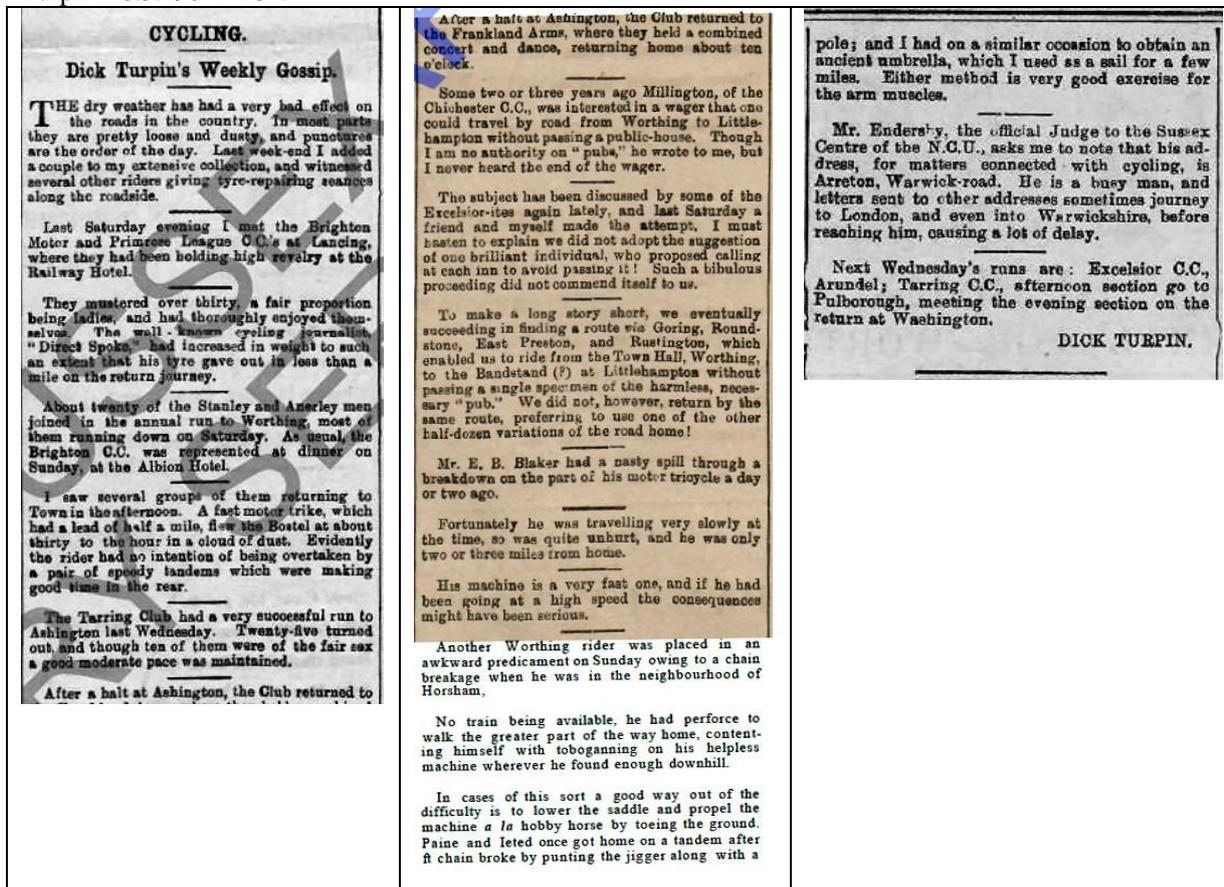


Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip
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 Turpin - 8.5.1901 P2C4.



CYCLING

Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip.

THE dry weather has had a very bad effect on the roads in the country. In most parts they are pretty loose and dusty, and punctures are the order of the day. Last week-end I added a couple to my extensive collection, and witnessed several other riders giving tyre-repairing seances along the roadside.

 Last Saturday evening I met the Brighton Motor and Primrose League C.C.'s at Lancing, where they had been holding high revelry at the Railway Hotel.

 They mustered over thirty, a fair proportion being ladies, and had thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The well-known cycling journalist, "Direct Spoke," had increased in weight to such an extent that his tyre gave out in less than mile on the return journey.

After a halt at Ashington, the Club returned to the Frankland Arms, where they held a combined concert and dance, returning home about ten o'clock.

 Some two or three years ago Millington, of the Chichester C.C., was interested in a wager that one could travel by road from Worthing to Littlehampton without passing a public-house. Though I am no authority on "pubs," he wrote to me, but I never heard the end of the wager.

 The subject has been discussed by some of the Excelsior-ites again lately, and last Saturday a friend and myself made the attempt. I must hasten to explain we did not adopt the suggestion of one brilliant individual, who proposed calling at each inn to avoid passing it! Such a tibulous proceeding did not commend itself to us.

 To make a long story short, we eventually succeeding in finding a route *via* Goring, Roundstone, East Preston, and Rustington, which enabled us to ride from the Town Hall, Worthing, to the Bandstand (?) at Littlehampton without passing a single specimen of the harmless, necessary "pub." We did not, however, return by the same route, preferring to use one of the other half-dozen variations of the road home!

 Mr. E. B. Blaker had a nasty spill through a breakdown on the part of his motor tricycle a day or two ago.

 Fortunately he was travelling very slowly at the time, so was quite unhurt, and he was only two or three miles from home.

 His machine is a very fast one, and if he had been going at a high speed the consequences might have been serious.

 Another Worthing rider was placed in an awkward predicament on Sunday owing to a chain breakage when he was in the neighbourhood of Horsham.

 No train being available, he had perforce to walk the greater part of the way home, contenting himself with tobogganing on his helpless machine wherever he found enough downhill.

 In cases of this sort a good way out of the difficulty is to lower the saddle and propel the machine *a la* hobby horse by toeing the ground. Paine and I eted once got home on a tandem after ft chain broke by punting the jigger along with a

 pole; and I had on a similar occasion to obtain an ancient umbrella, which I used as a sail for a few miles. Either method is very good exercise for the arm muscles.

 Mr. Endersby, the official Judge to the Sussex Centre of the N.C.U., asks me to note that his address, for matters connected with cycling, is Arreton, Warwick-road. He is a busy man, and letters sent to other addresses sometimes journey to London, and even into Warwickshire, before reaching him, causing a lot of delay.

 Next Wednesday's runs are: Excelsior C.C., Arundel; Tarring C.C., afternoon section go to Pulborough, meeting the evening section on the return at Washington.

DICK TURPIN.

About twenty of the Stanley and Anerley men joined in the annual run to Worthing, most of them running down on Saturday. As usual, the Brighton C.C. was represented at dinner on Sunday, at the Albion Hotel.

I saw several groups of them returning to Town in the afternoon. A fast motor trike, which had a lead of half a mile, flew the Bostel at about thirty to the hour in a cloud of dust. Evidently the rider had no intention of being overtaken by a pair of speedy tandems which were making good time in the rear.

The Tarring Club had a very successful run to Ashington last Wednesday. Twenty-five turned out and though ten of them were of the fair sex a good moderate pace was maintained.

After a halt at Ashington, the Club returned to the Frankland Arms, where they held a combined concert and dance, returning home about ten o'clock.

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