

# THE BICYCLE,

An independent paper, devoted to the interests of  
Bicycling and Bicyclers.

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Edited by . . . W. C. NICHOI.  
Business Manager, . . . J. H. EAGER.

## "We Salute You."

It has become one of the un-written laws of journalism that every new paper shall print a salutatory article, and that is why, though it needs no introduction, that THE BICYCLE is just now doffing its hat, and, with a cordial smile on its face, holding out its hand for a hearty grasp from all.

It is not at any time an easy matter to successfully start a paper. At the beginning there is always a feeling of doubt as to the reception that will be tendered the new-comer, unless it is felt that it will fill a vacant place and satisfy a universal want. It is with this feeling of comparatively assured success that THE BICYCLE comes out to-day to greet its readers in all the glory of new type, and cheered by the inspiring beams of the autumn sun that shine through the window as these lines are written.

The time has come when Canada needs a bicycle paper. Each day brings recruits to the bicycling ranks. All over Canada clubs are springing into existence, and for sometime past there has been a constantly growing feeling for a National Association and for a paper that will devote itself to telling the news of the bicycling world. Both voids are filled at once. We have now an Association of Canadian Wheelmen and an organ that will compare favorably with any bicycle paper published.

As a matter of course this number is necessarily incomplete. In the next issue we shall have a thorough system of Canadian correspondence and letters from the principal American cities, and if the support we should have is given us, the paper will soon be enlarged and changed from a monthly to a weekly. Canadian wheelmen should

feel it a duty to give us their hearty assistance. Let them remember this: THE BICYCLE'S future depends entirely on themselves. Give us your hearty co-operation and we will return it a hundred times over.

All that can be done to render this paper worthy of every bicyclist's support we shall endeavor to do. No pains will be spared to make each department as complete as possible. We propose to institute an "Answers to Correspondents" column, and shall be pleased to hear from any one in need of information. We are also anxious to establish a bureau of statistics, and to that end solicit correspondence from every district. If brains and energy can make a paper go, then we have no doubt that THE BICYCLE'S future career will be one long succession of brilliant triumphs.

## Bicycling in Canada.

Bicycling in Canada is now an established institution and not one of an ephemeral character; as such it must force itself upon the attention of the public, and the record of the success it has met with in the past augurs well for the future of this most healthy and exhilarating of all sports and exercises.

Five years ago the history of Canadian bicycling could have been written like the famous chapter on "Snakes in Iceland." "There are no snakes in Iceland," so "There are no bicycles in Canada." To-day there are upwards of twenty-five well organized clubs in existence (besides a score of unattached riders) with a constantly growing clientele and a constantly growing effort to attain perfection in riding on the part of members. To-day, too, we have a Canadian Association that brings bicycling devotees together and bands them in friendly and harmonious bonds. The growth has been a rapid but healthy one. Everything so far has been done on a sound, business-like basis. The house has not been built upon sand but upon rock, and being built upon rock it will last. It did not sweep over the land like the æsthetic craze did over England—here to-day and gone to-morrow—but came on surely growing daily, ever onward, ever upward. The natural outcome of this has been the healthy organization and condition of affairs that exist to-day.

Taken merely as a sport it must be allowed a high place. Practice it in the open air and it exercises all the muscles of the body and calls for a quick eye and a keen calculation of distance. It is essentially an effort of skill, and in the acquisition of this skill consists in a great degree the pleasure of riding. It is an exciting and exhilarating exercise without that severity that occasions fatigue, unless carried to excess. Indoors it stands unequalled as a means of developing the muscles and bringing all the parts of the body to a high state of perfection, and while the same cool, calculating eye is not required, as in the out-door exercise, a steady hand and head are needed to guide the machine in safety over its course. To those, therefore, who are of a nervous temperament it offers a means at once sure and simple of overcoming to a great extent, this impediment to an enjoyable life. The constant effort to steady the nerves will have a soothing effect upon them; any physician will tell you this.

Too much cannot be said in praise of bicycling. It stands pre-eminently over every known sport or exercise for strengthening and developing the human form. It aids the weak and assists the strong; it enables one to go from one town to another with comparative ease, and in a great measure takes the place of a horse and conveyance. You who are able to get a machine and have not done so yet, take the advice of one who through its means has grown strong and vigorous, and get one at your earliest opportunity.

## Bicycling Brevities.

THE cheapest BICYCLE yet manufactured. This one—\$2 a year.

J. S. PRINCE is to have charge of the new Beacon Park Bicycle Track.

Two new riders for Hamilton this week, Domville and Tinting. Both mounted on Club machines.

WE have heard it remarked that Westbrook, of Brantford, is an awfully fast young man—on his wheel.

A MEETING of the Hamilton Club will be held on Wednesday evening of this week. Full attendance of members requested.

R. F. STALL, one of Boston's fastest amateurs, broke his wrist recently, which will prevent him from riding for some time.