance comes along tonight, rest assured Soderman will make the most of it.



#### INTERESTING FINAL FACTS

#### • FUNDIN CHALLENGE

#### MOORE'S RECORD



Wembley presented the first-ever World Championship Final in 1936. And it was Wembley's tough Australian rider, Lionel Van Praag, who won the crown after a run-off with that great Northern ace, Eric Langton.

In 1937 American riders swept the board. Jack Milne was the winner, second was the great Wilbur Lamoreaux and Cordy Milne, younger brother of Jack, third. Bluey Wilkinson was going well in this 1937 Championship but a broken wrist prevented him from riding at Wembley.

However, the great-hearted Bluey, easily the most popular rider of that era, made sure of the World title in 1938. But what a terrific fight he had in the Final before overcoming Uncle Sam's three smart racers, the Milne brothers and Lammy.

1936. Lionel Van Praag (First World Winner)

At the end of the 1938 season Bluey retired to manage Sheffield. Afterwards he lost his life in a road motor cycle accident in Australia.

First-ever Englishman to capture the cinders 'blue riband' was Lions' rider, Tommy Price. This was in 1949, when the Parker brothers, Jack and Norman, filled second and fourth placings respectively.

The fabulous Jack Parker won every honour the sport had to offer except the world crown. That second in 1949 was his nearest!

Welshman Freddie Williams twice won the title, so did the hard-riding crack from Adelaide, Jack Young. The last-named has one other distinction—he's the only rider from the Second Division to become champion. Young clinched the title in 1951 when with Edinburgh Monarchs. But Young failed to qualify for this year's Final.

Tasmanian-born Ronnie Moore has a great world record (eight Finals), so has the Australian star, Aub Lawson. Both are in action again tonight.

Springbok Doug Davies had to stand down from the 1955 Final because of meningitis. But he fought his way through to the 1956 Final and put up a brave show.

Ove Fundin, champion of 1956, missed a Final "double" by a hairsbreadth—being second to Barry Briggs twelve months ago after a run-off.

#### PAST CHAMPIONS

1936 LIONEL VAN PRAAG
(Australia and Wembley)

1937 JACK MILNE
(U.S.A. and New Cross)

1938 "BLUEY" WILKINSON
(Australia and West Ham)

1949 TOMMY PRICE
(England and Wembley)

1950 FRED WILLIAMS
(Wales and Wembley)

1951 JACK YOUNG
(Australia and Edinburgh)

1952 JACK YOUNG
(Australia and West Ham)

1953 FRED WILLIAMS
(Wales and Wembley)

1954 RONNIE MOORE
(New Zealand and Wimbledon)

1955 PETER CRAVEN
(England and Belle Vue)

1956 OVE FUNDIN (Sweden)

1957 BARRY BRIGGS
(New Zealand and Wimbledon)

#### THE SPEEDWAY CONTROL BOARD

The sport of Speedway Racing in this country is controlled by the Speedway Control Board. The Board consists of independent representatives appointed by the Auto-Cycle Union and the following representatives of the Sport:—Three Promoters from the National League and a Riders' representative. The present constitution of the Board is as follows:—

Chairman

Lt.-Col. R. Vernon C. Brook, O.B.E.

A.C.U. Nominees

G. R. Allan S. T. Huggett C. H. King T. E. Ryan E. A. Simcock

Promoters

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G. Parkins

Secretary and Manager

Major W. W. Fearnley

Riders' Representative

Phil Clarke

The following Tracks are licensed by the Speedway Control Board and operate under the jurisdiction of the Auto-Cycle Union:—

Belle Vue (Manchester), Coventry, Ipswich, Leicester, Norwich, Oxford, Poole, Southampton, Swindon, Wimbledon, Great Yarmouth, Exeter and St. Austell.

#### WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PRIZE AWARDS

The Gold Medal and Ribbon of a Champion of the F.I.M. and the Championship Diploma of the F.I.M.

WINNER: £500

'Sunday Pictorial' Championship Trophy and Silver Cup

SECOND: £200 and Silver Plaque

THIRD: £100 and Bronze Plaque

All finalists are awarded a Silver Medal by the Speedway Control Board

HEAT PRIZE MONEY: £5 0 0 per point; £2 10 0 per start

#### SIGNALS IN USE AT THIS MEETING

The Green Lights are used as an instruction to the riders to come up to the tapes for a "gate start." Red Lights-Stop. Yellow Flag with Black Diagonal Cross-One more lap to go. Black Flag.—This is a signal for a particular rider to withdraw. Black and White Check Flag.—Finish.

The coloured lights suspended in front of the starting line indicate disqualification of any rider by the Referee. Coloured lights situated above the pits indicate the winner's colour after each race.

In order that the announcer's remarks may be audible to all, patrons are earnestly requested to maintain silence when the alarm bells are rung, and whilst the green lights on the two flag poles in the arena are showing.

#### WEMBLEY SPEEDWAY TRACK RECORD

Official Track Measurements: I Lap = 378 yards. 4 Laps = 1,512 yards

Four Laps, Clutch Start

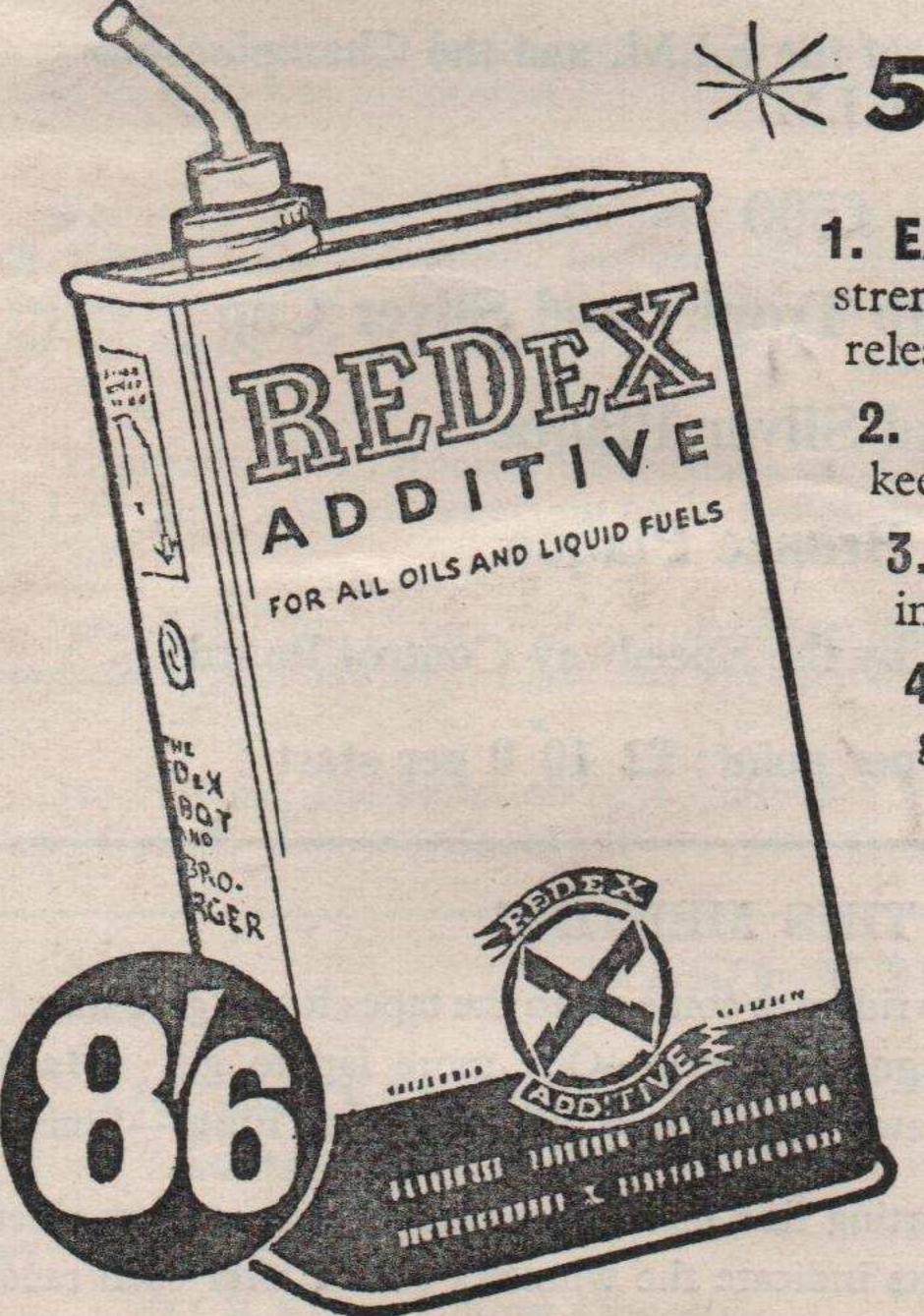
... Time: 68.4 secs. 45.22 m.p.h. ... August 13th, 1953 SPLIT WATERMAN

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