

Cycling

A MIRROR OF TORONTO BICYCLE CLUB EVENTS
AND DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
CYCLISTS IN GENERAL

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A Satisfactory Conclusion.

The hearts of all wheelmen were made glad when the welcome intelligence was conveyed by means of the city papers, last Thursday morning, that the iniquitous measure, known as the Davis Bill, but what might have been more properly called the York County Council fiasco, was withdrawn on the occasion of its second reading in the Legislature. It is satisfactory to know that Mr. Davis so readily perceived the mistake he had made in placing before the House such an absurdly constructed bill, a measure that was so out of harmony with every recognized idea of freedom. Why, if the York County Council had been successful through the medium of its representative in securing a place for this Act on the statute books of the country, our fair Canada would have been the laughing stock of the whole cycling world, and it would not have ended there, for the effects of such an act would have discouraged foreign wheelmen from visiting our shores, not to mention the decided set-back bicycling would have received in our midst, in consequence of any hoodlum having the power, were he seated in a conveyance drawn by a horse, to compel any cyclist or body of wheelmen to dismount at his pleasure. Looking at the question from another standpoint, can any one successfully establish the right of any individual or class to use the public highways exclusively, or to secure rights not common to all? Such an absurdity should be unknown in this generation. The cycle is, comparatively speaking, only in its infancy of usefulness, but it has become so popular, and is recognized as being one of the best instruments for perfectly healthy recreation, that there should be no question, even in the mind of the rural politician, that

the wheel and its rider have just as much right on the Queen's highway as the farmer with his load of produce. At the same time we may add that cyclists do not wish more than their rights, and we appeal to every wheelman who is a gentleman—and we believe there are few who cannot be so classed—to assist, to the best of his ability, in showing the public—even the rustics who populate the suburbs of the eastern villages, and who always desire both sides of the road—that we cyclists are not such bad fellows after all. We are pleased that there was no necessity for presenting the multitude of petitions obtained against the bill, and as for the Hon. Member for North York, not one of the members of the C.W.A. will bear him any ill will for his action in the matter. His little Bill gave us the opportunity of testing our strength, and we rest satisfied with the result, believing that Mr. Davis was simply the tool in the hands of some of his pre-historic antediluvian constituents.

The Days Are Passing.

What progress is being made with the arrangements for the erection of the Toronto Bicycle Club's new club house? This is a question that should be strongly pressed upon the committee at the next meeting of the Club. If no advancement is being made, what is the reason for the delay? Is it because the members of the committee are inactive or lethargic? We could hardly credit this excuse. Is the obstruction caused by the failure of some of the guarantors to affix their signature to the stock-book? We sincerely trust that this surmise is not the correct solution of the case, for if these good friends persist in their poor policy of waiting for others to take the initiative it will be many years before the Torontos are able to build their own home unless without the assistance of these quondam well-wishers.

If the members of the committee think, after the opportunity they have had for deliberation, that it is inadvisable at the present juncture to press the building scheme, then measures should at once be employed to secure a building that will serve as a suitable home for the Torontos until such time as circumstances permit the consummation of the original idea.

New athletic club houses are being built which offer various additional advantages to the cyclist; the bicycle clubs of Toronto cannot afford to risk the possibility of any of their members being attracted to other organizations, as a consequence of the poor accommodation provided for their mental and physical development at the home of their club.