

CYCLING.

(By "PETROL.")

The following is the thirteenth annual report of the League of New Zealand Wheelmen, presented at the annual meeting held yesterday:—The council, in presenting the thirteenth annual report, has great pleasure in referring to the success of cycling as a sport during the past year. Finance: The year started with a credit balance of £43 6s 8d. During the present year the receipts totalled £114 2s 9d, which, added to the amount brought forward, gives a total of £157 9s 5d. The expenditure amounted to £57 0s 1d, leaving a balance to the credit of the League of £100 9s 4d, or an increase over last year's balance of £57 2s 8d. The amount received for subscriptions has increased by the sum of 10s 6d, whilst the amount received for permit and license fees has increased by £5 16s 6d. The council and clubs under its jurisdiction are to be congratulated upon the solid financial position of the League, this year's balance forward being the largest recorded since 1899. New Clubs: The following new clubs have been affiliated during the year:—Hastings Cycling Club, Centaur Cycling Club, Clifton Cycling Club, Cheltenham Athletic and Cycling Club, and Belfast Cycling Club. Struck Off: The following clubs have been struck off as defunct:—Waihi, Karangahake, Thames, Gisborne, Hutt Valley, Timaru Tourists, Waimate, Otautau and Winton. The League has now forty-six clubs affiliated, whilst in every district in the colony except Auckland the whole of the racing promoted by affiliated bodies was held under our rules. Championship Meeting: The 1905 cash championships were decided at Temuka on Easter Monday, and resulted as follows:—Half and one mile, J. Arnst; three and five miles, M. Randrup. Amateur championships: The amateur championships were decided at the Amateur Athletic Association's Shrub-Duffey meeting, T. A. Oates winning the half, one and three miles, whilst W. Reynolds was the winner of the five miles. The entry for these events was very small, and it will be for the council to seriously consider whether it is advisable to continue hold-

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ing them, or to wait until the amateur riders of the colony evince some desire to enter in larger numbers. Challenge Trophies: Mr. T. Oates became the winner for the year of the Alliance trophy. The D.C.L. shield was won by H. Bowley. New Rules: The rules have been carefully amended, and will be submitted to the centres in the course of this month, and will be ready for distribution before the racing season commences. Death: The council has with regret to refer to the death of F. E. Asquith, who for many years took a very keen interest in the sport. His loss has been greatly felt. The council was represented at the funeral, and a wreath was forwarded in token of the respect in which he was held by the cyclists of the colony. In conclusion, the members of the council would express a hope that the sport under its government will continue to prosper, and that the coming season will show a still greater increase in the number of clubs and associations affiliated to the League. —On behalf of the council, H. Curtis, chairman.

The prize-money for this year's Melbourne Austral meeting is £1168, the big event having prizes of £500, £100, and £20, and £30 for semi-finals.

Ellegaard has been racing in good form on the Continent recently. He has defeated Poulain, the world's champion, several times.

George Farley, the Australian champion, has returned to Sydney from Europe, where he was racing with moderate success.

Don Walker's record as an Australian cyclist will take a deal of rubbing out. He has been riding since 1889, and at the present time occupies scratch mark alone. Just on 200 races have fallen to his calves, with a contingency of over £3000 in prizes. Walker's racing track longevity is probably a world's record.

There's the sneezy cold, the wheezy cold,
The tickler in the glottis;
The chilly cold, the killy cold,
The cold that burning hot is;
The tearful cold, the fearful cold,
The one that all the lot is—
Yet these be colds that none endure—
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MISCELLANEOUS.

The twenty-eighth annual meeting of the Auckland Amateur Athletic and Cycle Club was held in the rooms of the Amateur Sports Club last Wednesday, Mr. F. J. Ohlson, vice-president, in the chair. The report of the Management Committee was adopted as read. The balance-sheet showed a credit balance in hand of £19 1s 5d, after contracting a loss of £12 4s 3d on the only sports meeting held during the past season. This will be increased by some £6 or £7 as the club's share of the profits from the tour of Messrs. Shrub and Duffey, who competed at the various centres in the colony under the auspices of the New Zealand Amateur Athletic Association. The election of officers resulted as under:—President, Mr. Leo. Myers; vice-presidents, Messrs. F. J. Ohlson, M. McLean and T. B. O'Connor; secretary, Mr. P. King; treasurer, Mr. C. E. Palmer; committee of management, Messrs. W. S. Dickey, R. Oliphant, T. Tilley, H. Brooks, S. W. Somerfield, L. Shepherd, H. G. Chevis; auditor, Mr. P. R. Fraser.

Following a wonderful career, extending over thirty years, John Roberts, the veteran professional cueist, has definitely decided to retire at the end of the forthcoming season. He will take part in his last tournament at the Soho Square Saloon, London, commencing on October 2 (says an English exchange). Messrs. Burroughes and Watts have put up nearly £2000 to be played for, and the competitors will be John Roberts, E. Diggle, William Mitchell, Cecil Haverson, Fred. Weiss, Melbourne Inman, Tom Reece, and T. Aiken. Stevenson, Dawson, Bateman, and Cook, who took part in a similar tournament last season, drop out this year. The starts have been allotted as follows:—Roberts, scratch; Diggle receives 1250 points; Mitchell receives 1750; Haverson receives 2000; Weiss receives 2000; Inman receives 2500; Reece receives 2500; and Titken receives 2500.

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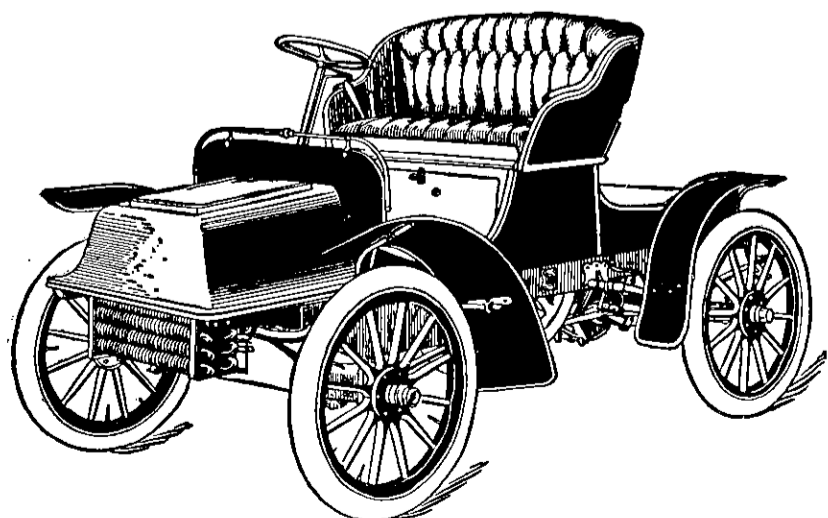
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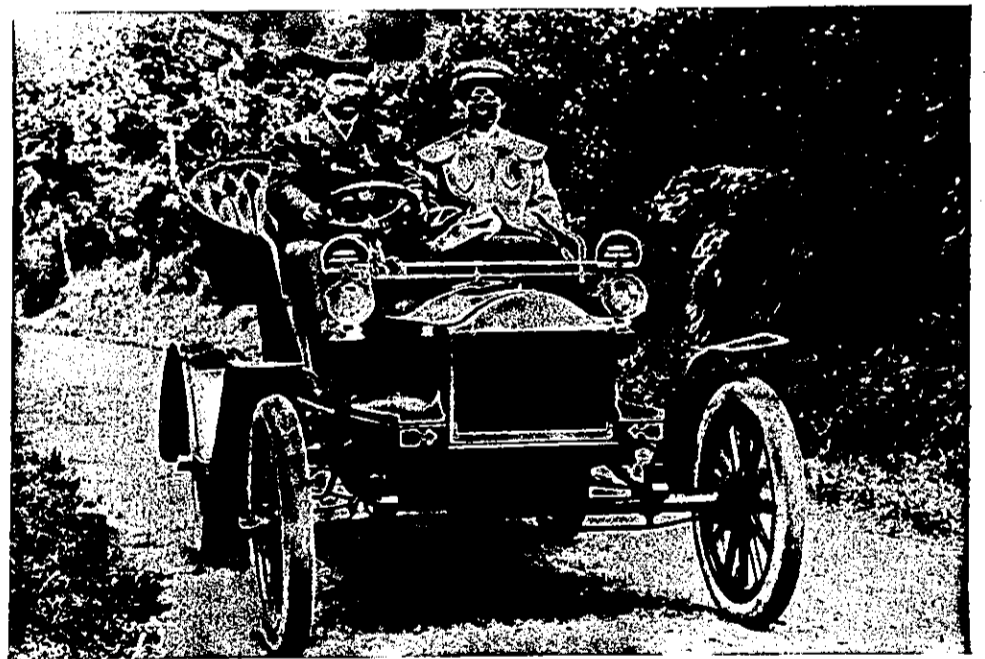
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