

# Mass Bicycle Tour To Cross Canada , Arriving at Olympics

Cycle Canada '76 is a minutely organized and orchestrated mass bicycle tour originating at both Victoria, B.C. on May 3rd, 1976 and St. John's, Newfoundland June 17th, and simultaneously converging in Montreal at the site of the Olympiad.

This is not a bicycle race but a leisurely tour, aimed at the average cyclist, over a route which has been extensively researched in terms of scenic quality, safety, availability of accommodation and general all-around cycling enjoyment. Anyone, old, young, big or small who owns a modicum of fitness and a sense of adventure can easily handle the relatively relaxed pace of 50 miles per day.

Each main tour, East and West has been broken into distinct identifiable units - a total of 24 such in all - each ranging from four to

nine days in length. Cyclists may register at any point along the route as their time, money or endurance allows.

It is hoped that the breakdown and the leisurely pace will broaden Cycle Canada's participation base making it possible for entire families to register for one or two weeks of an economical and unforgettable vacation.

Specifically, Cycle Canada's role in this scenario is to provide a uniform standard of accommodation, nutrition, safety, care and supervision as the tour threads its way across Canada. Cyclists are as a rule notorious individualistic and independent. These attributes are recognized and reflected in the choice of two option packages available. The cycle CARAVAN option at approxi-

mately \$14.00 per day, less long distance discounts, provides the participant with a 2 man tent accommodation, and all meals and utensils. The BIKEPACKER at \$7.00 per day less discounts provides his own tent, food and utensils. Both Caravaners and Bikepackers provide their own sleeping bags and bicycles and both receive from Cycle Canada complete baggage transport, first aid, tour manual, trip insurance, mobile repair facilities, drink stops and of course a "sag wagon" for the weary, or those merely wishing to break and swap a few stories with fellow cyclists.

Although Caravaners' food is supplied and its preparation is supervised by staff dieticians, they are asked to work elbow to elbow with other Caravaners in the planning, cooking and cleanup of

the morning and evening meals on a rotation basis.

Cycle Canada has in other words shouldered the problem and worries of cycle touring and hopefully allowed the participant more fully to savor his surroundings and the sheer joy of cycling.

Adding to the already unique character of this tour will be the communities along the route which have been invited to plan their annual ethnic or cultural fairs and festivals or stage their own Olympic celebrations as Cycle Canada passes through. Various communities are already planning barbecues, beerfests and dances to welcome the cyclists. Away from the urban setting and on the open road the most picturesque and appealing campsites and provincial and national parks have been chosen for overnight and lunch stops.



Eastern Route of Cycle Canada 76