

MEET BOOSTED BY BIGGER GYM

Preliminaries To Be on North-
western or Police Floor:
Finals at Armory.

By H. H. BARCUS.

Detroit high schools will battle for indoor track honors this week. Preliminaries will be staged Wednesday at Northwestern High School or the Police Headquarters drill floor and the finals at the Armory Saturday night.

Staging the preliminaries at Northwestern High is to the benefit of all schools entered in the meet. In previous years the preliminaries have been held at Central High School, the track events in one gymnasium and the field events in the other.

The Central High gymnasiums are not wide enough or long enough to permit real competition. The starting blocks are not as good as they should be and the finish is bad, the runners finishing abruptly at a wall while at top speed.

NORTHWESTERN GYM BEST.

Northwestern High's gymnasium is favored for the preliminaries as it is fully equipped for a track meet. It is 130 feet long, which means that in the 30-yard dash the runners will have at least 35 feet in which to finish their run after breasting the tape.

Besides being better because of its length, the Northwestern gym is also favored because of its width, which permits six runners to compete in one heat.

The Northwestern gymnasium is a new one and is as fair for one school as it is for another, according to L. M. Post and Terry Bannon, supervisors of health education, who decided on the change in gymnasiums for the preliminaries after going over the situation carefully.

If the schools do not favor the Northwestern gymnasium the preliminaries will be held at the Police Headquarters, which is even larger and wider than the Northwestern floor. The high school track meet this year would have been staged at the Police Headquarters but for the fact that admissions cannot be charged there.

SEVERAL STRONG SCHOOLS.

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The indoor track crown is held by Northwestern High which has won the championship for three consecutive years. The Colts are after a fourth title, but will have tough sledding winning the meet this year as there are several schools this year which are stronger than in previous indoor seasons. Eastern is much stronger than it was in 1922, and so are Central and Cass Tech. In fact, these schools are so strong in certain events that they may pull down the Northwestern total so that one of them may come through in the lead.

Northwestern has no one to replace George Snider, all-around star who was graduated last year. With Snider in competition Northwestern was almost certain to beat anything in the City or State. Besides Snider the Colts have lost Harold Davis, the leading 220 and 440 runner in the schools and winner of both of these events in last year's championships.

The sprints, no doubt, will be captured by George Hester, of Northern High, one of the best dash men ever developed in Detroit high schools. Northern, however, hasn't a strong team in other events, with the exception of the pole vault, and all that it can do is to worry the other title contenders.

NEW PLAN FOR JUDGING.

A new method to identify runners in the track events will be tried out in the preliminaries. For the runs on the track the contestants are started from both sides of the track. Often the judges are at loss to pick the winner because of this arrangement. Terry Bannon, assistant supervisor, has devised a scheme to have the runners wear ribbons, those on one side of the track of one color and those on the other side of another hue. This would aid the judges in picking the winners in the order in which they finish.

All of the schools in the city with the exception of perhaps Commerce and Southeastern will have teams in the meet. Commerce has never gone in for track, while Southeastern hasn't shown interest in the thin-clads this year. Northwestern, Northern, Eastern, Central and Cass Tech will have full teams in the field, while Western, Southwestern and Northeastern will have contestants in some of the events.

Following the indoor meet the athletes will have a rest for a week or two until the outdoor practice can be started. The state open championships will be held at Ann Arbor, May 18 and 19. The M. A. C. carnival will be staged the first week in June.

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS