

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>A</b>T this time of the year the prudent cyclist gives the plated parts of his machine a coating of vaseline. It is a splendid protection from the rain and general dampness which prevail through the winter months.</p> <p>For the last three or four years I have, like many others, used vaseline as a substitute for oil in the bearings, and have found it a great convenience, as those vital portions of the cycle only require attention once in two or three thousand miles riding if lubricated with vaseline.</p> <p>Last Thursday T. Durant, the irrepressible road-scorching Excelsior-ite, did another good ride—for the Club hundred-miles medal on this occasion.</p> <p>Starting at 7.14, he immediately dropped into a speed of nineteen miles an hour, which he kept up over the hilly road to the Chichester end; Sam Clark having paced him from Arundel.</p> <p>After checking, Sam gave him a lead back as far as Offington Corner, which he reached at 9.16.</p> <p>Here W. R. Paine took up the work of pacing, and kept things moving in a lively way. Horeham was reached in about an hour, and Woodhatch, the northern end of the course, at 11.21.</p> <p>The first sixty-seven miles thus occupied four</p>	<p>The first sixty-seven miles thus occupied four hours and seven minutes, which shows a stiff pace was maintained on the country roads, as Durant is no lover of racing along on the portions of the road which lie in towns and villages.</p> <p>At Woodhatch Paine punctured, but repaired his tyre, and continued pacing Durant on his southward journey through Crawley and Horsham down to Broadwater, where he finished at 1.46, his total time being six hours thirty-two minutes. He therefore won the gold-centre medal with twenty-eight minutes to spare.</p> <p>Several minor hindrances were experienced during the ride. On the first portion the roads were wet and heavy from recent rain, whilst later on a runaway horse and also a flock of sheep figured in the bill.</p> <p>Though a new hand to actual speed cycling, Durant has an acquaintance with the pastime which extends back to the days of the "good old ordinary" and the Crippler tricycles. In his athletic days he was, however, a running man, several "pots" bearing witness to his prowess in that sport.</p> <p>Following close upon the twenty-four hours record made by Olley upon Southern roads—when he covered 331½ miles—comes a similar performance upon Northern roads by H. Green.</p> <p>Choosing roads mainly running through the</p>	<p>Choosing roads mainly running through the Cambridge and Lincolnshire Fens, Green did a most creditable ride, covering a total distance of nearly four hundred miles.</p> <p>The exact distance has not yet been ascertained, owing to the very intricate route which was chosen with a view of getting good roads. At any rate, T. G. King's record for "twice round the clock" has been handsomely beaten, as this stood at 356½ miles.</p> <p>Green, who used the new auxiliary handgear, lost considerable time through heavy fogs. He is confident of beating unaided the paced record which Goodwin, assisted by motors, put at just over 400 miles.</p> <p>W. R. Paine will shortly be taking another trip to the Channel Islands. Owing to unfair decisions on the part of one of the officials an appeal was made to the National Cyclists' Union, and the Union has ordered the Cup race—which was the disputed event—to be run again.</p> <p>"Bert" is rather pleased; he is not at all averse to a trip over there at any time. Every member of the large party who went over on the last occasion thoroughly enjoyed himself, from what I hear of the tour.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DICK TURPIN.</p>
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