The International Cycling Championships

Interesting Gossip About the World's Meet at Montreal.

The L. A. W. National Meet to Be Held at Boston.

THE world's championship bicycle race will be held in Montreal this year for the first time in this year. This country has as a rule taken very little interest in the International Cycling Association, which body governs the competition, although our Americans have participated in the championships now and again. The arrangements this season are for L. A. W. riders to compete in the United States in this. This took place during the World's fair in Chicago, when cyclists from all over the world were gathered in the Windy City to take part in the championship races for each event. I. C. A. medals and cash prizes were held in the International Championship. Here—the mile—was the winner of the one mile amateur and one mile professional championship respectively.

The International International Trophy, —(formerly the premier championship of the L. C. A. on the tracks owned by each competing body, members of the association, scoring 5 points for first place, 3 points for second place and 1 point for third place. The prize for the championships consist of special gold medals.

Held there that year. All the championship meets have occurred in Europe, and the long journey has been the principal reason why our cyclists have not, as a rule, entered the meets.

This year Montreal has secured the honor of hosting the international meet, and Americans among will attend in goodly numbers. Last year but one American, George Banker, the veteran cyclist, won a first prize at the championships, which were held at Vienna, but it is more than likely that several will be captured by the fast riders from the United States this year.

The meet will be held Aug. 7-12, and the Canadian officials who have charge of the preparations are doing everything in their power to make the affair a huge success. The race will occur at Queen's park, where there is a one-third of a mile track, built in accordance with the most up to date requirements and as fast as any on the continent. Two world's records were broken there recently by the Burns brothers while racing by electric light, which is considered slower than daylight racing. The arrangements for housing riders and their mounts are also very complete. It is reported by many who have inspected the track that practically a new set of world's records will be set up during the week of racing.

Besides the best of cyclists, amateur and professional, from the United States, many of the champions from other countries will be present. A. J. Cherry of England, who is the middle distance amateur champion of the world, will compete. Perry, Hollis and Ramsbrough, three of the latest amateur cracks in Great Britain, will also take part. The National Cycling union of England has nominated a strong team of professional racing men to represent that body, among them being Chase, Cann, Platt-Betts, Gray, Gascoyne, Jenkins, Tom Linton, Palmer and Wadham.

The Scottish Cyclists' union will be represented by William Inglis, president of the organization, and with him will be Calder, the Scottish champion. Germany has sent Albert, the holder of the one mile world's championship, and both the French cycling unions have entered fast men.

Bob Hudson of New South Wales, the Australian champion, has been for some weeks past at Montreal and is diligently practicing on the track at Queen's park, where he is rapidly getting into shape after his long journey from the antipodes. Another champion who has been at Montreal for some time is A. H. George of Cape Town, and he is now in excellent trim.

The citizens of Montreal fully realized the importance of this tournament and have contributed liberally for the entertainment of visitors. The racing does not begin till Wednesday, but the whole week will be devoted to the interest of the championships. The racing has proclaimed the opening race for Aug. 3, a civic holiday, and most of the prominent sportsmen have signified their intention to close their business houses on that date.

Besides the regular events, a series of races, mile and other contests have been arranged, so that visitors will find the whole time filled up with interesting programmes. The regular card is as follows:

Amateur.—1. One mile; short distance championship; I. C. A. medals, 2. 20 kilometers; long distance championship; I. C. A. medals; 3. Mile; country gentlemen machines and pacemakers to assist in one mile; other names or machines pacing may be used. 4. Three miles; name of not more than four, with a distance of 3 kilometers. The Cycle Challenge shield and prizes of the following values: $25, $15, $10 and $5.

Professional.—1. One mile; short distance championship; I. C. A. medals and cash prizes of $200, $125, $50 and $25. 2. 50 kilometers; long distance championship; medals; pacemakers for the world's cycling championships at present.

One Mile Amateur Championship—Albert (Germany), second, Cyril (Germany); third, Fernsweigh (England). Time, 2 1-5 seconds. Won by half a length; three lengths between second and third.

One Hundred Kilometers Amateur Championship—Cherry (England), second, Drasbek (Germany); third, Lorrance (Germany). Time, 3h. 12m. 37 2-5s. Cherry beat the World's amateur record from one hour onward.

Two Thousand Meters Professional Tandem Race—Jacquelin (France) and Bill (Austria); second, Banker (America) and Grapper (Belgium). Time, 2m. 37 1-5s.

Half Mile Amateur.—Summergill (England), second, Wilkins (Belgium); third, Calder (Scotland).

One Mile Professional Championship.—Barker (America), second, Verhaeck (Germany); third, Jacquelin (France). Time, 1m. 54 2-5s.

The Cycle shield was competed for by teams from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, England and Ireland. England and Denmark tied for first place, with 11 points each, and the Danish team refused to run it off. The cycle was five Bicycsters. The management of the meet, which started well, became absolutely chaotic at the finish. Banker declined to run off the match between the amateur and professional mile challenges, and Albert rode over the course alone.

Following the international affair at Montreal, the League of American Wheelmen will hold its annual national meet at Boston Aug. 14-19. The railroads have made special rates to the Hub for the occasion, and a great many people will make the journey, not only to witness the race, but also on account of the fine opportunity afforded to visit the historical city and its beautiful environs. The fine roads and many pleasant nearby resorts. The promoters have arranged a series of races to places of interest in New England, and the racing department of the L. A. W. will have direct charge of them, thereby insuring their success. One of these races will be to the White mountains, another through the Berkshires, while several will include the nearby summer resorts in the vicinity.

Besides these long runs, there will be shorter, one-day, trips to places within easy reach of Boston. There will be a journey to Wellfleet, where a magnificent water carnival is to be held, over some of the finest roads in the country, passing the home of the poet Longfellow and other points of interest.

The races will be held on the Charles River track, which is universally acknowledged to be one of the finest in the country and is specially lighted by electricity for racing at night.

CHARLES E. EDWARDES.

Two Youngsters Who Have Won Fame.

The hero of the moment in England is a 14-year-old boy named A. E. F. Collins, of Clifton college, who recently made the record cricket score of 628 not out. The biggest score the great Dr. W. G. Grace ever made was 66, in 1876. Another boy wonder is a young farm in England in Billy Johnny Riff, the jockey. Riff is also 14 years of age, yet he is earning $1,000 a year, and is now mentioned as a dangerous rival to "Ted" Sloan. Less than three years ago Riff was a newsboy in Cincinnati.

SPORTING GOSSIP

Leo Etherington's Comment on a Variety of Topics.

THIS year seems destined to become notable in sporting annals for the unprecedented number of international competitions taken place or have already been decided. The international season of sports really began away back last March, when the All American team of hockey experts was defeated by the Canadian champions of the great ice game in a match at Brooklyn.

Since then the chess masters of the world have held a great congress in London, the wheel men have distributed prizes themselves by no means meagre at the sport of games. Harry Pillsbury, the young Brooklyn player, tied two others for second honors, and Marshall, another young man from the City of Churches, won the two round tourney with ease.

The contest between the track and field athletes of Cambridge and Oxford and Harvard and Yale is the most important international event that has already taken place this season. As usual at such affairs, the paper form of the men did not accord with the actual results. The fact that Yale men did not win one event has been generally noted as additional evidence of the poor athletic material developed at the New Haven university this season in sports of all kinds. Another interesting point, however, has not been noted, as far as I know, and that is that Cambridge men won four out of the five events that fell to the Britishers. The only first place gained by the crimsons was the broad jump. Yet in their dual games last spring Cambridge and Oxford tied.

To the yachtsmen, however, has fallen the honor of holding the greatest number and most interesting of the international contests this season. The small boat lovers have two races this year—for the Seawanhaka-Corinthian cup and for the Canada cup, both of which trophies were won last year by the Canadians. There is always great interest in these events, and they are second only in importance to the greater international struggle which comes off in October for the historic old silver mug, the America's cup, so long held by the New York Yacht club and which is representative of the yachting championship of the wide seas.

Interest in international cycling centers this coming week at the racing to be held at Montreal, and it is not necessary to be much of a prophet to foretell that some at least of the world's championships will be carried off by the swift pedalers of the United States.

The boxing fraternity does not intend to be behindhand in the race for international honors. As usual, the little fellows lead off in this game. On Sept. 1 Tom Sharkey, Bob Fitzsimmons, Terry McGovern of Brooklyn will tackle the Englishman, Pedlar Palmer, for the bantamweight championship of the world. Both these promoters have splendid records in the ring, and the contest between them ought to be well worth the trouble and expense necessary to bring it about. Palmer is acknowledged to be the clearest joker of his weight now living, and for that reason his countrymen are saying that he will win the fight. McGovern has never been up against so dangerous a man as the little Britisher, it is true, but he is fast becoming a very clever boxer, and in addition he is one of the hardest hitters of his weight now in the ring. If the Englishman wins, it will probably be on points, through ability to keep Terry away from him. The latter, however, as are one who has seen him in his previous encounters knows, is willing to take any amount of punishment in order to land one or two blows on his own account, and if he does manage to get in it's more than likely the best will end right there.

To wind the season up gloriously a team of Irish athletes will come over to try their mettle against the best on our track and field men, or that, if everything takes place as planned, sporting men of all sorts will have enough to occupy their time during the next few months, with the greatest food for reflection during the winter.

The fashion that used to be prevalent among pugilists, of sporting from retirement after spending several years without a fight or even training, seems to have spread to other branches of sport this year, especially to cycling and baseball. Arthur Zimmerman, the erewhile king of the bicycle track, attempted to retrieve his fortune by a tour of the United States. The attempt was a failure, and he has succumbed to a set of weekly games at the club grounds. There are three or four events every Thursday, open to all members. The prizes are handsome, so that everybody has a chance to win. Silver and bronze medals are given to the first and second men, and at the end of the season the winner of the greatest number of points will receive a gold medal. The plan has already proved a great success.

At a recent baseball game, which I witnessed between a couple of amateur teams there was one player whose words and actions on the coaching line made the latter dwell in spectators in a state of laughter and in a great measure added his side to victory. His efforts were worthy of Arlie Latham, Mike Kelly or John Dunkle in the best days of those great exponents of the art. He was evidently a frequenter of the vaudeville theaters, for he sent up to the coaching line a succession of amusing and appropriate gags from the variety stage.

Speaking of amateur baseball, here few such teams there are! Of course there are lots of semi-professional teams masquerading as amateur teams nowadays, and this is one of the most fruitful sources of injury to amateur baseball. The professional game seems to have reached a very low ebb of popularity just now, owing to the questionable games of some of the League magnates.

The Youngest Leading Woman.

Miss Florence Rockwell has for years enjoyed the unique distinction of being the youngest leading lady in America. At the age of 15 she was the principal member of the support of Thomas W. Keene, and later she occupied a similar position with James O'Neill and Joe Jefferson. She also created the principal female role in Franklin Fyles' war drama, "Shenandoah." While Miss Rockwell was with Keene she played a wide range of Shakespearean and other standard characters. Now that the ridiculous statement has been made that Maude Adams is the youngest woman in America to make a success of the role of Juliet, it is interesting to recall that Miss Rockwell at the time she portrayed Shakespeare's love sick heroine was probably at least a dozen years younger than Miss Adams.

or threatening to return to the scenes of his former victories for the past two seasons, has actually done so. Longhead, the speedy, though erratic, Canadian, who did such wonderful work on the national circuit a couple of years ago and then suddenly disappeared, has also announced his intention of again competing with the cracks. Longhead, however, has taken up with racing at his home at Saniak and is entered in several short races in Canada this summer. It is therefore exceedingly improbable that he seriously contemplates going in for racing, during the present season at least.

There is another rider who used to be famous in the cycling world whom it would not surprise me much to see return to his old form. He is Billy Jimmy Michael. Michael made lots of money when riding a wheel, and he only left it because he thought the career of a jockey was easier and would bring him in a greater number of shekels, for, be it known, that Billy Michael, like all his countrymen, is very keen in regard to money matters. Jimmy has not proved an extraordinary success on the turf, and now that motor racing has come in there is lots more money to be made in the middle distance line without the expense of a large racing team, which ate so largely into the wads of money Michael carried during the past few seasons. The "Harelip" always was a clever man at following pace, and seeing the joke through to the end. The contest will kick off on Sept. 11.

Jeffries' "lieutenants," the reporters of his training camp, have gone home and it should be the chief endeavor of members and managers of amateur clubs to try to regain the lost prestige of our great national game.

LEO ETHERINGTON.

WAGNER'S START IN LIFE.

"I got my start through Phil Armour, the beef king," said President Wagner of the Washington Baseball club. "In 1879 I was working in Montana shearing sheep for 1 cents a head. I got tired of that and went to Denver, where I worked for $12 a week. One day I found myself in Chicago as near a hobo as any one can be. Armour saved my life."

"What did he do?" asked Burnham.

"He wanted me to introduce his dressed beef in Philadelphia, and he got me to do it," was the reply. "The Philadelphia butchers had given him the worst of it. Phil Armour took me out for a drive. I remarked that he had a pretty good horse. He made a contract with me that day whereby I was to handle all his dressed beef in Philadelphia for three years. I was to have $25 a week and all the profits. He was to furnish the horses in case three were any. In three months I had seven meat shops in Philadelphia. In the first ten months I cleared $2,000. The second year my brother and I had 14 stores and cleared $9,000. The third year we did not make so much. At the end of the third year the horses that we were driving the day I made the contract with him came to me by express. By mail came a letter, which said, 'Accept horses, with thanks.' I still have the last of those cheap going in Philadelphia. I never go near them, yet they make me about $1,000 a year. I have a son, and he is named after Phil Armour."

STORIES OF THE STAGE.

John Philip Sousa has an intense dislike for the mutilation of his musical compositions. To hells one of his marches played out of time or time not only sets his teeth on edge but puts him in a state of rage bordering on a state of resistance. He says he went down to his home in Tinkers, on the Hudson, to New York city, and in front of the Grand Central station he heard a band playing "The Washington Post March." It was playing the wheel with the accompaniment and cadenza irregularity, it occurred like a funeral march.

"Not on your life," he said, turning the wheel with the accompaniment and cadenza irregularity, it occurred like a funeral march.

"Why not?" asked the organ grinder, nonchalantly.

"Pardon, listeners?"

"Why not?"

"Yes. This way. Let me show you," and he took the crank into his hand and turned it with so much spirit and vigor that he soon had a crowd around him.

"Thank you," said the organist. "Who are you?"

"I'm Sousa. That's the proper way to play that march."

"Thank you, sir," replied the organist, bowing profoundly.

The next day Sousa came to town on the same train and found the same organ grinder in the same place playing "The Washington Post March," but as he had been tinkled the day before, but with much greater success. Passers by and evidently also strolling musicians were dotted deep around where the musician. Sousa thought his way to the front to see the cause of the excitement. He found it. On the crank was a large canvas sign reading:

THE WASHINGTON POST MARCH.
Composed by
John Philip Sousa.
Played by a
Pupil of Sousa.

Mr. Sousa has not given any more music lessons to strangers.

Thomas Wise of "The Cricket" company had a bad memory for names. A friend of his from Grand Rapids, Mich., had announced his intention to visit New York, and as he had been various times to remember to Mr. Wise. On some of his visits to the metropolis Mr. Wise felt singularly anxious that his friend should see him in his character of Thomas Penfold, and he called to leave his ticket at the door.

"Is Mr.—Mr.— Doggone it, I expect a friend of mine here and I've clean forgotten his name," said Wise.

"Don't you remember what it sounds like?" asked the desk clerk.

"It's something like—some fruit or nuts," answered Wise, "but it now has left my mind. Look up the right name."

"What does he look like?" asked the clerk, with evident solicitude for the actor.

Wise described him with careful detail.

"Oh, I know," said the clerk; "he's from Grand Rapids, Mich., isn't he?"

"He's the man," replied Mr. Wise, with brightening countenance.

"I guess we can find his name here" said the clerk, looking over the register. "Here it is—Mr. Thomas Penfold."

"That's it, that's it!" exclaimed Wise happily. "I knew it sounded like some do months."

Charles A. Gardner some years ago went fishing up in the Canadian lake with a party of seven friends. For the first few days the fishing was miserable, and Gardner became very much disgusted. He was for going home to Detroit, but the other fellows, who were inclined to stick it out and wait for better luck. As "Kent" could not be persuaded to remain, his companions were thought of some plan to induce him to change his mind. One afternoon, while the party slept off in the afternoon at the morning's early rising, a fellow joined the party and got off to the nearest telegraph station. There he wrote out a message to the gentlemen in the party who was in the grip with Kent and signed it with the name of the Scottish governor general.

"Stop all fishing at Lonesome lake" it read. "Prince of Wales coming for a day's fishing."

With this telegraphic message the sick plotter sent a basket of the fish to be thrown in the lake by the heads of the party. When the message arrived, the fishers were extremely excited at the prospect of entertaining royalty. Gardner was unanimously voted on not having gone to Detroit, for he had this magnificent chance to meet British royalty. Kent was neutral. Being found out. After

He wrote out a message

eating of the fish that had been sent, the fishermen had hardly time to get their lines, for not were thrown into the water. Next day all hands obtained from Detroit, each with a fine pointer. When evening came and he had not arrived, the party sent down a messenger dashing toward Detroit. He here in his hand the same telegraph message, for which the joker had arrived on the previous day.

"Prince not coming," it said. "Wrote me he left Detroit yesterday. Sell in his place."

Well, "Kent" didn't let on at first that whether he was "on" to the joke or not. As it was, the original joke was carried out. Next morning they started out on their fishing expedition. Gardner had unusual luck. Probably the fish that had been thrown into the lake drew their fishy companions in the vicinity of our friends' camp. At there was no more complaint after that as the score of bad sport.

PLAYS AND PLAYERS.

A Berlin play called "The Universal" aims to prove that Satan's efforts of civilization upon those who practice it.

Another Chinese entertainer will be before the public early in the coming season called "The Queen of Chinatown."

Gertrude Bennett has been engaged for the part of Cordelia in "The Miserere" with Louis O'Neill for next season.

Mathews and Bulger will have a new play ready for production in January to succeed "My Friend from Kansas," in which they will remain their last.

Bessie Dodge Loring has signed for the coming season with Murray and March, in "Finnigan's Four Hundred," to play for original part of Kitty Fagan. This is her second year at southern with this company.

It is now stated definitely in London that Ada Rehan will get the principal part in the autumn drama at Drury Lane.

Mr. and Mrs. James B. Field have signed for the coming season with the Hyde-Barker company for characters, and Mr. Field as stage manager.

Mildred Forrest has signed for next season with Rogers's "Next Door" company to play a part and introduce her acrobatic dancing specialty.

Kate Bishop and Kate Bishop have engaged the Bayle sisters, contortional dancers, as a special feature with the Ben Tom stock company for next season; also Adam Bayle as chief electrician and one assistant. The company will number 22 people, opening the season on Sept. 11.

Jennie Holmquist, the reporter of an idea living, Miss Terry and their company in their American four seven autumn and winter will include "The Merchant of Venice," "The Belle" and "A Story of Waterloo" in addition to "Nance Oldfield" and A. C. Calmour's play in verse, "The Amber Heart," in which Miss Terry will be the principal performer. The last named play has never been acted in this country.

Wilbur Mack and Isabelle Fenton are meeting with great success with their new one act comedy "Her First Husband."

The Actors' Society of America recently elected Charles Arthur as Secretary member by a unanimous vote.

Charles Butler Ferguson, who wrote "The Cat and the Cherub," is writing a new Chinese play, called "The Moonlight Blossom."

Pinero's new play, "The Gay Lord Quex," is to be translated into French and acted in Paris with Miss Dupuis as Sophie Fulgarney, the middle-aged coquette.

Irma La Fur has been engaged for Mr. Crosby's company presenting "Way Down East" next season.

Marguerite Mathews and Blanche Walsh will open their next season in Chicago, presenting "Glorianna."

J. M. Barrow has signed with Jessie Young as manager for next season.

Mrs. Louis Carter is thinking of supporting in "Macbeth" next winter.