

IN THE WHEELING WORLD.

The political pot of the League of American Wheelmen is now boiling at a lively rate. Wire-pulling for the spoils at the national assembly, which meets in Philadelphia in February, engrosses the attention of the "ins" and the "outs." The "outs," as usual, are divided into two camps, the solid, harmonious and unimpaired by the unfruitful office. The present officers are candidates for re-election. President Keenan has little opposition at the present moment. Hams and Dornier are still mentioned, but their supporters show little of the aggressive enthusiasm which has been shown in the category of dangerous competitors. What the league will do with the racing question is still a problem. The latest proposition is for the league to let the professionals go, but hold on to the amateurs. It is a hard matter to see how this can be done successfully, and the National Cycling association thinks it will put up a fight against such action.

Secretary Bassett estimates there will be 200 votes actually represented at the national assembly. According to this it will take 131 votes or thereabouts to carry a constitutional amendment and sixty-eight votes will be sufficient to defeat any similar proposition. Race control is a constitutional provision. "The suggestion of a cycling journal that the racing squabble should be settled by giving the League of American Wheelmen control of amateur racing and releasing professional contests to the National Cycling association would, if adopted, merely change matters up," says the Chicago Triangle. "The idea to be kept in view ought to be that the League of American Wheelmen ought to get out of the race business altogether. Racing has all but killed the league, it has fastened upon the organization a cluster of racing board leeches who have almost sucked the life blood from it. The good road's propaganda, legislation in wheelmen's interests, and road rights of cyclists—these and similar objects have been neglected in favor of 'sanctions,' 'suspensions,' 'debarments' and the other accretions of the League of American Wheelmen never will amount to a bill of beans so long as it assumes to control racing of any kind. History proves the assertion."

Tom Cooper, the young man who has kept Detroit on the map of the cycling world, expects to achieve greater success and fame the coming year. His ambition to win the championship of America has been realized, and he now aspires to the proud position of champion of the world, and intends to make a trip to Europe for the purpose of making an effort to accomplish that feat. Cooper has been awarded the one-mile and two-mile championship medals by the National Cycling association. While some racing men are red-hot with more points, through riding in a greater number of events, Cooper is the acknowledged champion, as he rode only in the important races and easily led all rivals in points won in championship races. His cash winnings for the last season, in pursuance of the terms of the contract, amount to nearly \$3,000, and as this amount was added to the money he had in the wheel he proved to be a very profitable season. Cooper has invested his earnings well and if he never rides another race there is no danger of the wolf appearing at his door.

In clearing up the business of the League of American Wheelmen it is found that one of the most important parts of the organization costs the organization quite a sum annually. This is the privilege of allowing League of American Wheelmen riders to cross the Canadian border without the payment of duty on their wheels, the only requirement being that such tourists must deposit their League of American Wheelmen membership cards with the customs officials and call for them on returning. Under the agreement between the league and the Canadian customs service the League of American Wheelmen assumes responsibility for the payment of duty on all wheels which it is shown were not returned. During the current year there have been twenty-seven League of American Wheelmen members who have failed to reclaim their cards, and the League of American Wheelmen has therefore been called upon to pay \$256.50, the total amount of duty on the twenty-seven wheels. These figures, besides being a reproach to negligent members, are interesting also because of indicating what a large number of members are in possession of this privilege, the twenty-seven being, of course, only a percentage of the total number.

The pleasure of "sailing home before the wind" on the bicycle seems to have forcibly impressed Randolph Sorenson of Oro, Kan., and proposed to make it something more than a figure of speech by attaching a sail to the rear of the cycle. As shown by the drawings in his patent papers, he does this rather cleverly and keeps the sail and the ground to which the derrick is attached heavily weighted. One stay extended horizontally rearward from just beneath the saddle and another pointing diagonally downward from the rear axle support a mast, the lower end of which just clears the ground. To this mast a derrick is attached so that it can be set at any angle to catch the wind. The inventor does not calculate to

have it used in tacking through city streets against the wind, and has arranged matters so that the boom and mast fold together with the sail when riding against the wind. The contrivance takes up comparatively little space, and it is a question if one could ride as steadily with the sail drawing in a stiff breeze and whether a cheap motor would be as reliable for those riders who do not like the exercise of "plunging into the wind."

A few years ago the legislature of Connecticut passed a "good roads" law. This law provided for the giving of state aid to such towns as desired to improve their chief highways. As a result of this law 500 miles of roads have been directly or indirectly improved by hardening, graveling or regrading and several hundred miles more are in process of being improved. Since good roads legislation began 128 towns out of a total of 198 in the state have received aid, and the indirect effect of the legislation is estimated to be to improve 1,000 miles of roads. This year 115 towns have made application for state assistance. Those applications call for a state expenditure of over \$10,000, and the entire amount to be expended on road improvements will be approximately \$125,000.

Applications for dates on the grand circuit of the National Cycling association for 1900 are already being received, which indicates that the new organization intends to continue its business. As the circuit has only three months and a race meet listed on it, it is assumed of the presence of all the star riders who seek the championship, the promoters are not wanting time wondering what the League of American Wheelmen will do. A new idea will be put into force next year. A percentage of the members on the circuit will be set aside to constitute a purse for the rider who at the season's end shall have competed at the greatest number of championship meets and won at them the greatest number of points. Such a purse will be in the neighborhood of \$1,000, and is apt to keep all the leaders in full attendance on the circuit.

A distinct novelty has made its appearance in response to the desire of those who use wheels fitted with a coaster brake device. The new idea is a cyclometer that measures the distance a rider does not pedal. The cyclometer is so arranged that as long as the feet are in action, traveling around with the pedals, it is imperative, but just as soon as the coaster is called into regulation and the feet are at rest on the pedals the cyclometer begins to tick off the revolutions and the mileage. Thus with an ordinary cyclometer in the accustomed place a rider can tell on returning from a trip the total distance traveled and what part of it was pedaled, by deducting the coasting record from the total.

Jimmy Michael has as yet shown nothing that would indicate that he will ever make a success as a jockey, although he is now riding at New Orleans, and if he continues in this line of work may show up more favorably. Michael has, so far, finished in the "also rans" in the few races in which he has taken part. His first attempt at riding the "bangtails" seems to have been a very unfortunate affair for him, as he lost his speed as a bicycle rider and did not amount to anything as a jockey. It is only a matter of time now as to stick to the horses for awhile, in the hope that he may develop in this line.

Patent office returns show that inventors are giving the subject of brakes that are applied to coasting and turning their attention to coaster and two-speed devices. One bicycle concern that has been making wheels for more than a decade has discontinued its bicycle production and will henceforth put all its efforts into turning out coaster brakes.

STRIFE FOR THE LOVING CUP

Whist Players Get Into Form for the Coming Tournament to Be Held at Lincoln.

With the arrival of winter a new interest has been taken in the Omaha Whist club and its meetings on Wednesday and Saturday evenings show an increased attendance. It is the club's intention to send a large delegation to the meeting of the Central Whist association in Lincoln on February 9 and 10. The session will be one of the most important whist gatherings in the west and the tourney will be participated in by seven clubs. The cities represented are the following: Omaha (two clubs), Sioux City (two clubs), Council Bluffs, Sioux Falls, Kansas City, Lincoln, Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Chariton, Centerville, Deadwood, Hot Springs, Kearney and Omaha (two clubs). Deadwood, Hot Springs and Kearney have been added to the membership since the convention at Omaha one year ago. The prize awaiting the winning team is the Richards trophy, a handsome loving cup. The cup has been won twice by the Des Moines club and by the terms of the contest will become the personal property of the town if it is secured by them one more. Particular interest therefore centers about the present contest. The trophy was hung up by B. L. Richards, president of the Central league, two years ago. Mr. Richards is president of the First National bank of Rock Island, Ia., and is known as one of the best whistlers in the west. He is now honored with the presidency of the American Whist league. The presiding officer of the Central association, following the example of Mr. Richards, was L. A. Gerner, manager of the American Express company of this city. The Lincoln club has made preparations to

entertain its guests with unlimited hospitality. The club, which is made up largely of members of the Union Commercial club, represents the best business and professional element of the city. Its rooms are in the Yvon Miers Christy association building and are fitted up with all the comforts and conveniences of modern club quarters. The delegates will probably number between eighty and 100 and a profitable session is anticipated.

The winter's whist tournament of the Elks is proceeding pleasantly at the club rooms in the Vaux block. Last Tuesday night the contestants changed the manner of play and are now observing the rules of duplicate whist. Previously the primary object of the meetings has been the promotion of good fellowship among the members, and while that design is still paramount the players will get into form for a possible representation at the Lincoln meeting, in which the Elks hold membership. The contest will have been postponed until after the benefit performance, as the committee is now busily occupied with that project.

SEASONED HUNTERS ARE LOST

Veterans Duplicate Wanderers of A Forest in Sarys County on Ill-Fated Christmas Day.

Ed Allen, formerly United States deputy marshal, and Louis Littlefield of the Board of Health started out on Christmas morning for a good horse to spend the day as a game warden in the country. Their destination was Fred Schroeder's farm, three miles beyond Millard, where a warm welcome has awaited hunters from time immemorial. The men were equipped with shooting irons and looked forward to an absence of twenty-four hours. They expected to leave the horse in winter quarters at the farm and to make the return trip by train. There was almost enough snow on the ground for rabbits, and the air was sufficiently mild to render a drive a pleasure.

The horse proceeded at a good pace out Center street and found firm footing on the maindram. The twelve-mile drive promised to end uneventfully, as both the occupants of the buggy had lived in the country for years and had traversed almost every foot of the outlying country on one errand or another. When the gravelly road passed the Russ's park Allen noticed the road leading to the south up a steep ascent. He recognized it as the "cut-off," and announced that in his judgment the horse should be turned into it. He promised that it would shorten the trip by two miles and would bring the journey to a close in time to guarantee that each of the travelers' names should be in the Christmas post.

The advice prevailed and the horse's head turned south. Littlefield claims that he relied wholly on Allen's judgment, as he himself had not been in the vicinity for many years. Allen pointed to the way, as the horse proceeded, and the two men, as the B. & M. railroad would interpose a barrier on the south and a line of telegraph poles to the northward. Passing the time in song and story, like the pilgrims in the Canterbury tales, and refreshing themselves with such means as they had, the two men passed over the tracks. Littlefield advanced the theory that the railroad at that point must have been hidden in some deep ravine which was spanned by an enclosed bridge.

When the river at last awoke to his responsibilities all familiar landmarks had vanished. He realized that he was lost in Sarys county. Keeping the depressing knowledge from his companion, however, Allen urged the horse toward a struggling fence and urged the distance, hoping vaguely that it might be Millard, and that his comrade might never discover his self-distrust. The hamlet was reached and proved to be Deerfield, easily identified by the ruins of Dr. Miller's mansion. Allen continued his journey, and after reference to such advice as they had on board the travelers then began an earnest effort to remedy their error and reach the hospitable farmhouse before the dinner hour. They encountered a number of hunters, all of whom they knew, and who expressed good-natured belief that two such seasoned veterans should have lost their way. Allen and Littlefield extracted such directions as to their proper course as they could and started on another tack. They were finally another group of houses appeared bearing an unfamiliar look in their countenance. A closer inspection, however, disclosed the historic "Pappie" and betrayed the little town as Paxville, to the infinite disgust of the sportsmen.

Carpetal inquiry brought to light that the Omahans had traveled two miles and a half which must be retraced step for step before the cross-road was reached leading to Millard. There was no escape and the weary horse was sent along his way at the best speed, and all energy was devoted to reaching the coveted goal in time for Christmas dinner. It was a 4 o'clock in the afternoon when the sportsmen lifted their shotguns and started for the house. The dinner had long since been completed and all hands had gone for a neighborly visit. The city men at what scrapings could be gathered at the village were in hopeless dejection. They were quartered at the inn over night, and on the morning of December 28 went to Pappie, the only town in Douglas and Sarys counties which they had not visited, and took the train for home.

DECIDE ON DATE FOR SHOOT

Omaha-Kansas City Match January 26 and 27, Starting with Tournament January 25.

Nothing unforeseen preventing, the return shoot in the inter-city contest between Omaha and Kansas City will be held here January 25, 26 and 27. As the time for this event approaches local interest is increasing to an appreciable extent and the shoot will surely be a memorable one in the history of Omaha sporting circles. The crack shots who are members of the Omaha team and who successfully carried away the honors in the first shoot at Kansas City, are devoting all their spare time to practice and intend to see to it that the laurels already won are safely protected.

The shooting carnival will start on Thursday, the 24th inst. The first day will be devoted to general sweepstakes shooting at five birds and all the local shots, as well as the delegations from Kansas City and other outside points, will be able to participate in this event. Friday and Saturday the big event comes off, when the teams from Kansas City and Omaha will engage in their contest. The conditions of the prize match are fifty five birds to a man. There will be ten men on each side. It is expected that this match will be largely attended. In some way the impression was spread abroad that the return shoot was to be held December 29 and several sportsmen from Kearney and Grand Island arrived in the city to witness it. They were disappointed, but their interest in the event will be all the keener by reason of the delay and those who came in to see the match will return in January with a very fast bird a contingent of sportsmen from the cities out in the state.

New Year's day will be celebrated by the sportsmen of Omaha in an all-day shoot on the gun club grounds. The arrangements for the arrangements that have been made to him.

Judging from previous shoots of this character it is anticipated that the day will be a most enjoyable one. Already a number of local shots have indicated their intention of attending. The events will be general sweepstakes at five birds and targets. It has not yet been decided whether or not to have a handicap. This question will rest with the sportsmen to decide after they get on the grounds tomorrow.

Townsend and Plumber represented Omaha at the shooting tournament at Platte Center Wednesday and Thursday. It was an interesting affair and the Omaha men speak very highly of the entertainment afforded them. One Schroeder of Columbus, upon whom the nickname of "Iron Post" had been bestowed by his fellow shooters, succeeded in carrying away the first prize in all of the target events.

Today marks the closing of the quail season, and until the spring ducks begin to fly sportsmen in Omaha and through the state will have to content themselves with the entertainment afforded by the festive quail season. The Omaha enthusiasts took advantage of the final opportunity afforded them and went out after quail.

Lafe Young and Robt. Whisman went out to Schell Friday and had a delightful shoot. They succeeded in bagging quail enough to make the trip a memorable one.

A Hazelton left early yesterday morning for Calhoun, the object of his trip being to investigate a few quail coveys reported from that vicinity.

L. G. Doup filled his case with shells and went out after quail last Thursday. He had an enjoyable and a successful trip.

CURLERS ARE ON THE RINKS

Renewed Cold Weather Gives New Zest to Sport-Prize Tourney on New Year's Day.

The renewal of cold weather has enabled the curlers to put in hard practice preparatory to the tournament on January 1 for the Troup medal. The upper lake at Hainscomb park was last year reserved exclusively for the Omaha Curling club, and while no similar action has been taken by the Board of Park Commissioners this year it is assumed that the privilege will be continued. The matter came up for discussion at the meeting of the board on Thursday afternoon. It was pointed out that the water on the upper lake was eight feet deep, and the ice consequently very dangerous. The board decided that the curlers should be allowed on the smaller pond, particularly as it does not allow sufficient latitude for skaters. The ice has been cut up considerably, however, by the curlers and the curlers labor under a disadvantage.

The Troup medal was established one year ago, to be competed for on each New Year's day, provided the weather was suitable. It was won last year by Andrew Anderson and will become his property if he is able to defend it for three consecutive years.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

OMAHA: The Sporting Editor of The Bee: Please answer the following question: A says the twentieth century is over. I, too, say January 1, 1900. Which is right, A or B?—W. R. S. Ans.—See answer to Russell Haldebrand.

ALMA: The Bee: In a controversy here I bet that the first day of January will be in the twentieth century. Is that right? In other words, suppose there are five men playing one man holds the club royal flush and the other man the heart royal flush. Good-naturedly or is there any difference?—Phil Jackson. Who wins the game? Ans.—It is a stand-off.

IMPRETTIES.

In consequence of insufficient support, relative to the Chicago Tribune, the Rev. Dr. Goodman had been compelled to resign and was about to accept a call from a church in another city.

"I will carry with you to your new field of labor, doctor," said the leading editor of the floor, "our most earnest hopes for your future success and prosperity."

"I believe you, Brother Higginsey," replied the doctor, "and that is about all I shall have to carry."

The Youth's Companion says that the descendant of a New England Puritan divine has in his pocket an old sermon written by his ancestor which shows that the preacher did not trust entirely to the impulses of the moment when delivering his discourse. The manuscript is written in a strange, crabbed hand and plentifully sprinkled with marginal references. "Read slowly here," the minister admonishes himself, "to be given to be given out very loud and clear" is the suggestion for another passage. "Hurry a little, with fire," he wrote in several places. The most emphatic and important part of the whole sermon is indicated by a much underlined marginal note. After hearing stories of this kind, it is hardly surprising to find that to know that he deemed it wise and even necessary at the climax of his eloquence to "yell like one possessed."

Rev. Dr. Herrick, U. S. A., retired, who is known and beloved by Omaha and civil-ized alike because of his tender heart and his kindly wit, has this story to tell of an experience of his down at Fort Monroe, reports the Washington Post. He was staying at a hotel there last spring. I think it was in the month of October. One of his acquaintances were two gentlemen, one of them was a Methodist layman from somewhere in Kentucky, and as his companion had a clerical look and seemed so great a friend to him Dr. Herrick naturally concluded that the companion, too, was a Methodist. The mention of the town where the Methodist preacher lived reminded Dr. Herrick of a story.

"Do you know Lew So-and-so out there in Kentucky, the famous horseman?" he asked.

"Yes," was the answer. The reverend doctor smiled his kindly smile. "I heard a story about him the other day," he said. "It seems that besides being a breeder of fine horses he was a noted character on the race track. Being and racing were passion with him. The first change of heart, he was converted and joined a peculiar sect called Campbellites or Christians, a church of very recent origin. For several months he kept him to the straight and narrow way, but one day he happened to be driving a very fast horse when he passed a race track. He drove in, and despite his good resolutions, he fell from grace and presently sent his horse around the track in the fashion of his unregenerate days. Somebody saw him and reported him. He was summarily lined out of the race club grounds. After a few days he met him and asked him if the dismissal from the church had not been a great blow to him.

ALL FAGGED OUT

A business man ought to be in his prime at fifty. His day's work ought to be pleasure to him—his home coming in the evening buoyant and joyous—But so much depends on his health—When a man gets up in the morning with an aching back, and carries it about with him all day long. When it's torture for him to stoop or bend his body, when his head aches almost to splitting. It is no wonder he gets home in the evening all fagged out. It is no wonder that he becomes an old man years before his time—What he needs is Doan's Kidney Pills. His kidneys aren't doing their duty—Backache is kidney ache, you know. And



Doan's Kidney Pills are the one unfailing cure—Want proof? Plenty of it right here in Omaha. Here's an instance.

Mr. George A. Wells, No. 415 South 19th street, employed at Chas. A. Pegan & Co's, says: "I always had slight bladder trouble, but for three years it became worse and sometimes alarmed me. Accompanying it there was a weakness across the loins, particularly in evidence if I over-exerted myself. Always anxious to try any new remedy which might bring relief, when Mr. J. Flick, watchmaker of Cass St., advised me to use Doan's Kidney Pills, emphasizing his advice by stating they had cured him of kidney trouble, I bought a box at Kuhn & Co's drug store, corner of 15th and Douglas streets. It did exactly as it promised. The trouble disappeared."

Doan's Kidney Pills are for sale at all drug stores—50¢ a box—Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Law was unexpectedly cheerful. He was not at all cast down. "No," he said, "I think it served me right. I ought to have known better than to join a scrub church with no pedigree." The Methodist preacher laughed immoderately. His companion smiled, but in an embarrassed way. The Methodist finally drew his eyes. "And now, Dr. Herrick," said he, "I want you to know my friend, the Rev. Mr. So-and-so," slapping his companion on the back. "He's the man that turned Lew out of the church."

No man ever tries to argue with his wife after two years of wedded matrimony. A St. Louis young man complains that he has been hypnotized by a girl and as a result feels he may have to marry her. Why, why shouldn't he? That's the usual procedure in a proper marriage.

Dr. T. Shepherd, a long-suffering citizen of Wichita, asks for divorce chiefly on the ground that his wife has mugged him until he has had to leave the state. As a second cause he charges that she has threatened to take the young family down to the creek and drown them. The children are all grown up, the youngest being more than 10.

The authorities of Valley Stream, L. I., are somewhat dubious as to their ability, under the compulsory education law or any other law, to force Little Sadie Counts to go to school. She is only 14 years of age and so cannot properly be considered a child. She is also married and both she and her husband, Charles Counts, object to anything that would make a heavy interference with her household duties.

During the trial of a suit brought in New York by Augustus Crisman for divorce from his wife, whom he had been wedded for nineteen years, it transpired that he had not been married to the plaintiff since his brother acted as his proxy throughout the ceremony. The wife before her marriage had been married to a man who was a wealthy Cuban resident of Cincinnati. Her family and that of the husband were both in Cincinnati, and she had considered the union and the manner of forming it proper and not unusual. The wife and the real husband did not meet for two months after the marriage. The judge in granting the divorce did not consider the circumstances as affecting the case either way.

John Crisman, a horse dealer of Terre Haute, Ind., married the same woman three times and is now suing for a divorce from the third time. Crisman was first married to Pauline Bodenbaker at Bryan, O., thirty years ago. Five years later he divorced her and married a woman from Chicago in 1881 and his former wife followed him and they were married again. A year after a second divorce was obtained by Crisman and Crisman came to Terre Haute, Ind., and his wife followed him. Here the old troubles were revived and for a third time Crisman and his wife were divorced. Once more Mrs. Crisman left her husband's home again and took a job in the city of Terre Haute, Ind., on the grounds of abandonment. Crisman is a well known Grand Army man and is now residing in the United States army in the Philippine Islands.

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"Here at last is information from a high medical source that WORK WONDERS in this generation of men. It is the only fully developed, scientific method by which to attain full vigor and manly power. A method to end all unnatural drains on the system. To cure nervousness, lack of self-control, despondency, etc. To exchange a faded and worn nature for one of brightness, buoyancy and power. To give full strength, development and tone to every portion and organ of the body. Age no barrier. Failure impossible. The book is PURELY MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC. Useless to curiosity seekers, invaluable TO MEN ONLY WHO NEED IT. Free Trial Treatment. We send one full month's Remedies of wonderful power, and a marvelous Appliance to strengthen and develop, on TRIAL and approval, without any deposit or obligation. No exposure, no "collect on delivery" scheme—no deception of any kind. A despairing man who had applied to us, soon after wrote: "Well, I tell you that first day is one I'll never forget. I just bubbled with joy. I wanted to hug everybody and tell them that I had a new life and a new self. I had found it. Why didn't you tell me when I first wrote that I would find it this way?" And another wrote thus: "If you dumped a cartload of gold at my feet it would not bring such gladness into my life as your method has done." In answering be sure and mention this paper, and the company promises to send the book in sealed envelope without any marks, and entirely free of charge. Write to the ERIE MEDICAL COMPANY, Buffalo, N. Y., and ask for the little book called "COMPLETE MANHOOD."