

# Record is hammered!

## Russian throwers in world shoot-out

QUINNSWORTH CORK CITY SPORTS By Tom O'Riordan

THE Soviet Union's Yuri Syedikh strolled into the hammer circle at the Mardyke last evening and, with his first throw, broke colleague Yuri Litvinov's world record by a disdainful two metres. There followed what amounted to a hammer shoot-out during which what had seemed a perfectly respectable world record was bettered no less than six times by the two Russians.

There was a roar of applause from the 9,000 crowd at the Quinnsworth Cork City Sports when it was announced that Syedikh's throw of 86.34m.

(283 ft. 3 ins.) had beaten Litvinov's record of 84.15m. set last year.

It was the greatest series of hammer throws in the history of athletics and the

blonde-haired Ukrainian was in absolutely devastating form as the Olympic champion smashed Litvinov's year-old record on an incredible four of his six attempts.

### Mardyke details

#### MEN

200m. — 1, D. O'Connor (Dundrum) 21.18 secs.; 2, A. Bennett (Dutchfield) 21.30; 3, D. Thompson (Britain) 21.53; 4, D. Jenkins (Scotland) 21.57.

200m. 'B' — 1, J. Ryan (DCH) 22.66; 2, P. Flanagan (Waterford) 22.88; 3, P. O'Regan (Leevale) 22.99.

800m. — 1, S. O'Neill (Ballymena-Antrim) 1-48.93; 2, M. Kirk (Ballymena) 1-49.49; 3, R. Shanahan (Leevale) 1-50.45.

Mile (Open) — 1, L. O'Brien (Midleton) 4-2.5; 2, B. Horgan (St. Finbarrs) 4-2.8; 3, J. Hartnett (St. Finbarrs) 4-5.9.

3000m. Junior — 1, E. Hanratty (Crusaders) 8-26.64; 2, D. O'Mahoney (Carrignavar) 8-27.01; 3, A. Spellman (Galway) 8-29.65.

Hammer — 1, Y. Syedikh (USSR) 86.34m. (283 ft. 3 ins.), world record; 2, S. Litvinov (USSR) 85.14m. (278 ft. 10 ins.); 3, M. Girvan (Annadale) 75.74m.

100m. — 1, A. Bennett (Birchfield) 10.52; 2, D. O'Connor (Dundrum) 10.54; 3, G. Delaney (DCH) 10.78.

Mile — 1, G. Williamson (Scotland) 3-55.13; 2, P. Elliott (England) 3-55.73; 3, P. Dognovan (Pearse AC, Galway) 3-55.82; 4, M. O'Sullivan (Leevale) 3-56.11; 5, J. Buckner (England) 3-56.27; 6, T. Hutchings (England) 3-56.88.

5000m. — 1, V. Abramov (USSR) 13-34.16; 2, S. Jones

(Wales) 13-36.16; 3, S. Harris (England) 13-37.10; 4, E. Coghlan (Metro) 13-38.37; 5, A. Kramolyuk (USSR) 13-39.29; 6, S. Mei (Italy) 13-48.09.

High Jump — 1, F. Manderson (England) 2.12m.; 2, R. Robinson (Ballymena) 2.12; 3, R. Garvey (South Dublin) 2.09m.

Triple Jump — 1, V. Borvukov (USSR) 16.88m. (55 ft. 4 1/2 ins.); 2, J. Stapleton (DCH) 14.93; 3, B. Oakes (Kilkenny) 14.38.

Mens 4 x 400m. Relay — 1, Dublin City Harriers, 3-14.36 (Irish club record); 2, Waterford City 3-16.76; 3, Leevale, 3-18.64 (Irish junior record).

#### WOMEN

800m. — 1, I. Podjalovskaya (USSR) 1m 58.46 secs.; 2, L. Gourina (USSR) 1-58.88; 3, C. O'Shea (Crusaders) 2-00.70 (Irish Record and Olympic qualifying standard).

3000m. — 1, A. Tooby (Wales) 8-57.9 (Olympic qualify); (Sparta) 8-57.9 (Olympic qualifying standard); 3, D. Peel (England) 8-59.74.

Long Jump — 1, J. Stokes (Fethard) 5.87m.; 2, M. Coogan (St. Lawrence O'Toole) 5.81; 3, K. Glavin (Midleton) 5.77.

100m. H. — 1, O. Burke (Burgerland, Limerick) 13.90m. (Equal Irish record); 2, P. Cash (Glen Abbey) 14.82; 3, D. Murphy (Glen Abbey) 14.93.

#### BRAVE ATTEMPT

Litvinov, who beat Syedikh to win the World title last August, made a brave attempt to hang on to his record for, just minutes after watching his compatriot's sensational efforts, the 26-year-old Litvinov reached a new lifetime best of 278 ft. 10 ins. and followed up with two more throws that were in excess of his previous best.

He could not quite bridge the gap, and fouled his last two attempts.

Meanwhile, Syedikh maintained his outstanding consistency, breaking the existing World record with his next three throws.

That meant that the record was broken in all on six occasions last night. However, the record could not be confirmed until the mark was measured by the "electronic eye" and the implements were again weighed.



Sedykh, (U.S.S.R.) sends the hammer soaring to a new world record of 86.34m. at the Quinnsworth Cork City Sports.

#### LAP OF HONOUR

The Russian waved his arms in triumph after his phenomenal throwing before he and Litvinov went on a well-deserved lap of honour. The sports organisers can be congratulated on good planning as the gravel infield had been raised two centimetres in case of a record.

The friendly Syedikh, in an interview afterwards, made it clear that his record was not a compensation for being forced to miss defending his titles in the Olympics because of the boycott.

"This cannot compensate for not going to the Olympics: they are special" said Yuri, a member of the Moscow Cultural Sports Military Academy. Indeed he seemed a little sad as he talked about missing out on the Olympics.

He would not indulge in hypotheses about winning in L.A., but agreed that perhaps he would try again in four years time.

#### "FELT GOOD"

"I felt good and I knew I was in good form after my performance in Moscow recently," said Yuri, who added: "There are no limits to man's ability and records will always be broken. I have prepared very well and it was a good competition."

This was the fourth occasion that Syedikh, Olympic champion in '76 and '80, has set a World record but his first since 1980, when he smashed the mark on three different occasions.

It was the third occasion that a hammer world record has been set in Ireland, the first since Dr. Pat O'Callaghan, also a double Olympic champion, beat Paddy Ryan's record in 1937.

#### RECORD FIGURES

First throw: 283 ft. 3 ins.; Second: 282 ft. 1 ins.; Third: 279 ft. 2 ins.; Fourth 275 ft. 4 ins.; Fifth: foul.