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 IcenicAM Information Service



Around the Wheelworld

By ICARUS

Wanted N.C.U. National Championships
Manchester

...no application th...
 primarily involved was culpable or respon...
 accident. C.T.C., N.C.U., and cycling contemporaries,
 please note!

The B.S.A. Folding Bicycle

IT was in the autumn of 1941 that the War Office made an enquiry for a folding bicycle for the use of parachutists. Specification: Weight not more than 23 lb. Guarantee: For a distance of at least 50 miles. Capable of standing being dropped by a parachute (the equivalent of an ordinary drop of about 20ft.).

The standard diamond frame type of bicycle was considered too heavy. As a result of experiments B.S.A. succeeded in evolving an unorthodox machine for the purpose: the elliptical bicycle. The result was the curved tube frame bicycle illustrated—the perfect balance between strength and weight. For obvious reasons, we cannot describe its specification in detail, the theory of stresses and strains or the metallurgical developments it embodies, but it is significant that B.S.A. technicians successfully accomplished one of the most difficult problems ever put before the bicycle

...ing and one must not forget that in time
 ...ship will disappear. Thanks were accorded
 ...r. Summers for all the work done on behalf of the
 ... And so the meeting terminated with thanks to
 ... the new President, Mr. Harold Johnson.
 ... But has every member of this—er—Fellowship really
 ... qualified for membership?

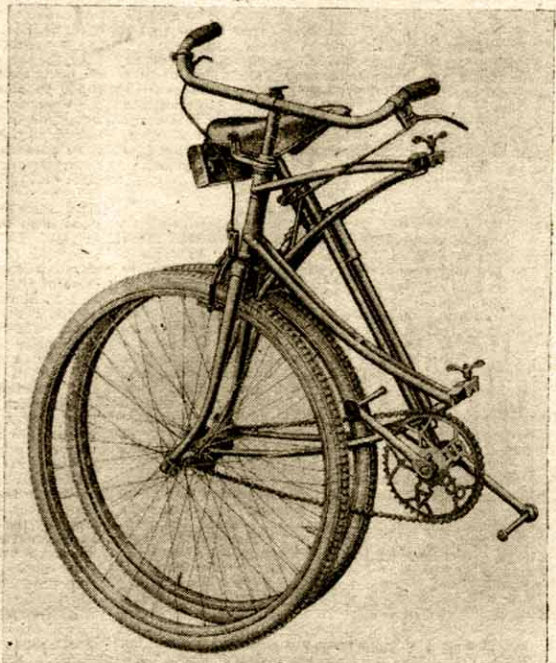
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Cycling 100

AN unusual cycling...
 Mr. Frank Wood, ...
 Dispatch Department, ...
 Since 1913 he has covered ...
 in this way and still does ...
 Barnacle and Coventry.
 Mr. Wood began work with ...
 November 3rd, 1896, splicing ty...
 Street works. After two years in the ...
 ment, he was for three years the ...
 making up solution.
 After the 1914-1918 war Mr. Wood was ...
 to the Dunlop Rim and Wheel Co. in the Armaer,
 Steel Wheel Department, from which he came on to
 his present job.



The new B.S.A. folding bicycle ready for the road, and folded ready for transport.

industry—a great promise for the future. The frame of this bicycle was equal in strength to the diamond type, but its weight only 4½ lb. with hinges, as compared with 8 lb. without hinges of the diamond type. This B.S.A. folding bicycle was accepted by the War Office.

For the purpose of test the B.S.A. motor-cycling test track consisting of loose ashes, and a test hill with a gradient of one in four, were used. A 15½ stone rider did 18 miles round the track on the first day, riding over railway sleepers, scrap dumps, and applying fierce braking when going down the test hill.

In spring, 1942, the War Office made their own tests on Salisbury Plain. Groups of three bicycles were dropped by parachute and then ridden 50 miles. No containers were used on the parachutes.

The first 50 B.S.A. folders were despatched to a French-Canadian force in Burma. Several thousand of them were used later in the invasion of North Africa. Many thousand B.S.A. folders have been made since then.

The machine is illustrated below.

R.T.T.C. Hill Climb Rules

THE regulations laid down for the conduct