

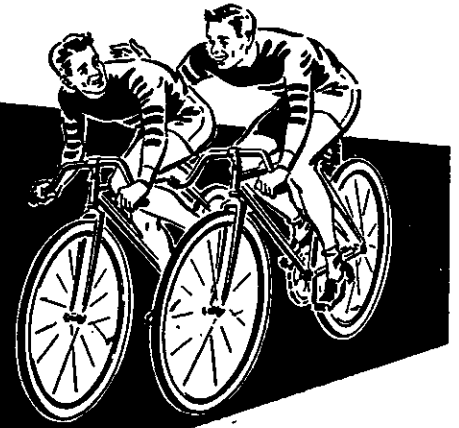
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WIRELESS

PICK-UPS

By **OTTO EISELE**

A.B.L. of A. Secretary . . . Former Pres. (1934-1943)



RECORD COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, George Knopf, is having his hands full of cross-country record appeals. Ray Bryan of Belleville, N. J. started this back in 1940 when he rode from New York to San Francisco in 27 days and 11 hours, covering 3149.8 miles. Although there were some slight discrepancies his record was approved by the Amateur Bicycle League after considerable careful consideration. . . . Last year Norma Jean Belloff of San Diego crossed the country twice on her bicycle the second time in 57 days, which hardly a speed record, although quite an achievement for a girl, was nevertheless approved. . . . Since then in quick succession Gerald Portnoy of Atlantic City, George French, Princeton University junior and Leslie Seaward, of Savannah, Georgia, the latter a veteran of many years and many miles of cycle touring, have announced breaking the record, crossing the continent by various routes in 24, 23 and 21 days respectively. Only Portnoy's record papers have reached A.B.L. Headquarters and they have yet to be approved. . . . Unless Officials actually accompany such record seekers for every mile of the distance it is high impossible to authenticate marks for these great distances. Of the three now under question, Portnoy at least tried to follow the A.B.L. record rules. Nevertheless discrepancies appear on his check sheets. . . . Having had some experience with both Bryan's and Miss Belloff's record checking, I can vouch that it is almost as much of a job to keep the record sheets accurately and in order as it might be to accomplish the physical task of riding a bicycle an average of a hundred miles a day for close to thirty successive days. Time will tell whether Leslie Seaward has made another mileage mark for himself, but in his 54 years he is without a peer in the U.S.A. in the matter of long distance bicycling, year after year and all year 'round. And at his present age of 54, and now retired from the Savannah Fire Department, he appears ready to seek new cycling mileage marks.

ED GIAMPOLI of the Bronx is another veteran who seems to be improving with age. Last month he finished seventh in the grueling Jack Busch Memorial race in Buffalo, right in there with the top-notch of the younger riders, and to add to his point score in the Best All Round competition. It is remarkable the way he scores consistently in race after race, seemingly improving in each of the past years. Giampoli is an example of hard and conscientious training all the year 'round, an example that many younger riders could well follow. I can vouch for the fact that he is a veteran for I raced with him in Unione Sportiva Italiana competition as far back as 1922.

WASHINGTON, D. C. is back in the cycle racing picture with the recent formation of the Washington Cycle Club of which Edward F. Ward is Secretary. Many of the riders are former members of the National Capitol Wheelmen which was broken up due to members getting in service during the war. Members of the new organization have taken part in Baltimore, Philadelphia and New Jersey races and have events scheduled in Washington at the well-known Polo Field course in the Nation's Capitol, scene of the A.B.L. first National Championships in 1921. Michael Seeger, club's star junior last year is a good prospect to repeat in the District's Championship Trials this year. Edward Bieber and William Cauffman are among the Seniors getting back into competition, auguring well for the return of the pedal pushing sport where it was so popular until the outbreak of recent hostilities. . . .

NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION of new board of directors to govern the Amateur Bicycle League are now in and ballots are being mailed out for the actual voting by the Member Clubs. It is surprising and sometimes disturbing how each year the votes seem to be cast for the same old names returning the same faces to the organizations governing board. Surely some of the veterans in the organization would welcome an opportunity to step down if newcomers could forge their way to the lead in the voting. Even though the election is most democratic in the good American custom, it also seems to follow the established politics of voting for the men in office rather than looking the ballots over carefully to select some of the younger men for a trial with their new and oftentimes vigorous ideas in the management of American amateur cycling.

GENE VAUGHN, a former member of the Edgewood Wheelmen of Indianapolis, has taken up residence in Tucson, Arizona, opening up a bike shop there. Vaughn is being considered by Chairman Board of Control Herb Hoffman, as a candidate for the post of ARIZONA State Representative, in the hopes of bringing activity back to a State which has been bare of anklers for many many years. And along the lines of getting new Representatives in the League, "Wild Bill" Anderson of six-day bicycle riding fame, is being considered as a Good Will Ambassador for the A.B.L. to scout Representatives for the organization in the South and Central States which Bill is travelling for Musselman Brake Division of the Murray Ohio Company. Some activity has already been started in New Orleans through Anderson's enthusiasm.

WINNIPEG-KENORA 150-Mile Canadian Open Championship bicycle race, set this year for Monday, August first, a Civic Holiday in Canada, continues to be the longest pedal pushing event on the American continent. Sponsored by the Kenora Board of Trade and sanctioned by the Canadian Wheelmen's Association the race is open to all Canadian and American registered riders. A.B.L. cards are recognized by the C.W.A., as C.W.A. cards are recognized in the United States, under a working organization observed by the Canadian and American governing bodies. Fifteen prizes are listed, headed by a Trophy and Merchandise to the value of \$175. Looking at some of the prizes listed for amateur events, Tour of Somerville as an example, and numerous others, it is often bewildering to try and figure out why any Canadian or U.S.A. cyclist should ever get into his head to ride professional.

WALTER IGLEHART, Maryland A.B.L. Representative, reports the organization of two Old Timer groups in Baltimore soon to take League membership. Walter is also working closely with Richmond, Virginia, Representative C. W. Pinnell to get a club enrolled there. Club membership applications are increasing which augurs well for the sport. Among recent additions are the Windy City Wheelmen of Chicago, San Diego Cycling Club, Brookside Bicycle Club of Hartford, Conn., and the aforementioned Washington Cycling Club (the reorganized National Capitol Wheelmen).

ED LITTIG, veteran Belleville N. J. cyclist, calls our attention to articles stating that Settgas & Wuertz were the holders of the New York-Philadelphia tandem record, whereas the latest listing of this record is in favor of Charles Schneider and Ed Littig, who finally broke the previous mark after two unsuccessful tries. We appreciate his calling this to our attention to give us the opportunity to make the correction.

GEORGES GROSJEAN, who has been identified with the A.B.L. of A. as Foreign Representative since 1939, was in New York the first two weeks of June, enroute to his home in Bordeaux, returning from extensive visits in Indo-China, China and Japan for the chain of French newspapers he now represents as foreign correspondent. Even though he no longer has the close touch with cycling that he did when he was a cycling sports writer reporting the Tour of France incident to his becoming acquainted with the League, he continues his personal interest in our affairs. To that end he carried a special portfolio for the A.B.L. to the U.C.I.