

**Johnny Hayes Wins In
Handy Fashion
April 15, 1909 | Bangor**



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Speedy Little Olympic Victor Too Much For Dineen-Neary Relay In Bangor
Auditorium - Fest Time and Plenty of Excitement
(Bangor Daily News?)**

JUST WAKING UP.

One would suppose that the mere fact that a runner of Hayes's fame took part in the race would draw thousands to the hall, but the weather was ugly and raw, and the streets muddy, and more than that, running is rather a new sport to most of this generation in Bangor. The excitement of 25 years ago may be revived, but that can't be done in a minute. They're not quite up to it yet, and just as one swallow doesn't make a spring, neither does one flight of the Marathoners make a new sporting population. But it helps, and last night's opening was a fine beginning.

HAYES-DINEEN FIRST OFF.

It has been intended to have Neary run the first half of the relay against Hayes, but for some reason best known to the management and the men themselves the order was reversed, and Pat Dineen, the grand old man of the six-day track, was first to toe the line with the fleet and handy little boy fro New York. It was close to nine o'clock when Starter P.H. McNamara got the men on the mark, held aloft a shining revolver and shouted "make ready - set!" Then the revolver went bang! And the band played, the crowd roared and the hot foot was on.

Little Hayes started away with the confidence and ease of a boy running a block to hear the bank play, while the veteran Dineen, struck a regular long-distance gait, as if he was setting out for a week's travel. Hayes had the style and the speed and soon opened a gap on the South Boston man, who didn't seem to mind it at all. Steadily for twelve laps the Gotham wonder widened the gap and

then he passed Dineen, while cheers echoed among the rafters. Hayes finished the first mile in 5.26, fine time for the track, and pushed on for a better lead. In the ninth lap of the second mile he again passed Dineen, finishing the mile in 11.8. After that he gained at the rate of nearly a lap to the mile, lapping the long-distance ped. In the sixth lap of the third mile, ninth lap of the fourth, ninth of the fifth and ninth of the seventh. Dineen finished his seven and a half miles in 46.18 1/4 , just six laps back of Hayes, and then Neary took it up.

NEARY MAKES IT LIVELY.

When the tall and speedy Neary took up the relay burden against the fleet little boy from Manhattan there was a roar of applause. Everybody had been looking for excitement when the South Natick man came on, and everybody got his fill of it. The turns were easier for Hayes than for the tall runner, else it would have been more exciting, but as it was, no one had any reason to complain that there was not plenty doing.

Neary started off at a tremendous clip, evidently with the intention of taking away from Johnny some of the six laps that he had tucked away in his racing bank against a rainy day. But the Irish-American A.A. crack was there every time with more of the same sort that he has displayed on so many tracks, and Neary couldn't seem to shake him off. From start to finish of the last half it was a race worth going many a mile to see, and the crowd was not slow in absorbing the fact. A rush was made from the rear balcony to the floor and the stage, and at times it was with great difficulty that the track at the tape was kept clear.

'Round and 'round they went, "the little one and the big one," as the runners were commonly dubbed, first one a few strides in advance, then the other, and Bedlam reigned in the big hall. Cheers for Neary and shouts of "Hold him, Johnny - go it, Hayes!" "Look out - he's after you!", "He can't catch that kid", "Yes he can", and so on rose above the poundings of rubber soled shoes on the track and the trumpetings and blarings of the band.

In the seventh lap of the 12th mile Neary, with a great burst of speed, passed Hayes, and the din became indescribable. When they disappeared around the turn down the west side of the hall Neary was eight yards in the lead, but, to the surprise of everybody and the joy of Johnny's friends, the little New Yorker was in front when they came up the east side and turned in for the tape.

Thus it went all through - a constant see-saw, with Hayes leading perhaps two thirds of the time by a few yards or a single stride, Neary having a like advantage the rest of the time. Towards the close both men put on steam, and the finish was lively.

Hayes crossed the line good and fresh in 1.27.14 1/2 , about two yards in advance of Neary, Dineed ran a full half, seven and a half miles, of the distance in 46.18 1/4, while Neary ran seven miles and two laps in 40.56, or at the rate as they were going of about 43.14 for a full half. The race stopped, of course, when Hayes finished fifteen miles and as he had six laps lead when Neary started, the latter, who held him even, had just that much less than a full half to travel. It was a fine race and everyone got, literally, a "good run for his money."

AMATEUR MILE.

The mile run for amateurs, which preceded the big event, had four entries, Harry Burns, Arthur Hiller and Frank Miller of Bangor and Carl Haggerty of Brewer. The boys were sent away to a good start and Hiller jumped into the lead as though he was going to run a 100 yard dash. His burst of speed slackened, however, and then Miller took the lead. Miller ran consistently, but all the time Harry Burns was going along smoothly and in the 12th lap took first position, lapping Hiller, who had dropped from first to last position in the race. Burns had a good stride and maintained his even gait throughout, and he didn't seem to be forcing himself at any time during the run. Burns crossed the line a winner in 6.51. Miller was second, Haggerty third and Hiller fourth.