

### Canadian Flyers—7.

E. J. P. SMITH.

Among wheelmen who have become prominent on road and path the writer knows of no one who has so rapidly come to the front as the subject of this article. Three months ago the name of E. J. P. Smith was comparatively unknown in the wheeling world outside the circle of his own club; to-day he is classed—and deservedly so—among the fastest of Canadian flyers. Standing 6 ft. 1 in. in his stockings, and when in condition weighing 160 lbs., Mr. Smith is one of the strongest riders in the country, as is eminently proved by his having pushed a 76 in. gear during the past season in all his principal races. He is 22 years of age, and was born at Grimsby. Early in the past season he joined the Toronto Bicycle Club, and having a nature full of fun under a quiet exterior soon became a favorite among his club mates.

We distinctly remember his first appearance at a club run of the Torontos, when, in conversation, he casually remarked that he liked fast riding. Two or three of the flyers winked at each other and smiled, as much as to say that he would get it. Before long the easy pace of the leaders developed into a scorch, which was maintained for a good six miles, but at the finish E. J. P. was there as fresh as any of them, and it soon became evident that he was a rider of no mean ability. As a consequence he was persuaded by the road officers to enter for the annual races of the club at the Rosedale grounds on the 10th August last. This was his first appearance before the public, and he was successful in securing two first prizes and a second.

His fast pedalling at the meet led to his being chosen by the Club Racing Board as a member of the team to compete against the Wanderers in the ten mile track race on the 26th of that month, when he fully demonstrated the wisdom of the choice by finishing third, and within a few yards of the first man. His position might, perhaps, have been improved had he not damaged his pneumatic in the last mile. As it was, however, he crossed the scratch just ahead of that little flyer, J. H. Nash.

Three days later—on the 29th August—at the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association grounds he won the two mile handicap, defeating both Palmer, of the Hamiltons, and Berlo, of the Manhattans, of New York, establishing a Canadian record of 5.39 for that distance.

He next appeared at Hamilton as one of the contestants in the famous Hamilton vs Toronto forty mile team road race, where he

finished third, leading such cracks as Skerrett and Robertson, of the Hamiltons, and Hyslop and McClelland, of the Torontos, and covering the distance in 2 hrs. 3 min. 53 sec.

At the Toronto Industrial Exhibition, mounted on a strange wheel—his own having been punctured on the road to the grounds—he was able to capture a second prize.

It was his intention to compete in London at the races of the Forest City Bicycle Club in October, but having sustained a very serious accident while training, he was prevented.

On the 3rd inst. Mr. Smith rode from Barrie to Toronto—sixty-five miles—in 4 hrs. 15 min., or at a rate of about 15½ miles per hour, which is pretty fast travelling over Canadian roads for such a distance.

He finished the season by taking part in the recent Relay Race, when he rode from Belleville to Napanee, a distance of twenty-five miles, late in the day and over a road which was in a comparatively unridable condition from rain, in 1 hr. 33 min.

Having so recently taken to racing, Mr. Smith has had no regular mount, but most of his riding has been done on a Raglan Light Roadster Safety. Next year he will have a first-class racing wheel specially built for himself, and we have not the slightest doubt but that he will finish the season with a long list of victories to his credit. A.

On Friday, Nov. 13th, Messrs. Smith and Nasmith, in the face of a strong head-wind out, and over roads heavy with mud, reduced the record from Kingston to Odessa and return, made by E. O. Sliter, of 1 hr. 34 min., to 1 hr. 27 min.

### Athletic Reception.

The Toronto Young Men's Christian Association have issued invitations to the various Athletic Associations of the city to a reception in the Association Building, Tuesday evening, Dec. 1, at 7.30 o'clock. There will be a splendid musical programme and a good orchestra, while not the least interesting part of the evening's entertainment will be a stereoptican exhibition of about 100 slides made by leading amateurs of the city from photos taken by themselves of sports and scenes familiar to all out-door enthusiasts. Through the columns of CYCLING a cordial invitation is hereby extended to wheelmen and their friends to visit our building that evening and thoroughly enjoy what is set before them for their benefit and amusement. Cards can be secured at club rooms and at Association Hall.

H. ENGLISH,  
Musical Director Y. M. C. A.