# KNIGHTS READY FIVE-MILE RECORD R CITY TOURNEY

# TAKES A TUMBLE

s Take Initial Whirl at ples in Championship **Events Tomorrow.** 

Strang Negotiates Distance at Speedway in the Remarkable Time of 3:17:70.

## CONTINUES TEN DAYS BREAKS ALL WORLD'S MARKS

ous Contests.

rtists Hope to Better the Christie Beats His Own Ameriks Established in Previ- can Record for Quarter-Mile Event.

the bowlers of the city are quietly the opening of the fourth annual o tournament of the City Bowling ion like a stient army in its awaiting the break of dawn to e assault on a besieged citadel. clock tomorrow evening at the alleys President A. E. Ingersollthe starter's bell that will send whirling down the sixty feet of maple to crash into as many sets and the bowlers of the city will their way either to make new or allow their former meets to

lintets of the city will see their

tart his ball toward the head pin

d their breath in expectancy

ta strike and dreading to see a

t up by their pacemaker. At 8

squard of six two-man teams will and after nervously awaiting the in of their balls will go forth in st of honors of the meet, each t that he will set new records for

The glorious 1909 motor car racing-season came to a close and passed into history yesterday afternoon at the Speedway. where almost one minute was clipped off the world's record for five miles.

Strang in his Flat made five miles yesterday in 3:17.70, lowering the former world's record of 4:11.8 that was made last summer at the Speedway by Oldneid in his big Benz car.

Christie lowered his American record for one-quarter of a mile, making the distance in his Christie car yesterday in :08.37, as against his time of :08.78 made Friday. Strang followed him up in short order, and took that plume out of his cap by making the same distance in :08.05.

Strang also established a new Indianapolis Motor Speedway mile mark by going the distance yesterday in :38.21, as

against his time of :40.61 made Friday.

Motsinger in his little Empire car made a trial mile test and lowered his mile record made Friday. He made the distance yesterday in 1:17.03. His time Friday was 1:20.46. No other cars were entered yesterday because of the extreme cold.

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Drivers a Willing Lot.

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placed in the hands of the parnot later than Tuesday by Secre-

E. Berner.
iministration of the Tourney will
be hands of the finance and adcommittee, as follows: W. J.
hairman: John Wycoff, and B. O.
ter; and the executive officers of
clation. E. P. Kryter has been
d official umpire and the scoring
will be an improvement on former

eet will be of ten days' duration, ignights laying out for Christmas t the two days following, and ency will be brought to a close :30 p. m. New Year's day. Durmeet the bowlers will batter uping over forty, sets of new maple

w of the fact that the number of in the five-man events is not as in former meets, the first four a bowling will not start as early erly and will be brought to a close. The prize list of \$463 of last year what greater than is offered to the nts this season, but the money is enly distributed. The five-man his time will shoot for \$135, while r they had \$175 up, but nine more were entered. The two-man his year are fourteen short and ot at \$141, against a sum of \$166 year's prize list. The individuals entrants will have \$114 to conwhile last year their efforts were with \$107. The individuals, howeve a chance at the high-score with \$107. The individuals, howeve a chance at the high-score but the prize committee has seen two the men who have rolled in the average men for nine games a single prize of \$10 offered at the it.

#### ndianapolis League Leads.

ndianapolis League excels in the rof teams entered in the meet ne teams to its credit, the Com-League stands second with seven and the Independent League with a test to represent if. The Manusi League will be represented on mament drives by three and the Unions have entered an equal of quintets. One team each has tered by the Coal Dealers, Perester and the Business League, entury Biscuit team, a former eturers' and Commercial League has made entry to the tourna-

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### Drivers a Willing Lot.

Despite the winter's handicap that froze ears, noses, faces and hands, other drivers were willing to again pitch their steel creations in the arena yesterday, but after the Friday's experiences the manufacturers put on the soft pedal.

"While our drivers would be willing to drive in zero weather I won't permit such man-killing work," said one of the local race car builders. "The danger is two-fold. The machinery may break because of the intense cold and strain, as Christie's rear spring did yesterday, and then in case of such an accident the driver's strength would be all gone and he would be helpless."

"While I am exceedingly proud of our high records made in this season, yet I am more than ever delighted that this midwinter meet is over," said Carl G. Fisher, president of the Speedway Company, last night. "It was my ambition to have the new season open with Indianapolis holding all of the laurels. We now have a high prize that will make other tracks spin to equal. Not only that, but I am sure we have a track now that will permit much faster time under better weather conditions. I predict marvelous records on this track for next summer."

#### Small Crow Braves Wind.

To the surprise of the officials and timers they were met at the track by about 150 men and women, who were marching up and down in the spacious grand stand trying to keep from freezing. Four women were in the group of spectators.

The judges and timers went direct to the judges stand after their arrival at the course, where an old-fashioned coal stove was radiating heat that was welcomed with open arms. No time was lost getting ready for the trials.

All night Friday until 4 o'clock yesterday morning Anthony Scudellary, mechanican for Strang, had worked with the big Fiat car devising some means to keep it warm. He placed a sheet of heavy leather in front of the radiator that kept the cold wind from going back to the carbureter. He also attached a hot air pipe to the carbureter leading from the exhaust pipe and thus the big machine was kept from "freezing up."

Walter Christie and his mechanican, Hughes, took similar precautions. They filled up all of the ventilation holes in the floor of the car. Two valves were of their seats Friday and this defect was remedied and enabled the long nosed black car to make better time yester-

One car at a time was put on the track. Christie refused to wear gloves, and as a result suffered from the extreme exposure. The mechanican for Strang caused considerable comment. While the spectators shook at the knees keeping time to the clatter of their teeth, he walked about in a summer shirt and only a summer automobile suit on. He laughed at those who declared their feet

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Christic had made a bet with Carl. Fisher that he would make time at the rate of 120 miles an hour. He was disappointed when his rear spring cracked in two, saying that he had just begun to get his machine warmed up,

Christic made three circuits on the paved course before he was timed. He stopped and remained behind his steering wheel long enough for the half dozen camera men to take a "shot," and then crawled beneath his car to make an examination.

#### Breaks One Mile Record.

While Christie was working on his car, Strang was ordered on the course by the starter, Fred J. Wagner of New York. His first time around he made a new Speedway mile record, that of 39.21. Strang also made several trips on the course that the timers did not record, because he wanted to get his engine tuned.

First one, then the other, of the brave pilots would buckle on their goggles and face the long, smooth miles of brick track. The machines roared like angry demons that were being urged against their wills.

An unusual feature concerning the getting of Strang's time on the five mile trip saved a possible dispute. Wagner, the starter, is an expert with the stop watch. Before the timers in the judges' stand Wagner rehad announced their time marked that he had caught a marvelous time. He told what it was. It was only 10-100 lower than the time caught by the When this new record electrical device. was flashed over the wires to Chicago it was unquestione). The fact that Wagner had caught almost the identical time and the fact that sporting men the world over know him to be strictly honest caused the time to be accepted without a single doubt as soon as his name was mentioned.

E. A. Moross, director of the Speedway contests, spent all day yesterday at the course. Every little detail in connection with the record trials was personally watched by Mr. Moross, who is famous for his ability to promote race meets.

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