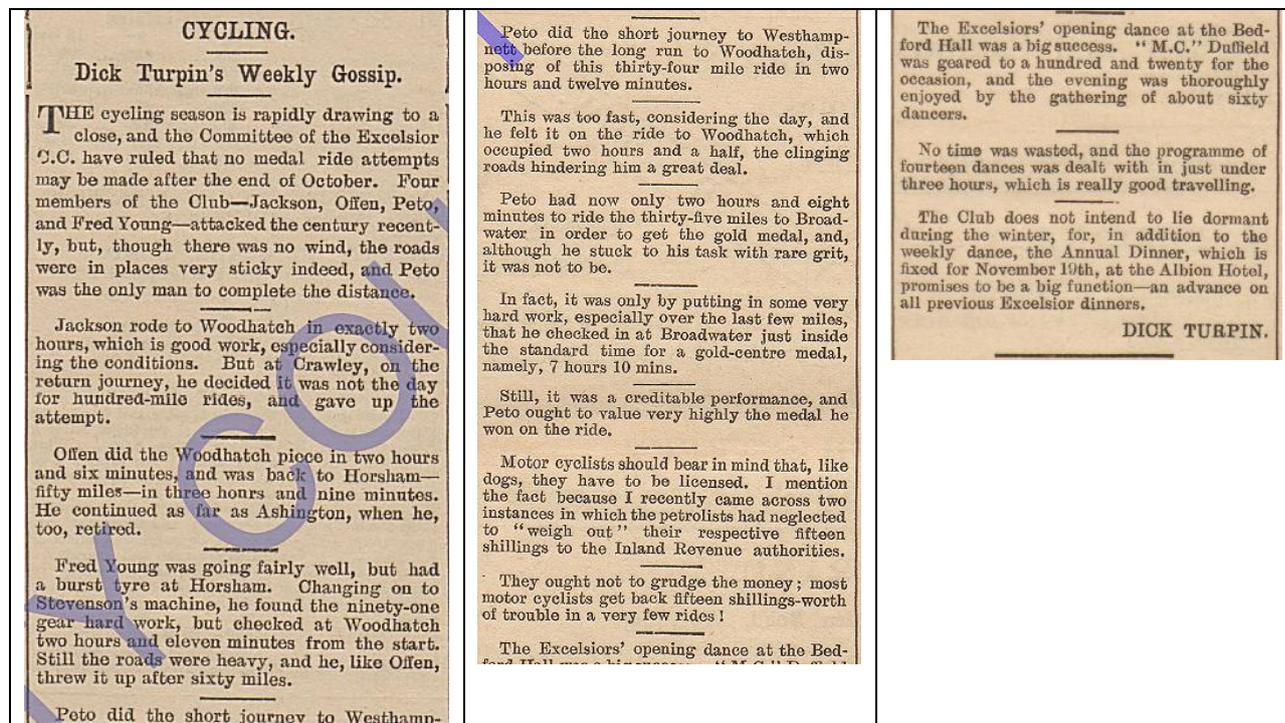


Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip.
Source: Worthing Gazette copies at
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 Turpin: 10.1902 P2C5



CYCLING.

Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip.

THE cycling season is rapidly drawing to a close, and the Committee of the Excelsior C.C. have ruled that no medal ride attempts may be made after the end of October. Four members of the Club - Jackson, Offen, Peto, and Fred Young - attacked the century recently, but, though there was no wind, the roads were in places very sticky indeed, and Peto was the only man to complete the distance.

 Jackson rode to Woodhatch in exactly two hours, which is good work, especially considering the conditions. But at Crawley, on the return journey, he decided it was not the day for hundred-mile rides, and gave up the attempt.

 Offen did the Woodhatch piece in two hours and six minutes, and was back to Horsham - fifty miles - in three hours and nine minutes. He continued as far as Ashington, when he, too, retired.

 Fred Young was going fairly well, but had a burst tyre at Horsham. Changing on to Stevenson's machine, he found the ninety-one gear hard work, but checked at Woodhatch

two hours and eleven minutes from the start. Still the roads were heavy, and he, like Offen, threw it up after sixty miles.

Peto did the short journey to Westhampnett before the long run to Woodhatch, disposing of this thirty-four mile ride in two hours and twelve minutes.

This was too fast, considering the day, and he felt it on the ride to Woodhatch, which occupied two hours and a half, the clinging roads hindering him a great deal.

Peto had now only two hours and eight minutes to ride the thirty-five miles to Broadwater in order to get the gold medal, and, although he stuck to his task with rare grit, it was not to be.

In fact, it was only by putting in some very hard work, especially over the last few miles, that he checked in at Broadwater just inside the standard time for a gold-centre medal, namely, 7 hours 10 mins.

Still, it was a creditable performance, and Peto ought to value very highly the medal he won on the ride.

Motor cyclists should bear in mind that, like dogs, they have to be licensed. I mention the fact because I recently came across two instances in which the petrolists had neglected to "weigh out" their respective fifteen shillings to the Inland Revenue authorities.

They ought not to grudge the money; most motor cyclists get back fifteen shillings-worth of trouble in a very few rides!

The Excelsiors' opening dance at the Bedford Hall was a big success. "M.C." Duffield was geared to a hundred and twenty for the occasion, and the evening was thoroughly enjoyed by the gathering of about sixty dancers.

No time was wasted, and the programme of fourteen dances was dealt with in just under three hours, which is really good travelling.

The Club does not intend to lie dormant during the winter, for, in addition to the weekly dance, the Annual Dinner, which is fixed for November 19th, at the Albion Hotel, promises to be a big function - an advance on all previous Excelsior dinners.

DICK TURPIN.