





A New Jersey doctor, who was arrested for scorching along the road at night with an unlighted lamp on his wheel, informed the magistrate before whom he was summoned that he was hurrying to attend a patient stricken with heart disease; and he thought, under the circumstances, that saving a life was of more importance than lighting a lamp. The magistrate took the same view of the case, and discharged the accused.

To meet a motor car in a narrow country lane when it is going at about 20 and you are doing 15 down a hill is not exactly an enjoyable experience, and I am inclined (says a writer in Bicycling News) to think that it is nearly time the pace of those beauties was decreased. If not, we shall have a bad smash-up some day, especially if the steerer yaws all over the place, as did the one we met on Saturday. It slewed and wriggled about. and fairly frightened some ladies out of the saddle, for there was only about a yard and a half between the car of juggernaut and a deep ditch, and it looked more than probable that there was going to be a bad accident. It is all very well for the drivers and passengers to sit and grin at cyclists as they whiz by; that's easy enough when you are in safety; but they might have some consideration for those who have to take all the punishment if any is donated. Anyhow, these motor-cars, if we don't mind, are going to be the biggest nuisance cyclists ever had, and it is more than possible that we shall rue the day when they came into vogue. At present they are ugly, blatant, and dangerous, and a terror to wheelmen. Let us hope the time is not far distant when elegant, odourless. and ably-driven horseless carriages will abound in place of most of the abominations which are now pounding around. Rules for Beginners.-London Tit-Bits recently offered a prize for the six best rules for beginners in bicycle riding. The prize was secured by the sender of the following list: -(1) When in the saddle do not grasp the handles too tightly. Sit upright, allow the head of the machine to move freely; have confidence. (2) Look a few yards ahead. Shun staring about until you are proficient, or you will "wobble" needlessly. (3) In pedalling, it is unnecessary to press dur- 1 to account.

ing the whole revolution. A slight, even pressure when the pedal is descending is sufficient. (4) When inclined to fall, turn the machine gently in the same direction as that to which you are falling, otherwise the fall will be inevitable. (5) Avoid dismounting while the machine is moving fast. Allow it to come almost to a standstill, incline it slightly to the left, then dismount. (6) When the legs feel weary from the unaccustomed exertion, dismount, and rest them by walking a short distance. On reaching home rub them well with a rough towel to prevent stiffness.

The New Zealand Cyclists' Alliance has appointed Messrs Good, Leys, Dunn, Brown, and Langdown a committee to inquire into the alleged practice of winners of amateur events turning their open orders into cash.

At the last meeting of the executive of the League of New Zealand Wheelmen, Mr H. F. Thompson was appointed consul for Marlborough.

It is again rumoured that J. W. Stocks, one of the best known pace followers of the world, and T. O. Sharn, a celebrated sprinter, are coming out to Australia from England A Sydney paper says these rumours are not authentic.

The "Indoor King" of America, J Eaton, has been beaten by W. E. Becker, of Minneapolis, in a five mile scratch race. Becker's time was 11min. 25sec., the world's indoor record.

The Yankee rider, E. C. Bald, recently issued a challenge to the world. Morin, the French sprinter, and the Dutch champion, Jaap Eden, have both cabled Bald that they are prepared to race him for large sums, but Bald doesn't seem inclined to leave America, and it is not likely that matches will be arranged.

W. L. Kerr, of Sydney, the Australian amateur champion cyclist, competed at a sports meeting at Aston Park. In the Ten-mile Scratch Race he secured fourth place, and in the Quarter-mile Scratch was placed third.

A delicious story is told by Mr. James Payn in the Illustrated London News :-"A friend of mine, a devotee of the wheel, was witness to a collision between a lady and gentleman, cyclists, ahead of The lady got the worst of it, and, him. indeed, was knocked over, while the gentleman wheeled away as though nothing had happened. My friend came up, hat in hand, and assisted her to rise and remount. 'Now I am off after that fellow,' he said, 'to get his name and address.' 'It's not a bit of good,' she quietly replied, 'he's my husband!'"

There are still some very curious laws standing on the Statute Book in England, which, if enforced by the authorities, would certainly make Sunday cycling a thing of the past. A policeman has a perfect right to "detain" any cyclist found riding on the "Sawbath" and trot him off to the "stone jug"-unless he can show a certificate from the nearest magistrate to prove that he was out on "urgent business"! The law gives the magistrate power to condemn the luckless cyclist to the stocks on Monday morning. This peculiar law was lately enforced against a Manchester tradesman who had used his business vehicle to take his family for a drive on Sunday !

The watch of an applicant for a N.C.U. timekeepership has to attain a very high order of merit at Kew Observatory ere he can obtain his credentials. The test is so rigid that no watch has yet been certified to be absolutely perfect, and it takes a very good watch indeed to get 87 marks out of a (remotely) possible The watch is tested in every position, and its rate measured and recorded by the hour. It is hung upside down, hung from each side, placed dial down, and back down, and at any number of angles, and to finish it is baked in an oven and frozen in a pail of ice. When it is considered that 18,000 vibrations an hour occur in a watch, and that it must not vary a second a week, it is easy to see why no watch has touched the "century." Anybody having a bicycle stolen would do well to follow in the footsteps of a certain Parisian. He advertised in one or two papers for a machine, "so and so make, so and so tyres," &c. He gave as near a description of his own bicycle as possible, and the advertisement had only been in print an hour or two before the thief offered the machine to its owner. This is a tale told by a contemporary, and the news is well worth circulating, for other cyclists may be able to turn it

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