

### Cash Prizes and the "Wheelman."

DEAR SIR,—I do not know how it struck you, Mr. Editor, but to me it certainly seemed very strange to notice in the *Canadian Wheelman* of October 3, the following sentence in the article on "Cash Prizes": "The L.A.W. and C.W.A. can and will quite likely live on as organizations having the cultivation of fraternal courtesies, mutual protection and the securing of good roads as the motives of their existence; but unless they are willing to lead in the direction the great sport-loving public manifestly desires them to go, their powers as controlling bodies of cycle racing will soon be at an end." These sentiments expressed in the official organ of the Association are, to say the least, out of place, and even if they were true, the *Canadian Wheelman* is the last place an amateur would expect to find such sentiments expressed. I maintain, however, that the facts will not warrant any such conclusion. In the first place, both of the Spauldings, who are the great leaders in professional baseball, have denied any connection with the scheme, and Mr. J. W. Spaulding went so far as to predict failure unless the L.A.W. controlled it.

I happen to be a member of the L.A.W. and consequently receive *Bicycling World* each week. It was with a great deal of pleasure that I read the sturdy and manly tone of that paper in connection with the subject, a paragraph of which I would commend to the attention of the *Wheelman* as follows:—

"Does anyone imagine for an instant that the League of American Wheelman, which has weathered safely so many storms and is now serenely sailing over a calm and quiet ocean in all the fulness of a prosperity whose future promises unbounded possibilities—an organization backed by what will be ere the close of the year forty thousand wheelmen—is going to let itself be disturbed by the vapors of—what? Not the organized effort of a wisely conceived and ably executed plan for the rehabilitation of the sport, but the sporadic attempt of a few professionals (for professionals they all are, whether masquerading under the amateur cloak, which we notice none of them who are through a kind fortune and ignorance of their true characters within the pale of the L.A.W. appear in haste to carry out their loudly-mouthed convictions and cast off, or not) to profit by what they in their infinite and far-sighted wisdom conceive to be an impending opportunity to secure a share of the golden shower which they fondly imagine will reward the pro-

motors of the new enterprise. But their greed will overreach itself. Fake riders, fake managers, fake journals, and fake editors will of course welcome and boom the cash prize question by every means, fair and unfair, in their power, but men, writers and journals of character are not to be seduced by methods which savor all too strongly of the worst features of the sport to find favor among gentlemen."

*Bicycling World* further states that it is in a position to say that neither Zimmerman nor Taylor would forfeit his membership in the League to become a professional, nor does it believe that Windle or Lumsden would do so.

Trusting I have not made my epistle too lengthy (though the subject may warrant it), I am, yours truly,  
AMATEUR.

Toronto, Oct. 8, 1892.

On Saturday, Sept. 15, at Herne Hill, Messrs. Wass and Newlands on a tandem rode 23 miles 1725 yards in one hour, while A. W. Harris on a safety made the mile in 2.12 3-5 mins., lowering the English records.

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