

From 1932 on Glenn piled up a remarkable list of new triumphs, races won, and records broken. He gained a place on the American team for the Olympics of that year by beating Gene Venzke in the tryouts, and finished fourth at Los Angeles in a field of international stars. In the 1933 national A. A. U. games at Chicago he set an American record of 3:52.3 for the 1500-meter run. In 1935 at Madison Square Garden he lowered this mark to 3:50.5, a new world record, only to lose in the same event the following year to Gene Venzke, who ran the distance in 3:49.9. Venzke's mark, however, stood only until the 1936 Olympics, when all of the first three men, including Cunningham, bettered it. In this race Glenn ran a very close second to Jack Lovelock, the only important miler he has never beaten, although he has a better record for the mile distance. Cunningham's world records for the mile, both outdoor and indoor, were made in 1934. At the Princeton Invitation meet he ran the outdoor mile in 4:06.8. He established the indoor record in the Columbia Mile at 4:08.4. On March 3, 1938, at Dartmouth he established a new indoor record of 4:04.4 which is the best time for either the indoor or outdoor mile.

At the Knights of Columbus games, Madison Square Garden, in 1935 he set a new world record of 2:10.1 for the indoor 1000-yard run. At the 1936 Drake Relays Glenn ran the outdoor 1000-yard distance in 2:11.2 for a new American record. In 1936 also he established a new world record of 1:49.7 for the 800-meter run at Stockholm, Sweden. As recently as June, 1937, Cunningham, running for the New York Curb Exchange, created a new American record of 3:00.8 for the three-quarter mile distance at the New York A. C. spring games.

Throughout this impressive record, made in competition with such stars as Venzke, Bonthron, Beccali, Lovelock, and San Romani, Glenn Cunningham has ever shown the highest type of sportsmanship, win or lose. His determination and will to win have carried him on after many said he was through; and though his flying feet have brought him many honors on three continents, Glenn still has his ready smile and unassuming manner which have made him immensely popular everywhere he has gone.

Glenn Cunningham runs a good race, a heady, intelligent, clean race, a race that should be an inspiration to every aspiring young athlete in the country. Here is a truly great person, a man to be admired and respected and followed. Because of his sterling qualities of sportsmanship, leadership, unselfish service, and character he was able to rise over many obstacles to become the world's greatest miler. No higher nor more fitting award could have been bestowed on him by his Alma Mater, the University of Kansas, than to name him Honor Man, the graduate of the class of 1934 who was most outstanding in scholarship and student activities and in service to the school.