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BRITISH CYCLIST WINS.

140 crack riders made up the big field in the 45th Annual Tour of Flanders. They represented six countries, France, England, Belgium, Holland, Germany and Italy. They had a hard, sloggy ride of 158 miles. England's best hope was Tom Simpson, the 22-year-old star from Doncaster. He finished 29th in the Tour of France last summer - a high place for a British rider.

There are no mountains in Flanders, though some of the hills were a test for tired legs. They must have envied the motor cyclists.

The Italian ace Defilippis couldn't pass Tom Simpson in the final sprint, so the Doncaster rider was home and dry - the first Englishman ever to win the Tour of Flanders.