



(Photo: G. E. Gregory)

hands with R. James (Cuckfield) in the Junior "A" seven stone bout.

stopped D. Knight (B) in first round. M. Thwaites (B) outpointed E. Farrugia (W.S.); I. A. Amatad (J) outpointed R. V. Dixon (W.S.); E. Elborough (W.S.) outpointed V. Newington (B). F. Pinnermore (B) stopped M. Chambers (B) in second round; P. A. Smith (B) outpointed R. A. Eckersley (H); S. Frazer (B) outpointed A. Crouch (H). D. Hatton (B) outpointed R. Chamberlain (W.S.); B. F. Cordier (B) stopped C. B. Fowler (E) in first round; R. R. Freeman (B) outpointed G. H. Harman (H). K. A. Chapman (E) stopped R. A. Flint (W.S.) in second round; P. H. Hall (H) won his bout with J. E. Bonwick (B) on a disqualification.

## Cycling

### SPARTAN CLUB

Training on Sunday was curtailed owing to the weather.

The Secretary has an entry form for the first mass start race of the season. Members wishing to ride should contact him before Tuesday.

The run tomorrow will leave Battle Abbey at 9.30 a.m.

### WET RIDE

The main run of the Hastings and St. Leonards Cycling and Athletic Club, on Sunday, went out to Northiam to meet members of Woolwich C.C. Rain came on during the lunch stop, so a fairly direct route was taken to Boreham Street, where a few other members joined the club tea.

Tomorrow members meet at London-road, St. Leonards, at 9.30 a.m. Tea will be at Chalvington.

## Motor Cycling

### STAPLECROSS TRIAL

A club trial will be held on private ground in the Staplecross area tomorrow, starting at 11 a.m. Members willing to act as observers are requested to be on the course by 10.30 a.m.

The course will be clearly marked from the arch on the A229 road near Cripps' Corner.

# Hastings Cycling Club Celebrates Progress

## 82 YEARS OF 'GOOD FELLOWSHIP AND GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP'

**A**DVANTAGES of the time trial over massed start bicycle racing were stressed by Mr. J. Spackman, of the Century Road Club, when he proposed the main toast at the 82nd annual dinner, prize presentation and dance of the Hastings and St. Leonards Cycling and Athletic Club at the Castle Hotel on Saturday.

Mr. Spackman said that in massed start racing the top riders were reaching a much higher peak of performance than ever before. This meant that fewer riders would reach the top, and that lots of other riders would never reach the top. But in time trials they could "have a go" and get a lot of fun out of it, even if they were not near the top men.

"In massed start racing unless you are near the top men you have to drop out," said Mr. Spackman. "You cannot carry on riding slowly."

Recalling that the club was founded in 1876, Mr. Spackman told the large company, which included visitors from many other clubs at Rye, Eastbourne, Southborough, Sittingbourne, the Medway Towns, Dartford, and elsewhere, that Hastings was among the earliest of cycling clubs. Their first dinner was held in February, 1878, and later that year three members competed in an open event.

### FORTUNES REVIVED

In 1881 it was decided to bar tricyclists, but a year later they were again permitted to join the club, and the following year a special event was run for them. In 1885 the father of Freddy March, Tolly March, led a revival in the club's flagging fortunes by securing the first away win. In 1886 Archie Stokes won the home trainer championship of the world, and 1898 saw the club's first hill climb. In 1898 road racing was abandoned under a ruling of the National Cyclists' Union, due to police action.

In 1900 Tolly March claimed the 24 hour record, in an unofficial ride done privately, of 220 miles in 21½ hours. In 1909 track racing was resumed, time trials were started, and Freddy March made his debut. In 1911 the club saluted the past by organising two ordinary bicycle races. The athletic section was formed in 1913 and survived until 1950-51.

During the 1914-18 war the club remained alive and after the war Freddy March won a number of N.C.U. Sussex championships. The year 1924 saw a new star in the firmament, and George Jenkins won successes on road and track.

During the last war the club still kept going, but on a reduced scale, and the man responsible was Percy Bliss.

Mr. Spackman paid a tribute to Jack Southerden, the club historian, who was writing their history after a successful racing career.

Mr. J. H. Southerden, responding, said: "We have seen another year added to the club's long life and the main purpose of this dinner is to celebrate our progress. As a club gets older the past becomes more interesting and more important. Many of us are very proud of the past,

and 1957 has been a good year, with regular Sunday and Wednesday runs, and with a good programme of time trialing and many evening events."

Mr. Southerden dealt with the highlights of the past racing season, and said that Maurice Carpenter had done it again by winning the majority of senior events, and the club championship for the second year in succession. P. Adams had set up a new club record of 392.1645 miles in 24 hours.

Speaking of the women's section, he said that Esther Rolleston had made new club records at 25 and 100 miles and for 12 hours.

Mr. Percy Bliss, the president, who was in the chair, proposed the toast of the visitors, and especially welcomed those from other clubs.

Mr. W. T. Collins (Eastbourne Rovers), responding, told Mr. Bliss: "You and your club act as a magnet which draws us to this dinner year by year, where we find good fellowship and good sportsmanship — a tradition which has been built up over the years. We wish the club continued success in the field of sport in this wonderful pastime of ours."

Mr. A. E. C. Harrison, of the Medway Road Club, also responded in a humorous speech.

Mr. E. C. Southcot, a former president of the N.C.U., spoke on his reminiscences of cycling racing at the Olympic Games in past years.

Dinner was followed by dancing, with Mr. W. Baker as M.C.

The president presented the awards as follows:—

Best clubman, M. Lingham; 10 miles, gears under 65in., M. Carpenter, 27min. 41sec.; 10 miles, Junior Puseell Shield, L. Chambers, 26min. 52sec.; 15 miles, Junior Trophy, D. Page, 47min. 3sec.; 25 miles, April 25, M. Carpenter, 1hr. 8min. 25sec.; 25 miles, Ron Knate Memorial, M. Carpenter, 1hr. 4min. 54sec.; 25 miles, September 25, A. Moorhouse, 1hr. 3min. 51sec.; 30 miles, M. Carpenter, 1hr. 21min. 45sec.; 50 miles, Croft Trophy, A. Moorhouse, 2hr. 13min. 45sec.

100 miles trophy, M. Carpenter, 4hr. 54min. 32sec.; 12 hours, P. Bliss Trophy, M. Carpenter, 221.412 miles, won outright; 24 hours, P. Adams, 392.1645 miles; Rye-Hythe-Rye, M. Carpenter, 1hr. 52min. 39sec.; speed judging, L. Chambers; hill climb, A. Moorhouse, 2min. 57 2-5sec.; Christmas Day, 10 miles, M. Carpenter, 28min. 31sec.; B.A.R., F. Martin Trophy, M. Carpenter, 21.114 m.p.h.

## Rugby Football

### TODAY'S TEAMS

Hastings and Bexhill 1st XV v. Ashford, at Bexhill (2.45).—M. C. Gulliver (capt.); M. J. Eden, P. Genasi, D. H. Leigh, R. G. Dunne; D. C. Ingram, P. E. Jones; L. J. Green, D. Carr-Taylor, R. Day, J. R. S. Curtis, D. Hayward, G. E. Mounsey, N. J. Drake, B. Cooper, Retere J. Poiard (Worthing).

"A" XV v. Ashford "A", at Ashford (coach leaves Castle Hotel, Hastings, 1.0).—R. A. Embleau; C. J. Pearson, P. D. Clough, P. N. T. Mason, D. L. P. Sothson; M. J. Richardson, J. Bliss (capt.); M. Pembroke, D. C. Brooks, A. C. Elvin, J. P. Hazlett, M. W. Green, B. J. Hill, N. R. Granville-Smith, J. A. Taylor.