

forms a considerable angle with the ground, so that under some conditions it slips from under the rider. The ability of a bicycle and rider in rapid motion to do serious damage in a collision with another machine, or with a pedestrian, is fully appreciated by few wheelmen. A man weighing 150 pounds and moving at the rate of ten feet per second (which is only about seven miles per hour) has a momentum of 1,500 pounds, leaving out of the account the weight of the wheel. This is sufficient to upset any pedestrian with terrific force. A collision between two wheels, each with a 150 pound rider, spinning at the moderate speed of seven miles per hour, would result in a smash-up with a force of 3,000 pounds. In view of these facts, it is no wonder that

bicycle accidents are often very serious. The tractive force required to propel a bicycle over a smooth level surface is estimated at 0.01 of the load; calling the load 150 pounds, a force of one and one-half pounds would be required to move the wheel forward, and this calls for a pressure on the pedals of six and three-fourths pounds on a wheel geared in the usual manner. When, however, the road is rough, or on an up grade, the case is different. On a grade of 1 in 10, for example, the rider, in addition to the tractive force, actually lifts one-tenth of his weight and that of the machine. With a rigid or semi-rigid tire the rider is obliged to exert sufficient force to lift himself over every obstruction encountered by the wheel; the descent from the obstruc-

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