

## Wheelman Centres.

### TORONTO.

The Toronto Club has had its annual meeting and elected its officers. I was badly left out even being appointed caretaker of the black-board and chalk. Modesty generally militates against a person's advancement, and genuine worth is frequently overlooked. I hope this will secure my unanimous election next year. The result of the balloting was as follows:

President, A. F. Webster; Vice-President, R. T. Blachford; Secretary, A. S. Bowers; Statistical Secretary, W. H. West; Treasurer, J. F. Lawson; Captain, W. H. Cox; 1st Lieut., F. J. Brimer; 2nd do., Grant Helliwell; 2rd do., W. Robins; Bugler, W. H. Brown; Committee, H. Ryrie, C. E. Lailey, G. Helliwell, A. J. Magurn; Surgeon, Dr. P. E. Doolittle. The club now enters on its sixth year, and having elected an active and efficient staff of officers, is quite certain to make the coming bicycle season surpass all previous years.

President Webster is an A1 good fellow, and the most popular wheelman in Toronto. He does the club honor. Mr. Webster, Harry Ryrie, the jeweller, and Mr. Chandler, have laid out a foreign wheeling tour. They leave for England in April, and propose using up between two and three months' time in wheeling through the old country, France and other municipalities over there. The trio meet once a month for practice in £'s-shillings-and-pence arithmetic. Ryrie says that it takes him about seven minutes by a Waterbury watch to translate £2 6s. 4½d. into such a shape that he knows how much it really means. Besides the arithmetic school, they have secured the services of a blawsted Henglishman "just out" (of gaol?), who is teaching them to speak English "as it should be spoke." Mr. Webster is having a bicycle suit made of checked cloth, with the squares measuring 3in. x 2in. I won't say any more about the affair, as my envy is developing to enormous proportions, but I hope they'll have a good time.

Talking about tours, why do not Messrs. Brierley and Donly propose a Canadian tour—that is, a band of Canadian riders to navigate the plains of New York State, for instance?

The recent thaw has started the boys a-thinking and a-talking about wheels.

Good-by till spring and fly-time.

PETE.

Toronto, Feb. 24, 1886.

### NEWMARKET.

You will have them all awake soon. We have very little news for you here at present, our club having been formed only last summer, but we expect to have about a dozen members in the spring.

The boys all intend to join the C.W.A. They think you have struck the right way of publishing THE WHEELMAN. It is just the thing for small clubs and country members, keeping them posted on bicycling news.

Of course, wheeling is all shut down at present, but cyclists, when visiting this locality, will find the following a very pleasant trip: Leaving Toronto by way of Yonge street (a good mac-lanized road), and passing through the villages of Thornhill and Richmond Hill, Bond's

Lake is reached, 20 miles distant from Toronto, a pretty little sheet of water, which looks very cool and inviting from the roadside, and where good bass fishing may be enjoyed in season. Proceeding north, we next pass through the village of Aurora, and three miles further reach the County Industrial Home, a large red brick building (on the west), which the tourist will readily recognize as a landmark. On turning here to the east, a distance of one mile further, the town of Newmarket is reached. Going north three miles, we reach the village of Sharon; here a building of peculiar construction strikes the eye, "The Temple," the topmost feature of which is a large golden ball, suspended between four spires, which, with another building, the "Meeting-house," belong to a religious society called the "Children of Peace," or "Danites." A visit to the interior of both will be found interesting. Continuing north over a fine gravel road to Roach's Point (15 miles), a noted camping and pleasure resort on Lake Simcoe, and where boating and other accommodation are also provided for tourists. The latter portion of the route is particularly picturesque, winding closely along the shore, and affording a cool ride. If pressed for time, the cyclist may take the ferry from Roach's Point to Belle Ewart, which connects with the Northern RR., and so return to Toronto. A description of a more extended trip around the Lake will be given, with your permission, in some future issue.

### A NEWMARKET ROVER.

Newmarket, Feb. 6, 1886.

### WOODSTOCK

Am sorry to see that the letters from correspondents are falling off again, as last month's issue only had one or two. However, there is nothing for it but to keep on, like Mrs. Caudle, "a-naggin' away," till the boys see the error of their ways.

Our new club-rooms are rapidly approaching completion, and we hope to be in them by the middle of next month. In my next I will give you a short description of them, as it may be of interest to other towns to know what has been done here, and can be done in any decent-sized place by a little determined effort; and the establishment of an association such as ours in any town is a step that will never be regretted.

Although there is little doing locally, the meeting of the C.W.A. Board is a matter in which we are all interested, and there seems to have been much for discussion before them this time. What has been done is of course not generally known yet, only what can be gathered from our own representatives, Mr. Karn and Mr. Hay. We certainly seem to have a progressive Board, judging from their actions respecting publishing a new guide-book, adopting an Association uniform, etc. Both of these are, I think, moves in the right direction.

Touring has been growing to such an extent, particularly during the past year, that a reliable book of information about roads, hotels, municipal rules regarding sidewalk riding, etc., will be a great boon to tourists. There seems to be a very vague idea of routes amongst riders, and this can only be helped by a full and complete "Guide," such as the last one issued certainly was not. If the present one is carefully compiled it should be good for many years to come

upon all the leading points. The adoption of a uniform is also, I think, a good move, and the price at which the one chosen can be purchased places it within any rider's reach. The effect of a C.W.A. parade with all the riders in the same uniform, each club distinguished by its cap and banner, will certainly be very fine.

The new definition of an amateur seems to be a most complete one, judging from its length as described by one of our representatives, who said it would "cover the side of a newspaper." Well, I do not think it can be too complete, for our aim should be, not to make racing and the prizes offered a regular picnic for a few who have special chances to train and can devote unlimited time to it, and who are virtually half-professional, but to try and guard it so that any member of the C.W.A. who is fond of exercise and will race for the love of it, and is in every sense an amateur, can have a good chance to win the honors connected with it. I believe that while it is very fine to have the records cut away down, that as it is hard for a pure amateur to do this, the loss is as great as the gain, looking at it in the light of keeping the sport popular. The more racers we have, all having a fair chance to win, the greater interest there will be in race meetings.

So Montreal is to have the meet this year. Well, while personally rather regretting it, as I fear I shall not be able to see it, I think they are fairly entitled to it, as the actions of the Montreal men have always been very fair-spirited in regard to it elsewhere; that is, there has been nothing of the "dog-in-the-manger" spirit about them, but they have always done their utmost to support it wherever it was held. I am glad also to hear that W. G. Ross will be on the track again this year, for, both as a racer and as a man, he is a "dandy."

While on the subject of race meetings, I might mention that everything looks very promising for our meet on May 24th. At the regular weekly meeting of the Association last night, one of our prominent members read a letter from a leading professional on the other side, in which he said that if a liberal purse was offered as an addition to a sweepstakes to be gotten up for a race to decide the much-discussed question of the professional championship of Canada, he could promise a large field of riders. He had also communicated with a number of the best amateurs, who signified their willingness to come here, so that everything points to our having the grandest day's sport ever seen in Canada. You may be sure our well known pushers here will leave no stone unturned to make it so.

The genial face of the well-known and popular Secretary of the C.W.A. brightened up the town from Saturday till Monday last, on his way home from the Board meeting. Hal. is always welcome here.

By the way, one of our leading ministers here had a whack at the Association in a sermon to young men on Sunday evening last. As, at the very outset of his remarks, he confessed that he knew nothing of the aim and object of its promoters, one of our leading men thinks that he would have done as well to say nothing.

Quite a ripple of excitement was caused here the other day by the alleged advent of another "flier" in our midst, or rather by the unexpected