

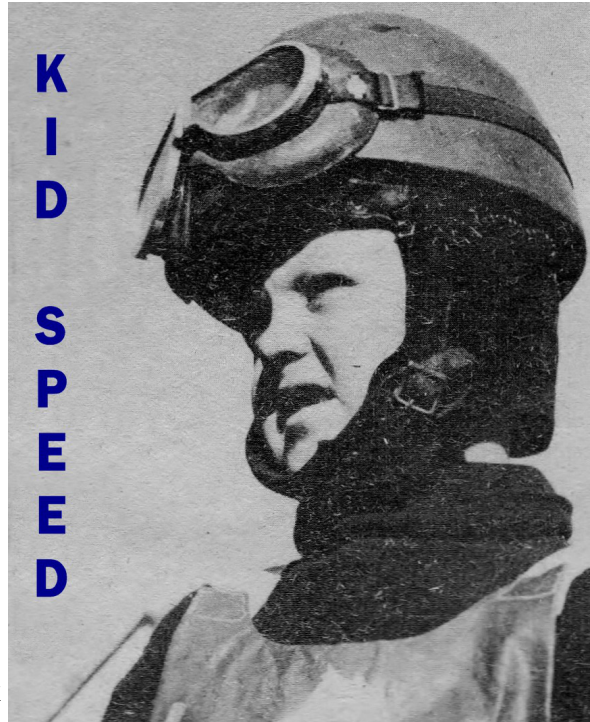
Bobby Quick Wins World Record

Kid motor-cyclist, son of a Rand Speedcop, has ambition to become South African speedway champion. Johannesburg, 1953

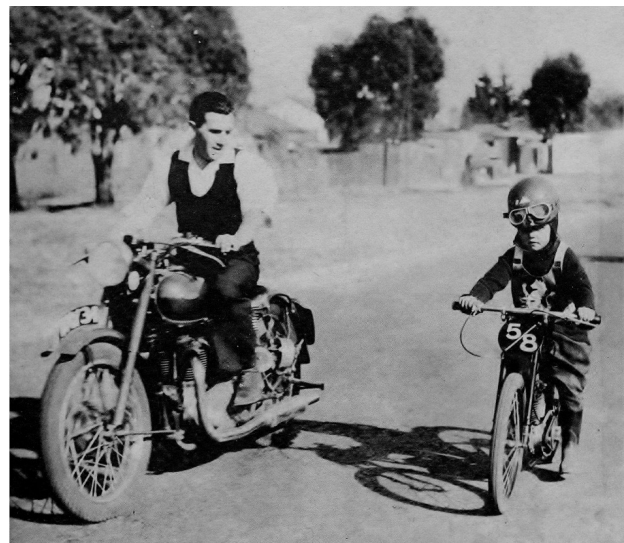
South Africa has a new world record-holder, - and he's only 5 years and 10 months old! He is Bobby Quick, of Randfontein. He has won his record by qualifying as the youngest motor-cyclist in the world. The previous holder was an American youngster aged six, - two months older than Bobby.

It so happened that Bobby's father, Bob Quick Senior, apart from being a skilled fitter and turner by trade, is also one of Randfontein's motor-cycle speed cops, and a well-known dirt track rider in his spare time. He decided to claim the "youngest motor-cyclist" title for his son and for South Africa at the same time. He therefore set to, and within a month a perfect miniature motorbike stood in the Quick's backyard at Millsite. It had cost £30. The engine is rated one HP. (100 c.c.), and can knock-up 50 m.p.h. with the throttle open. It is a dirt-track model with everything unwanted stripped down for speed, including the mudguards.

Next came the training of young Bobby, which amazed even his father . . . He soloed after a half hour's training! After this performance his mother took a hand and made Bobby Junior a dirt track suit, sweater, breeches, racing insignia, (a Lion rampant in red,) and boots. He also has a crash-helmet (a bit too big), and goggles. Bobby's cousin and playmate, Jimmy Quick is aged seven. Jimmy begged to be allowed to lend a hand, and



Tinkering Around Is Half The Fun
Bobby's father encourages his little son to tinker around the motorbike, even if this sometimes does produce strange results. Bobby must learn to be a good mechanic as well as a good rider.



Speedcop and Son Go Out on Their Mounts.
At first Bobby wanted to be a Speedcop like dad, but now he thinks that chasing erring motorists, even though it does sometimes call for considerable skill, is small beer beside the skill of the speedway. Father Quick hopes that one day he and his son will one day ride in a TT race on the Isle of Man.

after consultation he was appointed Bobby's mechanic. His work consists of cleaning and oiling the machine, tightening up any loose nuts and bolts, cleaning the sparking-plug, and keeping the two-pint petrol tank full. Jimmy also wears white overalls in the approved racing mechanic's style.

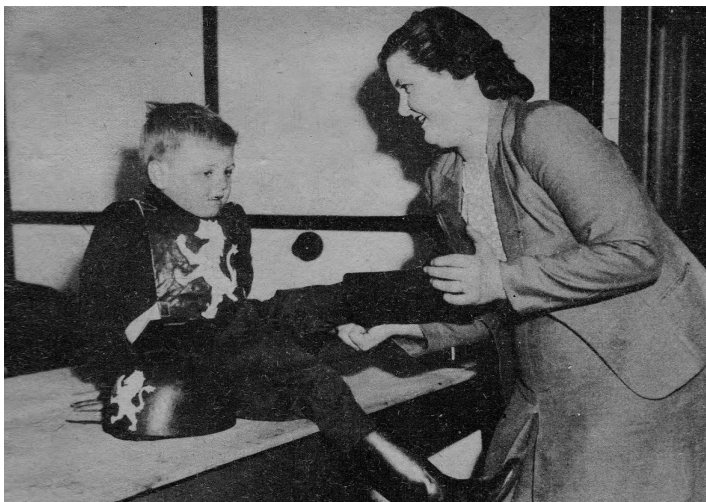


He Wanted To Help, So They Appointed Him Mechanic
 Jimmy Quick, Bobby's cousin and playmate, was desperately anxious to be in on the whole business, so Father Quick had a brainwave: Jimmy could be the mechanic! He's handy with an oilcan, and he swings a spanner almost as big as himself.



Going Out To Conquer Speed
 Bobby, professionally dressed, wheels his motorcycle out of its shed for a practice round on the track.

Little Bobby made his public *début* at the new West Rand Speedway, Randfontein, and was the first "man" round after Mayor McKenzie declare the new track open on July 5th. Later he raced and beat his father who had to make three circuits to Bobby's one. Bobby's ambition is to become South Africa's future speedway champion, and grown-up riders say that, if he sticks to it, he can't miss! He has the whole family behind him, including his grandparents. His mother, far from being worried, is herself a speedway fan, and never misses a dirt-track meeting. She even wants to settle in the Isle of Man so that her husband can ride in the world-famous T.T. motor.-cycle races which are held there periodically. When asked what his feelings were when he rides his little bike, Bobby Junior 'cornered it' in two words: "*It's grand !*"



A Spot of Help From Mother.
 Not the slightly bit nervous about Bobby's venture into motorcycling, Mrs Quick helps him don his riding togs and pull on his leather boots.