

### Cycle Races.

The following, from the pen of "Mack," in *Saturday Night*, while primarily referring to the Toronto Bicycle Club's races, is still of such general interest that we need no apology for reproducing it in *CYCLING* :—

"The bicycle races on Saturday and Monday attracted very large crowds to Rosedale. In time, if properly managed, it may happen that bicycle races will in some measure supersede horse racing, against which so many people are unconquerably prejudiced. If those who frown down upon running and trotting races only step in and encourage wheeling contests, it is difficult to see why the change should not occur, for there is quite as much excitement at a bicycle race as there would be at a horse race where there was no betting. Unless my lights are poor, no man could have a troubled conscience for attending such a tournament as we have had here—there was no betting, no real or fancied abuse of dumb animals, the results did not depend upon chance, but upon the skill, strength and endurance of the healthy and handsome young men who entered the competition. To participants and spectators it was an elevating affair all through, producing laughter, cheers, and enough excitement to prevent a busy man's nature from growing rusty. Nothing fascinates a mixed multitude like a race—a game of any kind is half lost upon those who do not understand it, but it requires no understanding to see the intent of a race. It is the great relaxation for which men look; they will race on foot, on horseback, in boats, on steamers, on trains, on bicycles, in balloons, and when flying machines are invented there will be some fast winging, I can tell you, one man against another and both against the across-country records of carrier pigeons and wild geese. People will race and delight in racing so long as there is any good, healthy manhood in them, and, therefore, now is the time for the better element of each community to seize upon bicycle racing in the dawn of its universal popularity and safeguard it with their respectability. Why should the churches, for instance, yield this clean sport up to the companionship of the saloons? So far the bicycle is as welcome at the parsonage as at the public house. Why, then, should the publican gradually derive more legitimate pleasure from it than the preacher? More good things will grow in the narrow path than we plant in it. Foot races are run at Sunday school picnics, and if it is permissible to award a cloth edition of Pilgrim's Pro-

gress, worth a dollar and a-half, to the winner who ran a hundred yards in fourteen seconds, I never could make out why it would be improper to have the hundred yards run in ten seconds and to give the winner a morocco bound and illustrated edition of Pilgrim's Progress worth fifteen dollars. It seems to me the difference is not one of morals, but one of speed and value, performance and reward. There is no reason why a man who runs a hundred yards in ten seconds could not be as good a Christian as though it took him fourteen. And why should not a member of a Bible class who could "do it" in ten, receive as good a prize as the bartender who made the same speed at a picnic of the Licensed Victuallers' Association? Many disreputable things have cropped up in connection with foot racing, but that was because good people neglected the sport and allowed it to fall under evil control; because it became the custom for the wicked only to be generous and free handed towards sports, however innocent and health-giving they might be. Bicycle racing should be patronized by even the most severe people, so that it will not require to enter an injurious partnership with gambling. It is a sport that will remain respectable unless respectable people starve it, when, in hunger, it may repair to low haunts. Humans have done that?"

Holbein has again made a change in the figures of the twenty-four hour safety record. Mounted on a Swift safety fitted with Clincher tires, he started at midnight of Tuesday, the 9th instant, making 359 miles against his former record of 336½.

There has been considerable talk about cement as a surface for cycling tracks, and attention has been drawn to the Arnheim track, in Holland, and the number of records made thereon. *Bicycling News*, however, has made enquiries into the matter, and points out that Herne Hill track holds over one thousand mile records, while the Arnheim track only holds five records; and therefore cautious track builders ought not to be in too much of a hurry with cement laying.

### SUDDENLY PROSTRATED.

GENTLEMEN,—I was suddenly prostrated while at work by a severe attack of cholera morbus. We sent at once for a doctor, but he seemed unable to help. An evacuation about every forty minutes was fast wearing me out, when we sent for a bottle of Wild Strawberry, which saved my life.

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