

TANDEM GIRL CYCLISTS

Tandem Girls' Records

Running five days ahead of the wager time, Misses Anna Keenin and Vera Harding, Perth girls riding a tandem bicycle to Sydney and back, have confounded scoffers who questioned woman's endurance.

Today they made a triumphal entry to Port Augusta, and are due in Adelaide on Tuesday. This will win them £10, one of several wagers on the trip. They were allowed four weeks for the Fremantle-Adelaide section, and must reach Sydney in six weeks.

Since starting their arduous trek on September 17, the girls have endured duststorms and thirst in extremes of heat.

They have covered 100-mile stages without a stop. They have already set up four women's tandem long-distance records. They have often ridden into the small hours, aided by the headlights of a following car. And they have shot a snake and adopted a terrier dog, dubbed "Tandem Pete."

Strictly, Pete adopted the girls. They camped one night at Golden Ridge, 55 miles east of Kalgoorlie. When they woke there was Tandem Pete, a small white object, curled up on the blankets.

The nearest settlement was five miles away. Perhaps Pete came from there. The fact remains that he attached himself to the girls and their party, and has put up feats of endurance almost eclipsing those of the tandem riders themselves.

PETE AT POLICE STATION

At first the terrier did most of his travelling on foot, once doing 22 miles without a stop. Now that he is a recognised member of the party he fre-

without a stop. Now that he is a recognised member of the party he frequently travels in the escort car. An advance member of the party brought Pete to Adelaide today and lodged him at the police station for temporary safekeeping.

The snake episode came after leaving Nullarbor Station. A puncture halted the trip. While repairs were being made Vera Harding said that she would like a shot at something with a rifle carried in the car.

As she spoke, the party saw a 6-ft. snake. This the girl promptly shot.

Four women's tandem records now claimed are for the Fremantle-Northam, Fremantle-Kalgoorlie, and Fremantle-Port Augusta sections, and for 1,000 miles of riding. Vera Harding is 22 and Anna Keenin 20.

In Adelaide on Tuesday they will give the Lord Mayor (Mr. Barrett) a letter from the Lord Mayor of Perth (Mr. Harper). It is expected that members of cycling clubs will meet the girls.



VERA HARDING (22)—left—and Anna Keenin (20) who are making a cross-continent tandem cycle ride of 6,000 miles.