

### To Correspondents.

We have written letters to persons in each club in Canada, which we could get the names of, asking for club news, and in quite a number of instances have received first-class contributions, but others have not replied in time for this issue. We would like to impress upon all Bicycle Clubs the necessity of appointing one of their members whom they think competent to act as our correspondent, and who will send us a spicy letter each month, giving us all the news relating to bicycling, and lots of personals, which will be read with interest by all wheelmen.

### The Toronto Races.

The prize list of the Toronto Bicycle Tournament which takes place on Monday, Sept. 17th, during the Industrial Exposition, is just to hand, and we are glad to see that there is lots of encouragement offered all wheelmen to participate. Prizes to the value of \$210 will be distributed, and we hope it may prove a grand success, a full account of which will appear in our next issue.

### An Invitation.

The Wanderer Bicycle Club of Toronto, with their usual enterprise have secured large and commodious club rooms at No. 75 Yonge St., and wheelmen visiting Toronto at any time will be sure to receive a hearty welcome by calling at the rooms.

Our thanks are due Mr. H. S. Tibbs, for sending us the records and official programme of the Montreal Bicycle Club races, which took place on Sept. 1st.

As the season for wheeling will soon be drawing to a close we hope that everybody will subscribe immediately, so that during the winter months, when seated at home, or in your Bicycle Club Rooms, you can peruse our numbers with interest, and keep well posted on everything regarding bicycling.

We throw out this hint for our American friends, also, a great many of whom have visited us in London, Toronto, Hamilton, and elsewhere, thereby creating a feeling of familiarity which bicycling invariably accomplishes, so do not forget us.

## BICYCLE REPAIRING.

Parties having broken machines, can have them Repaired and made equal to new, by leaving them at the old reliable

## GUN SHOP

W. A. BROCK,

375 Clarence St., London,

### News from the Clubs.

#### WOODSTOCK.

The Woodstock Bicycle Club is in point of years still a "chicken,"—having attained the age of five months only. It is fortunate in the possession of attributes beyond its years. Bicycling is by no means a novelty to the good people of Oxford's County-Town inasmuch as so far back as the year 1879 Mr. Jas. Hay, Jr., one of our prominent men, astonished both the natives and himself by the evolutions, voluntary and otherwise, which he found himself capable of performing on the giddy "wheel." His pioneer experience, moreover, was so satisfactory, that the next year saw Messrs. J. G. Hay, A. E. Hay and Fred. Scott, the proud possessors of like instruments of locomotion—and, for a while, *fortune*.

Practice and constant use in connection with their business soon made those men proficient in the art, and the next year, 1881, saw J. G. Hay, the first and present captain of the W.B.C., not only winner of many trophies on the track, but at the close of the season, holder of the magnificent gold medal—representation of the Championship of Canada—presented by the Montreal Athletic Association, and won by him at their tournament in that city. The pressure of business necessitated Mr. Hay's retirement from the arena, and nothing worthy of note marked the next year, save the addition of several other riders to the list in Woodstock.

The spring of the present year found about ten wheelmen here, and the call of the Association spurred these to action. On April 14th, thirteen gentlemen—only seven of whom were riders—met and formed the Woodstock Bicycle Club. Many of these, like the writer, attended simply to encourage the sport, and without the faintest idea of ever imperiling their precious lives in such a dangerous-looking amusement, but the result was a "boom" that went higher than Winnipeg's best. The following officers were elected: President, A. Pattulo; Vice-President, James Brydon; Secretary-Treasurer, S. G. McKay; Captain, J. G. Hay; 1st. Lieutenant, W. A. Eam; 2nd Lieutenant, W. G. Clarke; Bugler, J. L. Wilson; Committee, W. G. Eakins and Geo. Middleton. In a few weeks the infection was general, the membership nearly doubled and on July 1st the club roll showed a membership of thirty-five names. Some idea of the interest manifested may be gained from the fact that our enterprising dealer, Mr. J. Codville, has since last fall handled about forty machines, thirty-three of which he sold this year. The inhabitants of the West End had enough amusement furnished them during the early hours before breakfast, for a month or so, to last them a life-time. Sticking plaster went up with a rush and arnica became scarce in the market. But the boys stuck to it nobly, and on the occasion of the Annual Meet in London our Club—then the third in size in the Association—had seventeen men in the

parade, and one, Pilkie, won first in the two-mile race at the tournament. Our total membership is now thirty-six, and if there be any virtue in variety we are on the high road to success; for nearly every trade, profession and calling is represented in our ranks. A doctor, an editor and three lawyers are among the number, but the chances of roping in a parson are at present slim.

We are heavily handicapped by the state of the roads and the lack of a track suitable for training purposes. The road to Stratford, twenty-five miles, which is usually a very fine one, is for ordinary every day purposes practically useless to us, from the fact that several very long, steep hills bar easy access to it from town. The Brantford Road (thirty miles) is fair, improving as it nears that city; and the Ingersoll Gravel Road (ten level miles), which is the one most patronized by us, would be excellent, were it not that the proprietors have seen fit, in their wisdom, to bestrew it in many places with loose stones of all sizes and shapes, making it exceedingly unpleasant to ride over. The writer speaks feelingly on this subject. We have had numerous club runs during the summer—once a week at least—and several members have indulged in tours of greater or less extent. Messrs. W. A. Eam and Jas. Brydon lately made a circuit which included Stratford, Berlin, Galt, Paris and Brantford, and the Messrs. Williams are now on their return from a jaunt as far as Owen Sound. Much could be written about our individual experiences did, time and space permit. I could tell you how some of us tried the novel experiment of dissecting yellow dogs on the fly, but without success; and how hind wheels in this part of the country sustain their reputation for agility and aggressiveness; and just how much per week the Club-machinist makes out of us. I could tell you how, only the other day on a bad piece of road with ditches on every side, the writer and a fiery untamed steed scared each other so badly that it was a toss-up which came to first, but possibly—yea, probably—such information would not be news to your readers. Let me say in conclusion that we are well used in Woodstock by the people. We have five long sidewalks, and we use them moderately and quietly, without complaint on the part of any one, and it is our endeavor to give no cause for such. Next season we hope to attain greater strength and to establish ourselves in such a manner that the Bicycle Club will be one of the permanent institutions of the town. I will only add that we wish the CANADIAN WHEELMAN every success, and hope to see it the recognized organ of the Association. This is a result however only to be attained by the assistance of every member of the C.W.A., and it is the duty of every one who take any interest in the Association to subscribe and get his friends to do so as well. W. G. E.

A two-wheeled vehicle is a bicycle, and a three-wheeled a tricycle, but a one-wheeled is not an icicle. Oh, no! it's a wheelbarrow.