

## AGAIN SOUTHERN UTAH IS IN THE LIMELIGHT

Once More World's Champion High Jumper is from this Section, in Clifton Larson, of St. George

Southern Utah has the world beaten for high jumpers. Attention was attracted here when Alma Richards of Parowan, this county, took first place in the Olympic games in 1915, in the high jump, clearing the bar at 6 feet 5 inches. Now Clifton Larson of St. George comes forward with the best record of recent years, and beats Richards' record by one inch, gliding over the stick at 6 feet 6 inches.

The following interesting account of his spectacular feat at Philadelphia is from the Herald-Republican of a recent date:

While the Philadelphia atmosphere of sports is largely Berry and the great achievements he has attained for Penn., I wish to convey the impression of the 20,000 people as I saw it during the greatest thrill of the annual classics on Franklin field Saturday, April 28, 1917.

The repeated crack of the starter's pistol was getting monotonous late in the afternoon as race after race reeled off with clocklike precision; Berry had performed in sensational fashion as usual and as expected, and again covered himself and Old Penn with glory; Simpson of Missouri, facing a stiff breeze, clipped over the high sticks in perfect form as champions should do. A cool breeze chilled the crowd. It wanted a thrill and got it.

The high jumpers had worked almost unnoticed all afternoon. Oler and Richards were not there and little was expected from that quarter. A buzz and hum in the stand drew all eyes to the extreme end of the field where the bar was seen to be far above the heads of the officials and competitors. The announcer bellowed, "The bar is now six feet six inches—Larson of Brigham Young university next jumper."

Programs were opened. The "high jump" records were scanned and the present height of the bar compared. Relay carnival, 6 feet, 5 inches, A. Richards, Cornell, 1915; Pennsylvania, 6 feet, 4 inches, W. Byrd Page, 1888; Collegiate, 6 feet, 5 inches, A. Richards, Cornell, 1915; Intercollegiate, 6 feet 4½ inches, W. Oler, Yale, 1915. Can he do it? Bets were laid fast that he could not break the relay carnival and collegiate records.

The slim lad Larson stepped back fifteen yards and without the usual fiddling and fussing indulged in by many high strung athletes measured the bar with his eye. The 20,000 held their breath and half raised from their seats straining to help him as Larson slipped up to his "take-off"

shot into the air and neatly cleared 6 feet six inches, breaking the only record of the day and establishing a new collegiate and relay carnival record, while the crowd stood and yelled its approval of the slim chap from the B. Y. U. of Utah. It had just seen the highest jump ever made on Franklin field in competition.

The bar was placed at 6 feet 8 inches and Larson made three grand efforts to break the American and the world's records held by E. Beeson, Olympic A. C., 1914. He held the crowd rigid as he went up, but the leg of his trunks just grazed the bar which balanced a second and then fell. The crowd groaned its sympathy, but the lad was tired and had to temporarily, we feel, postpone annexing the world's record. It was a great day for the state of Utah.