

The Property of the Club.

Anfield Bicycle Club.

FORMED 1879.

REPORT OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

SEASON 1884.

LIVERPOOL :

MILLS & KNIGHT, PRINTERS, 101, DALE STREET.

© Anfield Bicycle Club

ANFIELD
BICYCLE CLUB.

FORMED 1879.

REPORT

OF THE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

SEASON 1884.

LIVERPOOL :

MILLS AND KNIGHT, PRINTERS, 101, DALE STREET.

© Anfield Bicycle Club



ANFIELD BICYCLE CLUB.

REPORT

OF THE

Annual General Meeting.

SEASON, 1884.

In the Chair, David R. Fell, Esq.

About 30 Members present. On the motion of Mr. Mercer, seconded by Mr. Lawrence Fletcher, the minutes of the last General Meeting were taken as read, and were subsequently confirmed.

The Hon. Secretary read resignations from Messrs. R. H. Jones and R. G. Patterson, which the meeting accepted with regret.

The Chairman then called upon the Hon. Secretary for his Report, which read as follows:—

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

In presenting to you the Fifth Annual Report, I have decided to follow the precedents of former years and commence with a few statistics which bear upon the position of the Club.

During the year 1884 our Active Membership has received an addition of 27, so that after deducting the names of a few seceders, and adding Honorary Subscribers, we close the year with 51 Active and 80 Honorary Members, and it is worthy of special note that although the Anfield is nominally a bicycling club, the best tricyclists in the district are on our Roll.

The number of Club Runs has been 47 out of a possible 48, and the attendance has been as follows:—

Lawrence Fletcher ...	47	J. M. Price	10
G. P. Mills	44	E. Harrison	7
W. D. Mills.....	41	H. Robinson.....	6
A. H. Fletcher.....	39	F. E. Stoker.....	5
D. J. Bell.....	33	H. M. Walker	5
C. E. Stoker.....	30	G. P. Miller	5
A. W. Gamble.....	30	J. K. Conway	4
J. B. Beazley	27	T. B. Conway	4
J. H. Cook	27	R. H. Jones	4
D. R. Fell	24	C. Melhuish.....	4
G. B. Mercer	19	W. J. Sloan.....	4
J. P. Fletcher	17	N. Crooke	3
J. Hall.....	17	H. Fraser.....	2
J. C. Robinson.....	16	W. C. Riley.....	2
T. Schroter	16	W. Barrett	1
E. J. Bayly	13	F. W. Mayor	1
S. Green	12	R. G. Patterson	1
S. A. Chalk	11	H. Pedder	1
A. Barrow	10	F. J. Ritson	1

The first and second prizes for attendance at runs, for which the Officers of the Club were ineligible to compete, have therefore been won by Messrs. G. P. Mills and W. Downes Mills respectively. The average attendance at Club Runs has been 12¹/₂, but, whilst this is a fairly satisfactory result, the Committee look to the Members to double these figures during the coming season. The runs have embraced many places of interest, and have all been carried out without casualties of any kind; the distance covered being in the aggregate about 1,650 miles.

The Meritorious Medal (presented by Mr. J. H. Cook) has been awarded to Mr. Geo. P. Mills, for having, on the 11th July last, ridden 160 miles to attend a Club fixture.

An additional eight Members have gained the 100 miles stars, making a total of 33 who now possess the distinction. It is hoped that every Member of the Club will make it his business to win one of these honorable badges early in the year.

The following long distance rides have entitled the riders to have their names engraved on the Long Distance Shield :—August 2nd, Lawrence Fletcher, London to York, 211 miles, by bicycle. Sept. 6th, J. C. Robinson, 161 miles, Liverpool to Tamworth and back to Warrington, by tricycle; and on Nov. 11th, Lawrence Fletcher, 158 miles, Birkenhead to Holyhead and Carnarvon, also by tricycle.

The Club Tours during the summer months were very great successes; commencing with the North Wales Easter Tour, in which 13 Members took part, and continuing with a pleasant run through Derbyshire

at Whit Week, the last tour of the year, namely, to Harrogate, in August, was, without doubt, the most enjoyable of all. Our members though not taking part in the Meet, occupied one of the tents, and the camping out, in company with so many other cyclists, proved a novel and pleasant experience, and it is anticipated that very many of our Members will make arrangements to be under canvas at Harrogate next August.

In February last, the Club moved into its present Head Quarters, and the Club House, which has been greatly appreciated by both Active and Honorary Members, has undoubtedly done much towards the success achieved by the Club in the past season. The monthly Socials, which have all been well attended by the Members and their friends, have proved very successful, and have gone a long way towards making the Club popular.

A pleasing feature of the year has been the presentation to Mr. Sidney A. Chalk (the late Hon. Treasurer) of a handsome watch guard and pendant, as a mark of the esteem and affection of his fellow clubmen, on his leaving Liverpool.

The Third Annual Race Meeting, held on the 10th May, passed off in a very satisfactory manner, both financially and otherwise, the entries being large, and including most of the best known athletes in the district.

The team of bicyclists sent to represent the Club at the Inter-Club Championship on the 22nd August, succeeded in winning for the year the West Lancashire Challenge Shield, thus entitling the Club to the Championship of Lancashire, Cheshire and Yorkshire. In addition to this, the Long Distance 24 Hours' Road

Records, for Lancashire riders, are in possession of this Club, Mr. Lawrence Fletcher holding the Bicycle record with 211 miles, and Mr. J. C. Robinson the Tricycle record with 171 miles, and it is hoped that our Members will take good care of these records during the coming season.

The 24 Hours' Road Ride to Tamworth (tricycle) and Coventry (bicycle), on the 6th September, was, in spite of the heavy and continuous rain, contested by 21 Members, with the following results:—G. B. Mercer and C. E. Stoker each 161 miles (bicycle), and J. C. Robinson 161 miles (tricycle), each of these gentlemen receiving a gold medal.

Mr. H. Fraser's splendid ride of 100 miles in 8 hours 45m. 10s. in the "Kangaroo" Road Race entitles him to especial mention.

The Annual Dinner was held on the 18th October, at the Royal Hotel, Prescott, and was attended by a large number of the Members. Early in October the Committee decided to start a Southern Division of the Club for the convenience of many Members resident in the south end of the town. The Division has answered all expectations, and will, it is anticipated, be the means of largely increasing our Active Membership.

On the 22nd October the first cyclists' classes ever held in this district under the auspices of the St. John Ambulance Association were commenced at Head Quarters with an attendance of some 40 cyclists. The Club was fortunate enough to secure as its lecturer Surgeon-Major D. W. Parsons, and the large and regular attendance at the classes testifies to the interest taken by the Members in his instructions for rendering "First Aid." The termination of the classes was marked by a suitable presentation to the lecturer.

The Cycling Paper Chases have as usual proved great attractions, and have been productive of some capital sport, the introduction of Safety Bicycles into them being an entirely new feature.

The Officers and Committee have been summoned to 26 meetings, which they have attended as follows :—

Lawrence Fletcher ...	25	C. E. Stoker.....	20
J. B. Beazley	25	J. H. Cook	14
J. P. Fletcher	23	S. Green	14
D. R. Fell	23	A. H. Fletcher.....	11
D. J. Bell.....	21	(Elected 9th June.)	
G. B. Mercer	21	W. D. Mills	11
T. Schroter	21	(Elected 26th May.)	

J. B. BEAZLEY,

HON. SECRETARY.

On the proposition of Mr. Sloan, seconded by Mr. Fraser, the Hon. Secretary's Report was unanimously adopted.

In presenting his Balance Sheet to the meeting, the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Mercer, pointed out that although the Club commenced the year with but a small balance, it had made very marked progress, and their assets were now valued at about £50. The Race Meeting had been successful, and resulted in a nett profit of £12.

Cash Account for year ending 31st December, 1884.

<i>Dr.</i>	<i>Cr.</i>
To Balance in hand, brought forward from season, 1883.....	£1 14 6
„ Entrance Fees and Subscriptions from Members	61 8 0
„ Donations to House Furnishing Account ..	9 12 0
„ Donations to Long Distance Prizes	8 10 0
„ Profit made by Annual Sports, May 10, 1884	12 0 0
„ Amount returned by Monstre Meet Committee for 1883	0 8 0
„ Badges, &c., sold to Members	2 1 0
	<u>£95 8 6</u>
	By Club House Expenses, viz., Rent, Taxes, Gas, Water, Coals, and Repairs
	£37 16 9
	„ Balance of Tricycle Account.....
	2 12 8
	„ Furniture, Fittings, and Long Distance Shield
	32 4 9
	„ 100 Miles Stars and 24 hours Road Ride Medals
	6 1 0
	„ Club Badges bought
	2 4 6
	„ Donation to Testimonial to late Treasurer..
	2 2 0
	„ Postages, Stationery, Printing and Sundries
	9 0 4
	„ Cash in hand
	3 0 11
	<u>£95 8 6</u>

<i>Liabilities.</i>	<i>Assets.</i>
NIL.	Cash in hand
	£3 0 11
	Proportion of Rent and Taxes already paid for part of year 1885
	3 8 6
	Sundries in Stock
	1 10 0
	Estimated Value of Furniture, Fittings and Long Distance Shield, the property of the Club
	45 0 0
	<u>£52 19 6</u>

Audited and found correct 1st January, 1885.
 E. R. BEAZLEY, } AUDITORS.
 T. S. HUGHES, }

G. B. MERCER, HON. TREAS.

On the motion of Mr. T. Smythe Hughes, seconded by Mr. W. Downes Mills, the Hon. Treasurer's Report was adopted.

The Chairman then called upon Mr. Lawrence Fletcher for his report of a Sub-Committee formed to attend to N. C. U. work in the district. Mr. Fletcher said, that, in view of a notice of motion appearing on the Agenda in his name, and which had reference to the N. C. U. Local Centre, he considered it impolitic to present to the meeting any formal report of the work done by himself and his colleagues during the past year. To show, however, that they had done their best, he would point out that they had been the means of having a very large number of sewer gratings altered in the district of the West Derby Local Board. No doubt many of the Members had seen a statement emanating from the Local Centre, that no dangerous gratings existed in Liverpool, and that it was consequently impossible for the Anfield B.C. or anyone else to have the danger removed; if any one present doubted his (the speaker's) statement, the correspondence of the Club was open to them.

At the urgent wish of Members resident in North Wales, danger boards had been erected on the Talargoch and Newmarket Hills, in Flintshire, and as soon as the season opened one of the new pattern boards would take the place of the now almost illegible board on the hill eight miles from Holywell, on the St. Asaph road. Arrangements were also being made to erect danger boards on the Penmaenmawr and Llanberis Passes, in Carnarvonshire, and on several steep descents in Merionethshire. The Club had suggested to the Local Centre the advisability of moving in the question

of a Road Fund for the North, and also in the matter of obtaining an alteration in the existing byelaws, regulating the hours for lighting lamps, an extension of time being most desirable during the summer months; the Local Centre had apparently decided against both of these, as they had replied to the former suggestion in the negative, and had in no way referred to the second. Determined that such an important matter as the Road Fund should not be thus helplessly dropped, local clubs were circularized and asked to attend a meeting for the purpose of considering what could be done; but whether from the lateness of the time of the year (October), or from other causes, the meeting was not sufficiently representative to warrant any action being taken, and to meet the case it was decided that the Club should bring out a pamphlet, giving a full report of the proceedings taken by the Birmingham Local Centre before the Halesowen Bench against the Ridgacre, Warley Wigorn, and other surveyors, and supplement this with the C.T.C. Pamphlet on roads and roadmaking. Considering, however, that to the N.C.U. belongs all the credit of the prosecutions referred to, the Executive in London was written to and asked for permission to issue the pamphlet under the sanction of the "N. C. U." Approving the idea, the Executive still asked this Club to obtain the necessary consent from the Local Centre, which, so far, has not been received, the officers of the Centre being desirous of seeing the book before they sanction its publication under N.C.U. auspices.

The Surveyors for Bethesda, Bangor, and Port Dinorwic had been communicated with, regarding the fearful state of the Main Holyhead Road, from the

foot of the Nant Ffrancon Pass, *vid* Bangor, to Port Dinorwic, and the result of a considerable amount of correspondence was regarded by the Sub-Committee with great satisfaction, as, though the reply of the Bethesda Surveyor had not come to hand, the Bangor and Dinorwic Surveyors had promised that the suggestions made should have attention, and they had, moreover, assured the representatives of the Club that the road would be kept properly in future, and that efforts would be made to lay the new metal in a very different manner. Mr. Fletcher concluded by hoping that the Club would consider that the Sub-Committee had done its duty as well as circumstances permitted.

Mr. Cook then proposed the adoption of the foregoing report, and a vote of thanks to the Members of the Sub-Committee, and, on being put to the meeting, both motions were carried unanimously.

Mr. T. Smythe Hughes then suggested that, as proposition No. 7 on the Agenda in Mr. Fletcher's name also affected the N.C.U. question, it should be taken at once, instead of treating with the numbers on the Agenda *seriatim*.

With the permission of the meeting, Mr. Lawrence Fletcher then proposed, that "This Club be again affiliated to the Local Centre of the N.C.U., and that the capitation fees be paid out of the funds of the Club." After what he had just been telling them regarding the N.C.U. work done by the Club, there was little necessity, Mr. Fletcher said, to enlarge upon his proposition, which, he felt sure, would recommend itself to them. The Anfield withdrew from the Centre a year ago, and he had no hesitation in saying that their withdrawal had been the means of much practical

good to cyclists in the home district. There had been a special competition between the Club and the Centre, and this had resulted in many matters being attended to, which the Club was last year too weak to press against an apparently unwilling majority. Now, however, the case was different; they were by far the strongest district club, and could command a place of respect upon the Local Centre Committee, and he therefore trusted, in the interest of cycling, that his proposition would receive the support of every Member present.

On being seconded by Mr. D. J. Bell, the proposition was put to the meeting and carried *nem. dis.*

Mr. L. Fletcher then moved No. 8 on the Agenda, "That the delegates of the Club to the Local Centre be elected by this meeting."

Mr. T. Smythe Hughes seconded the motion, which was carried.

The following Members were then elected to represent the Club on the Committee of the N.C.U. Local Centre:—D. J. Bell, Lawrence Fletcher, G. B. Mercer, and W. Downes Mills.

Leaving the chair for the time being, Mr. D. R. Fell then proposed No. 11 on the Agenda, "That the *minimum* subscription for Honorary Members for the current year shall be 10s. It was, he said, absurd on the face of it that Honorary Members resident in or near Liverpool, at whom this proposition was chiefly aimed, should have the run of the Club House, and free admission to the six or eight Socials of the Club for the sum of 5s. per annum. If all Honorary Members were in position to thus utilize the Club, they would be a dead loss to it, and he therefore considered that a *minimum* subscription of 10s. should be charged.

In seconding the proposition, Mr. Lawrence Fletcher pointed out that as a matter fact almost every Honorary Member who resided outside Liverpool had paid a half guinea subscription, and he felt certain that no desirable Member would refuse the extra five shillings; besides, they could not do with very many local Honorary Members, or they would soon require increased Club House accommodation.

As an amendment, Mr. W. C. Riley moved that gentlemen resident at least 15 miles from the Club House be admitted to Honorary Membership on payment of a *minimum* subscription of 5s. He considered that if the 10s. subscription was enforced they might lose a number of their Honorary Members whom it was desirable to retain.

The amendment was seconded by Mr. Benzley, who also feared that if the proposition became law a number of Honorary Local Members would become seceders.

Mr. Mercer pointed out that this matter had already been discussed at some length by the Committee, and it was only after careful consideration of the possible result that the majority of the Members had agreed to support Mr. Fell's proposition; he might also say that the Committee had gone over the list of Honorary Members and believed there were not a dozen doubtful renewals amongst the number. As the rule at present read, not only were Honorary Members passed in free to the Socials, but also to the Annual Race Meeting of the Club, the latter alone meant quite half-a-crown, and he submitted that even ten shillings was a cheap rate of admission to at least half-a-dozen Social Evenings and a Race Meeting. In his capacity as Treasurer (1884)

he had had ample opportunity for judging how such a rule was likely to work, and he now unhesitatingly supported Mr. Fell's proposition for an increased Honorary Subscription.

On being put to the vote, the amendment received 10 supporters, and the original proposition 17; the latter was therefore declared to be carried.

As private business called Mr. J. H. Cook from the meeting, he was permitted before leaving to present to Mr. G. P. Mills the medal which he had kindly offered for the most meritorious ride accomplished during the year. Mr. Cook said that after careful consideration of the merits of some ten rides, the decision of the Committee had been unanimous, and he had therefore the great pleasure to present to his friend Mr. George Mills the Meritorious Medal, and he thought every Member of the Club would agree with him that when a man rode 160 miles in one day, through fearful weather, to attend a Club run, his conduct deserved some special mark of recognition.

Mr. George Mills briefly thanked Mr. Cook.

Mr. D. J. Bell then presented to Mr. G. P. Mills the first prize, and Mr. Beazley presented to Mr. W. Downes Mills, the second prize, for attendance at Club runs, and both having been suitably acknowledged, the business of the meeting was resumed.

The Hon. Secretary read the new draft rules of the Club, and after considerable discussion and the alteration of several rules, Mr. W. Downes Mills proposed and Mr. T. S. Hughes seconded the adoption of the rules as revised, the motion being duly carried.

The meeting then proceeded to elect officers for Season 1885.

Mr. D. R. Fell proposed, and Mr. A. H. Fletcher seconded, a motion to elect Mr. G. B. Mercer as President, and this was unanimously carried amidst much enthusiasm.

Mr. Lawrence Fletcher, proposed by Mr. T. S. Hughes and seconded by Mr. D. J. Bell, and Mr. W. Downes Mills, proposed by Mr. W. J. Sloan and seconded by Mr. G. B. Mercer, were then elected Vice-Presidents.

Mr. H. Fraser proposed, and Mr. G. P. Mills seconded, Mr. D. J. Bell for the Captaincy (4th year), and this motion was carried amidst very great applause.

The following gentlemen were then proposed for the office of Sub-Captains, the two first-named being eventually elected :—H. Fraser, A. H. Fletcher, A. W. Gamble, C. E. Stoker, and T. Schroter.

Mr. Sloan proposed and Mr. Fraser seconded, that Mr. Beazley be requested to again occupy the post of Hon. Secretary, which he has so ably filled during the past two years.

On rising, Mr. Beazley said that he regretted his inability to again accept the office of Hon. Secretary to the Anfield B.C., his reasons for wishing to resign were of an essentially private character, and he trusted, therefore, that the meeting would let them pass. He had tried to do his best for the Club, and he hoped they would credit him with speaking the truth when he said he was not giving up because he was tired of the work ; on the contrary, nothing but a most pressing necessity would have made him take the course he had done and he must therefore request the meeting to appoint his successor, to whom he would be very willing to give every aid and assistance within his power.

Mr. Lawrence Fletcher then said that Mr. Beazley had in part explained to him his reasons for wishing to resign, and without abusing the confidence thus placed in him by his friend, he thought he might safely tell the meeting that Mr. Beazley was likely to be prevented, by private business, from regularly attending the Club runs on Saturday afternoons, and therefore imagined he could not do the Secretarial work properly. This, Mr. Fletcher submitted, was a mistaken idea on the part of Mr. Beazley. When a man took the interest in the Club which his friend had taken for some years, it was an immense pity if, for a small question of what, in any other club but the Anfield, would be considered mere detail—(laughter)—they allowed themselves to lose the services of one who had done more for the welfare of the Club than any living man. He had no need to remind them of the old saying that "A good secretary makes a good club," for a better illustration of this they could not have than the case of their own Club. He therefore asked them, as they valued the welfare of the "Old Anfield," to beg Mr. Beazley most earnestly to reconsider a decision which, if adhered to, would give pain to all his friends, and be undeniably the means of weakening the Club.

Following in the lines of the previous speaker, Mr. T. S. Hughes told the meeting that until recently he had had no conception of the work done by Mr. Beazley, and he felt that if that gentleman were to resign, a gap would be made in the list of Club Officers which they would have no little difficulty in filling satisfactorily. He did not seek to press upon Mr. Beazley an office which it would pain him to refuse if his private arrangements precluded the possibility of his doing the

work, but if, as Mr. Fletcher had said, it was only a question of a "not so regular attendance" at Club runs, he for one believed that the Members would decline to look at that matter as being of such importance as Mr. Beazley naturally thought it, and he felt sure, knowing as they all did, that Mr. Beazley would attend every run he possibly could, they would unanimously request him to again take his seat as Hon. Secretary of the Club.

Mr. J. K. Conway suggested that if the office of Assistant Secretary were created, such an official might relieve Mr. Beazley of much troublesome work.

Mr. Beazley, in replying, said that he had hoped they would have let him off more easily and that all he would have to do was to resign. He was sorry for his own sake that matters had not been accepted as he had put them, but he wished to thank the Members very sincerely for the value they were so good as to place upon his services as Hon. Secretary; although he could not now see his way to meet them by again taking that office for 1885, he would, if they approved, relieve them of immediate annoyance through the change of officials at such a busy time as the present, by becoming Secretary until the end of February next, when the Committee would no doubt be in a position to appoint his successor.

He again repeated that it was from no question of overwork that he wished to resign, and he trusted therefore, that the Members would not view it in that light.

Messrs. Sloan and Fraser then amended their proposition to read "That Mr. Beazley be re-elected as Hon. Secretary to 28th February next, by which time

it is hoped something may arise to spare the Club from the painful necessity of accepting the resignation of so valuable an officer.

On being put to the meeting the motion was declared amidst great applause to be carried unanimously.

Mr. Mercer then proposed and Mr. Fraser seconded, the election of Mr. David R. Fell as Hon. Treasurer. Mr. Mercer said that no words of his were necessary to recommend Mr. Fell to the meeting. He was one of the original Members and Officers of the Club, and by virtue of his financing occupation, was well qualified for the post of Treasurer.

Mr. Fell was duly elected.

The following gentlemen were then elected members of the Committee :—

J. H. Cook.	T. S. Hughes.
J. P. Fletcher.	J. C. Robinson.
T. Schroter.	C. E. Stoker.

Mr. D. J. Bell then proposed No. 9 upon the Agenda. He said that the motion appearing in his name "That in the event of a local meet of Cyclists being held during the year, the Club do again refrain from taking any part in such meet," spoke for itself, and he believed it was quite unnecessary for him to say anything more about it. The Club had not attended the 1884 meet and he for one was very glad to be able to say so.

Mr. C. E. Stoker said he had great pleasure in seconding Mr. Bell's motion. He hoped the Club would never attend another local meet.

Mr. T. S. Hughes here remarked that it had been suggested in certain quarters that the action of the

Club in riding in procession at the North Wales Meet was looked upon by outsiders as inconsistent.

Mr. Beazley pointed out that the Club had given in the public press its reply to such a one-sided view of affairs, and enlarged upon the difference between Bettws-y-Coed and Sefton Park. He also reminded Mr. Hughes that although the Club was in Camp at Harrogate, no part was taken in the procession there, simply and solely because the Members considered the original objects of holding unwieldy processions of Cyclists in large towns to be more than served; the Anfield he said had set the custom in Liverpool in a good many matters, and he had little doubt that in the case under notice the Club would not be short of the usual imitators.

Mr. Lawrence Fletcher, as "North Welsh" Chief Consul to the C.T.C., here assured the Chairman that it was in the last degree improbable there would be any procession in connection with the North Wales Meet of 1885. It would simply be a *reunion* of Cyclists, and he expected to see very many friends there from London and Manchester, as well as from Liverpool.

Mr. Bell's motion was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Mr. G. B. Mercer then proposed No. 10 on the Agenda, "That the tours for the coming season shall be at North Wales at Easter, the Midlands in Whit Week, and Harrogate in August." He said that everyone knew what the Easter Tour in North Wales meant, so it was needless to say anything about it, the Midlands Tour had always been a most enjoyable affair, and as for Harrogate, they had all heard so much of camp joys that they were only waiting for August to

come round, in order to have their share of tent life.

Mr. J. C. Robinson had pleasure in seconding Mr. Mercer's list of proposed Tours for 1885. He would, however, suggest that the Committee should endeavour to make financial arrangements for carrying out the Tours on the lines of other large clubs, he believed that if the Tours could be carried out for a fixed sum chargeable to each man who took part in them, they would have a very large attendance of the Members, and the prestige of the Club would rise accordingly.

Mr. T. S. Hughes asked what was meant by such an arrangement as that suggested by Mr. Robinson, he for one would certainly have no objection to having his expenses paid wherever he went (laughter), but he decidedly would not be a party to anything which was suggestive of pauperism by subsidising some Members at the expense of others.

Mr. Lawrence Fletcher said that the scheme suggested by Mr. Robinson had long been one of his pet ideas, he had in fact put the matter very strongly before the Committee at their last meeting, but, as they were of one mind in condemning it, he had been obliged to let it fall to the ground. This question of a fixed sum payable by every Member taking part in the Tour, and relieving him from further ordinary expense, was the secret of the splendid musters turned out by the Speedwell Club on their Tours, and there was no need to fear that anyone would taunt the Members of the Club with pauperism if they followed the lead of the "Speedwell," he instanced a recent Saturday to Monday Tour of the last named Club in North Wales, which was done at twenty-one shillings per man, and was taken part in by upwards of twenty Members. He did

not, however, wish to press the matter, knowing his colleagues on the Committee to be opposed to it.

Mr. Robinson who rose to order, then said that not merely the Speedwell, but such Clubs as the North Warwickshire and Birchfield also worked their Tours under this arrangement, and the Anfield need not be afraid to copy them.

Mr. Mercer's motion was then put to the meeting and declared carried.

Mr. Lawrence Fletcher then moved that No. 12 on the Agenda, suggesting the adoption by the Club of a Crest and Motto, be referred to the Committee, and this, on being seconded by Mr. Fraser, was carried.

In the absence of Mr. J. H. Cook, No. 13 on the Agenda, standing in his name, was taken up by Mr. G. B. Mercer, who proposed "that the usual Race Meeting of the Club be held, on a date to be arranged by the Committee. Mr. Sloan seconded, but Mr. Lawrence Fletcher moved as an amendment, that the Club do hold three Race Meetings, viz., in Spring, Summer and Autumn; one of these meetings to be a 'Charity Sports,' and the profits to be given to the Medical Charities of the town;" this was seconded by Mr. C. E. Stoker, and after some discussion the amendment was put to the Meeting and carried *nem dis*.

Mr. Mercer then moved No. 14 on the Agenda, "That the House Committee be not re-elected, the General Committee being quite sufficient to work the Club House." In his capacity of Chairman of the Club House Committee, Mr. Mercer said he had long seen that such a Committee was quite unnecessary. When they first had to get their furnishing done, and generally set the House "going" it was quite another

matter, and the Members of the Sub-Committee who were with one exception Members of the General Committee, had their hands full. Now, however, that all was working satisfactorily, the Sub-Committee was not required. Mr. Fell seconded the motion, which was carried forthwith.

With the permission of the Meeting, Mr. Lawrence Fletcher then withdrew Nos. 15 and 16, relative to the Club moving in the matter of a track for Liverpool. The matter he said, had already been taken up by individual Members, and if any information on the subject was desired, either Mr. J. C. Robinson, or he himself would be pleased to afford it.

A very long discussion then took place regarding the Long Distance Road Riding prizes, Mr. Bayly proposing that a medal should be given for 150 miles, this motion was supported by Messrs. Beazley, Fraser and many others, and was strongly opposed by Messrs. Fell and L. Fletcher, who considered that it was too low a limit to offer any prize for, beyond the ordinary hundred miles Star.

The difficulty was finally solved by Messrs. Fraser and J. C. Robinson kindly offering to present to every Member who should cover 150 miles on the road in 24 consecutive hours, a Gold Centred Silver Medal, for bicyclists and tricyclists respectively.

Mr. Bayly then announced his intention of presenting a Gold Medal to the Member, who, during the whole year, succeeded in covering the longest distance upon the road in 24 consecutive hours, on any class of machine.

The Club decided to offer valuable Gold Medals as an inducement to Members to try for the Long Distance

Road Records, from, and including the 50 miles tricycle and 100 miles bicycle, up to the Land's End to John O'Groat's record.

Mr. Lawrence Fletcher said that he would give a first class bicycle or (single) tricycle, (to the order of the winner) to the Member who succeed in completing in the whole year the greatest number of runs, over 100 miles, in 24 consecutive hours.

Mr. Fraser also offered to give a second prize for this competition. It was, however, understood that a Member must attend a certain proportion of Club Runs if he wished to be eligible to compete for this prize.

In addition to the above, members riding 175 miles on a tricycle, or 200 miles on bicycle or tandem tricycle, will be awarded the Gold Star of the Club. Every time Members succeed in covering in 24 consecutive hours on the road, 150 miles or upwards on a tricycle, 200 miles or upwards on bicycle or tandem tricycle, they will be entitled to have their performances recorded on the Club's Long Distance Shield.

Messrs. Bell and Mercer promised the usual first and second prizes for attendance at Club Runs, officers ineligible, and a hearty vote of thanks was then accorded to all those gentlemen who had so kindly promised prizes, their offers being unanimously accepted.

The Meeting terminated at midnight, after the usual vote of thanks to the Chairman.

© Anfield Bicycle Club

© Anfield Bicycle Club