SPORT FOR THE DOG DAYS

Movements of the Grand Army of Merry Wheelmen.

TWO GREAT CHAMPIONSHIP RACES

In the Field and on the Lake—The Upland Plover Season—In the Mountains and the Customary Weekly Grist of Sporting News.

HERE has been but little doing in local wheel circles since the state meet. Wheelmen seem to be saving themselves for the big national circuit meet which Omaha is to have October 15. The Associated Cycling clubs have already began arranging the preliminaries of the meet. They have also applied to the National Racing board for an additional day and as Council Bluffs has secured the 11th and 12th and Lincoln the 14th, Omaha will probably get the 16th in addition to the date it already has. Omaha people will then have a chance to see some high class racing. The prize list is to foot up $5,000, $1,000 of which will be cash hung up for professionals and the balance to be diamonds, wheels, etc. Among the professionals who will be here are Johnson, Sanger, Tyler and it is a possible thing that if Champion Zimmerman returns from his Australian trip by that time he will be here also. The amateurs who will be here are Bald, Zeigler, Cabbanne, Titus, Coulter, Gardner and all the eastern crackerjacks. It has not been fully decided upon which track the races will be run, but the old fair grounds seems to be the favorite, as this track, when in condition, is as good as any dirt track in the country and that fast time will be made there is not the least doubt, unless something unforeseen turns up which will prevent the track being in good condition. The state fair track is too far from the city and the other tracks nearer are not large enough, the largest outside of the old fair grounds being a one-half mile oval, and as the fast men will not ride on a track which is smaller than one-third mile the promoters will be compelled to use either the state fair track or the one at the old grounds. Among the men who are working on the meet are Chief Consul Ebersole, Messrs. Henderson, Daxon, Doyle, Taylor and others.

A local correspondent informed us in last Sunday's issue that the Iowa racing men were much better trained and a great deal faster than the Nebraska boys. Now for this gentleman's benefit we would like to compare the work of the racing men of these two states at their respective state meets on July 4 and 5. In the first race at the Iowa meet July 4, the one mile novice, the time was 2:36, while at our meet the novice mile was made in 2:33 1-5, or 2 4-5 seconds faster than the time of the Iowa men. Then in the half-mile open Iowa's time was 1:11 2-5 and Nebraska's 1:10 2-5, or a gain of one second. In the quarter-mile race Iowa's time was 33 2-5 and Nebraska's 33 1-5, or one-fifth of a second faster than Iowa. In the two-mile state championship Iowa's time was 5:49, while Nebraska's was 4:56 2-5, or 52 3-5 seconds faster than the Iowa time. Iowa's one mile open, class A, was ridden in 2:21 4-5 and Nebraska's in 2:22 1-5, or two-fifths of a second slower than Iowa. Then the second day Iowa's half-mile championship was ridden in 1:10 4-5 and Nebraska's 1:06 2-5, a gain of 4 2-5 seconds. Iowa's mile championship 2:48, Nebraska's 2:36 2-5, or 11 3-5 seconds faster than Iowa. Iowa's five-mile handicap (scratch man) 12:42, Nebraska's (scratch man) 12:37 2-5, or 5 2-5 seconds slower than Iowa. The Nebraska time was made on a quarter-mile track, with a strong wind blowing in the riders' faces at the finish each day, while the Iowa track was one-half mile, which is considered several seconds faster than a quarter-mile track. Several of Iowa's state records are held by Nebraska boys and Iowa never produced a man that could ride as fast as Nebraska's man, Barnett, but the correspondent referred to lives in Iowa, which explains why he says such things.

Fred E. Edwood, the promising young racing man of this city, while riding in the races at Plattsmouth last Thursday, received a very bad fall, the result of which was a broken collar bone. He will be unable to do any more racing for at least two weeks. This his friends regret very much, as he has been doing some fine work lately and much better was expected of him before the season closed. He won the one mile open race at Plattsmouth easily, defeating Holloway, Fredrickson, Carter, Patterson and others. He would undoubtedly have won the five-mile race had it not been for his bad fall.

Deman began training last week and is already showing splendid form. He will be on the Omaha Wheel club team.

In training last week Pixley rode a quarter mile, flying start, unpaced, in 28 2-5 seconds, being timed by Messrs. Cox and McCullough. This equals Barnett's exhibition quarter ridden at the Iowa state meet July 5.

Messrs. Vance and Finch of Kearney were in the city last week, having wheeled from Kearney here on a tandem.

O. O. Hayman of Grand Island, Nebraska's one mile state champion, arrived in this city last week. He will temain here a couple of weeks and train with the Omaha boys for the Lincoln meet, which is to be held early in August.

Eddie Bald has proven himself amateur champion of the world. Now what we would like to know is who is professional champion, Zimmerman or Johnson. There is very little possibility of these gentlemen having a race this year unless the eagle eyed Eck follows Zimmy to Australlia with his speedy protege and enters him against the "skeeter" in all the open races.

"Dute" Cabanne, the Adonis of the track, and a former Omaha boy, is the one rider who does not run away from the cyclist who has a chance to beat him. The St. Louis boy does not mind a beating, and if he wins today he is willing to give the defeated a chance at him tomorrow. He has won as many prizes this year as any two other riders. Cabanne is an all-round athlete. He has won a reputation as a sprinter, a boxer and a wrestler. He was born in 1870, and started to take part in athletics as a schoolboy, in 1886, winning in that summer the championship of the Mississippi valley one mile swimming match; this title he defended successfully until 1890. He began sprint running and hurdling in 1889, and won the Western association championship at 100 yards, 220 yards, and a high and low hurdles, having a record of 10 1-5 for 100 yards, :16 for 120 hurdle. About 1890 he commenced wrestling and boxing, and won the championship of Missouri for both until the winter of 1894. Also the state championship of Nebraska, and was second in state championship of Missouri at trap shooting at inanimate targets. He never owned a bicycle until August, 1893; he rode his first race in September, 1893, and made his debut as a class B man at Springfield, Mo., July 4, 1894, starting in seven races and winning all seven. He made his debut on the national circuit in Toledo July 26. Made seven world's records during the fall, which were afterward lowered by Johnson, with the exception of one—one-quarter mile, unpaced, which stands today as world's record.

Stray Leaves from Tourist's Note Book.

The club now has 192 names on the roll.

At the July meeting of the club the constitution and bylaws were amended as regards initiation fees. One dollar must accompany every application for membership hereafter and no deviation from the rule will be observed. Applicants must be 18 or more years of age. Any white wheelman of good character may join the club and reap the benefits derived from organized cycling at a very small cost. The Tourist Wheelmen pretend to nothing they cannot fulfill and as a cycling organization they have by dint of hard work climbed to the top of the local ladder, which position they hold with ease. The club headquarters are "in the saddle," thus combining the social and active part of cycle club life, on the road and in the open air. No thought has been given as yet to the cold, bleak days of winter, but no doubt some means may be readily found to keep up the pleasant acquaintances and friendships of summer days.

Messrs. Fredricksen, Conklin and Heninger resigned from the club at the last meeting and on the same evening sixty-two applications to active membership were accepted. Several ladies were elected to honorary membership. Mr. Heninger's resignation creates a vacancy in the membership committee which will be filled at the first meeting of the executive board.

The weekly evening runs of the club become more popular as the season advances. This is especially th case with the Tuesday evening runs. The Sunday runs are well attended and everybody enjoys the outing afforded by the country trips.

Miss Collie Hempel is now a full fledged member of the Tourist Century club, she having ridden the required 100 miles within the stipulated period of fourteen hours. Her application was accepted with several others at the meeting of the Century club last week. The annual run of this organization will be called for some day in September.

The run of last Sunday was changed from Springfield to Blair on account of the roads. Some thirty odd members made the trip and enjoyed the ride and dinner. The run was in charge of Lieutenants Randall and Harding. Several of the riders climbed to the top of "Old Poncho" on the way out by way of amusement. Messrs. Hartson and Bouk kept on after reaching Blair and rounded the fifty-mile post above Tekamah. They returned late in the evening.

The run today promises to be a splendid one. The Ganymedes of Council Bluffs and the Turners of Omaha will accompany the club to Bennington, where the day will be spent in the usual manner of wheelmen. A good dinner has been arranged for at "Mine Heer" Oft's hotel. A tug of war, a base ball game and other athletic sports will fill out the program. Among the events will be a hill climbing contest open to the club members only. This contest is the first of a series of five to decide the championship of the club. Next Sunday the Tourists and the Ganymedes will hold a joint run to Missouri Valley, the occasion being the fifth anniversary run of the clubs. At Loveland the party will be met by the Missouri Valley club and escorted by it into the city. A fine wheelman's dinners will be served at the Cheney hotel.

Lieutenant Melton is busy nursing several large bruises caused by a violent collision with two unattached cyclists one evening of last week. The parties who are responsible for the accident were riding on the wrong side of the street and at a much more rapid pace than is allowed by law. Melton was on the right side of the street when struck and was thrown to the pavement and severely bruised and skinned. His wheel was smashed beyond repair. It might have resulted worse, and Mr. Melton is glad he escaped alive. Some decisive step ought to be taken in regard to the continued practice of "scorching" along frequented streets and riding on the wrong side of the street. The Associated Cycling clubs should look into these matters and make an example of some of the cyclists who willfully break the laws.

C. E. Jenkins picked up a small dog with his front wheel on a recent club run. Consequently the gallant "Jinks" is placed hors du combat for the time being. His wheel was wrecked and his head cut open by the revolving pedal of a wheelman who was trailing him. The odor of witch hazel and arnica pervades the air while the gentleman is meandering. It was a stroke of good fortune that he was not more seriously injured.

Will Barnum is back from eastern Iowa, where he spent several weeks of an enjoyable vacation.

H. K. Smith is organizing a stock company to manufacture and market a cyclists' liniment. Wonder if he will send us all a sample bottle. Some of us need a good deal of liniment.

The country surrounding Omaha and Council Bluffs never presented a more beautiful appearance than this season. The little glades and vales on the Iowa side are veritable fairies' bowers, cool and shady, the springs which are numerous among the hills affording a refreshing drink to the thirsty wheelmen who make the trip along the base of the bluffs. On the Nebraska side along the bluffs the scenery is fine on account of the thick foliage. Out toward the west one sees an endless panorama of waving fields of ripening grain, but very little shade. A morning or evening spin is more enjoyable on account of the tremendous growth of everything green this season. One cannot help but exclaiming, "Who wouldn't be a wheelman?"

Cyclists who make a practice of riding over country roads will find that their way will be much more free of "road hogs" and that they will be received with more cordiality at wayside farm houses if they would mix in a little more politeness with their trip. A nod and a cheery "Good morning" to the driver of a team as you meet and pass costs nothing and creates an impression which is remembered. A short chat now and then with some farmer only takes a little time and may gain you a friend in later days. You will find that there will soon be a better and more friendly feeling toward the wheelman than now exists in the country districts. The surly, ungentlemanly, ungracious wheelman will find every obstacle thrown in his way to make his country trips a burden. Of course you have as much right on the road as any other vehicle, but a little of the "golden rule" dispensed along as you go will make your half of the road much smoother.

TWO GREAT CHAMPIONSHIP RACES.

A Cursory Glance Over the Field of the National and Western Clubs.

The Western association race is still a very close and exciting one and promises to be more so from this on, if the various teams are able to weather the season through. Peoria manages to cling to the lead, but just now she is holding on by the skin of her teeth, with Buckerino and his doughty Farmers but a single lost game behind. The Lincolns have been playing masterly ball and have a good chance now to once more jump into the van. During the recent long stay at home they fell off in an unaccountable way at the bat, and out of twenty-one games they lost ten. Four of their victories were achieved on four hits and three of them on six, in each instance their opponents having the best of it with the stick. This all goes to prove that Hiram Buckerino plays ball with his "noodle" as well as hands and feet. You cut Buck's head off and the team would sink like so much lead. The Willie Traffleys have at last euchered the Omahas out of third place an event that took place during the past week. Counting the two games at St. Joe the Hutchinson family lost five straight games during the past eight days, something that she has not done before during the season. For a time the team seemed to have lost all its strength, but Friday it braced up in great shape and downed the rehabilitated St. Joes in a masterly game and without an error. Of the other four teams, Quincy, Rockford, Jacksonville and St. Joe, there is but little chance of any of them bettering their position, except St. Joe. She will yet beat Jacksonville out and perhaps give Rockford a hard run for sixth place.

At no time in the history of the National league has the chase for the championship pennant been as close as it is this year. Never before has there been as many teams apparently so well matched and so closely bunched in the middle of the season. With the exception of St. Louis, Louisville and Washington, all the teams are right in the push. The first six teams for weeks past have been engaged in a game of leap frog, as from day to day their positions shift, now up, now down. Baltimore is once more in the lead, while Boston has tumbled way down to fifth place. She has met little else than defeat since her departure from Beanburg, but there are many of the faithful who confidently expect to see her take another brace shortly, and tear up to the top again. The winning career on their own "stamping" grounds took them out of fifth position to the top. They went away in the lead. At Philadelphia, Brooklyn and Pittsburg their series of defeats was surprising. When they went to Louisville the base ball public was shocked. They met with defeat from the crippled tailenders, and in one game they battled for sixteen innings to a draw. The Cincinnatis are again playing splendid ball, but has too many "has beens" yet within her ranks to make it likely that she can continue to hold a very high position. The Spiders, up in the Forest City, still continue to demonstrate that they are a great aggregation of ball players. No one would think so, however, until they see them upon the field. Today they are in second place, but it is not probable that they will get much higher, for Baltimore, by steady playing, her wonderful batting ability, and effectiveness in the box, should manage to hold on to the top for sometime to come, if not to the end. The Pittsburgs have again been dumped into third place. They are very strong, but very erratic, and there seems to be a screw loose somewhere. All over the country the "cranks" are wagering anything and everything that Captain Anson will have his men near the top in early September. Until the past few weeks the team was underrated. In the National league today it is difficult to find an infield that will compare with Anson's selection. Everett, Dahlen, Stewart and Anson are men who compare favorably with other National league infielders. They are all near the six foot limit, good fielders, telling batsmen and altogether make as good an infield as Chicago has had for years. It may be safely said that the work of these men has pulled the team out of many a hole.

The Phillies are and always will be an uncertain and unreliable quantity until they can reinforce their slab talent. Their double victory at Pittsburg Friday gave them a little push upward and they will likely be a trifle fresh for several days to come. The electric fluid which was injected into the Brooklyns before they left home seems to have about all escaped again; still she is in seventh place and only sixty-six points away from the leaders. Three or four more games are apt to work surprises. The New Yorks, remarkable to relate, have made the best showing thus far on the western trip of any of the eastern teams and is yet in the hunt good and hard, but there is little hope that she will get higher than the first division, if she gets there. It would seem strange to glance down the list and not locate Washington, Louisville and St. Louis at the bottom of the lot. Season after season these teams, after a few weeks out, become fixtures near the tail end and there must be radical change in both players and management before much improvement can be expected.

Yelps from the Bleachers.

The Rockford Register-Gazette says that Carruthers is the only man in the Jacksonville team who can't play ball, and that he should quit trying and manage his team from the bench. That is a pretty hard slap, when it is remembered that such spavined old skates as Devinny, Katz and Van Dyke are on the Jax roll. When here Carruthers played more ball than all the rest of the team combined.

Rockford has signed Corbett, who has been warming the bench for Peoria during a part of the season, and who before that was managing and playing center for the Clinton team. Corbett had a batting average of .380 with the Clintons and a fielding average of 1.000. He was not played by Dugdale because all the Peoria men are doing good work. He will play right field for Rockford.

Sonier, the crack pitcher of the Jacksonvilles, chews a piece of tobacco that makes his cheek look like a wart on an apple tree. When a base hit is made off him he spits, when a two-bagger is made he shifts the quid to the other cheek, and when a three-bagger or a home run is knocked, he swallows the whole thing and takes another plug into his face. It might be noted here that he seldom changes plugs.—Rockford Register-Gazette.

Mattie McVicker is the papa of a bran new boy. Next season Papa will be in the National league. He is a ball player.

A Rockford paper says Underwood will be released to make room for another twirler, but a Rockford paper is probably dreaming.

Put Le Rett, says the Rockford Republican, in the Peoria or Lincoln or any winning team and he would make the best shortstop in the association, but with a losing team he is uncertain. He makes some phenomenal plays, and again some phenomenal errors, yet is as good as any man on the team today.

John Kling has received well-earned praise both in Rockford and in other association towns, yet a baseball writer thinks he is too slow for the team. If there is any slower team or any slower league, where is it?—Rockford Republican.

Archie Cole was missing from the ranks of the Buckerinos on their last trip here. He has been let out. His health was poor and the Lincoln management could not afford to carry him. Little Willie O'Brien was a tower of strength on first and added much to the Lincoln's stick work. Sullivan was in right field and "Snap" Kennedy in center.

Colonel Brown says Carruthers is always afraid the ball is ripped. When Bobby is buried—which will be before long—he will rouse up and look to see if the cloth in his coffin has been cut.

Manager Brackett, says the Quincy Herald, is very indignant at the treatment received at Rockford from the home umpire, George Wilson. Brackett says he robs the visiting clubs in the most barefaced manner in nearly all of his decisions. He gave nine bases off McGreevey, when they should have been strikes. Wilson can't tell a ball from an ice wagon, and if he is retained all the other clubs will ask to be relieved from going to Rockford at all. Fact is, the only way Rockford could win was by begging Kent to give then a home umpire. They have had three local umpires, while other cities have none.

The Saints have no room to kick about dirty ball playing. Gus Alberts played a dirty trick in the last game with Des Moines yesterday afternoon which even the "rooters" in the grand stand disapproved of. It was his turn at bat, and McFarland got a ball that he couldn't hold. It rolled a few feet away from him, and a runner, who was on third base, started for the home plate. When Alberts saw that the base runner would be caught at the plate, he deliberately jumped in front of the ball and allowed it to hit him as the base runner scored. Umpire Burns didn't see the play and the base runner was permitted to score on a passed ball.—St. Joe News.

It is rumored that a wild man was captured recently in Minnesota, and in Rockford they think it must be freshy Howe, lately with St. Joe.

Quincy's new pitcher is Damon, from the Western league.

Jack Crooks, Washington's great second baseman, and an old Omaha favorite, gets this nice send off in the Sporting News: Jack is in great shape now that the hand which Hugh Jennings spiked has healed, and never looked better in his life. Crooks should never have been allowed to play last season in a minor league, for his work this year has demonstrated that he can live the pace in any company. Jack takes excellent care of himself, and is always ready to get into a game. He is sure that the Senators will be nearer the top than they are when the season closes. Joyce and Hassamaer are hitting and fielding well, and, according to Jack, the Senators have no kick coming, barring the hard luck which attends them. "The least misplay seems fatal to us," said he. "Boyd is another Breitenstein, and Maul is, in my judgment, pitching the best ball of any twirler in the country. Manager Schmelz is not with us, as he is engaged in arranging matters for the next tour of the 'Texas Steer,' which the Wagners have bought from Charlie Hoyt. No, it is not true that we players will take star parts."

The Lincolns did not display any especial weakness at the bat during their late visit here. Omaha was knocked out in three straight.

It is an off day with Omaha's outfield when they do not make from two to four errors.

There has been considerable discussion of the subject of the relative strength of the Western association and Western league in the article of ball in each. A championship series between the winners of the two pennants would be very interesting.—Rockford Star. Well, the Western association might possibly cop out one game in a hundred.

Hugh Nicol has been in Chicago and Cincinnati looking up talent for 1896. There's no danger of Little Nick's getting left another year. He's a wise guy.

Asa Stewart's playing at second for Chicago has fallen off greatly in the past two weeks. The resurrection of "Jiggs" Parrott is being agitated again.

Kansas City was after Colburn, St. Joe's new pitcher, but Manager Alberts got there first.

Joe Cantillon, captain and manager of the Dubuques, has asked and obtained a leave of absence and will umpire in the Western league. First Baseman Morrissey becomes manager.

Boland of the Quincys was accidentally kicked in the mouth by Haller of the Peorias the other day. When a ball player's mouth is disabled nowadays he is as bad off as a tongueless pugilist.—Register-Gazette.

Purvis is not popular in the Des Moines team. He growls too much if a bad play is made and seems to think that the pitcher should throw strike-out balls.

Quincy has defeated the Peorias five out of nine games; six of them were played on the Peoria grounds. Thomas, their crackerjack twirler, lost three and captured one.

Little Hollingsworth of the Buckerinos is the star shortstop of the Western association, and Buckerino the kingpin of captains.

Farmer Visner has a batting average of .348 and is second on Rockford's list, "Whoa Bill" Kreig leading with .405.

There is some talk of moving the Terre Haute club back to Toledo. The Hoosiers have not taken kindly to the losing club.

In Boston they think that Pitcher Dolan is a more valuable man than Breitenstein. Does Boston want to sell Dolan?

Eddie Burke has not been called for by the New Yorks' management. Perhaps Captain Hutch can land him for Omaha.

Jimmy Ryan of Chicago is so tired that he can hardly drag one leg after the other when he is running bases or chasing flies. Anson has purchased for him a pair of crutches, which he will get around on while watching Decker out in right field.

When Billy Merritt tires of playing behind the bat he can easily secure an engagement as an infielder.—Pittsburg Exchange. (If he does it will be in a minor league.)

"A move is said to be on foot for the transfer of Pfeffer to New York." It should be placed on horseback, for it has been "on foot" so long that its shoes are worn out.

Billy Hart's arm is troubling him and he will be given a rest. Hawley, Jordan, Gardner and Foreman will do the twirling for the Pirates.

Terre Haute and Grand Rapids are fighting for tail-end honors in the Western league.

"Yale" Murphy is filling Eddie Burke's shoes poorly in left field for New York.

Tommy Tucker's batting has deteriorated and he has been advised to bat right-handed.

Willie McGill has joined the Phillies and will take his regular turn in the box henceforth.

C. A. Tebeau, the Clevelands' new infielder, has reported.

In Cleveland they think that Tank O'Day will never do for an umpire.

Johnny Ward thinks that he could land the Giants in second place.

Boston wants Catcher McFarland of Indianapolis.

Boston needs a good throwing catcher. Neither Ganzel nor Tenny are sure on locating second base.

Joe Kelley and Mike Griffin have been fined more than any players in the league. Kelley leads.

The old Western league pitcher, Harry Fournier, is now playing in Scranton, Pa.

Downed the Rainmakers.

VIRGINIA, Neb., July 20.—(Special to The Bee.)—The Virginias of this city met the Rainmakers of Beatrice in a very close and exciting game, the Virginias winning by a score of 12 to 8. The Virginias put up a fine article of the game.

Questions and Answers.

SOUTH OMAHA, July 17.—To the Sporting Editor of The Bee: A and B engage in a game of croquet; A roquets B's ball, taking two strokes thereon and fails to make a point; B plays and also misses; A claims privilege as his stroke to again play upon B's ball; B claims his is a dead ball, as A can roquet only once before making a point. Under rules, 1895, which is correct?—Free Ree Gee.

Ans.—B.

CHADRON, Neb., July 16.—To the Sporting Editor of The Bee: Please answer the following questions in next Sunday's Bee: (1) What would you call a professional foot racer? (2) What are the fifty, sixty and seventy-five-yard records, and who holds them?—D. E. O'Connell.

Ans.—(1) One who runs for money. (2) Fifty yards, 5½ seconds, L. E. Meyers, New York City; seventy-five yards, 7¼ seconds, Jim Quirk, Canada.

GRETNA, Neb., July 16.—To the Sporting Editor of The Bee: Please inform us in next Sunday's Bee whether the pitcher gets credit for a "strike out" if the third strike thrown by him is not caught by catcher?—Scorer.

Ans.—Yes.

SOUTH AUBURN, Neb., July 17.—To the Sporting Editor of The Bee: To decide a small bet and a large dispute please once more state in your Sunday edition if the law making dogs personal property passed and when it went into effect. Can the license tax still be collected? After paying license, can one be forced to keep dog muzzled?—South Auburn.

Ans.—(1) By the last legislature. (2) Three calendar months after the bill is signed. (3) Yes. (4) Yes.

WEST SIDE, Ia., July 17.—To the Sporting Editor of The Bee: Will you please answer in next Sunday's Bee: Supposing there is a man at the bat and no men on bases, the pitcher makes a balk, does the batter get his base?—S. B. McTarrey.

Ans.—Yes.

FREMONT, Neb., July 12.—To the Sporting Editor of The Bee: Can you inform me who is game warden, and who to report persons killing prairie chicken before September 1, as already the slaughter has begun? Answer in Sunday's Bee and oblige.—A Subscriber.

Ans.—Nebraska has no game warden. To any authority having jurisdiction.

FORT NIOBRARA, Neb., July 19.—To the Sporting Editor of The Bee: Will you kindly inform me through the pages of your valuable paper as to who designed the new yacht "Defender," and if the designer of same is blind?—Co. G.

Ans.—(1) Watson designer, the Herreshoffs builders. (2) Do not know.

H. T. and B. W.—You will find good upland plover shooting on the big hay fields and meadows north of Blair.

ELK CREEK, July 4.—To the Sporting Editor of The Bee: I am a subscriber of The Weekly Omaha Bee, and I want you to answer this question: A and B are playing cribbage, A is dealing and has three holes to make to be out, and makes fifteen-two in playing the last card. Now, will he peg two or three holes in playing that last card and fifteen-two? B has eight holes to peg to win, and he has enough in his hand to go out. Who wins the game? Please answer in the next Weekly Bee.—P. Morin.

Ans.—(1) Two holes. (2) B.

The above question was inadvertently answered last Sunday. If it was fifteen-two made with the last card of course A counts three, and won the game. In hurriedly glancing at the question last week, thirty-one was in the sporting editor's eye, instead of fifteen-two. Hence the blunder.

PLAINVIEW, Neb., July 19.—To the Sporting Editor of The Bee: If a batsman hits a pitched ball which strikes fair ground, and, bounding, hits him, is the batsman out?—Crank.

Ans.—Yes.

DAVID CITY, Neb, July 18.—To the Sporting Editor of The Bee: Please answer the following questions in next Sunday's Bee relative to base ball: First man at bat, and first ball delivered. Batsman attempts to bunt ball and fowls same twenty feet in air, which lands ninety feet back and thirty-five feet to the left of home plate. Is this a strike?—A. M. Bell.

Ans.—Yes.

MT. ST. MARY'S, July 16.—To the Sporting Editor of The Bee: Dear Sir—Was Jake Kilrain ever champion of the world? If so, when and how won? When and how lost? Enclosed find stamp. Please answer as soon as possible and oblige.—Edgar A. Moore.

Ans.—(1). No. He claimed the championship of America by forfeiture from Sullivan in 1888, but the claim was never recognized. July 8, 1889 Kilrain and Sullivan fought for this honor at Richburg, Miss., and Sullivan won in seventy-five rounds.

Harmony lodge No. 31, Independent Order of Odd Fellows of David City held installation ceremonies recently under the direction of G. W. McKnight, D. D. G. M. The following are the officers: N. G., F. W. Sleeper; V. G., George Wright, R. S. N. G., E. E. Stevens; L. S. N. G., F. C. Scott; W., T. S. Steffy; C., C. L. Humphrey; R. O. S., F. J. Ayres; L. S. S., F. C. Martin; O. G., R. S. Heintzman; I. G., C. G. Smith.

Just received, a few more of the much talked of "Columbus Special bicycles; price $60.00. Come early and avoid the rush. Columbus Buggy Co., 1608-10 Harney St.

The Roman Catholic cathedral of Westminster, the corner stone of which was laid by Cardinal Vaughn recently, will be a massive building. The style is Byzantine. It will be 350 feet long, 156 feet wide and 90 feet high. The nave will be 240 feet in length, with 60 feet of clear width, and there will be transepts, aisles and side chapels. In the apse, the floor of which will be raised some feet above the level of the nave, will be the monk's choir, as in Sant' Ambrogio of Milan, visible from the main entrance. The style of Sant' Ambrogio will be followed in most other respects, but in combination with certain details suggested by San Marco of Venice and San Vitale of Ravenna. The cost of the building is estimated at $750,000, and all energies are to be directed to completing the structural work within the next two years.

THE WHIRR OF THE WHEELS

Some Interesting Remarks on a Smooth Exhilerating Subject.

THE BICYCLE FACE AN ACTUALITY

Speculations About Next Year's Prices—The Asbury Meet and the Part Women Played in It—Effect of the Wheel in California.

Several of the Omaha dealers in bicycles scout the idea of a radical reduction in the prices of high grade wheels next year. They assert that the manufacturers have an amicable understanding regarding prices, and that while the demand exceeds the supply a reduction would be a business absurdity. The only basis for the expressed belief is the assurances given by manufacturers' agents to Omaha dealers that the manufacturers have agreed to maintain present prices next year.

No doubt the manufacturers as well as the dealers desire a continuance of high and stable prices. But the conditions they rely on to support their beliefs and hopes are decidedly insecure. It has been demonstrated time and again that the greater the demand for any article the larger the number of factories. The bicycle is now regarded as a fixture in popular favor, and its use is destined to increase enormously. Shrewd manufacturers appreciate this fact and will not hesitate to take advantage of it. Chief among these are makers of wagons and carriages. The bicycle has cut into their business seriously, and it is reasonably certain that many of them will presently enter the field of bicycle manufacture. This will bring about a large output of low priced machines. A decreased demand for the high priced machine will follow, making a reduction of the present century price inevitable.

There is another circumstance pointing in the direction of reduced prices. Heretofore the manufacturers of high grade wheels have supported teams of expert riders at a cost ranging from $1,000 to $1,500 a week. The manufacturers are weary of that expense, and some have abolished it. The return does not compare with the outlay. In other ways there will probably be a paring down and the buyers of wheels will get the benefit. Another way in which the manufacturers are "bled" is through the race meetings given by the various clubs. The makers are expected to put up wheels as prizes and they do it.

"I believe the price of bicycles will be materially cut next season," says a Chicago manufacturer who supplies parts of wheels to forty or fifty bicycle factories. "I know that thirty new firms will engage in the manufacture of wheels next year. People who have big buildings and machinery that are not doing well in other lines of manufacture are converting their plants into bicycle factories. Only the other day I had a letter from a man down in a small Illinois town. 'I have a malt house,' he wrote. 'I want to turn it into a bicycle factory. What will it cost?' Next day he came to see me. I told him where he could find a competent superintendent, where he could get machinery and what he would need. He is already working over that malt house into a bicycle factory and has contracts made to turn out several thousand wheels next year. Over here on the west side is a little machinist who came to me only the other day and said he had made his first bicycle. A few days later he told me he had put in more machinery and made a contract to turn out twelve wheels a day for a firm down town. Twelve wheels every day for six months are about 2,000 wheels. That is a good many to come out of one little machine shop that makes no pretensions to being a bicycle factory. Those two cases go to show the amount of competition the old established manufacturers will have to meet. With all these new factories in the business there is some slight danger of overproduction, which, of course, would be disastrous to manufacturers' high prices. The number of people who want to ride bicycles is increasing every day, but to many of the converts the present price is prohibitive. Even now not half the people who buy wheels pay the full price. They work some influence or other to get a reduction below the regular retail cost. In my opinion there will have to be a cut next season. The makers of the best known, highest grade wheels may start in at $100, but they will be forced down by the other fellows, who will make good machines and sell them low to get them into favor."

THE BICYCLE FACE.

Pictorial representations of the so-called "bicycle face," which is said to be common down east, have appeared in print. The faces appear overdrawn, or if real, the originals must have had a terrible case of abdominal cramps. A physician is the reported discoverer of the bicycle face, but it is not known whether the face was taken before or after treatment. He discovered it first on other people, then on himself, and finally came to the conclusion that everybody who goes forth on two wheels acquires the expression to which the new term is applied. This expression may be divided into three parts:

A wide and wildly expectant expression of the eyes.

Strained lines about the mouth.

A general focussing of all the features toward the center.

While the alleged bicycle face is laughed to scorn in Omaha wheel circles, striking proof of its existence developed during the past week. Out on North Twentieth street might be seen groups of idle wheelmen wearing the "wildly expectant expression of the eyes," and at the same time straining their limbs in an effort to catch the small boy who planted sharp-pointed nails between the bricks. The "strained lines about the mouth" was due to the hot expletives bravely held in check. There is a stretch of unpaved road at Seventeenth and Jackson and another at Lake and Twentith streets. Both are bicycle paths. Probably no other stretches of street in the city are as decorated with tin cans, broken bottles, wire and other things that delight the wheeler. They are dumps for such refuse. At these points on any fine evening may be seen "a general focussing (and much cussing) of all the features toward the center." Unless adequate remedies are applied to the malady, there is danger of the bicycle face becoming chronic in this section.

WOMEN AT THE ASBURY MEET.

One of the most striking features of the wheelmen's meet at Asbury Park, says the New York Sun, was the presence of women bicyclers in so great numbers. It is one among many indications of a growing passion for outdoor sports among American women. It also shows that they are getting over prejudices which formerly controlled them.

A generation ago a woman on a bicycle and wearing a costume suited to the exercise would have been hooted wherever she appeared. She would have been treated as outside the scale of respectability. Now the annual wheelmen's meet is attended by multitudes of women riders, organized in clubs of their own or as members of clubs in association with men, and not less enthusiastic in the sport. Those of them who have wheeled their way to Asbury Park have arrived in fine shape after their long runs, and, instead of feeling embarrassed by observation, they are proud of their expertness with the machine. Generally they seem to have borne the strain fully as well as their masculine companions. Out of 283 starters in the century run of the New Jersey wheelmen to Asbury Park, sixty fell out by the way, only one of whom was a woman. A Brooklyn club composed of women only was on hand with eighty members. Twenty women reached the place of assembly on Monday, after having wheeled their way from Philadelphia entirely without the escort or assistance of man. In the club which came on the same day by rail from Denver were fourteen women out of a total of seventy-eight, and these Rocky Mountain girls are as zealous in the sport as the men. In the century run of the Mercury Wheel club of Flushing, Miss Camp was in first at the finish, after having ridden altogether 112 miles. The hotel promenades, the board walk by the ocean and the streets at Asbury Park were crowded with women, mostly in special bicycle costumes, and they were among those who watched the contests of the racing course most eagerly. They knew how to manage a bicycle and they knew how to take care of themselves. They felt the confidence that as wheelers they were entirely within the bounds of propriety which established fashion generates in the feminine breast. Two women of the society of fashion lately competed in a ten mile bicycle run at Newport, and that society, both here and abroad, has set the stamp of its approval on the sport for women.

Fashion also justifies the use of a costume appropriate for the exercise, for, tyrant though it may be, it is not disregardful of congruity, as has been shown in the case of the bathing dress, for example. That dress, with a slight modification, becomes suitable for the bicycle, and since now it is a conventional habit generally recognized as adapted to its use, it no longer provokes hostile criticism from sensible people. Obviously if women are going to ride the bicycle they must wear a costume suited to the exercise. Their ordinary dress, with its long and entangling drapery, is manifestly unsuitable, and, moreover, it is ungraceful. Consequently fashion must adapt itself to the new requirements, and, being fashion, its decrees as to propriety will be of universal acceptance. A woman astride of a bicycle is inappropriately dressed unless she modifies her costume in accordance with the necessities of the new method of locomotion which has been adopted by her. Hence we commend the good sense which has induced the great majority of feminine bicycle riders at the wheelmen's meet to wear a garb that allows them the freedom of movement and the play of muscle requisite for the sport.

These special costumes vary in grace and beauty, but they are all modest, and can be worn without the slightest offense to propriety. Some of them as worn by graceful girls are very pretty. The one which attracts particular attention at Asbury Park is that of a colored bicycler, Miss Kittie I. Knox. It is the dress for which she won a prize at Waltham, in Massachusetts, for the most appropriate costume. The shortening of the petticoats is, of course, general, for really it is necessary.

The disfavor with which many people, both men and women, look upon the stimulation of this feminine passion for wheeling is not at all surprising. The practice is undoubtedly revolutionizing habits to which women have been tied, and it runs counter to immemorial prejudices as to the sphere within which feminine activities should be confined. It is giving them self-reliance and overcoming the timidity which used to be considered so appropriate to them as beings who needed the shelter of seclusion and the protection of manly courage. It is making them the comrades of men in sports and employments from which before they had turned as unfeminine. It is accustoming them to publicity. It is inciting in them the ambition for muscular development. But, after all, are such results deplorable? Will not the race gain by reason of them? As to the attractiveness of women continuing, and even increasing, no one need doubt.

As a consequence of this meet at Asbury Park, we dare prophesy, concludes the Sun, a large part of the bicycle girls will be wearing engagement rings when they wheel away on their return journeys. Because their muscles are stronger their hearts are not less tender, nor are their fascinations weaker.

THE WHEELWOMAN.

Women succumbed late, but they have gone under fast and far now that they have acknowledged the sway of the wheel. The woman who does not ride is getting rarer every day, says the New York Times; the woman who has not thought of riding is really a remarkable person.

Women's bicycling received its real impetus when the smart set took it up. Once the seal of fashion was set upon the sport, the pace of its success was designated. The limit of that success is still unsettled. Conservatism in general has entered its protest in print and by word of mouth, and continues to do so, but individual conservatism has daily yielded to the infectious influences all about, and the ranks of the new riders every week are recruited from the most modest and feminine, the least aggressive and most womanly of women.

There is no earthly reason why they should not be. If the exercise can be brought into disrepute it will be by its monopoly by the other sort of women. It is those of the sex who adorn and dignify every act they perform who are needed in this and every other pastime, exercise or occupation.

That women can ride the wheel acceptably in every sense of the word is demonstrated every hour of every day.

In the matter of costume, the leaven of taste and modesty is as valuable among wheelwomen as among women who do not wheel. So long as it is the custom of society that women shall wear skirts she should keep to them on the wheel. Numerous skirt costumes have been designed that are safe and convenient, and the plea that either quality is increased by bloomers is not tenable. If in future decades dress for women shall be revolutionized and the skirts of today be done away with, as have the farthingales and coifs of former generations, there will then be no public sentiment or conventionalism to be outraged and displeased, and the bloomer question may take on a different phase. The present, and it is to be hoped the future, woman for many a long day should keep to her skirts.

Nor should the matter of age affect woman's riding. If she is inclined to the exercise, and has the strength for it, the bible limitation of three score and ten need not prevent her taking to it. The older woman, however, who mounts the wheel needs to be especially careful in her dress. What is piquant and effective at