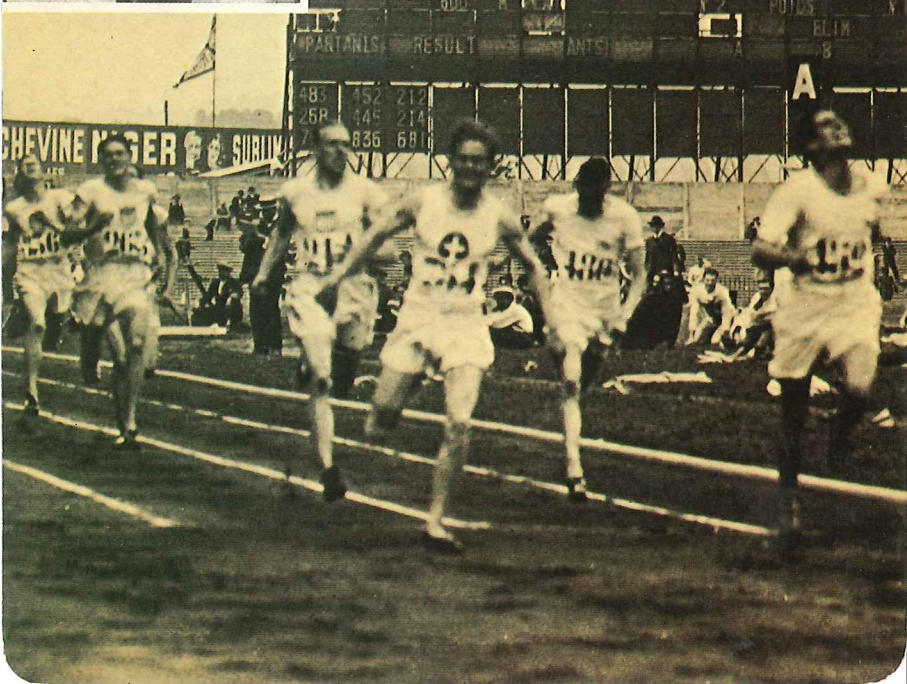
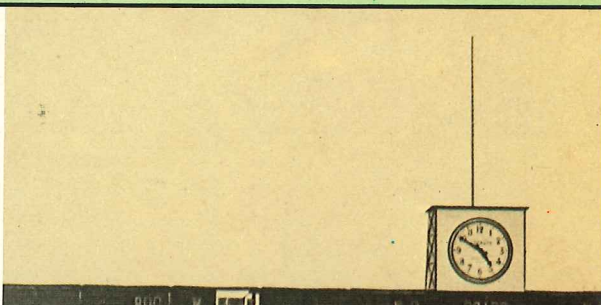


Track and Field



Dr. Paul Martin



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Dr. Paul Martin

Competitor in Five Olympics

Many readers will be too young to remember the achievements of Paul Martin. For a time, he dominated Swiss athletics. Later he became well known as a doctor and surgeon. In addition to running off with a bumper crop of national records, he represented Switzerland in five successive Olympics: Antwerp 1920 (4th in his heat in the 800 m but the first Swiss athlete to run the distance in less than 2 min, in 1 min 59 sec in fact), Paris 1924 (silver medal in the 800 m), Amsterdam 1928 (6th in the 1,500 m), Los Angeles 1932 (retired through injury) and Berlin 1936 (eliminated in the 800 m series).

Throughout his long career, Martin threatened and broke dozens of national and international records. He held the national record for the 800 m for 27 years. He also held, though for a briefer period, the world records for the 600 m (1 min 20.1 sec) and the 800 yd indoors (1 min 46 sec). At the World University Games in Paris in 1922, he won the 800 m and in 1930 was champion in the United States 1,000 yd and in the Canadian 1,000 m. His most prestigious achievement, though, was winning the silver medal

in the 1924 Paris Olympics, when he was beaten to the tape by Douglas Lowe of Great Britain in a dramatic 800 m contest.

Unlike the majority of ex-champions, Dr. Paul Martin continues to take an active part in sport. As well as acting as doctor and adviser to younger athletes, he takes part in long-distance events such as the Morat-Fribourg 16.4 m and the famous Vasalop cross-country ski race (53 miles).

DR. PAUL MARTIN

Born Aug. 11, 1901, in Geneva, SWI

AWARDS AND RECORDS

OG 1924: silver medal in 800 m
Swiss 400 m champion 1923, 1927, 1928; 800 m champion in 1920, 1921, 1923, 1925 to 1928, 1931, 1934, 1936; 1,500 m champion in 1929, 1934, 1936; 4 x 100 m relay champion in 1926; 4 x 1,500 m relay champion in 1931, 1936; 3,000 m American style champion 1928, 1929; Swedish relay champion 1928.

Swiss records:

800 m: 6 times, from 2 min 1.8 sec (June 26, 1919) to best time of 1 min 51.8 sec (Sept. 9, 1928)
1,000 m: 2 min 28.8 sec (Sept. 15, 1935)
1,500 m: 4 min 19.2 sec (June 26, 1921), 4 min 6.4 sec (July 24, 1921), 4 min 4.5 sec (Aug. 11, 1923)

With national team:

4 x 400 m relay: 3 min 31.4 sec (June 22, 1924), 3 min 21.8 sec (June 22, 1926)
Olympic relay: 3 min 25.8 sec (Sept. 2, 1923 and Aug. 31, 1924), 3 min 23.8 sec (Aug. 23, 1931)

OG 1924 (Paris). P. Martin beaten by J. D. Lowe (GB) in the 800 m