

The Canadian Wheelman :

A JOURNAL OF CYCLING.

The Official Gazette of the Canadian Wheelmen's Association and of the Cyclists' Touring Club in Canada.

PUBLISHED BY THE CANADIAN WHEELMEN'S ASSOCIATION AT LONDON, CANADA, AND SUPPLIED TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

Subscription Price to Non-Members. \$1.00 per annum.

All communications should be addressed to THE CANADIAN WHEELMAN, London, Ont.

Advertisements and communications, to insure insertion, must be received by the 26th of each month.

LONDON, MAY, 1887.

ARE YOU GOING TO BRANTFORD?

The above is the first question asked when two wheelmen meet, and the reply, "If I can possibly get there," makes the meet of 1887 appear an assured success. Nothing but bad weather can prevent the Brantford meet of the C.W.A. from being the very largest ever held. Great interest is already taken in it wherever the C.W.A. has members. The Midland District especially seem to have the wheel fever badly, and can hardly restrain themselves until the time arrives. Even its C.C. has it, and is guilty of the idea of a District tour. More power to him, and may he lead the largest Division at the meet! He is willing to work, and it only rests with the men of his district to rally around him and make his fair, fat face shine with pleasure on that occasion. We are pleased to welcome the new clubs falling into line with the C.W.A., and will promise them the full worth of their money this season, for in addition to the meet and the monthly visit of THE WHEELMAN, there is the new road book filled with all that can possibly interest the tourist, giving as it does concise reports of roads, hotels, railway arrangements, local consuls, etc., etc., until it makes up a book of reference hard to equal and impossible to excel. Too much praise cannot be given to Messrs. Donly and Tisdale, the painstaking editors, and Messrs. the many who so kindly furnished the material for the editors to classify. No wheelman should pass 1887 without it.

SLIGHTLY INCORRECT.

Now the N.C.U., of England, comes out with a statement showing a deficit of some \$1,200. We believe now we have a report from all the national bodies that govern cycling, and they all show a pitiable state of things in their financial standing.—*Bicycling World*.

If the *Bicycling World* will cast its eyes in a northern direction it may see something to its advantage—something that will enlighten its ignorance, and show it that it has not heard from all the wheel organizations, or that, having heard, it has failed to learn. The Canadian Wheelmen's Association is doing as good work for cycling in Canada as the L.A.W. is doing

in the States, or the N.C.U. in England. It has issued two guide books of the Dominion, the last one superior in many respects to any one sent forth by the State divisions of the League. It publishes an official organ, and distributes it free to its members. It controls all cycling matters, and holds an annual race meet. It does its work quietly and unostentatiously, and levies fees only one half as large as those collected by the League. It does all these things, and yet will show, after all the expenses of the new guide book are provided for, a surplus in the treasury of something over two hundred dollars. So the *Bi. World* will see that there is at least one cycling body whose financial affairs are not in a pitiable state.

TOURING.

A department of cycling work not yet assumed control of by the C.W.A. is that of touring. All over the country there are individual wheelmen who would like nothing better than to spend their summer holidays in touring had they only suitable companions and a knowledge of where to go to find at one and the same time picturesque scenery and good wheeling. Why should the C.W.A. not step in and help this class of riders to enjoyment and health? What is there to prevent the C.W.A. having a touring division as well as the L.A.W., under the direction of the superintendent, or captain, or tourmaster, of which an annual tour would be taken, in which all C.W.A. members who desired could participate. Let the subject be discussed between now and the first of July, and then acted upon, if deemed advisable, at the annual meet.

THE C.T.C.

A vigorous letter in this issue directs attention to the fact that THE CANADIAN WHEELMAN, although designating itself as the "official gazette of the Cyclists' Touring Club in Canada," furnishes no news regarding the C.T.C. Well, our excuse must be that we didn't think our readers wanted any of that kind of news. In the dim and shadowy past, through an agency of which all trace has vanished, the legend regarding the C.T.C. was placed under the heading of THE WHEELMAN, and the respect due to age, and those mysterious things of which we know not anything, has preserved it from ruthless hands to this day. The great cycling organization of the mother land appeals only in a sentimental way to the great majority of Canadian riders, and therefore it is that so few of them are enrolled within the ranks of the C.T.C. And we do not see that it should be otherwise. There is no province in this country for a foreign cycling organization. The C.W.A. at present admirably performs the work it has undertaken, and should it fail the responsibility will rest upon those whom it is designed to benefit, and who, in such case, would not be more likely to prosper under foreign than under domestic rule. For those Canadians who propose visiting England membership in the Touring Club is desirable, but all others will be performing their duty well if they see to it that they are giving all the support they can to their home organization.

However, now that the subject has been broach-

ed, it may not be inopportune to give a few extracts regarding the C.T.C. from Karl Kron's voluminous work:

"In 1885, the C.T.C.'s gross profit on trading accounts, \$6,613—comprising \$4,609 on uniforms, \$1,183 on badges, \$392 on hand-books, and \$429 on discounts. This profit was nearly all absorbed by the net cost of *Gazette*, \$6,438, whose total cost (\$11,317) consisted of \$6,804 for printing, \$4,027 for postage, and \$486 for adv. commissions,—the adv. receipts (besides \$680 due Dec. 31) being \$4,879. The 'general expenses' (including the secretary's salary of \$1,500, but excluding the adv. com. just named) were \$8,031, to which must be added \$2,793 for office stationery, and \$1,640 for postage,—a total of \$12,454, or almost as much as the revenue from membership dues, \$12,740. The gross receipts on the trading transactions, which yielded a profit of \$6,613, were \$38,157; and, as payments on *Gazette's* account were \$11,317, the whole amount of C.T.C. cash handled during the year was considerably in excess of \$50,000. At the annual meeting of May 8, '86, the treasurer likewise said that each member annually cost the club 75c., or 25c. more than his annual dues. He reported that the monthly amount of checks drawn by him on the C.T.C. bankers often reached \$7,500.

Referring to Canada, K. K. says: "The State Consuls nominate local consuls, and also supply application-blanks to those who send stamped and addressed envelopes. Each candidate who signs such a blank sends it with \$1 to the acting Chief Consul, who transmits the same to the secretary in England; and the renewal-fee of later years, if sent in the same way, is 75c., instead of 62c. These facts are announced in each week's *Bi. World*. This plan has prevailed for more than two years, and a very few additions have been made to the list of State Consuls during that period. Previously, the *Wheel* called itself the club's 'official organ in America' (June 6, '82, to Feb. 29, '84), but did not regularly print names; and THE CANADIAN WHEELMAN has inserted a similar 'honorary adv.' of itself, as 'official organ of the C.T.C. in Canada,' ever since Oct., '84. The slight hold which the club has gained upon that country is chiefly due to the absence of any such enthusiast as the one who pushed it into recognition in the United States, namely, F. W. Weston. To the phrase, 'Founded May 5, 1878, at Harrowgate,' with which most C.T.C. men are familiar, should now be added, 'Founded Nov. 22, 1886, in the London Law Courts,'—a phrase which the autocrat of the society is very anxious that his followers should not become familiar with. On the day last mentioned, standing in the witness-box, before the pitiless cross-questioning of a lawyer, 'the Secretary-Editor of the C.T.C.' confessed that he had committed literary forgery, by printing in his *Gazette*, over the signature of our Philadelphia artist, Jo Pennell, an abusive phrase ('the vapors of elderly quidnunes') which that gentleman had never written. He confessed, too, that he designed that phrase to stigmatize a certain J. B. Marsh, who was obnoxious to him on account of having published a half-dozen 'Anti-Humburg' articles, exposing the 'true inwardness of the C.T.C.' as a medium—not for 'the advancement of wheeling,' but—for the advancement of the Secretary-Editor's personal fortunes as a seller of 'official' breeches and badges. When the presiding officer of the court, Mr. Justice Mills, heard 'the Secretary-Editor of the C.T.C.' thus confess that he had forged the signature of Mr. Pennell in order to hurl an insult at Mr. Marsh, that officer rose in his wrath and metaphorically kicked 'the Secretary-Editor of the C.T.C.' out of the witness-box and out of the court. He rebuked him scorchingly for having indulged in 'the lowest and vilest abuse of the worst form of journalism,' and said in effect that it would be an insult to the intelligence of the jurymen for him to attempt carrying his case further (he was nominally the plaintiff in a libel suit against this same Mr. Marsh), for no jury would think of giving him damages after such a confession.

"So far are those initials (C.T.C.) from being