

CHALLENGE.

TORONTO, July 20 1891.

JAS. WOOD, *Hon. Sec.*,

Toronto Bicycle Club.

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the Wanderers Bicycle Club I hereby challenge the Toronto Bicycle Club to a friendly Road Race, similar to those held in 1887 and 1890. The course, conditions, number of men a side and trophy, to be the same as in the previous races. The date of the race to be not later than Sept. 12, 1891. This challenge will remain open for ten days from date. In case of acceptance, our racing committee will be glad to confer with your committee at as early a date as possible. Yours respectfully,

W. J. DARBY, *Hon. Sec.*,

W. B. C.

The Fastest Fifty Miles Ever Ridden.

R. L. Ede, of the North Road-scorching Club, has undoubtedly accomplished the most remarkable performance of the year. In a trial against time for the fifty miles record he succeeded in covering that distance upon the road in the astonishing time of 2 hours 24 minutes and 44 seconds—a rate of over 21 miles per hour! Think of it, ye scorchers. We know Mr. Ede performed this marvellous feat upon a selected road—the best road in the kingdom, perhaps—and we know that the wind and other conditions were favourable, but we cannot get away from the fact that the time absolutely eclipses the *path* record for this distance, and is actually the fastest fifty miles ever ridden. In recording a wonderful ride like this, one naturally enquires what machine was used, for although we like to give full credit to the performer always, we also believe in letting the machine have its due share. Ede's mount was an "Ormonde," fitted with Dunlop's pneumatic tyres; and the "Ormonde" Cycle Co. must be indeed difficult to please if they are not thoroughly satisfied with the splendid world's record made upon their machine.—*The Wheelman*.

The Dunlop people are evidently becoming alarmed at the number of their tyres which have been bursting recently on the road, and have, accordingly, inserted an advertisement in *Wheeling*, informing the public that their racing tyres are for path racing only, and not designed for road use.

Correspondence.

DEAR EDITOR,—“Hobby,” in his letter in your last issue, desires to know the state of our health; rather than that he should lose any sleep over it, we may state that our health is good. Our spirits are not of a nature that such a thing as defeat in a road race is going to make us feel despondent, nor does success swell our head. We are too used to success to be effected in that way, but there is always an excuse for those who by some chance or accident happen to gain some slight prominence. They find the air so different from what they are accustomed to, that their head becomes giddy, but very often they do not stay there long enough to get used to that sort of thing, so there is a possibility that the head will assume its normal size ere long. Mr. Editor, we wonder where those two points would have been, had one of the best riders from the Ambitious City fallen twice at the start. We may also state for “Hobby's” information, that the party who wanted the race 40 miles was just as anxious for that distance at the finish as before, and would have enjoyed nothing better than that of leading “Hobby's” friends into Grimsby on the return, as he certainly would have done had the race been that distance. We consider a road race a ride of endurance and skill in all kinds of riding, on rough road as well as smooth, hill climbing as well as down grade. This variety can better be found in, say fifty miles of our ordinary road, and not on a smooth road of the distance of only 20 miles, but a hot-house plant must not be removed from the soil in which it sprouts or else it may die from exposure. KARL.

A. B. C.

Last Saturday a number of the members of the Athenæum Bicycle Club took one of the most enjoyable trips of the season. Taking the afternoon train to Hamilton, they spent an hour in the city before making a start for Grimsby. On reaching Stoney Creek a halt was called for supper, and after the inner man was refreshed, they proceeded to their destination. Arriving they were greatly surprised to find a contingent of the Hamilton boys, who extended every hospitality to the A.B.C.'s, and, thanks to them, spent a very pleasant evening. Sunday was spent in the Park, and at four o'clock set out for Hamilton, where they arrived in time for supper, arriving home again by the evening train, all delighted with the outing and determined to go it again before the close of the season.