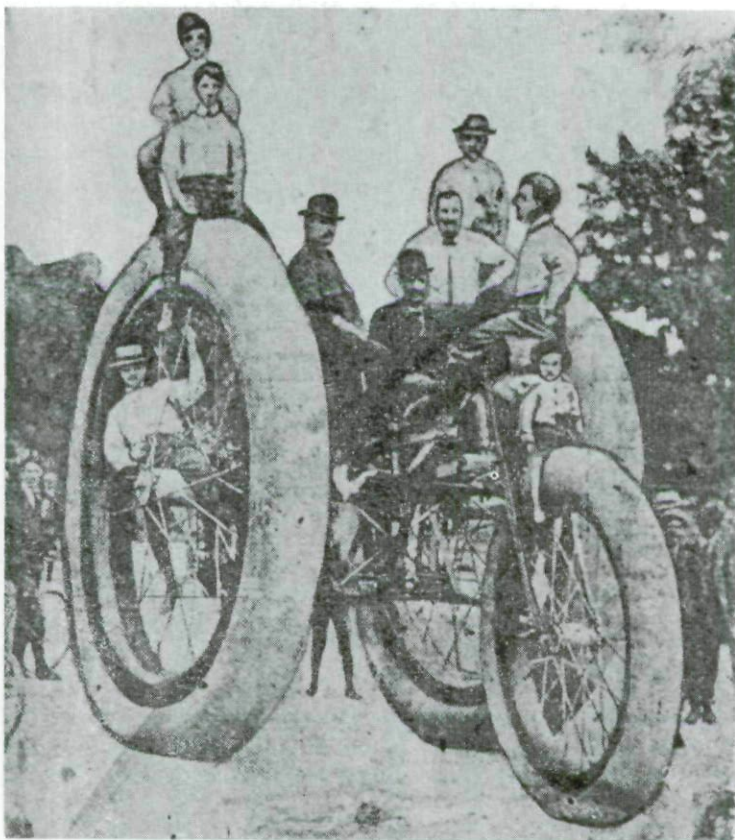


The Old Balloon Tires



What were probably the forerunners of the modern balloon tires were the tires used on this huge tricycle in 1898. The tricycle traveled nicely in dry weather, propelled by six men on bicycle seats, all pedaling for dear life on a chain gear with one man at the steering wheel. But in wet weather it slid all over the street as nonskid chains were not large enough to go around the wheels. The two larger wheels were 14 feet in diameter and the small wheel in front was six feet in diameter. The large wheels took tires 20 inches in diameter.

Tipton Advertiser, September, 1925

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