

Proceedings of the First International Conference of Cycling History

Wednesday/Thursday 30th/31st May 1990.

**Museum of Transport,
Kelvin Hall,
1 Bunhouse Road,
Glasgow.**

PROGRAMME

Day 1: Chairman Mr Derek Roberts

Morning Session

Lessing, Professor Hans Erhard "Karl Von Drais' Two Wheeler: What we know".

Afternoon Session

Oddy, Mr Nicholas "Kirkpatrick Macmillan, the Inventor of the Bicycle or the Invention of Cycling History".

Clayton, Mr Nicholas "A Missing Link - The Meyer Guilmet Bicycle, 1869 or 1879?"

Day 2 : Chairman Mr Leslie G. Bowerman

Morning Session

Millward, Mr Andrew "The Genesis of the British Cycle Industry 1867-1872"

Afternoon Session

Kobayashi, Mr Keizo "The Inventor of the Lallement Pattern. Michaux, Olivier or Lallement himself".

INTRODUCTION

The following publication contains the Proceedings of the First International Conference of Cycling History. The initiator of the Conference was Mr Nicholas Clayton, the editor of *The Boneshaker*, the magazine of the Veteran-Cycle Club, and it was funded partly by the subscriptions of those who participated and partly with funds from the Glasgow District Council Festival Budget. The Conference coincided with the Kirkpatrick Macmillan 150 celebrations which were held during that week, but it was not part of that official event.

It was not originally planned for the Conference Proceedings to be published and so speakers did not all prepare papers in a form readily publishable. Some speakers presented their ideas informally while others provided formal lectures. When the participants elected to have the Proceedings published some time had to be given to what form these should take. Ultimately it was decided to contact all the speakers and request copies of their papers for publication. After receiving these a further request was sent for references and sources of information to be given for all but one speaker. Since, in most cases, the speakers were now engaged in new projects this resulted in a time delay while those speakers who wished to take up this option took the trouble to annotate their work. This accounts for the inconsistent and the incomplete annotation of the papers and it is hoped that this aberration is forgiven. The organisers of the Second Conference in France instituted the practice of formally requesting papers and putting time limits on speakers and in Germany, for the Third Conference, translation of the papers was undertaken in advance.

The decision to have the papers translated into French was prompted by the heavy representation by that country at Glasgow and the keenness to have the information circulated to a non-English speaking audience through a well-established international language. It was agreed after the Second Conference that all future Conferences' Proceedings should be published in English, summarised in French and, where applicable, published in the language of the nation holding the Conference. Thus the Third Conference Proceedings are available in two separate volumes; German and English with French translation.

The translation of the papers required not only a knowledge of the French language, but also some understanding of the technical content under discussion. It was very fortunate that Mr. Roland Sauvaget was prepared to undertake the task and in the circumstances he has done an excellent job. The additional task of translating while the amendments to the English papers were being undertaken

complicated the task considerably and Roland has shown great energy and fortitude in keeping up with the work as well as making some suggestions to improve the general reading of the papers.

Although the Proceedings of a conference would normally provide an account of the actual papers given the time delay in this case had resulted in new work emerging and the opportunity was extended for the speakers to make any modifications to their work in the light of this. For the most part the papers are generally as read, but in Mr Nicholas Oddy's case the opportunity has been taken to add a postscript to take account of comments which have subsequently appeared relating to the subject of Macmillan.

It is intended that the papers will not only simply report the speakers' ideas and opinions, but will also be accurate. Mr Derek Roberts has conducted the proof-reading of the text with great rigour and he deserves the full credit for getting the papers into a printable form. It is intended that any errors that may come to light will be noted and corrected in future Conference Proceedings at reasonable intervals and notification regarding any errors would be gratefully received. It was decided to provide an index for the Proceedings at a later stage and to cover a suitable number of Conferences eg. five year sequences.

Finally we are indebted to Mr Brian Hayward who has taken responsibility for the typesetting of the Proceedings and the printing of the finished text. The typing of the French translation was entirely down to Roland Sauvaget. Most of the English text was produced by scanning and reading the original documents using character recognition software. This saved some time initially, but ultimately led to the appearance of some bizarre typographical errors and inconsistencies in the formatting of the text which have taken much time locating and removing. Particular thanks are due to Mr Leslie Bowerman and Derek Roberts for their assistance in the early proof-reading stages. Finally a debt of thanks is owed to all those who participated in the first three Conferences and to those who have made suggestions and offered constructive advice on the final format of these Proceedings.

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