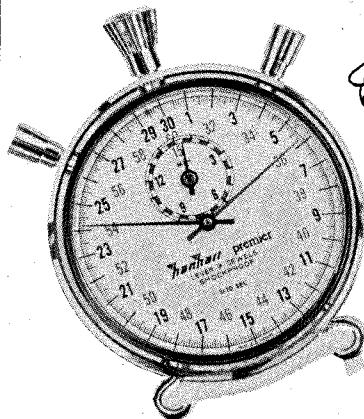


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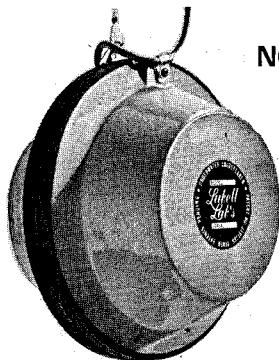
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PROFESSIONAL MARATHON SWIMMING

BY: JOE GROSSMAN, Secretary, WPMSF
World Professional Marathon
Swimming Federation

Marwan Ghazawi, Egypt's winner of the 20-mile 1971 renewal of the Nile River race in April, was victor in the 18.5-mile race at Varna, Bulgaria, in which marathoners from the U.A.R., Turkey and Bulgaria competed. Ghazawi's time was 8:20, 19 minutes faster than Ossama Rashad, the only other Egyptian among the 19 entrants in the men's competition. Bulgaria's Atanas Rashkin and Turkey's Arawal Arget were the only other finishers.

In the 12.5-mile race for women of the same three countries, Miss Shadia El Ragab of Egypt, currently leading for the title of women's World Champion Marathon Swimmer of 1971, was the victor in 6:27. All three of the girls entered finished, Samia Mandour of the U.A.R. in 6:51, and Azlodka Nikolova of Bulgaria in 8:03.

Horacio Iglesias of Argentina moved into the lead for the 1971 men's world title when he won the 17th annual 25-mile crossing of Lake St. John at Roberval, Que., in 8:39.43. The victory put the former (1969) champion ahead of his arch-rival, Egypt's Abdel Latif Abou-Heif, who was fourth.

Jan Van Scheyndel of Holland was second in 9:07.03; Mahmoud Khamis of Syria was third in 9:14.54; Abou-Heif's time was 10:09.54, and Marwan Shedid of the U.A.R. was fifth in 10:11.54. Dennis Matuch of Chicago, the first American to finish, was seventh in 10:26.46, thus moving into fourth place in the world standings.

Diana Nyad of Ft. Lauderdale, the only woman entered in the Roberval classic, was forced to withdraw due to a virus infection which worsened as the race progressed. Miss Nyad then recovered quickly and departed for England hoping to swim the English Channel.

Swimming authorities in Argentina have planned three marathon races for the December-March period, but the dates and locations have not been decided. It is possible that a sanctioned race held in South America before December 31, will change the championship standings, so the WPMSF has not announced the 1971 world champions.

The Federation's balloting for 1972 officers, held by mail and participated in by 60% of its members in 22 countries around the world, resulted in the election of Cliff Lumsdon of Toronto as the next WPMSF president. He will succeed Iglesias on January 1, 1972. Judy DeJijs Van Berkel of Holland was elected Vice President, and Joe Grossman of the U.S.A. was re-elected Secretary.

Members of the Federation's International Board of Governors for next year will be Matuch and James Doty of the U.S.; Regent Lacoursiere and Arthur Dufresne of Canada; Marwan Shedid and Abou-Heif of the U.A.R.; Albert Hreische of Lebanon, Jorge Lopez of Argentina; Johan Schans of Holland, Des Renford of Australia, Lucio Mezzadri of Italy; Fausto Ramirez of Mexico, Dicki Bojadzi of Yugoslavia, Geoffrey Lake of England and Mrs. Margaret Macrae Howes of New Zealand.

The Marathon Swimming Foundation announced in September that the 1971 recipient of the Davids-Wheeler Trophy, presented annually for outstanding contributions to the sport of long-distance swimming, is Cmdr. C. Gerald Forsberg of England, current president of the Channel Swimming Federation. Cmdr. Forsberg, still an active endurance swimmer at 59, held every British marathon swimming championship; has pioneered courses all over the world, and has set up a number of speed records, some of which still stand. He is the author of several books on long-distance swimming and conducts a monthly column on the sport in England's "Swimming Times."

WEST AFRICA TO HOST FIRST CHAMPS

Accra, Ghana — The first national swimming championship meet ever held in this West African nation has been scheduled for December 11 as a result of the organization of the Ghana Swimming Association.

E.N. Teye-Botchway, of the Winneba Specialist Training College, who was elected chairman of the newly-formed

(Continued on Page 53)