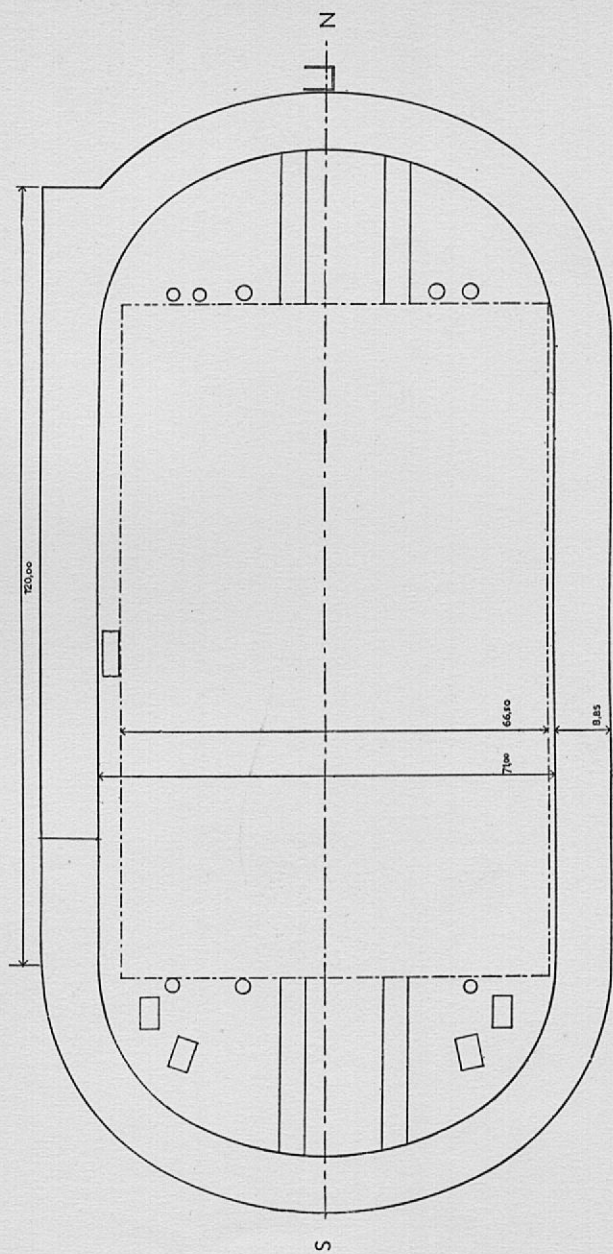


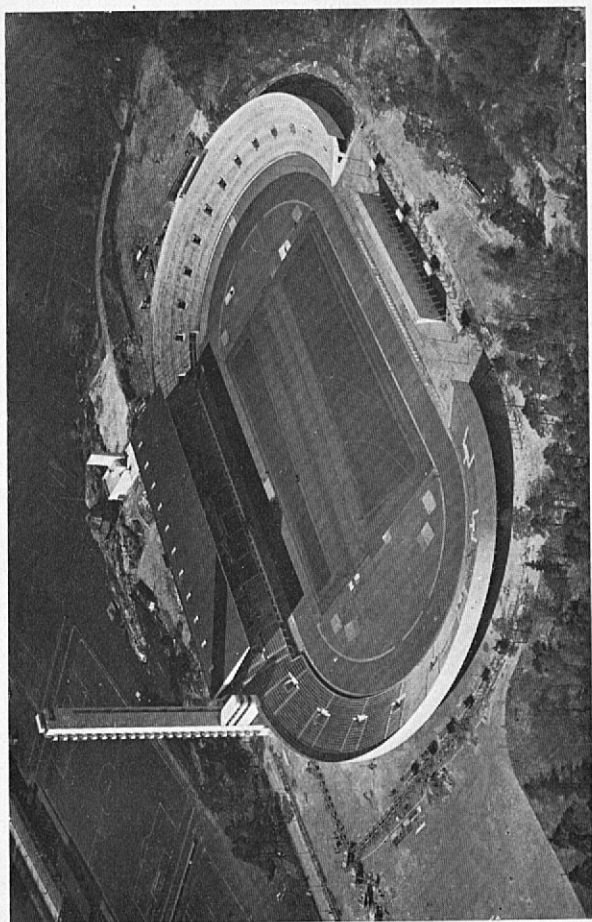
HELSINKI

and the **1940 OLYMPIC GAMES**



The Olympic Stadium.

HELSINKI
AND THE 1940 OLYMPIC GAMES



The Olympic Stadium in 1938.

TO THE ATHLETES OF EUROPE WELCOME TO FINLAND FOR THE 1940 OLYMPIC GAMES

*F*innish sport has been entrusted with the proud and somewhat exacting distinction of arrangements in connection with the staging of the XII-th Olympic Games at Helsinki, the country's capital.

We are of the opinion that sport in Finland has reached a stage in its development when such an undertaking can be satisfactorily accomplished.

Since 1908, the achievements of our athletes in past Olympic Games have demonstrated to the world both our loyalty in according the fullest support to the Olympic Games, and our ability to successfully compete in the various events comprising same.

It is doubtful, however, whether the intense and unrivalled interest taken in athletics by the entire Finnish nation is fully appreciated outside our own country; an interest on which we may rely for the fullest support now that the arrangements connected with the staging of the 1940 Olympic Games have been entrusted to our care.

The Finnish athletic organisations have for several decades past worked in unison and close co-operation with similar organisations in other European countries, and we are pleased to say that we have a host of friends among both foreign sports leaders and athletes themselves.

To you our old and valued friends, and also to the athletic youth of Europe, we extend a sincere invitation and a hearty welcome to the Finnish Olympic Games in 1940.

We shall spare no effort to entertain you with excellent sport and thrilling contests, carried out in the true and traditional Olympic spirit.

URHO KEKKONEN



Mr. Urho Kekkonen, LL. D., Finland's Minister for Home Affairs.

Has been Chairman of the F. A. A. A. since 1928, when he abandoned an active athletic career. In 1924, Mr. Kekkonen was Finland's high-jump champion (185-cms), and was second in the 100-metres championship race (10,9-secs). In the same year he gained the world's record of 9,72 metres in the Hop, Step and Jump event. Mr. Kekkonen is Chairman of the Finnish Olympic Delegation. He was born in 1900.

THE 1940 OLYMPIC STADIUM

Building operations on the Helsinki Stadium commenced in 1934, and completed by the spring of 1938. On June the twelfth, the first athletic contests were held there.

Situated in the Töölö district of the western part of Helsinki, and in the so-called Eläintarha park, the Stadium is a mere fifteen minutes walk, or five minutes by bus or tram, from the centre of the town.

Accommodating approximately 30.000 spectators at the present time, work in connection with the enlargement of the Stadium, which is to commence this autumn, will result in provision being made for some 60.000 spectators by August, 1939.

The elliptical running track is of red powdered brick, and has a length of 400 metres to the lap. Its breadth, which is 8,5 metres, permits of seven runners participating in the shorter distance races at one and the same time. The straight sides of the track are each 96 metres long.

The arena faces north and south, the grand stand being on the western side. The inner side of the track nearest the stand is reserved for the Long Jump and Hop, Step and Jump events.

At the southern end of the Stadium provision is made for the High Jump and Pole Vault, while such contests as Hammer Throwing, Weight Putting and Javelin throwing will be decided at its northern extreme.

The large and well-kept grass plot occupying the centre of the arena is, when required, used as a football ground.

Excellent arrangements have been made for Press representatives in the covered grand stand, and exactly in line with the winning post. The Stadium tower and the plate-glass window fitted rooms for broadcasting purposes are near the seats reserved for journalists, and provide an uninterrupted view of the entire Stadium.

Good training grounds are available at the Töölö football grounds, just outside the towering Stadium walls.

The fields, at present being used for football, are to be reserved during the Olympic Games for preliminary "warming-up", jogging etc., purposes.

The nearest properly equipped training ground to the Stadium will be the famous Eläintarha sports arena, where all athletic festivals and international contests were formerly held. It has a 400 metres cinder track which has gained the reputation of being the fastest in the world. Eläintarha has been the scene of many outstanding performances, including Lauri Lehtinen's phenomenal record of 5.000 metres in 14.17,0, made in 1932 and world record still unbeaten.

A training field has already been provided just outside the Eläintarha ground, and only about 400 metres from the Stadium, for athletes engaged in weight-putting and hammer throwing.

The Kallio sports ground, less than a mile from Eläintarha, is also well fitted for training purposes.

Although the site for an Olympic "village" had not, at the time of writing, been finally decided on, it is certain that it will not be more than half the distance to the Stadium that the 1936 Berlin Olympiad "village" was.

SPENDID CLIMATE AND AN EXCELLENT VENUE FOR ATHLETES

The climate of Helsinki leaves nothing to be desired in its suitability for the attainment of good athletic results.

As the capital is to all practical circumstances surrounded by water, the weather — even in the hottest summer — never becomes oppressive.

The most suitable period of the year for obtaining the best results has been found to be during the July-August months.

Japanese athletes who trained at Helsinki prior to the

1936 Berlin Olympiad, as well as the team's leaders, considered our climate ideal for their purpose.

Similarly, the Hungarian team which competed against our athletes at Helsinki Stadium in July, 1938, asserted that they had never previously met with such wonderful climatic conditions.

Persons who associate a summer in northern Finland with chilly and, even, cold weather, are entirely mistaken in their conception of the country.

The Eläintarha sports ground, where the most important athletic festivals at Helsinki were held prior to the building of the Stadium, is a first-class arena. A number of world records have been achieved on its powdered-cinder track, and notable results have been also obtained in the space reserved for field events.

Eläintarha will now be reserved as a training ground for athletes competing in the next Olympic Games. The tracks are noted for their resiliency, and fear of jarring or tiring the muscles and feet may, therefore, be entirely eliminated.

The tracks and reserved spaces for field events at the Stadium are rather too new at the present time for any outstanding results to have been, as yet, attained there.

Carefully taken meteorological observations during the last few decades have shown July to be Helsinki's warmest period of the year, and also the month with the least rainfall and the longest days.

To about the middle of July there is practically no darkness to speak of during the night, and to approximately the middle of August the sun is above the horizon for sixteen hours a day.

Another notable feature is that darkness does not descend so rapidly as in other countries, but gradually, for a period of two hours after sunset.

Although no final decision concerning the date for commencing the Olympic Games had been taken when this pamphlet was published, it is generally conceded

that the latter part of July, probably between July 20 and August 5, would from every point of view be the most suitable time.

Observations taken over the 1881—1930 period have shown the average temperature at Helsinki, during the summer months, to be as follows.

	7 a.m.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	8 p.m.	9 p.m.	Aver. Warmth.
Jun	12,9	14,8	15,8	14,2	13,2	13,0 Cels.
July	16,6	18,4	19,6	17,8	16,7	16,8 "
August..	14,2	16,2	17,4	15,4	14,6	15,0 "

An interesting feature of the local climate is that in July the temperature remains high to late in the evening. This is attributable to the fact that the sea, surrounding the town on practically all sides, retains the warmth acquired during the long and sunny day.

In the summer of 1938, the end of July and the first half of August were exceptionally warm. During the Finnish Athletic Championships, held at the Stadium on August 6, 7 and 8, the average warmth attained 25°—26° C. Some days previously the temperature at midday reached 30° C.

Foreign scientists visiting Finland have compared a Helsinki summer to the climate met with in Spain, an assertion which, judged by the last few summers, there is no reason to doubt.

	Average humidity (in percentage)			Cloudy weather	Hours of sunshine
	9 p.m.	3 p.m.	7 a.m.		
June	76	64	75	5,7	262,5
July	77	65	76	5,1	291,9
August	85	70	83	6,2	205,3

Rainfall. July 59 mm August 83 mm

Average speed of wind.

July 10,8 kilomètres per hour

August 11,2 " " "

THE TRUE SPIRIT OF SPORT

Athletics are undoubtedly the most popular type of sport in Finland during the summer months. The season for athletics commences in May, and lasts to the beginning of October.

*

In 1937, approximately 600 athletic festivals were held in Finland. Of these, two were athletic contests with specified foreign countries, and 35 were international contests open to the athletes of all countries. Notwithstanding the principal athletic meetings being held at Helsinki, the enthusiasm and interest in such contests is actually more evident in the provinces.

*

The remarkably keen and intelligent knowledge displayed by all classes of society in athletics has led to the most discriminating care having to be observed in the selection of persons for the administrative posts in sporting circles.

*

In consequence, the Finnish Amateur Athletic Association is obliged to annually train hundreds of track and field event judges, and also other officials, who are later classified into three groups, according to their individual ability.

The innumerable spectators attending athletic meetings in Finland are so discriminating and expert in their judgment, that they are both capable and liable of criticising the smallest defect in the arrangements, not to speak of mistakes.

At the Helsinki Stadium, for instance, the public is not satisfied with a mere announcement of the three best results in each contest. A detailed summary of every athlete's individual performance, whether on track, in field events, or on the Marathon course outside the

precincts of the Stadium, has to be submitted for their information.

Stop-watches are universally used by the spectators, who check for themselves the times of different distances as announced in the official timings and results.

THE TRUE SPORTING SPIRIT

The judges, time-keepers and other officials at Finnish athletic meetings will be found to include many of the country's best-known former athletes, who, imbued with a true sporting instinct, continue to do their utmost for the advancement of athletics. The genial hero of the Stockholm Olympiad, Hannes Kolehmainen, is to be regularly seen acting as time-keeper at the Helsinki sports. The famous Marathon runner Stenroos has for many years been an accurate and dependable checker of laps run, and Paavo Nurmi has now adopted the mantle of one of the best time-keeper's in present-day athletics.

All these former 'stars' of the athletic firmament did not hesitate to undertake the ordinary duties of an ordinary sports official at the close of their brilliant careers, a fact which has supplied Finland with an efficient cadre of officials, and ensured her of being able to stage the 1940 Olympic Games with honour and every success.

Whereas the Finnish provincial public displays a decided preference for athletics, Helsinki, the capital, can claim to be an »international» town in the fact of its inhabitants being keen devotees of every kind of sport. International football matches, for instance, sometimes attract as many spectators as an athletic contest does.

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The Finnish athletic championships which were held at the Stadium this year attracted an attendance of over 24,000, and this in spite of the fact that the intense

heat then being experienced caused some 70,000 inhabitants to seek temporary refuge on the bathing beaches and neighbouring islands.

HEARTY WELCOME FOR FOREIGN ATHLETES

All the athletes competing in the 1940 Olympic Games may be assured of feeling themselves thoroughly »at home» in the Helsinki Stadium, on the training tracks, and at their quarters in the Olympic »village». They will be somewhat surprised to find that even little urchins are acquainted with their names and past records, owing to the simple fact of athletics being the most popular branch of sport in Finland.

The local Press closely follows the athletic results attained throughout the world, and the more important newspapers make a feature of periodically publishing statistics of results achieved in every corner of the globe.

*

Foreign teams competing in Finland have invariably expressed the greatest satisfaction with their visits.

On the occasion of the English athletes' visit to Helsinki in 1937, Lord Burghley paid an exceedingly high tribute to the sporting spirit of the public.

Statements of a similar flattering nature have been made by American athletes on the several occasions they have visited the capital of Finland.

FINNISH ATHLETIC RECORDS UP TO AUGUST, 1938

100 metr.	A. Tammisto	10,7
200 „	A. Tammisto	21,6
400 „	A. Tammisto	48,2

800 metr.	O. Teileri	1,52,5
1.500 „	A. Larva and N. Hartikka	3,52,0
3.000 „	G. Höckert	8,14,8
5.000 „	L. Lehtinen	14,17,0
10.000 „	I. Salminen	30,05,6
110 metr. Hurdles	B. Sjöstedt	14,4
200 „ „	B. Storskrubb	25,3
400 „ „	A. Järvinen	53,7
Long Jump	M. Tolamo	751
High Jump	K. Kotkas	204
Pole Vault	A. Reinikka	406
Hop, Stepd & Jump	V. Tuulos	15,48
Weight Putting	S. Bärlund	16,23
Discus	K. Kotkas	51,27
Javelin	Y. Nikkanen	77,87
Hammer Throw	V. Pörhölä	53,77

Eläintarha Records

100 metr.	10,4	P. Walker, USA
200 „	21,3	R. Metcalf, USA
400 „	47,0	A. Williams, USA
800 „	1,51,4	E. Robinson, USA
1.500 „	3,52,8	P. Nurmi, Finland
3.000 „	8,15,8	H. Jonsson, Sweden
5.000 „	14,17,0	L. Lehtinen, Finland
10.000 „	30,21,2	V. Iso-Hollo, Finland
110 „ Hurdles	14,3	R. Staley, USA
400 „ „	54,3	E. Vilen, Finland
Long Jump	747	A. Hallberg, Sweden
High „	204	M. Walker, USA
Pole Vault	435	B. Graber, USA
Hop, Step & Jump	15,56	S. Harada, Japan
Weight	16,23	S. Bärlund, Finland
Discus	51,27	K. Kotkas, Finland
Javelin	77,23	M. Järvinen, Finland
Hammer	53,76	H. Veid, Finland

Stadium Records

100 metr.	10,8	G. Gyenes, Hungary and A. Tammisto, Finland
200 „	21,8	A. Tammisto, Finland
400 „	48,6	J. Görkoi, Hungary

800 metr.	1,53,8	T. Peussa, Finland
1.500 „	3,52,8	N. Hartikka, Finland
3.000 „	—	—
5.000 „	14,27,4	K. Pekuri, Finland
10.000 „	30,44,8	I. Salminen, Finland
110 „ Hurdles	15,2	J. Kovacs, Hungary and V. Jussila, Finland
400 „ „	55,8	A. Salmela, Finland
Long Jump	702	O. Rajasaari, Finland
High „	197	K. Kotkas, Finland
Pole Vault	390	E. Lähdesmäki, Finland
Hop, Step and Jump	15,20	O. Rajasaari, Finland
Weight	15,65	S. Bärlund, Finland
Discus	49,64	K. Kotkas, Finland
Javelin	74,59	Y. Nikkanen, Finland
Hammer	52,18	S. Heino and G. Hannula, Finland

N.B. The Stadium track has only been in use since June, 1938, and only three athletic contests have so far been held there.

VICTORIES ACHIEVED BY FINNISH ATHLETES AT OLYMPIC GAMES

	1st Prize	2nd Prize	3rd Prize	Total
Athens, 1906	1	—	1	2
London, 1908	—	—	1	1
Stocholm, 1912	6 (3)	4 (1)	3 (1)	13 (5)
Antwerp, 1920	9 (6)	4	3 (1)	16 (11)
Paris, 1924	10 (6)	5 (4)	2	17 (12)
Amsterdam, 1928 ..	5	5	4	14
Los Angeles, 1932 ..	3	4	4	11
Berlin, 1936	3	5	2	10
Total	37	27	20	84

The figures in brackets denote victories in events which are now included in the Olympic program.

More than half of Finland's successes at the Olympic Games (24 gold, 12 silver and 10 bronze medals) have been achieved by her long-distance runners.

FINNISH ATHLETES' SUCCESSES AT PAST OLYMPIC GAMES

	1st Prize	2nd Prize	3rd Prize
400-metres Hurdles	—	1	—
1.500-metres	2	1	1
5.000-metres	5	4	1
10.000-metres	5	3	4
Marathon	2	—	1
3.000-metres Steeplechase ..	4	3	1
3.000-metres Team race	1	—	—
Cross Country	3	1	1
Cross Country (team)	2	1	—
Hop, Step and Jump	1	—	2
Weight Putting	1	2	1
Discus	3	4	—
Discus (Greek style)	1	—	1
Javelin	4	5	4
Throwing Hammer	—	1	—
Pentathlon	2	—	1
Decathlon	1	2	—
	37	27	20

FINNISH ATHLETES PARTICIPATING IN 1938 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

400-metres.

A. Tammisto. Age 22. Records, 100 m. 10,7, 200 m. 21,6, 400 m. 48,2. Best results this year 10,8—21,8—48,7. (Clerk).

800-metres.

T. Peussa. Age 24. Records, 400 m. 49,9 (1937), 800 m. 1,53,3 (1938), and 1500 m. 3,53,4 (1938). (Sergeant).

1500-metres.

N. Hartikka. Age 28. Records. 800 m. 1,54,8 (1937), 1500 m. 3,52,0 (1938). Has this year clocked under 3,53,0 on five separate occasions. (Farmer).

T. Sarkama. Age 30. 1500 m. 3,52,2 (1938), 3000 m. 8,29,1 (1937). (Police).

5000-metres.

K. Pekuri. Age 26. 1500 m. 3,52,5 (1938), 2000 m. 5,20,5 (1937), 3000 m. 8,19,0 (1937), 5000 m. 14,27,4 (1938). (Police).

T. Mäki. Age 26. 1500 m. 3,55,2 (1937), 2000 m. 5,18,2 (1937), 3000 m. 8,15,6 (1936), 5000 m. 14,28,8 (1937). Best time for 5000 m. this year 14,29,0. (Store worker).

10000-metres.

I. Salminen. Age 36. 3000 m. 8,22,8 (1935), 5000 m. 14,28,4 (1938), 10000 m. 30,05,6 (1937). Has run 10000 m. this year in 30,19,4. Won championship of Europe in 1934, Olympic winner in 1936, at this distance. (Sergeant Major).

L. Lehtinen. Age 30. 1500 m. 3,55,5 (1931), 3000 m. 8,19,5 (1933), 5000 m. 14,17,0 (1932), 10000 m. 30,15,0 (1937). Winner of 5000 m. at 1932 Olympic Games, and silver medal in 1936. Has run 5000 m. this year in 14,30,2. (Police).

Marathon.

M. Tarkiainen. Age 33. Was ninth in Berlin Marathon of 1936. Finnish Marathon champion in 1938. (Sergeant Major).

V. Muinonen. Age 38. Was fifth in Berlin Marathon of 1936. Finnish Marathon champion in 1937 (Workman).

3000 m. Steeple-Chase

A. Lindblad. Age 24. Finnish champion in 1938 obstacle race 9,09,2. Has run 1500 m. 3,59,6 (1937), 3000 m. 8,33,7 (1937), 5000 m. 14,43,8 (1938). Workman).

K. Tuominen. Age 30. Second in Berlin 3000 m. Obstacle race 9,06,8. Best time this year 9,13,0. 1500 m. 3,56,6, 3000 m. 8,28,2. (Police).

Hop, Step and Jump.

O. Rajasaari. Age 28. Third in European Championships 1934. Best result this year 15,31. (Office Manager).

J. Norén Age 22. Best result 14,77 (1935) This year 14,73. (Student).

H i g h j u m p.

L. Kalima Age 21. Best result 201 (1936). This year 197. Has thrown javelin 65,84 metres. (Law student).

H i g h j u m p & D i s c u s.

K. Kotkas. Age 25. European championship in high jump 1934. European record of 204 in 1936. Best result this year 198.

Finnish discus record of 51,27. This year best result 50,02. (Commercial traveller).

J a v e l i n.

M. Järvinen. Age 30. World champion since 1930. Best result 77,23. Olympic victor 1932, European champion 1934, fifth at Berlin Olympiad 1936. This year best result 76,48. (Shop assistant).

Y. Nikkanen. Age 23. Silver medal at Berlin Olympiad. Best result 75,50, made this year. Beat Järvinen at Finnish championships in 1936, 1937 and 1938. (Workman).

W e i g h t P u t t i n g.

S. Bärlund. Age 25. Silver medal at Berlin Olympiad. Best result this year 15,65. Has record of 16,23. (Plumber).

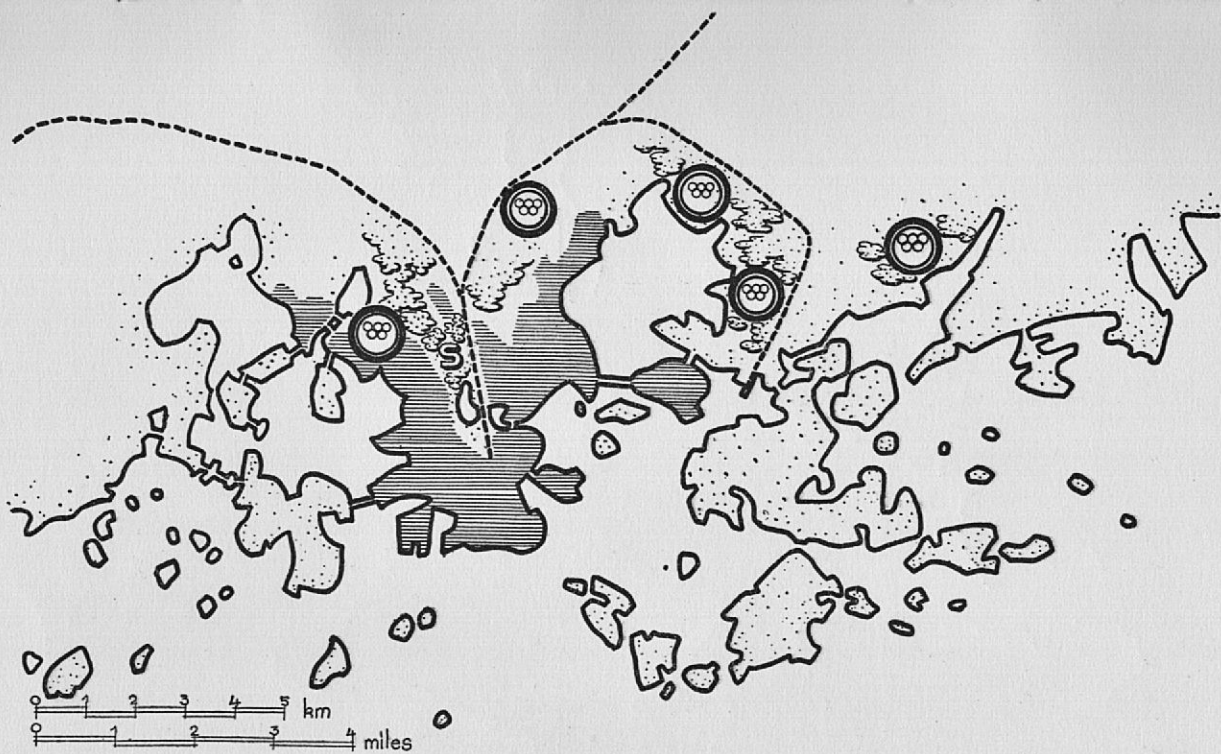
H a m m e r T h r o w.

J. Anttalainen Age 34. Best result this year 52,75. (Shop assistant).

G. Hannula. Age 35. Best result this year 52,18. (Sergeant).

LEADER. Mr. Lauri Miettinen. Was member of the Finnish champion 4 × 100 m. Relay team of 1936. D. Ph. Age 33.

TRAINER. Mr. Armas Valste. Was fifth in the weight-putting at the Amsterdam Olympic Games. His best results as an amateur are — Weight-Putting 15,66, High Jump 190, Long Jump 710, 100-metres 11,0 secs. Age 33.



Helsinki and its environments.

The circles show the places which have been proposed as site of the olympic "village".

S=Stadium.

