

Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip.  
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CYCLING.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip.</b></p> <p><b>D</b>ESPITE the hot weather in the early part of this week there was a large number of cyclists on the roads. Whilst riding to Horsham I passed about a score—many of them ladies, too! evidently quite fearless of the fickle fiend.</p> <p>One or two speedy groups of tandems and singles showed that the speed men are beginning to renew their twelve-hour rides for Standard Road Medals, but I heard one or two had to give up owing to the trying heat.</p> <p>E. B. Blaker was out with his motor trike, together with W. R. Paine on a bicycle; they took a spin round Guildford and Petersfield to Havant, coming home through Chichester and Arundel, making just over a hundred miles.</p> <p>They found the roads for the most part in good order, but "Bert" punctured four times. A little rain would be welcome now for the sake of the bye-roads.</p> <p>A friendly scorch up the long and tedious Hind Head resulted in a win for "Bert" on his safety, although the motorist is well known as a fier up this particular hill.</p> <p>The road just this side of Brighton is now eminently adapted to cure sufferers from liver complaints. Cycling over to the N.C.U. meeting last Thursday I jolted my lamp out four times in a mile, as heavy rains have washed numerous small channels in the road. It requires a stout heart and a comfortable, well-sprung saddle to tackle that road just along now.</p> <p>The long-distance road race from Paris to Brest</p>	<p>The long-distance road race from Paris to Brest and back, which finished on Sunday, was pluckily won by the Frenchman, Garin, who covered the 745 miles in 55 hours; Bivierre being second, in 58 hours; whilst Frederic and Accouturier were practically a dead heat for third honours.</p> <p>The favourite, Lesna, made the very common mistake of starting too fast; on the return journey he suffered with swollen knees, and was caught by Garin and passed after a twelve miles' neck-and-neck tussle.</p> <p>Paris seems to have got even more excited than usual about this race. Over 10,000 people are reported to have witnessed the finish at the Parc des Princes track, whilst it appears to have been beyond the power of over 2,000 gendarmes to keep order along the last few miles of the course.</p> <p>The Irish Cyclists' Association have quarrelled with the English and Scotch Unions, owing to the latter insisting upon the suspension of Pease and Reynolds from riding as amateurs. This is a pity, as it prevented riders from the "distressful country" from competing for the British Championships, etc., last Saturday at Glasgow, and robbed these events of a lot of interest.</p> <p>The whole of the races went to Englishmen, Ingram winning the quarter; Allen, of Bristol, the mile; and Reed, the five miles' event.</p> <p>The programme of the forthcoming Excelsior Club's Sports is a most attractive one, and it should not fail to draw a large gate on the 4th of September, the date fixed for the meeting.</p> <p>The main item is of course the twenty-five miles Amateur Championship of Sussex. The other events are a mile open cycle handicap, a mile open walking handicap, a mile local flat handicap, a flat race for boys under sixteen, and a Club cycle race.</p> <p>There will also be an interesting novelty in the</p>	<p>There will also be an interesting novelty in the shape of an "Australian Pursuit Race." In these events the riders are placed at regular intervals round the track and started together. So soon as one man overhauls another and draws level with him the overtaken one has to leave the track, and this is continued till there is only the winner left.</p> <p>A programme of this sort should provide enough of sport for everyone, but in addition to it "Sam" Clark writes me that he will be pleased to meet any veteran in Sussex above the age of forty-five years at either cycling or running. I am not sufficiently far advanced in years myself to accept, but if he will let me have someone else—W. R. Paine, for instance—on a tandem with me to make up the number of years I will try my luck!</p> <p>The racing members of the Excelsior C.C. have arranged a few cycle races on the Sports Ground to-morrow evening at six o'clock with a view of assisting the Groundman's benefit, which is held that day. They are running a five miles' handicap and a team race between Married and Single, both of which should be worth seeing, as the wily married men stipulate W. R. Paine shall not ride in the Singles' team.</p> <p>The Tarring Club, too, are holding a two miles' handicap at the same time, besides which local walking and running races are to be held. Mr. Miles, the veteran walking man, having got them up.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DICK TURPIN.</p>
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