

# AUTOISTS SET NEW MARKS DESPITE COLD

Aitken Drives Remarkable Exhibition in Twenty-Mile Event; Others Do Well.

## TODAY'S PROGRAM CHANGED

Regular Events Cancelled and Short Trials with Free Gate Substituted  
—Cold Mars Sport.

Racing against time in the coldest December weather that Indiana has known in many years, drivers at the Indianapolis motor speedway yesterday swept aside records for distance in a manner that marks the rededication of the great Hoosier course as the most remarkable event in the annals of motor history. Such adverse conditions were never before encountered in any similar event, yet these were overcome. Daring drivers, their hands benumbed almost beyond the point of feeling, fairly clung to their steering wheels as the grim greyhounds of wood and steel swept over the smooth brick course at a speed greater than that attained by the fastest railroad train. Several records were broken.

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### STRANGE IN HIS

No. 1, 61 to 66 and placement, a title of Aitken and Kirtland record for race in which victory was 61 to 62 by Kirtland. He drove a mile in 47. Aitken, in a National drove a mile in 47 and for the race.

### Governor Key

One of the features of the afternoon's program was a ceremony in which took the prizes. The gold-plated trophy presented in place of a trophy. Aitken, Kirtland and other drivers made a few speeches.



New records were created in the face of weather that placed the lives of the drivers in jeopardy. The extreme cold also seriously affected the mechanism of the cars, making it impossible for them to show the highest speed of which they are capable. Frozen radiators for the cars and frozen hands for the drivers were common. These were the conditions that brought the speedway officials to a realization that a further continuation of the trials would be impracticable and, following a conference, Carl C. Fisher, president of the speedway company, announced that the events scheduled for today would be canceled.

### Short Distance Trials Today.

While all events on the regular program were declared off, Walter Christie, in his Christie racer, Louis Strang, in his 30-horse-power Fiat, and Johnny Aitken, in his National, were to appear on the course today in attempts to establish new records for short distances. Strang froze his face in his final attempt at the mile record yesterday and was anxious to make another trial today under more favorable conditions. In the last event on the program he drove his Fiat a mile in :40:01, the half being in :18:51 and the quarter in :9:10. This was the fastest time of the day.

Strang's time for the mile broke the track record of :43:6, established by Barney Oldfield last fall in a Benz. Although his face was swollen and covered with blue spots, Strang expected to be in good condition today. No admission was to be charged this afternoon.

### Aitken Lowers Twenty-Mile Record.

The most spectacular event of the afternoon came with the free-for-all time trials for all distances up to and including twenty miles. Of the seven cars that competed regardless of restrictions as to piston displacement, weight or price, Johnny Aitken, driving a National Four, proved to be the lion. His time of 15:11.4, an average of 78.4 miles an hour, establishes a new American record for the distance. The former record was made by Chevrolet in a Buick, on the Atlanta course, and was 16:24.17.

Howard Marmon, in a Marmon, drove the twenty miles in 17:52.87.

Stillman, in a Marmon, covered the distance in 17:03.75.

Endicott, in a Cole 30, finished in 21:22.11.

Metsinger's time in an Empire was 21:40.45.

Doubelley, in a Packard, drove twenty miles in 18:43.52.

Kincaid, in a National Four, started in this event, but was forced to abandon his car on the back side of the course when

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Chevrolet in a Buick, on the Atlanta course, and was 16:24.17.

Howard Marmon, in a Marmon, drove the twenty miles in 17:62.87.

Stillman, in a Marmon, covered the distance in 17:03.75.

Endicott, in a Cole 20, finished in 21:22.11.

Motsinger's time in an Empire was 25:50.45.

Donnelley, in a Packard, drove twenty miles in 18:43.82.

Kincaid, in a National Four, started in this event, but was forced to abandon his car on the back side of the course when his oil supply gave out.

A new mark for cars in its class was established in this event by the Empire, which was entered in the division of 100 cubic inches or less in piston displacement. Newell Motsinger's performance in the Indianapolis-made car was one of the best of the afternoon.

### Marmon Drives Own Car.

Howard Marmon, one of the makers of the car which bears his name, caused his friends to stand aside in awe by appearing on the course in the twenty-mile event. It was his first experience in track driving and when his friends and acquaintances learned that the form hidden from sight and appearing only as a bundle of humanity crouched low over the steering wheel of the big car was none other than Marmon they were seized with considerable fear. Marmon drove the car with which Ray Harroun established a name for both the car and himself last fall, and his performance was one of the best of the day.

Another car that did well in the twenty-mile event in the face of odds was the Packard. An eleventh-hour entry, it was driven by Walter Donnelley, of Cincinnati. Donnelley had never appeared on the course previous to yesterday. The car is owned by David Besuden, a wealthy motor enthusiast of Cincinnati, whose advent in the racing game merely grew out of his love for the sport. The Packard company is strongly opposed to racing, but Besuden disregarded these wishes and fitted out the car himself. He also owns a Buick car which he enters in race events in the same manner.

### Remarkable Time by Christie.

Walter Christie, in his Christie racer, gave a remarkable exhibition of speed, when he drove a quarter of a mile in 18 and 78-100 seconds. Christie's time for the mile was 47:06 seconds.

In a second attempt, Christie covered a kilometer in 23:01 seconds. The kilometer record is 17:76, held by Hemery and established by him in a Benz on the Brook-



WALTER CHRISTIE

THOMPSON &  
HYLAND

GEYS DECISION

RETURN BOUT



and fitted out the car himself. He also owns a Buick car which he enters in late events in the same manner.

**Remarkable Time by Christie.**

Walter Christie, in his Christie car gave a remarkable exhibition of speed when he drove a quarter of a mile in 38-100 seconds. Christie's time for the mile was 17:08 seconds.

In a second attempt, Christie covered a kilometer in 22:01 seconds. The kilometer record is 17:75, held by Hemery and established by him in a Benz on the Brooklands (England) track. Christie also drove a mile in 45:22, the half being in 19 1/2 and the quarter in 9:02. Christie in a special trial at the quarter mile record lowered the American time for the distance, establishing a mark of 3 7/8.

**Fast Time on Motorcycle.**

Freddie Huyck, on an Indian motorcycle, rode a mile in 54:38. The half was in 25:40 and the quarter in 12:22. In a second trial he made the mile in 52 1/2.

This is almost ten seconds slower than his mile record for a three-lap track. Huyck came here expecting to do the mile well under forty seconds. In warm weather, he says, this would be easy, as the speedway track is built for full speed on a motorcycle, which is not possible on a three-lap track.

Huyck expected to try for long distance records, but was unable to do so because of his oil freezing. This also made it impossible for him to attain his fastest speed even for a mile. The plucky rider's face was frozen as a result of his experience and he suffered considerable pain last night.

**Motoring Starts the Racing.**

The first event was at one mile, to a flying start, for cars of class No. 6, 100 cubic inches and under piston displacement. Motinger, in an Empire, started first. His time was 1:29:46 for the mile.

Endicott followed in a Cole 20, in class No. 4, 181 to 220 cubic inches piston displacement. His time was 1:35:9.

**The Mile Events.**

In the mile events Kincaid, in a National for cars of class No. 2, 271 to 300 cubic inches displacement, covered the distance in 31:40.

Allan, in a National of the same class, drove a mile in 30:24.

Donnelley drove a Peckard, in class

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**Myland Man**

Thompson ... corner from the right and ... on the ... three ... The fourth ... the ... end ...

and fitted out the car himself. He also owns a Buick car which he enters in race events in the same manner.

### Remarkable Time by Christie.

Walter Christie, in his Christie racer, gave a remarkable exhibition of speed when he drove a quarter of a mile in 32.10 seconds. Christie's time for the mile was 2:03 seconds.

In a second attempt, Christie covered a kilometer in 22:01 seconds. The kilometer record is 17:76, held by Hemery and established by him in a Benz on the Brooklands (England) track. Christie then drove a mile in 48:22, the half being in 19:17 and the quarter in 9:02. Christie in a special trial at the quarter-mile record lowered the American time for the distance, establishing a mark of 8:78.

### Fast Time on Motorcycle.

Fredrick Huyck, on an Indian motorcycle, rode a mile in 54:08. The half was in 26:02 and the quarter in 13:22. In a second trial he made the mile in 1:11.

This is almost ten seconds slower than his mile record for a three-lap track. Huyck came here expecting to do the mile well under forty seconds. In warm weather, he says, this would be easy, as the speedway track is built for full speed on a motorcycle, which is not possible on a three-lap track.

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### Motzinger Starts the Racing.

The first event was at one mile, to a flying start, for cars of class No. 5, 180 cubic inches and under piston displacement. Motzinger, in an Empire, started first. His time was 1:29:46 for the mile.

Emmitt followed in a Cole 20, in class No. 4, 161 to 230 cubic inches piston displacement. His time was 1:35.9.

### The Mile Events.

In the mile events Kincaid, in a National, for cars of class No. 2, 301 to 450 cubic inches displacement, covered the distance in 51:46.

Alkan, in a National of the same class, drove a mile in 50:2-11.

Donnelley drove a Packard, in class

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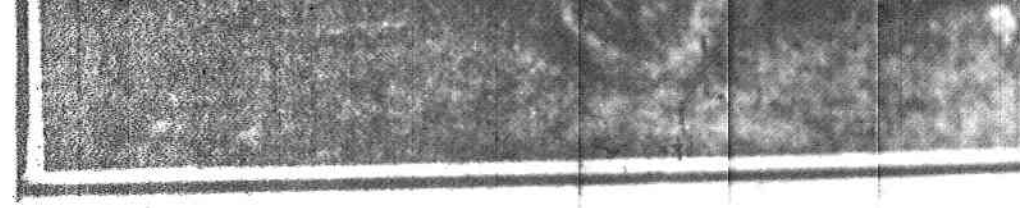
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Events Cancelled and Short  
with Free Gate Substituted  
—Cold Mars Sport.



**STRANG, IN HIS 20-HORSE POWER FIAT, HOLDS  
RECORD FOR MILE.**

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weather that Indiana has known  
years, drivers at the Indianapolis  
speedway yesterday swept aside  
the distance in a manner that  
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this event, yet these were over-  
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Records were created in the face  
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drivers in jeopardy. The extreme cold  
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the cars, making it impossible for them to  
maintain the highest speed of which they are  
capable. Frozen radiators for the cars  
and hands for the drivers were  
frozen. These were the conditions that  
led the speedway officials to a recall  
of the race. A further continuation of the  
race was impracticable and, follow-  
ing the lead of Carl C. Fisher, president  
of the speedway company, announced that  
the race scheduled for today would be  
cancelled.

**Distance Trials Today.**

All events on the regular program  
were canceled. Walter Christie, in his  
open car, Louis Strang, in his 20-  
horse Fiat, and Johnny Aitken, in  
his car, were to appear on the course  
to establish new records  
at the distance. Strang froze his face  
in an attempt at the mile record  
and was anxious to make an-  
other attempt today under more favorable  
conditions. In the last event on the  
program he drove his Fiat a mile in  
a half being in :18:34 and the  
mile in :39:15. This was the fastest time  
ever made for the mile by a car.

Time for the mile broke the  
record of :13:8, established by Bar-  
ney Strang in a 20-horse Fiat. Although

No. 1, 451 to 600 cubic inches piston dis-  
placement, a mile in :58 2-10.

Aitken and Kincaid both broke the old  
record for cars in class No. 2, which pre-  
viously was :59 1-10.

Kincaid, in a National, in class No. 1,  
451 to 600 cubic inches piston displacement,  
drove a mile in :59 flat.

Aitken, in a National, in the same class,  
drove a mile in :59 1-5. This is a new re-  
cord for this class.

**Governor Lays Gold Brick.**

One of the interesting features of the  
afternoon's program was the brick laying  
ceremony in which Governor Marshall  
took the principal part. The much adver-  
tised gold-plated brick was chained and  
cemented in place on the finish line, di-  
rectly opposite the judge's stand. Gov-  
ernor Marshall spread the mortar and  
made a few appropriate remarks, and the  
race drivers, who had stopped for the  
ceremony, resumed their mad flights.

**INDIANA PRACTICE STOPS.**

**Basketball Players, Now Busy with  
Examinations.**

[Special to The Indianapolis News.]

BLOOMINGTON, Ind., December 18.—  
Early season basketball practice is at an  
end at Indiana university, the players  
having left off their training to finish up  
their term's school work in the exams.  
Athletic director Sheldon has asked them  
to return to Bloomington a few days be-  
fore the opening of the winter term after  
the holidays, however, and a good start  
will be made in preparation for the hard  
schedule. Sheldon has promised that an  
efficient coach will be on hand to take  
charge of the squad when it returns  
after Christmas. No announcement has  
been made as yet as to whom the coach  
will be, but it is thought that either  
Rennaker, of Illinois, or Georgan, of  
Chicago, will land the place.

The schedule is the hardest that an In-  
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