



9th SCHELDEPRIJS

July 21

The first Scheldeprijs after the Great War was organised by Velo-Club Hoboken and was again reserved for professional cyclists. Both the start and finish were in Hoboken. Only 15 riders took part; Isidoor Méchant won the final sprint ahead of Karel Block and Marcel Buysse, the big favourite.

PARCOURS

Hoboken, Mechelen, Vier-Armen, Waver, Leuven, Diest, Herentals, Lier, Oude God, Wilrijk, Hoboken, total 190 km.



Isidoor Méchant

RESULT

15 participants

1. Isidoor Méchant; 2. Karel Block; 3. Marcel Buysse; 4. Urbain Anseeuw; 5. Baziel Mathijs; 6. Albert De Belder; 7. Julien Tuytten; 8. Lucien Buysse; 9. Aloïs Verstraeten; 10. Frans De Laet.

Isidoor Méchant

(°Belsele-Waas 15.12.1885-†Dendermonde
26.04.1966)

was a professional cyclist between 1913 and 1925.

His best results:

1914: 7th Championship of Belgium, 11th Tour of Flanders;

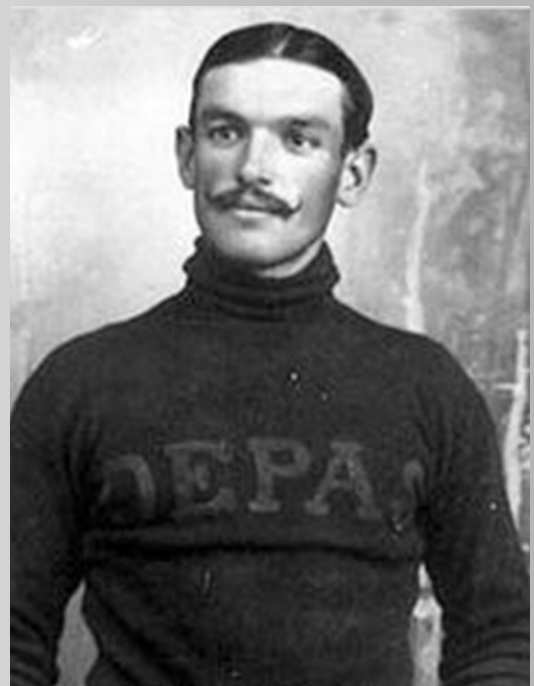
1919: Scheldeprijs; 1920: Drie Zustersteden, 5th Tour of

Belgium, 10th Tour of Flanders; 1921: 2nd Scheldeprijs;

1924: 7th Scheldeprijs

Noteworthy is that Marcel and Lucien Buysse, great stars at the time, finished third and eighth respectively

René Vermeiren





10th SCHELDEPRIJS

June 27

As in 1911-12-13-14, the Scheldeprijs in 1920 was also reserved for independents. The start was in Oude-God and the finish at the Garden-City cycling track in Wilrijk. In 1920, that cycling track also hosted the Olympic cycling trials as well as the world championships. 57 independents took part in the race and, of these, Victor Lenaers was by far the strongest. He won by a margin of two minutes.

ROADMAP

Oude God, Lier, Herentals, Geel, Mol, Leopoldsburg, Hasselt, Tongeren, Ans, Hannut, Tienen, Leuven, Mechelen, Antwerpen (Wilrijk, Garden City), 251 km.



Foto-archief Etienne Bouqué

http://www.ethesis.net/wielerbaan/wielerbaan_bijlage_3.htm

From 1920 to 1922, the Garden City velodrome was where the finish of the Scheldeprijs took place. The Garden City velodrome was opened on June 28, 1914. It was located in the sports park in Wilrijk near Jules Moretuslei and the border with Mortsel. Its most glorious year was 1920. On August 7 and August 8 of that year, the UCI World Championships were held there, and on August 9, the Olympic cycling trials started up. However, the marvellous cement velodrome (400 m) went on to suffer the same fate as the one in Zurenborg had a decade earlier. It was demolished in 1924. Nowadays, the Wilrijk street named Garden Citylaan is the sole reminder of that fantastic velodrome where riders once jostled and sprinted for world and Olympic titles.

RESULT

57 participants - Independants

1. Victor Lenaers; 2. Jean-Baptiste Mosselmans; 3. Jacques Barvoets; 4. André Casterman; 5. Armand Thewis; 6. Maurice De Pauw sr.; 7. Raymond Englebert; 8. Edward Thysmans; 9. Léon Destombes; 10. Albert Jordens; 11. Henri Pelgrims; 12. Denis Verschueren; 13. Jean Hanlet; 14. Frans Van Migro; 15. Gobeaux; 16. François-José Servais; 17. Jean Belvaux; 18. Bugni; 19. Ernest Huyghe.

Victor Lenaers

(°Tongeren 12.01.1893-+Tongeren 12.11.1968)

was one of the best Belgian professionals in the period just after WWI; also internationally, especially in the stage races. In 1921, he was sixth in the Tour de France and even winner among the unsupported riders (isolés). In 1922, he did even better in the Tour, finishing fifth. In 1920, in addition to the Scheldeprijs, he also won the Ronde van Limburg.



René Vermeiren



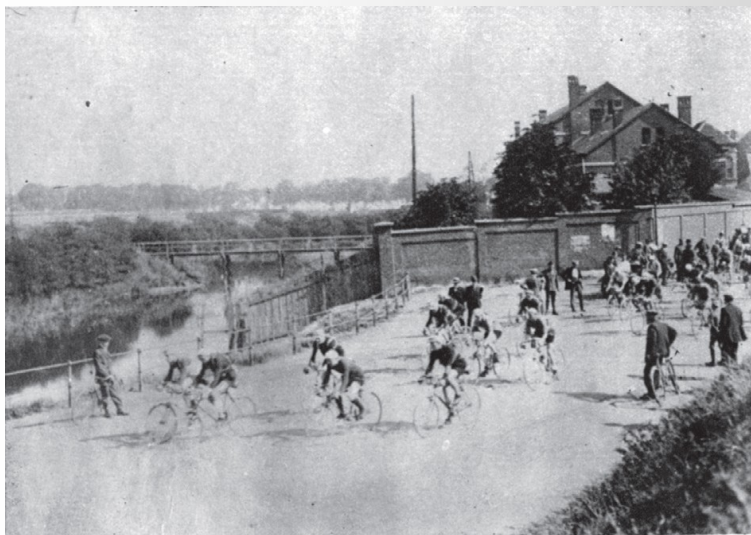
11th SCHELDEPRIJS

July 10

The 11th Scheldeprijs started in Antwerp. The unofficial start took place in St. Gummarus Street en 41 professional riders were brought by boat to the left bank where the start was given at 9:25 am at the 'Flemish Head' (Zwijndrecht). The route (213 km) went through Ghent, Kortrijk and Aalst. The finish took place on the Garden City track (Wilrijk), where the World Championships and the Olympic cycling events took place in 1920. Nothing relevant happened during the race and an 11-man sprint concluded the event.

ROADMAP

Antwerp, Sint-Gummarusstraat (neutralized start at 8:00am), Zwijndrecht, Vlaams Hoofd (official start at 9:30am), Beveren, Sint-Niklaas, Gent, Deinze, Kortrijk (fixed control, getting off the bike and signing!), Zwevegem, Aalst, Dendermonde, Baasrode, Mechelen, Velodroom Garden City (2 laps), 213 km, 05:45pm.



This is the first "Scheldeprijs-action photo" we have found. It is a view on the start location at the "Flemish Head" (Linkeroever of the Scheldt in Zwijndrecht).

RESULT

41 participants

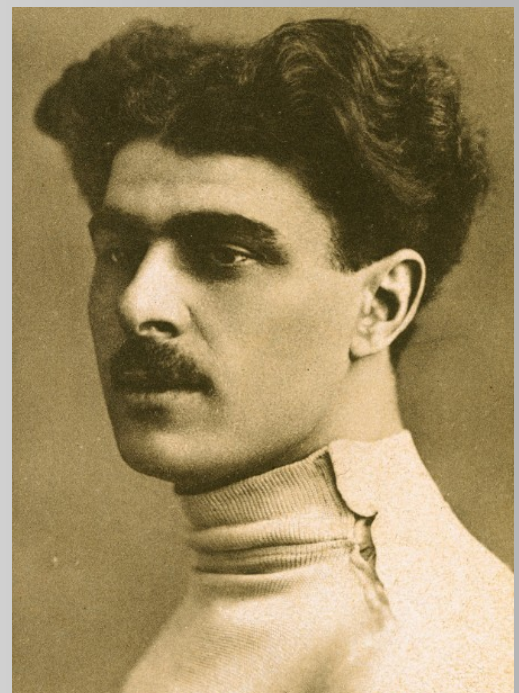
1. René Vermandel, 213 km in 8h12m05s;
2. Isidoor Méchant at ½ wheel;
3. John Van Ruyseveldt (KvA);
4. Adolphe Coppez;
5. Edward Maes;
6. Emiel Thollembeek;
7. Jan Leurentop;
8. Pé Verhaegen;
9. Jozef Van Isterdael;
10. Theo Wynsdau;
11. Karel Block;
12. Albert Debelder at 5';
13. Henri Verheyleweghen at 7';
14. Eduard Thysman;
15. Pierre Everaert.

René Vermandel

(°Zelzate 23.03.1893-+Anderlecht 20.04.1958)

He was a very fast rider and an all-rounder as well on the road as on the track. René won two Scheldeprijs (1921-1924), two Belgian Championships (1922-24), two times Liège-Bastogne-Liège (1923-24), the Tour of Flanders (1921), two Tours of Belgium (1921-1922), two Sels Cups (1922-23) and many other races. In 1927 he was associated to Piet Rielens to win the Brussels Six-Days. In 1921 he also became cyclo-cross Belgian champion!

René Vermeiren





12th SCHELDEPRIJS

July 9

The start is given in Oude-God; the finish takes place for the third and last time on the Garden-City velodrome. Royal Antwerp B.C. is the organizer and happy to welcome 27 riders at the start. Florent Vandenberghe breaks away in the final part of the race and, in spite of strong front wind, he is able to stay alone in the lead and win the race.

ROADMAP

Oude-God, Mechelen, Leuven, Tienen, Sint-Truiden, Hasselt, Beringen, Leopoldsburg, Mol, Geel, Herentals, Lier, Duffel, Waarloos, Kontich, Oude-God, Velodrome Garden City.



Florent Vandenberghe on Garden City.

RESULT

27 participants

1. Florent Vandenberghe, 197 km in 6h35m; 2. Henri Moerenhout; 3. Alfons Van Hecke at 6'16"; 4. Henri Dejaegher; 5. Louis Budts; 6. Albert Dejonghe; 7. Louis Mottiat at 6'46"; 8. Leon Devos at 7'16"; 9. Theofiel Van Eetvelde at 8'33"; 10. Victor Standaert at 26'38"; 11. Eduard Thysman; 12. Oscar Voet; 13. Jos Van Daele; 14. Jules Heyvaert; 15. Achiel Depauw; 16. Jules Wouters; 17. Charles Van Bree.



A passage in the (poor) silent Kempen. Huyvaert in the lead before Wouters, Standaert, Voet and Thysman.

Florent Vandenberghe

(°Pittem 13.08.1895-+Roeselare 10.06.1982)

Florent was the youngest of four cyclist brothers: Jules (1891-1967), Albéric (1894-1974) and René (1887-1958). René was the most famous. He won the Tour of Belgium in 1911. But Florent was also a very good rider. He won the Scheldeprijs (1922) and other races like for example Paris-Valenciennes (1925). Florent was a professional rider between 1920 and 1928 and defended almost exclusively the colours of French cycle manufactures.



René Vermeiren



13th SCHELDEPRIJS

June 10

21 professional riders take the start in St. Mariaburg (Brasschaat). That particular year the Scheldeprijs serves to award the title of Belgian champion. Felix Sellier is obviously the favorite of the race but unfortunately is the victim of mechanical problems and later on he also suffers a crash. Four riders go in the break and sprint for victory on Mariaburg track. Miel Thollembeek wins ahead of Maurice Dewaele (who is also the last winner of the Tour de France), Denis Verschueren and Hilaire Hellebaut.

ROADMAP

St. Mariaburg, Brasschaat, Schilde, Oostmalle, Lier, Mechelen, Vilvoorde, Steenokkerzeel, Vier Armen, Waver, Leuven, Aarschot, Kasterlee, Geel, Turnhout, Hoogstraten, Wuustwezel, Kalmthout, St. Mariaburg (cycling track).



RESULT

21 participants

1. Emiel Thollembeek, 225 km in 8hu36m;
2. Maurice Dewaele;
3. Denis Verschueren;
4. Hilaire Hellebaut;
5. Benjamin Javaux at 9';
6. Odile Taillieu;
7. Nelis;
8. Joseph Van Daele at 11';
9. François Walraevens;
10. Jules Vertriest;
11. Félix Sellier at 13';
12. Jules Heyvaert;
13. Gérard Plas at 26';
14. Louis Budts at 35';
15. Pierre Hudsyn;
16. Cyrille Buysse;
17. Jan Barendse (Ned).

After the finish f.l.t.r. Hilaire Hellebaut (4th), Denis Verschueren (3th), Emiel Thollembeek (winner) and Maurice Dewaele (2nd). The person in the center was known in the cycling world as Mon the gunner.

Emiel Thollembeek

(°Denderwindeke 21.01.1895-+Gent 07.06.1969)

Thollembeek was a very strong rider and definitely an all-rounder. He progressively moved from road to track races. He turned a professional in 1921 and put an end to his career at the end of 1934. In 1922 he took place 5 in the Tour of Flanders. In 1923 he won the Scheldeprijs and was the sixth in Paris-Brussels as well as in the Belgian Championship. In 1924 he finished Paris-Brussels in the 8th position. After that he raced more and more on the track. In 1926 he won the Six Days of Ghent with partner Cesar Debaets. In 1932 he became a stayer Belgian champion. After he stopped his cycling career Emiel Thollembeek became a garage owner in Koekelberg.



René Vermeiren



14th SCHELDEPRIJS

May 11

19 professional riders only present themselves at the start of the 14th Scheldeprijs which started and finished on the brothers Wouters' track in St.-Mariaburg. The Scheldeprijs serves also this time as Belgian Championship.

The race is not what you can call a fast one and the professional riders need 9 hours to complete it. 16 of them sprint for victory and René Vermandel is the easy winner. This is the second time the rider from Brussels wins the Scheldeprijs.

ROADMAP

St.Mariaburg, Brasschaat, Oostmalle, Lier, Mechelen, Leuven, Tienen, Sint-Truiden, Hasselt, Leopoldsburg, Mol, Turnhout, Hoogstraten, Wuustwezel, Kalmthout, St.Mariaburg-cycling track: 248 km.



The final sprint on the cycling track of Sint-Mariaburg won by René Vermandel.

RESULT

19 participants

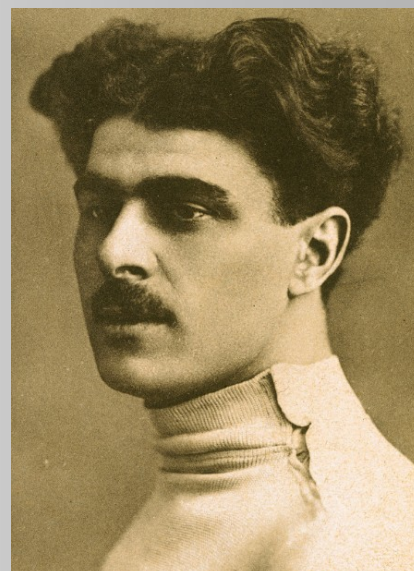
1. René Vermandel, 248 km in 9h ;
2. Denis Verschueren;
3. Adolf Van Bruaene;
4. Leon Van Aken;
5. Achiel Vermandel;
6. Alfons Standaert;
7. Isidoor Méchant;
8. Gerard Debaets;
9. Ex-aequo: Julien Volbrecht and Cyriel Omeje;
11. Armand Haesendonckx;
12. Oscar Voet;
13. Benjamin Mortier;
14. Jef Pé;
15. Jules Matton;
16. Albert Jordens.

René Vermandel

(°Zelzate 23.03.1893-+Anderlecht 20.04.1958)

He was a very fast rider and an all-rounder as well on the road as on the track. René won two Scheldeprijs (1921-1924), two Belgian Championships (1922-24), two times Liège-Bastogne-Liège (1923-24), the Tour of Flanders (1921), two Tours of Belgium (1921-1922), two Sels Cups(1922-23) and many other races. In 1927 he was associated to Piet Rielens to win the Brussels Six-Days. In 1921 he also became cyclo-cross Belgian champion!

René Vermeiren



Grooten Schelde Prijs 1924.



*Schelde Prijs
1924*



15th SCHELDEPRIJS

August 2

The track of St.-Mariaburg being no longer used and on the point of being demolished, it was necessary to find another place for the finish. The start took place in Deurne and the finish in Hoboken. The organizers invited only amateur and junior riders to take part in the race.

45 amateurs started and seven of them sprinted for victory. Karel Van Hassel won ahead of André Verbist and Rik Hoevenaers, who was the big favourite.

The bunch finished ... 30 minutes later. They obviously took a wrong way to reach the finish.

ROADMAP

Deurne, Oostmalle, Turnhout, Geel, Herentals, Lier, Duffel, Mechelen, Boom, Hoboken (150 km)



Karel Van Hassel

RESULT

48 participants

Amateurs

1. Karel Van Hassel, 150 km in 4h55; 2. André Verbist at 1 length; 3. Henri Hoevenaers; 4. Jean-François; 5. Pauwels; 6. Adriaan Braspenninx (Ned); 7. J. Maes (*'he broke his guidon': Sportwereld 03.08.25*); 8. Audenaerde 30'00; 9. Deroover; 10. Marneffe; 11. Ravian; 12. Van Kerckhove; 13. Jager; 14. Verstraeten; 15. Guelette; 16. Dieryckx; 17. Van Langendonck; 18. Puttaert; 19. Deronge; 20. Emmée; 21. Adriaenssens; 22. Carpette; 23. Berremans.

Karel Van Hassel

(°Deurne 14.09.1904-+Blankenberge 12.06.1989)

Karel won a lot of races in the amateur category. The Scheldeprijs is his main victory. He was a professional rider in 1929 and 1930. He took the start of the Tour in 1929 but he gave the race up during stage 9. In 1930, he took the 10th place of the Tour of Belgium. After that we can consider his career came to an end.

René Vermeiren

