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*René Menzies* on his  
**ARMSTRONG-Moth CYCLO**  
*equipped Cycle*

My thanks to all Club members, for their help and encouragement, and to my sponsors for their consideration in making the attempt possible.

*British Professional long distance rider.*

## YEAR'S MILEAGE CYCLE RACE

For the first time in the history of this record five riders started their attempt : J. A. Steward of Paisley and D. C. Graham of London ; both retired early on, leaving the field to Bennett, Menzies and Nicholson. Bennett, the boy, was able to outdistance his elders for a few weeks, in fact, he was the only rider to cover 275 miles in one day's riding. However, better judgment and management of the pro's soon told its tale. René Menzies, the veteran of the race, 49 years old, kept up the pace in England against his youthful opponent and was the first rider to beat Walter Greaves' figures, on Wednesday, September 29th, with :

### 45,384 miles in 272 days

beating Nicholson up to that date. This performance of Menzies on his Rudge has been acclaimed as the most thrilling performance of all times between two riders on a same attempt riding in opposite parts of the globe. Unfortunately, Menzies was the victim of an accident, colliding with a lorry, and sustaining a broken wrist ; undaunted, with his arm in plaster, he kept riding under the most painful conditions to himself and supporters. Despite this, he only missed one day's riding, when he had to attend at the hospital, whilst Nicholson, riding under better climatic conditions, was able to catch up and continue to pile up daily averages of over 200 miles, which Menzies himself exceeded on several days.

It was indeed a most brilliant human display of pluck and perseverance on Menzies' part that made it, right to the end, the most epic ride ever attempted under such conditions.

The monthly mileage of the two riders is given below :—

	Nicholson		Menzies			Nicholson		Menzies	
		D'ly Av.		D'ly Av.			D'ly Av.		D'ly Av.
January ...	4,672	150.7	4,138	133.5	July ...	5,339	172.2	6,003	193.6
February ...	4,280	152.8	3,838	137	August ...	5,973	192.7	6,459	208.3
March ...	4,841	156.1	4,068	131.2	September ...	5,761	192	6,116	203.8
April ...	4,380	146	4,628	154.2	October ...	5,272	170	5,117	165
May ...	4,968	160.2	5,410	174.5	November ...	5,528	184.2	5,385	179.5
June ...	5,359	178.6	4,958	165.2	December ...	6,284	202.7	5,441	175.5
<b>Total,</b>					<b>Total,</b>				
<b>June 30</b>	<b>28,500</b>		<b>27,040</b>		<b>Dec. 31</b>	<b>62,657.6</b>		<b>61,561</b>	

Having failed to bring home the year's mileage record, he decided to carry on so as to establish a standard time for the 100,000 kms. distance which he completed in Paris on January 6th, 1938, under the control of *Cycling* and *Paris-Soir* in the record time of 371 days for 66,000 miles.

# 1952

## YEAR'S MILEAGE

# VETERAN CYCLING RECORD

This new attempt by Menzies, fourteen years after his previous record, seems an incredible task for anyone else, except René ; his object is to create at 62 years of age, a veteran's mileage record which he hopes will be outstanding for many years to come and revive for the benefit of a new cycling generation the interest that he himself created by his long distance rides.

He started at midnight on January 1st from Big Ben (London) under the control of "The Bicycle" who accepted the official duties of daily check—all went well until once again he was the victim of a serious road accident on the Great West Road, where he came off second best with a broken collar bone and other injuries—enough to cause anyone else to pack up.

This was his last chance ; 1953 would make him 12 months older, he could not think of failure in this attempt. Restless and eager to ride his cycle, 24 days later, on February 8th, he was allowed by the doctor to remount and gradually worked himself painfully into his previous riding form.

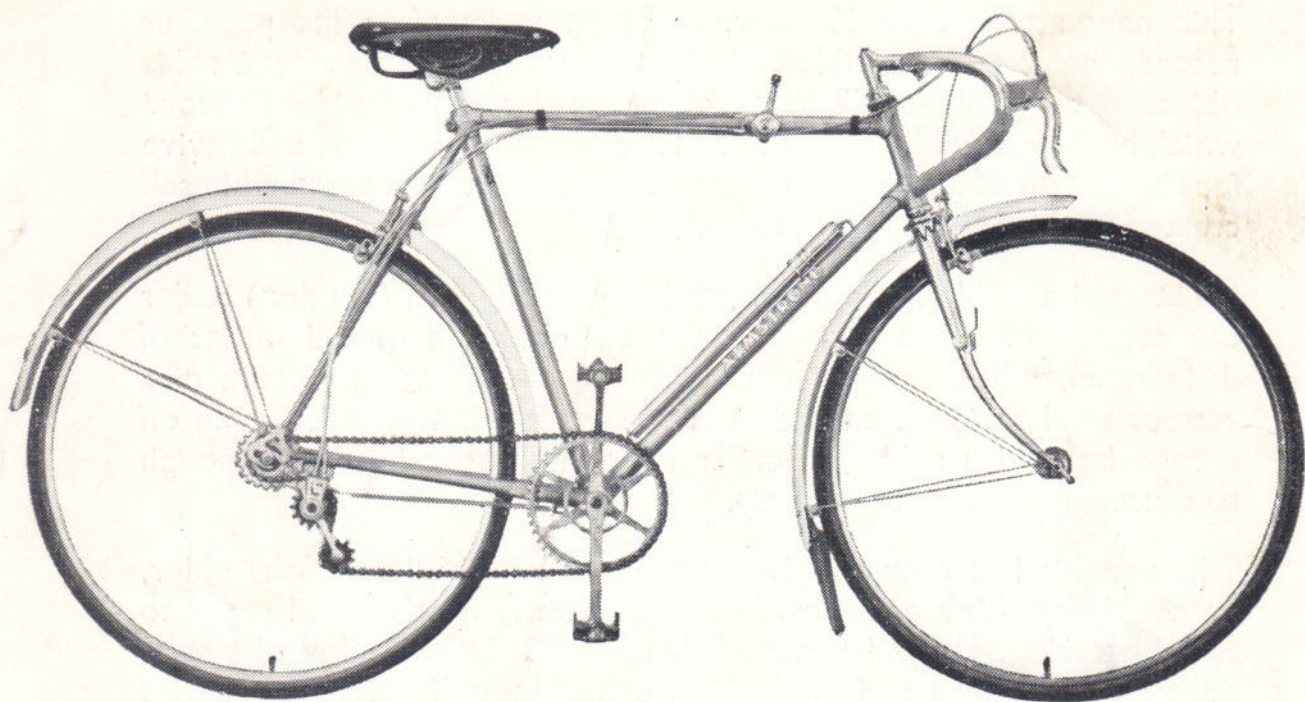
### 1952 Mileage up to date

January	...	2,680	July	...	...	31,245
February	...	5,630	August	...	...	36,152
March	...	10,654	September	...	...	41,482
April	...	16,025	October	...	...	<b>47,069</b>
May	...	21,452	November	...	...	
June	...	26,555	December	...	...	

24th January, 1953

Whatever the accident did towards his general condition it will be hard to ascertain, but a sure thing is that his confidence has been in no way affected, thanks to the officials of "The Bicycle" who agreed to neutralise the disablement period making it possible for the ride to continue in view of the exceptional circumstances. Consequently, the ride will officially finish on January 24th, 1953 (Saturday) at 11.15 a.m. and he hopes that he will keep his appointment with all his friends by bringing his ride to a successful conclusion.

# Best by Test



## RENÉ MENZIES

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