

Ottawa Letter.

Editor CYCLING:

Dear Sir,—It did look considerably like spring here a few weeks ago, but alas! that blooming western blizzard hove in sight last Thursday and "blizzed" for many hours—results, snow enough to last an able-bodied winter for two months.

Notwithstanding the unpromising weather the O. B. C. met on that same night and attended to the annual elections as follows:—Hon. President, Mr. Sheriff Sweetland; President, T. Arthur Beament; Vice-President, D. E. Johnson; Captain, D. F. Blyth; 1st Lieut., W. B. Parr; 2nd Lieut., A. Rosenthal; Secretary, Geo. Gallup; Treasurer, Chas. H. Thorburn; Bugler, Chas. Woodburn; Standard Bearer, Geo. Easdale; Correspondent, Dr. M. G. McElhinney; Executive Committee, S. McClenaghan, Geo. Mason, J. N. Brownlee, D. F. Blyth.

The elections were well contested and interesting while the reports of last year show a satisfactory condition of affairs upon which the club can congratulate itself. We have not quite decided whether to buy Toronto for a summer resort or lease the parliament buildings here for a club house. Some of our members think that Toronto would be the more respectable investment, but there would be more hoodle in the other spec. Personally I think that we had better order a few dozen cases of first quality spring weather and a few miles of asphalt pavement. The President says that spring weather and asphalt is a queer order—nobody in town knows how to mix it, and that he prefers—well, anything you like.

Another brilliant member while examining a pneumatic was seen to ponder something very deeply, so solemn did he become that someone asked him if he felt unwell. "No," he replied, "I have an idea." Of course we all stood open-mouthed for ideas are not to be lightly thrown aside in these parts. "What is it?" "Hold him, somebody!" "An idea," we breathlessly ejaculated. "Well," he continued in that slow and meditative manner characteristic of a man that has a hand all trumps, "the man that would fill the valuable space within that tire with air deserves to go thirsty for life, truly the fate of Tantalus were too mild a punishment." Since then the drug stores have sold little else besides small syringes with long nozzles. Anyone feeling constrained to use this idea is respectfully requested to send the writer \$5, which will be equally divided

among the writer, the inventor and the club funds, the extra two cents to be devoted to charity.

By the way, pneumatic is a pure picnic for poets, its range of rhyme is great and if the gods do not pluck me all too soon I intend to realize on the pleasures and possibilities of the word.

Yours fraternally,

DR. MARK G. McELHINNEY.

OTTAWA, March 19, 1892.

The rider who gets the maximum of enjoyment out of cycling, with the minimum of worry, is he who uses his machine for one season only, selling it and investing in a new one at the present time of year.—*Exchange*.

A new use has been found for the safety bicycle. On the Cam most of the coaching for the Lent Races, for which the boats of the various colleges are now in active training, is done from horseback; but recently several coaches have utilised their steel steeds to follow the boats. Probably a man who is a cyclist feels more at home on his machine, and better able to rate his crew, than as if he were on the back of a gay and festive horse, which might—well, there are a good many possibilities on and from a towing path!—*Bicycling News*.

Where is the wheelman who does not feel his heart beat in joyful anticipation of smooth, clean, asphaltum streets? The many readers of the *World* will therefore no doubt be interested to learn that in the territory of Utah, within a radius of 50 miles of Fort Duchesne, the richest and purest deposits of asphaltism in the world are found. The asphalt is found in true fissure veins from four to twenty feet in width and estimated to be 1000 feet deep. A big field is open for the company controlling the mines, and asphaltum pavements may be much cheapened in price in the near future.—*Bicycling World*.

BICYCLES!!

I have added to my stock of general sporting goods samples of the

HUMBER, PSYCHO, & ROVER

Bicycles, which I will be pleased to show and quote at close prices.

WM. McDOWALL

8 KING ST. EAST, - TORONTO.