

<p style="text-align: center;">CYCLING.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>LAST Wednesday afternoon an accident of a very painful nature occurred on Washington Bostel. Two Worthing ladies, Miss Porteous and Miss Walkey, were descending the hill when the bicycle of the former got beyond control. Miss Porteous was unable to turn at the corner, and her machine struck the bank, throwing her with considerable force, whilst her friend was unable to avoid her, and fell also.</p> <p>R. C. Isted, of the Excelsior C.C., came along directly after, and with some difficulty obtained assistance and removed Miss Porteous to the Frankland Arms, where, with Miss Walkey, who, though badly shaken was not seriously injured, she remained in the care of Mrs. Charman.</p> <p>Medical assistance was summoned, and the injuries proved to be of a grave character.</p> <p>The sad news was brought to the friends by Mr. Isted, and later in the evening Mr. Charman obtained a conveyance, and, with great care, removed the unfortunate lady to her home in Worthing.</p> <p>I am deeply sorry to learn that, at present, her condition is causing very much anxiety.</p> <p>The entire energies of the Committee of the Excelsior Club are now being focussed upon the Whit-Monday Sports Meeting. I hope to see fine weather, as no effort is being spared by the Club Executive to make the fixture a success.</p> <p>Clubmen will be glad to know that, in addition to the two open cycle races, it has now been decided to hold a couple of Club handicaps, the distances being one and two miles.</p> <p>This step has been taken as there are several</p>	<p>This step has been taken as there are several promising young "fliers" in the Club, I am told, only waiting to be brought out. Bravo! New blood is wanted rather badly now.</p> <p>Amongst the varied items in the programme the Comic Costume Race seems likely to provide some fun. The competitors, I understand, are awakened from imaginary slumbers, and appear in their track-racing clothes.</p> <p>Their faces will then be liberally lathered; they will have to "shave" with a wooden razor, and go through a fairly comprehensive toilet, which, by degrees, takes them round the track.</p> <p>They then don a comic costume, and travel round once again to the finish.</p> <p>A Football-Kicking Competition also figures in the bill, and provides our local leather-hunters with an opportunity of showing their skill in the gentle art of kicking. Two good prizes are offered for the two furthest kicks.</p> <p>Last Saturday afternoon the Southern C.C. ran off their annual Six Hours' Race at Herne Hill, eight men starting. The race was of special interest, as it was the first time amateurs had ridden behind motor pacing for so long a stretch, and records were therefore expected to fall.</p> <p>In the very early stages of the race Leon Meredith, last year's fifty-miles' Champion of England, took the lead, and, going well, he kept at the head of affairs all through, finishing first with a total distance of 108½ miles. F. T. Burgess was second, twenty-seven miles in the rear; and C. W. R. Patterson in the third place, nearly another mile behind him.</p> <p>Meredith is comparatively a new man, and</p>	<p>Meredith is comparatively a new man, and shot into fame at one bound when he won the Fifty Miles' Championship last year.</p> <p>No "human" pacing was fast enough for him on that occasion, and big things were expected of him whenever he should have the use of motor pacemakers.</p> <p>On Saturday he fully justified those expectations. He beat the existing motor-paced amateur record for one hour by riding 32 miles 1,630 yards in the time. From this point onwards he set up new times for all distances, riding one hundred miles in 3 hours 16 mins., and, as I have said, covering 180 miles 1,220 yards in the six hours.</p> <p>The same afternoon Meredith's one-hour record was beaten by H. J. Harding, who rode 33 miles 38 yards in sixty minutes on the Palace track.</p> <p>I should fancy Meredith's distance for six hours will, however, remain unbeaten for some time. Thirty miles an hour for six solid hours, even under the artificial conditions of motor-paced track racing, is good work.</p> <p>Turning to the other extreme in speed cycling, the famous "Black Anfielders" ran off an unpaced fifty recently, and the best time was that of R. L. Knipe, the well-known Northerner, who did the distance in 2 hours 48 minutes—that is, eighteen miles an hour. It looks slow as compared with the performance of his track brethren, but 'tis not a bad ride.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIOK TURPIN.</p>
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