

WORLD'S AUTO RECORD AT MORRIS PARK TRACK

Chevrolet, in Italian Car, Goes a Mile in 52 4-5 Seconds.

POOR SHOWING BY OLDFIELD

Webb Jay Makes Remarkable Time in His Steam Racer—Big Crowd at Opening of New Auto Course.

Morris Park was auspiciously opened as an automobile racing track yesterday in the presence of a large and representative crowd whose enthusiasm in the speed possibilities of the motor vehicle was rewarded by seeing a new world's track record for the mile distance. Barney Oldfield, whose track records have been practically unassailable for over a year, was dropped in the background for the time being at least. His mile record, the most cherished of all records for the racing automobilist, was lowered by one-fifth of a second by Louis Chevrolet, who covered the distance in his 90-horse power Fiat car in 0:52 4-5. The winner is a Frenchman who has been in this country about two years, but is entirely new to track racing. The winning car is of Italian make, so while Oldfield's record of 53 seconds has now passed into history, the achievements of an American car with an American driver has been eclipsed by foreign importations.

Chevrolet was the first to start at the initial race meeting of the New speed-testing track. He was sent away by the judges soon after 2 o'clock in the mile trials. The car he drove was the same that was entered last season by William Wallace in the Vanderbilt Cup race. Chevrolet came down the home stretch with a long cloud of dust behind him, and when the record was announced loud applause greeted the achievement. It was all the more noteworthy because a violent wind was blowing hard up the back stretch, filling the eyes of the drivers with fine sand and appreciably retarding the speed of the cars as they rounded the slight incline in making the wide turn.

Oldfield's former record of 53 seconds was equaled by Webb Jay, driving the new white steam racing car. The time breaks all previous steam car records, and stamps the machine as a most dangerous competitor of the fastest gasoline machines. The body of the car is elevated but a few inches above the ground. The driver sits far back, while the long prow tapers toward a point. It is painted white, and emits a weird whistling sound as it flies down the track. The interesting feature about this remarkable steam car is that its engine is of the same type as is used in the regular stock touring cars, but the racer runs at a higher pressure, having a larger generator.

Five contestants tried for the mile records. Charles Basle, in H. L. Bowden's ninety-horse-power Mercedes, did 0:54 4-5; Walter Christie, in his sixty-horse-power American car, did 0:56 3-5, while Barney Oldfield took three-fifths of a second over a minute.

This unexpectedly poor showing by Barney Oldfield disappointed the crowd. Oldfield, however, appeared perfectly cool, and had no excuses to offer.

The great match race between Oldfield and Basle, the latter driving Mr. Bowden's ninety-horse-power French racer, failed of its expected spectacular features because it was necessary to start the cars at opposite ends of the track and make a pursuit race of the event. The men went four times around the course, and after some judicious figuring, which is necessary in complete circuits of this big course, the announcer stated that the race would be 5 56-100 miles, instead of five miles. Basle swerved more on the short lower turn than Oldfield, but the French car steadily gained and finished in 5:34 3-5, while Oldfield did 6:06 4-5. The second and final heat was also won by Basle.

The most exciting race of the day, and which possessed some elements of spectacular interest for that large portion of the crowd that was not especially interested in the results of a race from the time of the judges' watches, was the three-mile free-for-all contest. Webb Jay with his steamer, Chevrolet in his ninety horse power Fiat, and Basle in his ninety horse power Mercedes, were the starters. The steam car took the lead and

held it for one circuit. Then Chevrolet shot by the white steamer when opposite the grand stand and steadily increased his lead, finishing in 2:51 4-5, beating Webb Jay by over twelve seconds. Basle broke down, and did not finish. Oldfield's three-mile record is 2:30 4-5, so Chevrolet has a good deal to accomplish, notwithstanding the fact that he now holds the world's mile record. Summary:

Three Miles, standing start touring cars of thirty horse power or less.—Won by Peugeot Company's 18-26 horse power car, driven by L. Markle; time—5:11 2-5. William Ottman's 30 horse power Pope Toledo did not finish.

Trials for Mile Record, flying start.—Won by Louis Chevrolet in Hollander & Tangeman's 90 horse power Fiat; time, 0:52 4-5. Webb Jay, driving his 15-20 horse power white steamer, second; time, 0:53. Charles Basle, driving H. L. Bowden's 90 horse power Mercedes, 0:54 4-5; Walter Christie, driving his 60 horse power Christie car, 0:56 3-5; Barney Oldfield, driving 50 horse power Peerless Green Dragon, 1:00 3-5.

One Mile, amateurs, flying start.—Won by Richard Stevens in 60 horse power Mercedes, time, 1:09; George I. Scott, in 60 horse power Mercedes, second; time, 1:21 2-5. No other starters.

Five mile Pursuit Race, between Barney Oldfield, in his 50 horse power Peerless Green Dragon, and Charles Basle, driving H. L. Bowden's 90 horse power Mercedes, flying start.—First heat—Won by Basle, time 5:34 3-5. Oldfield, 6:06 4-5.

Second and final heat, five miles.—Won by Basle, time 5:58 4-5; Oldfield, 6:02 2-5.

Two Miles, flying start, middleweight cars.—Won by Jay Vaughan in 40 horse power Decauville; time, 2:31 3-5. Major C. J. S. Miller in his 38 horse power Renault only other competitor.

Morris Park Handicap, five miles.—First heat—Won by Alfred F. Comacho, driving 12 horse power Franklin, handicap 2:35; time, 8:38 2-5. A. S. Winslow, driving 9 horse power Cadillac, handicap 4:45, second; William Melvojd, driving 32-38 horse power Royal, handicap 1:50, third; L. Markle, driving 18-26 horse power Peugeot, handicap 1:25, also started.

Second Heat—Won by M. Roberts, driving 40 horse power Thomas, 2 minutes handicap. Time—7:19 2-5. Guy Vaughan, driving 40 horse power Decauville, handicap 35 seconds, second; Webb Jay, driving 15-20 horse power white steamer, scratch, third; L. A. Mitchell, driving 12 horse power Decauville, handicap 3 minutes 30 seconds, also started.

Final Heat—Won by A. S. Winslow's 9 horse power Cadillac. Time—9:02 2-5. Webb Jay, driving 15-20 horse power white steamer, second; Alfred F. Comacho, driving 12 horse power Franklin, third.

Three Miles, Free-for-All, Flying Start.—Won by Louis Chevrolet, driving Hollander & Tangeman's 90 horse power Fiat. Time—2:51 4-5. Webb Jay, driving 15-20 horse power white steamer, second. Time—3:04 2-5. Charles Basle, driving H. L. Bowden's 90 horse power Mercedes, did not finish.

Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Iselin, Mrs. Oliver Harri-man, Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Trevor, Alfred Hennen Morris, Mr. and Mrs. William Pierson Hamilton, Paul Dana, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick C. Thomas, Robert Lee Morrell, Arthur Curtis St. James, H. P. Robbins, Dr. Thomas Darlington, B. M. Shanley, H. L. Bowden, Major C. J. S. Miller, J. Horace Harding, M. M. Belding, Emerson Bowles, Rollin H. White, Harry S. Harkness, Park Commissioner Pallas, Victor Mapes, S. M. Butler, Edward B. Gallaher, William Wallace, Frank Roche, A. A. Post, E. T. Birdsall, George B. Adams, Gen. McCoskrey Butts, Louis A. Delafield, W. C. Temple, William N. Niles, Otto L. Eidlitz, John Muller, Jr., A. R. Pardington, Charles B. Cocker, John E. Roosevelt, and Frederick W. Jackson.

Large Entry for Harlem Regatta.

The Harlem Yacht Club has secured for its twenty-third annual regatta, to be held on Decoration Day, an exceptionally large entry for the various classes on its programme. The course to be sailed is a fifteen-mile triangle for the larger boats and a nine-mile triangle for the smaller craft. The events include fourteen classes open to any yacht representing clubs belonging to the Yacht Racing Association of Long Island Sound or any recognized organization.

For sloops and yawls there are seven events— for 48, 40, 33, 27, 22, 18, and 15 footers. For catboats there are five—for 33, 27, 22, 18, and 15 footers. For raceabouts there is a class and one for one-design boats of the Larchmont, Manhasset Bay, Hempstead Harbor, and New Rochelle Yacht Clubs.

Tuthill's New Record at Pratt Games.

A. E. Tuthill, '05, won the individual honors yesterday at the ninth annual field day sports of Pratt Institute Athletic Association. Tuthill won the running high jump, pole vault, and shot put, making a new school record for the two latter events. A. E. Coughlin, '05, ran a fast race in the quarter mile, covering the distance in 0:54 1-5.