

The first Scheldeprijs was organized by the Antwerp Division of the Belgian Cycling Association and the Francophone Antwerp weekly magazine La Chronique Sportive. The event was organized to celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Belgian Cycling Association. The registration took place at the Driekoningenstraat in Berchem, the start was on the Steenweg in Oude-God and the finish line was in the Velodrome Zurenborg. The tour went through Mechelen, Herent, Steenokkerzeel, Mechelen, Duffel, Lier and Antwerp. At four thirthy p.m. Léturgie and Platteau entered the velodrome together and finished arm in arm, but eventually Léturgie was proclaimed as the winner of the first Scheldeprijs.

ROADMAP

Antwerp, Mechelen, Herent, Veltem, Nossegem, Steenokkerzeel, Perk, Hofstade, Mechelen, Duffel, Lier, Antwerp, 100 km.



PARTICIPANTS

La Chronique Sportive of July 27, 1907 reports eleven registered professional cyclists:

 H. Volkaerts, Antwerp Bicycle Club; 2. L. Deruysser, Antwerp Bicycle Club; 3. Maes, Merxemsche Wielrijders Club; 4. Kennis, idem; 5. Spruyt Ed., Sport Cycliste Boomois; 6. Haeck Cam.; 7. F. Van Horenbeeck, Deurne; 8. Adelin Squifflet, Cortil-Noirmont; 9. M. Leturgie, Roubaix; 10. Eugène Plateau, Tourcoing; 11. Pierre De Voecht, Sport Cycliste Boomois.

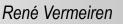
RESULT

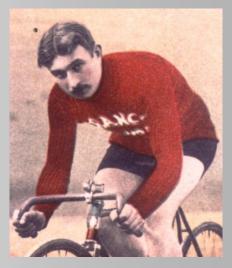
1. Maurice Leturgie (Fra), 100 km in 3h10m; 2. Eugène Platteau; 3. François Verstraeten; 4. Pierre Devoeght; 5. Leopold De Ruysser; 6. Kennis; 7. Frans Maes.

Maurice Leturgie, the first winner.

Maurice Leturgie (°Lille 08.11.1886-+Ardres 24.11.1959)

Professional between 1906-1914. Maurice was not a big star, but he was nevertheless an excellent cyclist. He was, just as Charles Crupelandt, a real product of the 'school of Roubaix'. As a Nordist he rode a lot in Belgium. In 1907 he won, besides the Scheldeprijs, also Paris-Epernay. In 1911 he became third in the Tour of Belgium, and in 1912 he became third once more, but this time in Paris-Roubaix. The First World War brought his admirable career to an early end.





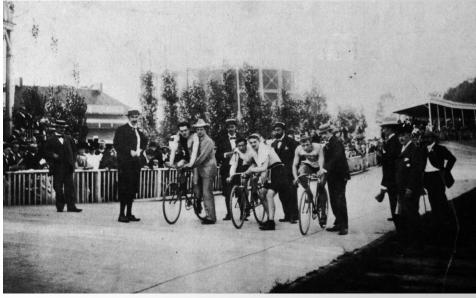


2nd SCHELDEPRIJS July 19

The second Scheldeprijs was one week earlier then the first edition in 1907. In contrast to 1907 the race starts with a tour through the Kempen: Deurne (Cogelsplein), Wijnegem, Oostmalle, Turnhout, Kasterlee, Geel, Herentals, Bouwel, Nijlen, Lier, Boechout, Borsbeek, Exterlaer, Gitschotel, velodrome Zurenborg, 100 km total. Only 12 professional riders participate and Adrien Kranskens wins the sprint at the veldrome Zurenborg.

ROADMAP

Deurne (Cogelsplein), Wijnegem, Oostmalle, Turnhout, Kasterlee, Geel, Herentals, Bouwel, Nijlen, Lier, Boechout, Borsbeek, Exterlaer, Gitschotel, velodrome Zurenborg. Total 100 km.



Velodrome Zurenborg, arrival place in 1907 and 1908.

Adrien Kranskens (°Brussel 1886)

Professional since 1908, the year he not only wins the Scheldeprijs but also becomes 14th in Paris-Brussels, 4th in Sedan-Brussels, 5th in the tour of Belgium, 22nd in Paris-Roubaix. In 1910 he claims the 23rd spot in Paris-Roubaix and in 1911, his last year on record, he became 9th in Paris-Brussels as well as the Tour of Flanders.

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RESULT 12 participants

1. Adrien Kranskens, 100 km in 3h30m; 2. Guido Devogelaere; 3. Jules Bayens; 4. Constant Hendrickx; 5. Schillemans; 6. Morgan Van Landeghem; 7. Frans Verheyden; 8. Armand Criquielion.

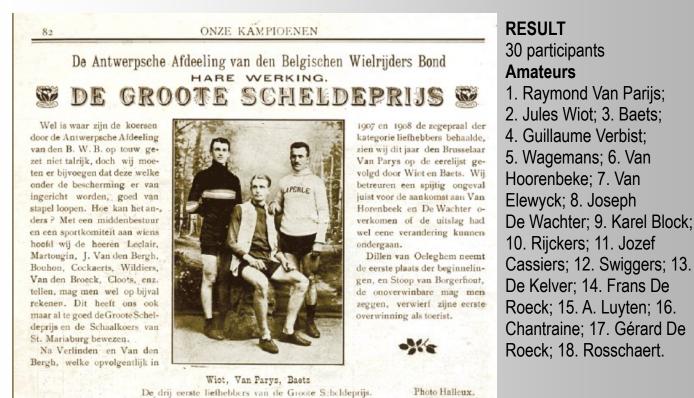


3rd SCHELDEPRIJS July 11

Unlike the 1907 and 1908 editions, the third Scheldeprijs was not organised for professional cyclists, but only for amateurs and all categories. The race took place on 11 July 1909. In 'Onze kampioenen' no. 5 of July 1909, we found this interesting article with a photo of this edition.

ROADMAP

Deurne (Cogelslei), Wijnegem, Schilde, Oostmalle (20,5 km), Turnhout (36 km, control), Kasterlee (45 km), Geel (fixed control), Herentals (68 km, control), Lier (91 km, control), level crossing, Boechout, turn right at the inn 'De Roode Leeuw', the Borsbeek road, Gitsschotel, Zurenborg velodrome (103,5 km) where the riders still have two laps to go.

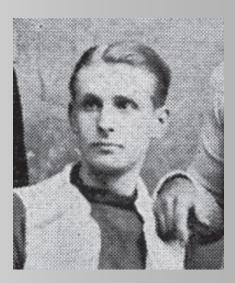


Raymond Van Parijs (°Beauraing 24.11.1889)

His best results:

1909 : the Scheldeprijs1911 : 20th in the Tour of Belgium1919 : End of his career

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Only amateurs (enthusiasts) were allowed to participate in the fourth Scheldeprijs. The start was in Deurne and the finish had moved to the Militaire Baan in Wilrijk because the once illustrious Zurenborg cycling track had to make way for a housing project and had been demolished. Flor Luyckx was slightly faster than Jozef Bouw in the final sprint.

ROADMAP

Deurne, Oostmalle, Turnhout, Kasterlee, Geel, Herentals, Lier, Duffel, Kontich, Mortsel, Wilrijk (Militaire Baan). Total 110 km.



Florent Luyckx

(°Stabroek 18.02.1888 - Putte Kapellen +21.01.1954)

Achieved his first win in the Scheldeprijs here. He would go on to win again in 1911, then as an independent. He obtained a professional licence in 1911 and remained active until 1919.

However, the war cut across his career and the two victories in the Scheldeprijs remained his biggest achievements. After his cycling career, Flor ran a thriving cafe and bicycle shop on Ertbrandstraat in Putte.

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RESULT Amateurs (Enthusiasts)

32 participants

1. Florent Luyckx, 110 km in 3h30m; 2. Jozef Bouw; 3. Louis Valckenaers; 4. Isidoor Méchant; 5. Van Buiten; 6. Keyaert; 7. August Dierickx; 8. Frans De Laet; 9. Antoon De Greef; 10. Raymond Van Parijs; 11. De Blauw; 12. Stoop; 13. Wouters; 14. Van Nuten.





5th SCHELDEPRIJS June 18

The 5th Scheldeprijs is reserved to the independent category. On Sunday June 18 at 2 pm, 35 riders take the start, on the Military Road, next to the train station, where start and finish take place. The route goes through Wilrijk, Itegem, Heist-op-den-Berg, Mechelen, Kontich and back to Wilrijk. In Itegem 15 riders are still packed. Florent Luyckx, winner in 1910, and Frans Tyck broke away in Kontich. Luyckx is the strongest in the sprint.

ROADMAP

Start in Wilrijk (station), Military Road, Fort 1, Ploeg Halle (flying control), Pulderbos, Grobbendonk, Bouwel, Herenthout, Itegem (fixed control), Heist-op-den-Berg, Putte, Mechelen (flying control), Kontich, Oude God, Military Road Wilrijk (station), total 85 km.



RESULT 35 participants Independants

1.Florent Luyckx (Putte-Kapellen), 85 km in 2h50m; 2. Frans Tyck at 10 meters; 3. Jan Van Ingelghem at 400 meters; 4. Jules Wouters at 600meters; 5. Henri Volckaerts; 6. Frans De Laet at 900meters; 7. Karel Jamar; 8. Auguste Benoît; 9. Vercammen; 10. Camiel De Kerf; 11. De Blauwe; 12. Van Buysen; 13. Rowie; 14. Van den Heining; 15. Haepers; 16. Louis Budts; 17. Jos De Laet; 18. Aerts; 19. Desantoine.

Several sources contradict each other (slightly). This result is, with regard to places 11 to 19, subject to slight reservations.

Flor Luyckx in the Six Days of Brussels 1912.

Florent Luyckx (°Stabroek 18.02.1888-Putte Kapellen⁺21.01.1954)

After 1910 as an amateur, Florent achieved his second victory in the Scheldeprijs, this time as independent. He turned a professional in 1911 and remained active until 1919. However, the war crossed his career and the two victories in the Scheldeprijs remained his most important feats. After his career, Flor had in the Ertbrandstraat (Putte Kapellen) a flourishing cafe and bicycle store.



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The start of the sixth edition of the Scheldeprijs is given in front of the hospital of Berchem while the finish takes place in Antwerp, on the Handelslei (Trade Avenue). Cycling club 'De Schelde' organizes the race and riders making part of the following categories: independent, amateurs and youth are also fighting to try and get the Champion of Antwerp title.

The independent category race looks rather like a bike ride than a competition. Riders needed indeed six hours and a half to achieve 170 km (!). Jef Van Wetter, from Antwerp and a member of cycling club De Schelde, is the faster and beat a group of 19 riders, while twenty-nine took the start.

ROADMAP

Berchem (start in front of the hospital), Mechelen, Leuven, Aarschot, Herentals, Geel, Mol, Turnhout, Deurne, Antwerp (Handelslei), total 170 km.



Jef Van Wetter, winner 1912-1913

Jef Van Wetter (°Merksem 24.06.1890-+26.06.1973)

Van Wetter was, just like it was the case before him with Florent Luyckx, a 'regional' rider. And just like Luyckx he also won twice the Scheldeprijs. He turned a professional in 1914, just before World War I. The war in fact broke his young cycling career and Jef became a policeman.

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RESULT

29 participants Independants

Jef Van Wetter (*Champion of Antwerp*)
 170 km in 6h30m; 2. Frans Tyck at 1
 length; 3. Vermeylen; 4. Adolphe Coppez;
 5. Constant Hendrickx; 6. Van den Eynden;
 7. Petrus Michiels; 8. Lucien Buysse; 9.
 François Van Miegro; 10. Clément; 11.
 Verschueren; 12. Verbruggen; 13. Wittox;
 14. Godiscal; 15. Wyckmans; 16. Oscar
 Strobbe at 10'; 17. Spruyt.





Only 20 independent riders together with 53 belonging to the youth category and 15 amateurs are present in Houwer Street (Antwerp) to take the start of the race. The (190 km) route goes along Mechelen, Herentals and Mol. The finish will take place in the Handelslei. The race is a rather quiet one and exactly like he did it the previous year, Jef Van Wetter is the fastest in the sprint.

ROADMAP

Antwerp, viaduct Kiel, Boom, Mechelen, Herentals, Mol, Turnhout, Oostmalle, Deurne, Merksem, Antwerp (Handelslei). Total 190 km.



Jef Van Wetter, winner 1912-1913

RESULT

20 participants Independants

- 1. Jef Van Wetter; 2. Vermeylen; 3. Yzermans;
- 4. Victor Orole; 5. Frans Tyck; 6. J. Geerts;
- 7. Wyckmans at 20 meters ('flat tire');
- 8. Verschueren; 9. Constant Hendrickx;
- 10. Georges Wesemael; 11. Louis Budts;

12. Baay (Amsterdam, The Netherlands); 13. Van Hoof.

Jef Van Wetter (°Merksem 24.06.1890-+26.06.1973)

Van Wetter was, just like it was the case before him with Florent Luyckx, a 'regional' rider. And just like Luyckx he also won twice the Scheldeprijs. He turned a professional in 1914, just before World War I. The war in fact broke his young cycling career and Jef became a policeman.

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On Sunday 19 July, the day the eighth Scheldeprijs takes place, peace days are numbered in our country. On August 4 German troops will cross the border and the World War I nightmare will last during four long years. 73 riders belonging to the independent category present themselves in Berchem at the start of the 8th Scheldeprijs, the last one before the war. The race is meant to finish several hours later in Antwerp on the St.-Jan square. Octave, a very promising rider from St.-Genesius-Rode is the fastest in the sprint. Unfortunately, like many other young men, he will not survive the war...

ROADMAP

Berchem, Mechelen, Vier-Armen, Waver, Leuven, Diest, Aarschot, Lier, Merksem, Antwerp. Total 196 km.

RESULT

73 participants Independants

1. Jacques Octave, 196 km in 6h50 m; 2. Guillaume Perwez; 3. Edmond Dessy; 4. Louis Budts (disqualified, was 2nd); 5. Edmond Van Huyneghem; 6. Louis Verhelst; 7. Eugeen Degrendele; 8. Theo Van Eetvelde; 9. Petrus Michiels; 10. Frans Delaet; 11. De Beuckelaere; 12. Hubert Verdickt; 13. Albert Mosselmans; 14. Hubert Samyn; 15. Oscar Strobbe; 16. Adolf Landuyt; 17. Van Buggenhout; 18. Jaak Buelens.

Jacques Octave

(°Sint-Genesius-Rode 11.09.1894-+Sint-Gillis 19.07.1918)

Jacques Octave was a very promising young rider who achieved great results in 1913 and 1914. Unfortunately the war that started a few days after the Scheldeprijs broke his career and took his life.

René Vermeiren

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Getuigschrift van verblijf

(met historiek)

De ambtenaar van de burgerlijke stand van deze gemeente verklaart dat :
De genaamde :
Geboren te: Sint genesius - Rode op. 11/09/1834
Burgerlijke stand :
Nationaliteit :
Beroep :
Ingeschreven was te Sint-Genesius-Rode,
sedert 1. 1.09. 1.1.84 komende van
Afgeschrevennaar. Overleden te St. Gllis op 19/07/1918
sedert

Dit attest werd afgeleverd aan :	René Vermeisen	
en kan uitsluitende gebruiken worden in	zake: Descherdenis	van de Schelde projs

Sint-Genesius-Rode, QS. J.OS. J. 201



Voor de Ambtenaar van de burgerlijke stand De gemachtigde beambte (art.45§2 B.W. – art.126-1°, 2° G.W.)

