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Canadian MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION NEWS

Canada's Leading Monthly Motorcycle Magazine November, 1960

Toronto

Price 25c

CORDUROY RIDERS



Photos by Peter Jackson

**Official Publication of the
CANADIAN MOTORCYCLE
ASSOCIATION INC.**

Phone Toronto BElmont 3-8200

Address all news, editorial
communications and
undelivered mail to

**Canadian Motorcycle Association
Box 100,
Hollywood P.O.,
Toronto 18, Ont.**

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CIRCULATION MANAGER
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**Authorized as Second-Class Mail,
Post Office Department, Ottawa.**

Printed by The Spalding Printing Co. Ltd.
16 Queen Elizabeth Blvd.,
Toronto 18, Ont.

**Make all remittances payable to the
C.M.A.**

Vol. 15 No. 11 November, 1960

THIS MONTH'S COVER

The group of pictures on our cover was taken by Peter Jackson, and they depict some of the difficulties of the Corduroy Enduro route. Upper left is the sidecar champ George Davidson with passenger Bill Ryan. Upper right, Leroy Winters all the way from Arkansas to try the Cord Run, and lower right the grand champion, John Penton. Lower left, a constant supporter, Leroy Hartman tries out an abandoned railway.

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CORDUROY ENDURO

The Canadian Championship Corduroy Enduro will be run on September 24 and 25 in the picturesque Haliburton Highlands 100 miles north-east of Toronto. Once again the British Empire Motor Club has organized a two day, 400 mile cross-country event providing an outstanding weekend of motorcycle sport for all enduro, trials and scrambles enthusiasts.

Headquarters for the run during the weekend will be at Gold Rock Lodge near Coboconk. Arrangements have been made for lodging and meals at a very reasonable rate. Full details including entry and reservation forms are contained on the insert page in the centre of this issue.

In recent years the results of the Corduroy have been dominated by American enduro riders who make up a large proportion of the entry. These enthusiasts consider the event to be equal to the top U.S. enduros and are willing to travel 500 miles or more in order to compete. In spite of the fact that there is a keen group of Ontario riders who enter the event each year, the organizers are convinced that Canadian motor-

cyclists have not given the Corduroy the support that a Canadian National Championship event deserves.

The event offers every owner of a trials, scrambles or sports machine, lightweight or heavyweight, a first class introduction to endurance runs. A somewhat modified route provides an opportunity for sidecar drivers to have a bash. The route is well marked with arrows and an accurate route card is provided so that few riders have difficulty staying on course. The course includes plenty of rough trails, but the layout crew deliberately avoid bottomless mud holes, etc., and provide assistance in sections which may become difficult. The required average speeds are designed to be interesting but thoroughly rideable. Chances of winning a trophy are excellent — last year there was one trophy for every two entries.

We are certain that Canadian riders can win the Corduroy just as they win the championship road races, scrambles, etc., however, in the face of growing American competition, it will take a larger entry of our top notch competition riders to do it — what about it?

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PENTON HEADS CORDUROY ENDURO ATHLETES

Level Pegged with Sharpless after First Day

by Ron White



"The trail went that way . . ." — John Penton tells G. Slater.

Photo by Ron White

The 1960 version of the Canadian National Championship Corduroy Enduro was at least as tough as its predecessors. The rugged 380 mile nightmare course left many riders sadder but wiser, although all agreed that it was a "rewarding experience."

The biggest reward came to John Penton of Lorain, Ohio, who became the first twice in a row Grand Champion. The athletic N.S.U. rider finished first day tied for the lead with Bill Sharpless of Toronto, at 13 points lost and kept his final score down to 17, while Sharpless picked up a further dozen on his 500 Matchless to total 25 which was good for runner-up and Best Opposite Class honours.

A bonus reward for all concerned was a preview of the beautiful Colour Cavalcade which makes the Haliburton Highlands ablaze with scarlet and orange hues after the first early frost, a mecca for thousands of nature lovers.

The vast potential of this relatively wild and undeveloped resort and logging area defies imagination and Corduroy trail blazers, Ron Jackson and Doug Mc-

Clure put it to good use. The result, after months of preparation, is a bewildering succession of hazards too numerous to tell, but includes deep rivers, abandoned railways, swampy trails, beaver dam crossings, disused wagon tracks overgrown with weeds and brush and fraught with rock outcrops, corduroy (log roads) from which the event gets its name and no roads at all.

And through all this the lone rider must follow a route card showing precise times, mileages and average speeds. The secret time control check point may be behind the next rock outcrop, or bend in the trail or at the end of a straight section where the unwary attempt "to get a little time in hand!"

Norm Smith from Brecksville, Ohio, took the Lightweight class, on a decision after tying with George Slater of Lorain, Ohio, with 42 points.

A 500 Ariel carried Hart Kennedy of Toronto to the Mediumweight Championship, although he was reportedly seen carrying the Ariel at one point.

Heavyweight Champ, Don Brice of



Bill Strachan struggles below beaver dam. Photo by Peter Jackson



Dennis Massey has a well waterproofed machine, necessary for such deep river crossings. Photo by Peter Jackson

Walled Lake, Mich., served notice that the 55 cu. in. Harley Sportster is a power to be reckoned with as he shot great rooster tails of mud 20 feet in the air behind him.

And out of the sidecar brigade, only George Davidson survived with his 500 A.J.S. and passenger Bill Ryan. The A.J.S. looked all right, but both Toronto men were very, very tired.

A concerted effort by Bill Sharpless, Hart Kennedy and Jerry Van Der Eyken, gave Toronto' Nortown Motorcycle Club the team prize along with the Best Opposite and Mediumweight Championship. Altogether the best club showing of the weekend.

Special mention should be made of Leroy Winters, all the way from Ft. Smith, Arkansas, who came north with his immaculate 200 Triumph and made a strong bid for the Lightweight honours. That goes down in our book as ENTHUSIASM FOR THE SPORT!

Another successful Corduroy Enduro and the kudos to the British Empire Motor Club and the Canadian Motorcycle Association on their fine Championship

event. It will go from strength to strength.

RESULTS

Grand Champion, John Penton, Lorain, Ohio, N.S.U. 175, 17 points lost.

Best Opposite Class, Bill Sharpless, Toronto, 500 Matchless, 25 points.

Lightweight Champion, Norman Smith, Brecksville, Ohio 175 N.S.U., 42 points.

Mediumweight Champion, Hart Kennedy, Toronto, 500 Ariel, 36 points.

Heavyweight Champion, Don Brice, Walled Lake, Mich., 55 cu. in. H.D., 58 points.

Sidecar Champion, George Davidson/ Bill Ryan, Toronto, 500 A.J.S./Watsonian, 419 points.

Club Team Championship, Nortown M/C, Toronto, Sharpless, Kennedy and Van der Eyken, 117 points.

Lightweights

J. Penton, N.S.U., 17; N. Smith, N.S.U., 42; G. Slater, N.S.U., 42; J. de Cruchy, Tri., 87; L. Winters, Tri., 88; B. Weisz, Dot., 105.

Mediumweights

W. Sharpless, Matchless, 25; H. Kennedy, Ariel, 36; J. Van der Eyken, B.S.A., 56; L. Hartman, B.S.A., 71; W. Strachan, Ariel, 93; G. Bliss, B.M.W., 102; J. Hands, Ariel, 121; D. Smith, Mat., 158; T. Hodgson, R.E., 213; J. Hunt, Mat., 237; J. Seifried, A.J.S., 246; D. Massey, Mat., 276; G. Colbourne, Mat., 549.

Heavyweights

D. Brice, H.D., 58; M. Cutler, Norton, 95.

Sidecar

G. Davidson/W. Ryan, A.J.S./Watsonian, 419.

All other entrants were D.N.F.

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