

CYCLING

Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip

Turpin. 8th April 1903 - P2C5:

<p style="text-align: center;">CYCLING.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip.</p> <p>THE country is now looking delightfully fresh and pretty. I cycled through Arundel and on to Ball's Hut a day or two back, and found Dame Nature's spring cleaning operations further advanced than I had expected. Primroses are now out in profusion; the other wild flowers are making a show; whilst the bright hue of the furze blossom here and there along the roadside supplies a finishing touch to a charming picture.</p> <p>I saw quite a number of cyclists engaged on primrose plucking expeditions. And a nice pastime too!</p> <p>Young and Stevenson were on the Horsham road early this week, the latter travelling so well that his lengthy companion threatened to forsake his company for the future, though he, too, has improved on last year's form.</p> <p>On the same day Durant went to Guildford, finding plenty of mud beyond Horsham, the road through Cranleigh being very bad for about fifteen miles owing to recent rain.</p> <p>Returning, he took the southern road from Guildford to Horsham; this is very well made and dries rapidly, so the Irrepressible made good time to Horsham, despite the surface being somewhat bumpy and uneven.</p> <p>Speaking generally, the roads are fairly good, though new patches have not been rolled to their usual smoothness; and with fine weather for Easter holidays wheelmen will be busy.</p> <p>Many of the Excelsior boys will doubtless visit Preston Park on Easter Monday to see the Brighton Cyclist Club's Race Meeting in the afternoon.</p> <p>A. E. Peto is competing, and I wish him luck. Bert Paine would have been riding also but forgot to apply for his licence from the N.C.U.</p> <p>I understand there is a fair entry for both</p>	<p>I understand there is a fair entry for both cycle and motor races, and that the running event has filled moderately well. The only star rider appears to be C. B. Kingsbury, of Portsmouth.</p> <p>Race meetings are all very well, but to my mind the charm of cycling is in the country ramble, and, weather permitting, the Irrepressible and myself hope to spend a day or two visiting Bournemouth, Salisbury, and Winchester.</p> <p>Local motorists had better beware lest the temptation afforded by the fine speed stretch of the London-Brighton road near Patcham beguile them into exceeding the legal limit. It certainly appeals to all speed men.</p> <p>Quite recently on this bit of road the disciples of peace set a trap for the worshippers of pace, with the satisfactory result—from their point of view—of clearing a total of £20 and costs out of a batch of eleven offenders.</p> <p>This will, I imagine, stimulate the men in blue to further efforts. Well, it should tend to reduce the rates after a while, but I hope our local motorists will not be amongst the unwilling contributors.</p> <p>The electrical timing apparatus used at this trap showed some big speeds. Two scorchers, who each had to shed a "fivever," were accused of doing thirty-seven and a half and thirty miles an hour respectively; whilst a twenty-six mile man got off for one pound.</p> <p>The Brighton Cyclist Club had a muster of fifteen for their run to Worthing last Sunday morning—a good number for a Club which excludes lady riders from its runs!</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DICK TURPIN.</p>	
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