Canadiens Are Named Outstanding Team Of '57

By JACK SULLIVAN
Canadian Press Staff Writer

TORONTO (CP) — Montreal Canadiens, the powerhouse of the professional hockey for the last two years, is Canada's outstanding team of 1957, But the Stanley Cup champions had a real battle before taking the honors over the Grey Cup champion Hamilton Tiger-Cats.

The Canadiens, on the strength of their third straight cup triumph this season, received the nod from the country's sports editors and sportscasters in the 33rd annual Canadian Press year-end sports poll announced Friday night. The voters named 20 teams but none seriously threatened the supremacy of the Canadiens and Tiger-Cats.

Asked to name six country's three outstanding teams in order — any sport, amateur or professional and with three points awarded for a first-place choice two for second and one for third, Canadiens headed the balloting with 153 points, just seven more than the football champions. It was the closest race in the history of the CP poll.

ESKS FADE

And while Canadiens and Tiger-cats were fighting for the year-end honors, the Allan Cup champion Whitby Dunlops and Flin Flon Bombers, surprise winners over Ottawa Junior Canadiens in the Memorial Cup final last spring, held a private war of their own for third place. The Dunlops made it with 49 points against 41 for the Bombers.

The poll showed that you've got to be a champion, particularly in the big-time glamor sports of pro hockey or football, to get more than passing mention from the voters. The Edmonton football club, 1954-55-56 Grey Cup champions and voted the 1956 outstanding team in the CP ballot over Canadiens, is a good example.

The Habs were a season-long cinch to wrap up the Western Interprovincial Football Union title and go on to win the Grey Cup for an unprecedented games in hand over the New Yorkers.

OTHER CHOICES

Other teams named by the four-straight string. But things didn't turn out that way.

They were defeated in the best-of-three Western conference playoffs by Winnipeg Blue Bombers and when the voting came along the sports editors and sportscasters practically ignored them. The final tally showed Eskimos with only 16 points for a fifth-place tie with the baseball Edmonton Eskimos, second-place finishers in the Global World Series at Detroit.

Last year the Eskimos won the poll with 257 points against 180 for the second-place Canadiens.

BOMBERS SEVENTH

The Blue Bombers, who created one of the big upsets of the year by defeating the Eskimos in the Western conference playoffs couldn't carry their underdog role past the Grey Cup and finished seventh in the CP poll with 15 points. Badly crippled after five WIFU playoff games in two weeks, they were crushed 32-7 by the Tiger-Cats in the cup final at Toronto.

The victory shot Ticats into contention for the outstanding team tag and they made it a fight to the wire before losing out to Canadiens, who also have provided the outstanding male athletes in 1956 and 1957. Big Jean Beliveau won the honors last year and Maurice Richard, one of the game's all-time greats, was chosen a week ago for the 1957 title.

Canadiens have lost only two Stanley Cup final games the last two seasons. They lost one to Detroit Red Wings in the best-of-seven series in 1955 and last year defeated Boston Bruins four games to one to take the cup the second straight time.

Despite injuries to key players this season, they have a comfortable four-point margin in the National Hockey League race over New York Rangers and four

Sports

Pilous Switches Coaching Jobs

STE CATHARINES, Ont. (CP)— Rudy Pilous switches from junior hockey to a National Hockey League coaching job next week and he exchanges a hot team for a sputtering one for the privilege.

Pilous, 42-year-old pilot of St. Catharines TeePees in the Ontario Hockey Association Junior A series, was named coach of the last - place Chicago Black Hawks.

Teepees are riding high in their league with a comfortable seven-point lead over the second-place Toronto Marlboros. Hawks are seven points behind the fifth-place Detroit Red Wings.

Pilous will remain as TeePee general manager. He has guided the club in a dual role for the last eight years. Glen Sonmor, 27, coach of the St. Catharines' junior B team, will replace Pilous as TeePee coach.

Pilous takes over the Chicago job Jan. 2, two days before Hawks meet the Maple Leafs in Toronto.

Timmy Ivan, present Hawk coach and general manager, remains with the team as general manager. Ivan has been at the Chicago helm since the death of Dick Irvin last May 16.

TO MEET OLD FACES

Pilous will meet a lot of old faces in the NHL, most of them in Chicago. In St. Catharines he coached present Hawk regulars Bobby Hull, Elmer Vasko, Ian Cushenan and Pierre Pilote. St Catharines is a Hawk farm team.

The Pilous name is synonymous with junior hockey here. He was instrumental in organizing the city's first junior A team in 1943-44. After three years with the now-defunct Falcons, Pilous left to coach and manage professional teams in Louisville, Ky., San Diego, Calif., and Houston, Tex.

He returned to St. Catharines as general manager and coach of TeePees in the 1950-51 season. The team Pilous has coached or managed has missed the playoffs. In 1953-54 TeePees won the Memorial Cup and Canadian junior crown.

Three times, players coached by Pilous in St. Catharines won the Red Tilson Memorial Trophy awarded to the player of the year in the OHA Junior A series. They are Doug McMurdy, Brian Cullen and Hank Ciesla. Cullen now is with Leafs and Ciesla with New York Rangers.

PLAYED IN NEW YORK

Pilous came to St. Catharines first in 1938 to play senior A hockey after a playing career with New York Rovers, and with teams in Selkirk, B.C., and Richmond in England.

Sonmor played with New York Rangers and Cleveland Barons before quitting two years ago after losing the sigh of one ye when a puck hit him.

Six Clubs Sell Sunday Rights

NEW YORK (AP) — Bill MacPhail, sports director for CBS, said Friday six major league ball clubs have sold their Sunday network television rights for 1958 for a Sunday TV game of the week over CBS.

MacPhail in a statement said Chicago White Sox, Cincinnati Redlegs, New York Yankees, Cleveland Indians, Philadelphia Phillies and Baltimore Orioles have sold their Sunday network TV broadcasting rights for 1958 to Dancer - Fitzgerald - Sample, Inc., an advertising agency representing a brewery. He said the agency had selected the CBS TV network to carry the games.

CBS said according to the agreement between the agency and network, games will not be carried by any station in a city where a minor league team is playing an afternoon game or over any station located within 50 miles of any other minor league game.

The network has been under heavy criticism from Frank Shaughnessy, president of the International League, for its new Sunday baseball program. Both CBS and NBC present Saturday afternoon TV Game of the Week programs.

Curling Draw

Following is the draw for the mixed curling which will be played at the Charlottetown Curling Club this evening:

7:00 P. M.

Ice 1 - D. George (skip), M. Stewart, J. Gorrill, J. Coady vs. H. Bradshaw, D. Stewart, G. Wright, A. Trainor

Ice 2 - R. LeClair (skip), E. Sutherland R. Vessey, M. Buell vs. C. A. MacLeod (skip), B. Anderson, R. Newson, V. Vessey

Ice 3 - M. MacMillan (skip), F. Womacott, G. Bennett, D. Doyle vs. D. Womacott (skip), G. MacKay, L. Doyle, S. Prowse

Ice 4 - M. Jenkins (skip), B. Jenkins, A. Humphrey, A. MacPherson vs. E. MacLeod (skip), B. Prowse, G. Anderson, L. Jenkins

Spares: S. Vessey, V. Wood.

8:00 P. M.

Ice 1 - J. S. MacDonald (skip), M. MacNeill, J. Whitlock, S. Rodd vs. W. R. MacNeill (skip), D. MacDonald, W. Rodd, F. Whitlock

Ice 2 - D. O'Rourke (skip), P. Burden, Gus MacKenzie, B. Reeves vs. J. Burden (skip), A. Wood, P. Mc, R. Reeves, P. Henry

Ice 3 - E. Wood (skip), E. MacDonald, M. Bell, S. Storey vs. Gil Henry (skip), H. MacKenzie, W. MacDonald, L. Bell

Ice 4 - C. Gallant (skip), M. Jones, W. Storey, F. Clark vs. D. Saunders (skip), J. Gallant, R. Jones, C. O'Rourke

Spares: R. Carr, S. Carr.

Curling Draw For Alberton

Following is the mixed curling schedule for the Alberton Rink tonight.

7 P. M.

Ice No 1-Dr. Phillips, Margaret Perry, Hubert Campbell, Norma Gaudet vs. Maurice Perry, Jean Campbell, Addison Rayner, Isabel MacKinnon.

Ice No 2- Hilton Barbour, Jean Bryan, Elmore MacKay, Beth McRae vs. Herb Matthews, Kay Collings, Chas Gordon, Corinne Campbell.

9 P. M.

Ice No 1- Arthur Wilkie, Eva Noonan, George Gibson, Alice Seaman vs. James Myrick, Lou Turner, Ken Matthews, Velda Matthews.

Ice No 2- Frank Bryan, Beth Welsh, Ed Turner, Fran McWilliams vs Keith Matheson, Vera MacKay, Lloyd Wilkie, Frances Currie.

Dunlops Sign New Player

TORONTO (CP)—Whitby Dunlops, Canada's representatives at the world hockey tournament at Oslo, Feb. 28 to March 9, Friday announced the signing of centre Connie Broden, last year with Shawinigan Falls Cataracts of the Quebec Hockey League.

Dunlops Manager Wren Blair said Broden will make his debut in the Ontario Hockey Association's senior A series next Wednesday against Kingston CKLC's. Broden, a native of Montreal, was obtained from Springfield of the American League which drafted him from Quebec. He,re fused to report to Springfield and manager Eddie Shore agreed to release him to Dunlops. Montreal Canadiens of the National Hockey League said they will give Shore back the $7,500 draft price.

Broden scored 20 goals and collected 29 assists for Cataracts in 68 games last season. He joined Montreal for six Stanley Cup playoff games at the end of the 1956-57 season.

Bowling Results From Souris

The results in the Men's Bowling League at Souris were: Lobster Kings 4, Federals 1; Line Roaders 4, Has Beens 1; Ramblers 3, Matthew and MacLean's 2; Perfectionists 3½, Bankers 1½.

In the Women's League: Claim Jumpers 5, Happy Gang 0; Country Cousins 4, Ole Timers 1; Abbies 3½, Green Horns 1½.

Following are the League Standings.

MEN'S LEAGUE

	P	W	L	PTS.
Federals	9	8	-1	34½
Ramblers	10	7	3	34½
Lobster Kings	9	6	3	28½
Line Roaders	9	6	3	24½
Bankers	9	4	5	25
Perfectionists	10	5	5	22
M. & MacLean	9	4	5	19
Kilwatts	8	1	7	9½
Has Beens	9	0	9	7½

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

	P	W	L	T	PTS.
Claim Jumpers	8	8	0	0	34
Country Cousins	9	6	2	1	30
Blue Goons	7	5	2	0	25½
Abbies	8	3	4	1	21
Old Timers	8	2	4	2	18
Green Horns	8	1	7	0	6½
Happy Gang	8	1	7	0	6

The top seven bowlers in each league are as follows:

MEN'S LEAGUE

		T SR	P'FALL	AVG.
W. Pierce	F	24	5109	212.9
K. O'Hanley	P	30	6040	210.3
A. Bouchard	B	27	5354	198.2
R. White	K	24	4731	197.1
H. Leter	R	30	5876	195.9
E. MacDonald	K	24	4700	195.9
E. Steele	R	30	5758	191.2

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

		T SR	P'FALL	AVG.
E. MacDonald	CC	27	5171	191.5
A. MacDonald	CC	27	5071	187.8
B. Mahar	CJ	24	4359	181.6
E. Jarvis	A	24	4334	180.6
C. Cheverie	CJ	24	4272	178.0
I. Campbell	GH	24	4241	176.7
B. Cheverie	BG	21	3656	174.1

College Stars Wallop Souris

A team, composed of players home for Christmas vacation trounced a short-handed Souris All Star team at the Parish Hall on Monday night by the score of 61-25.

Navy's Jim MacIntosh and S. D. U.'s Reg Peters led the visitors attack with 22 and 20 points respectively. Top honors for the locals was shared between, Mel Walsh, Mel LeBrech, and Ken O'Hanley.

Lineups. College: C. Peters 9, R. Pefers 22, J. Gallant 4, L. McCormack 6, J. MacIntosh 20, P. Wood. Total 61.

All Stars: M. Walsh 6, M. LaBrech 6, O'Hanley 6, E. Lutz 1, B. Cheverie 2, J. Cheverie, P. Paquet 4. Total 25. Referee was E. Clinton.

HOCKEY SCORES

American League
Providence 1 Cleveland 2
Buffalo 4 Rochester 8
OHA-Senior
Sault Ste. Marie 2 Sudbury 5
Maritime Senior
Amherst 5 Summerside 2
Laurier Cup
St. Michael's 6 Ottawa-Hull 4
OHA Junior A
Toronto Marlboros 9 Guelph 2

Curling Draw

The following is the Tumbler draw for Saturday afternoon. All games Skip Rotation.

2 P.M.

Ice 1—J. S. MacDonald, Russ Spillett, W. R. MacNeill, A. Bagnall, Doug Saunders, Ed. Tanton, Dr. Chris Gallant, Hall Spillett.

Ice 2—S. Beaton, L. D. MacKay, W. Mellish, R. W. Manning, H. R. Carruthers, L. Turner, E. MacNutt, I. Horne.

Ice 3—R. C. Parent, Dr. MacKenzie, J. McLellan, W. R. Jenkins, A. W. Hyndman, Fred MacMillan, W. R. Burnett, F. W. Curtis.

Ice 4—Rad. MacInnes, J. E. Burnett, S. Carson, N. Nicholson, Greg MulHolland, Pres. Bryden, B. Jones, T. White.

7:30 P.M.

Ice 1 —Dr. MacDonald, J. Squarebriggs, F. Hansen, D. Walker vs School Boys.

Ice 2—D. Cameron, G. Dillon, J. Cameron, A. Llewellyn vs. C. MacDonald, D. Hill, C. Stewart, M. Jenkins.

Ice 3—W. MacLaine, C. Whitlock, H. Peters, A. Love vs. J. Burden, Dr. Giddings, B. Leclair, B. MacGregor.

Ice 4—Open.

FREE MOVEMENT

Alberta has no toll roads, toll bridges or toll ferries.

NORTHERN LINK

The Hudson Bay Railway runs 510 miles from The Pas, Man., to Churchill.

Amherst Ramblers Defeat S'side Aces By 5-2 Score

The Amherst Ramblers, behind a barrage of relentless back and fore checking, and the superb work of Tuffy Steeves in the Amherst net, defeated the Summerside Aces at the Ice Shedrium last night by the score of 5-2. The Amherst boys rolled up their margin of victory in the first period, scoring three goals without a return, and the teams split a pair of goals in each of the remaining periods. Beliveau got the scoring with a brace of tallies.

The first ten minutes of the initial period was close with Beliveau opening the scoring at 7:03. Earl Shepherd, Ace net guardian, came out to smother the puck but the puck got away from him, and Beliveau slashing round him with ease, parked the disk in the open cage.

The Aces faded badly in the final half of the period, and seemed bottled up behind their blueline a lot of the time. Finally two quick goals eight seconds apart gave the visitors a commanding lead, and they were never in serious trouble for the rest of the game.

While the Ramblers were swarming around the Ace cage, Lou Kiley got a forward flip pass to Polley unmolested in front of the Ace citadel, and the hard-working little forward poked it home. Eight seconds later Gouthro shot one through Shepherd from the left wing and the period ended 3-0.

The Aces seemed to have a little better of the middle session but Steeves was particularly good, moving to get one from the stick of Paul Schurman and one shot by Wallie Shepherd. Howatt deked Steeves out of position at 5:44 and scored the Aces' first counter, and with 6 seconds to go in the period Beliveau bagged his second tally of the evening after a three way passing bout with Hayden and Bonnie Gaudet.

Boss made it 5-1 early in the final chukker and the period was three-quarters gone before the Aces got their second and final goal. Goke Grady realizing that Wallie Shepherd and Schurman.

Bonnie Howatt and Lou Kiley drew misconducts after protesting too vigorously minor sentences.

Line-Ups —Amherst — goal, Steeves; defence, Mullins, Langille, MacKinnon, Leger, L.* Kiley; forwards, J. Gouchie, Boss, Polley, Beliveau, Hayden, White, F. Gouthro, H. Gouchie.

Aces—goal, E. Shepherd; defence, Reeves, G. Grady, Steele, MacArthur; forwards, W. Shepherd, Schurman, C. Grady, Cutcliffe, Clow, Harris, Howatt, Hughes, Hennessey.

First Period: 1. Amherst, Beliveau (Mullins) 7:03; 2. Amherst Polley (Kiley, J. Bouthro) 18:04; 3. Amherst, J. Gouthro (Polley) 18.12.

Penalties: Howatt (minor and misconduct), Leger.

Second Period: Aces, Howatt (C. Grady, Hennessey) 5.14; 5. Amherst, Beliveau (Hayden, Gaudet) 19.54.

Penalties: Leger.

Third Period: Amherst, Boss (Gaudet, Leger) 3.40; 7. Aces C. Grady (Shepherd, Schurman, 15.-28.

Penalties: Beliveau, L. Kiley (minor and misconduct), White.

Referees: Gord Kelley and Brian McCallum.

Maritime Racing Review

(Continued from Page 9)

former was the 3-year-old trotter Sh Boom. She won no less than seven trips at Roosevelt Raceway during the season and was also a winner at Lexington, where she beat a good field in 2:04 3-5 and 2:04 flat in another feature race she won the fastest heat in 2:03 and was awarded the trophy. Her season's record is 14 wins, seconds and thirds in one third in 25 dashes, with total money won $24,949. A tribute has been paid to Earle Avery for the great turn this mare retained right to the end of the season. This was proven by the fact that in his last trip to Roosevelt Raceway made in the late season, Sh Boom won four races and was once third.

Another season's champion with Clearview Stable this year was the 4-year-old Egyptian Princess. At Roosevelt she won the Junior Free For All of $6,000, defeating one of the best trotting classes of the year. Her season's winnings were $19,582 and her total winnings $98,344.

Maxine's Dream 3, 2:00, a year - old Knight of Knight Dream, added $17,864 to her bankroll this season. At Yonkers Raceway early in the season she won in 2:04 1-5 and at opening night of Roosevelt Raceway we had the pleasure of seeing her win the $7,500 Free Year Old Pace in 2:02 1-5. The half was in 1:00 1-5 which will give an idea of the speed this filly possesses.

The aged pacing mare Newton Direct was a winner at Yonkers Raceway, Roosevelt and Buffalo, earning $9,902, which increased her lifetime total to $64,853.

Earle had several other winners and young ones coming on that should be good race horses next season. The progenitors of the above stable are Norman and Fred Woolworth of the famous Woolworth chain of stores. Lately they decided to establish a breeding farm of their own and retired the pacer Hillsota 1.59 to head the stud there., Earle raced this horse in most of his campaigns and he ended with lifetime earnings of $221,356.

Angus Allen, formerly of Halifax, continued to be one of the leading drivers at beautiful Saratoga Raceway, N.Y. While not top driver as he was two years ago, Angie was a strong competitor right up to the end of the season. He is held in high regard by fellow drivers and the management and will have a strong stable for 1958.

Don Larlee was second trainer and raced several of the horses in the Camp Stable during the season and did a great deal of the training of others. As usual he acquitted himself well and is considered one of the most promising of the younger drivers.

Earle Semple of Kensington, who campaigned the B.F. Steele Stable of Bangor, Maine, had a quite a good season. After winning some firsts and placings in Maine he moved to Vernon Downs, which is a three-quarter mile track with a quarter of a mile straightaway and is one of the fastest ovals in the United States. Earle enjoyed his stay there very much and he won his first race with Jewels Hiram in 2.05 2-5 and in his last race reduced his record to 2.04. As a 3-year-old the privately owned he took a mark of 2.11 4-5.

Jem McElwyn 2.07 1-5 liked the track and in one of his winning races took a new record of 2.06. Earle says he is a very easy-gaited trotter and should improve Another winner for Earle was Jan B. that took a record of 2.04-3-5. The Bachelor, that had a 4-year-old record of 2.13, won nicely in 2.08 1-5. Earle likes him very much and believes that he will reduce his trotting record by several seconds next season.

The final member of the stable was the 4-year-old pacer Volostone that took a 3-year-old record last year of 2.12 3-5, and reduced it to 2.08 at Vernon Downs.

On the way home a new purchase was added to Earle's string, Madam Chiang 2.07 1-5, by Lord Key. She had had a trial to Earle's favorite mate, Mary Mark 2.08 3-5. Madam Chiang was one of the biggest money winning trotting mares in 1956 with over $30,000 to her credit. After her racing days are over she will be mated to Dean Gale 2.07 3-5.

Many Thanks

The above completes our Review of the 1957 racing season we trust will be interesting and informative to our horsemen readers wherever this issue goes. For years we have been in receipt of many kindnesses from readers of Down the Back Stretch not only in the Maritimes but from various parts of the United States and Canada. There are men who go to considerable trouble to send us interesting harness horse news in the U.S. and Maritimes and they don't wish publicity, but we would like to assure them that they have a very warm place in our regard for the time and trouble they have taken in sending us such items.

We also want to give our most sincere thanks to the race secretaries of Maritime tracks for their cooperation in loaning their judges books to us so that we can verify the entries made on our card system during the racing season, and thus give our readers a correct account of track records and track happenings. From past experinces we know the great amount of time and effort that is spent by them in their various duties and we trust that the season of 1957 was a successful one and that 1958 will be even more so.

The photo charts of finishes which appear in this Review were very kindly given to us by Mr. Rupert Godfrey, Inventor and proprietor of the photo chart system and an expert technician, whose worth has been widely recognized in the Maritime Provinces and elsewhere. These photo charts are undoubtedly the best produced in Canada and naturally so because he has the right to the best picture system in America.

Mr. Godfrey and his staff are among our busiest people during the racing season having to be on hand at nearly all of the Maritime tracks each night racing is conducted, and we have never known them to fail in carrying out their engagements to the letter. There must be a great deal of worry in connection with providing this photo system and arranging it, but from Mr. Godfrey's easy going manner one would never notice it.

And now we wish to conclude by extending our thanks to our reading public and our best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Pirates Buy New Player

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Pittsburgh Pirates Friday announced the signing of Raymond M. Looney, George Washington University Football and baseball star to a bonus contract. The price was not disclosed.

Looney, 21, a lefthanded hitter and first baseman, will be assigned to Pirates' Columbus team in the International League.

Eight Boxing Deaths Reported

NEW YORK (AP)—Eight boxing deaths were reported throughout the world in 1957, five in the amateur ranks and three among the professionals, in a Ring Magazine year-end survey. It was the second smallest number in 11 years.

Three of the eight deaths were in Germany, two amateurs and a professional.

The most prominent professional to die after a bout was Jimmy Elliott, former middleweight champion of South Africa, following his knockout at the hands of Pat McAteer of Britain in Johannesburg.

The two professional fatalities were Karl Heinz Bick, German lightweight, and Hocine Aisseau, French boxer who fainted after losing a decision and died of a heart attack the next day.

HUNTERS CORNER

Geese Just Wanted To Be Shot During The Past Year

The Old Year is packed and waiting to move out into the misty realm of past memories — four days hence — and young 1958, chrubbie and smiling, is standing by to take over. He'll be a different looking character when he hands the scythe over to his successor — 1958 — but will he be a kind to us as as many ways as was the old man of 1957. Time alone will answer that question. It may be a long time before we have the goose puffed grouse and rabbit shooting we enjoyed this past hunting season. The wild geese appeared to throw discretion to the winds this past fall and persisted in stubble feeding despite heavy punishment. Geese are unpredictable and may shun the stubble fields in 1958 the same as they did in 1956.

Looking back it is safe to state that I never spent less time a field shunting bent or bagged more game for the time expended. Two trips out after geese, on Thanksgiving morning and the A. M. of December 5th, and got a pair of choice birds on each occasion. Incidentally I only fired four shots at geese. I was invited out on two other goose shooting ventures and would have had an opportunity to score on each had I accepted. The first was too close to the Thanksgiving shoot I wanted to get caught up on shut-eye, and the 2nd entailed a trip to a section East of Souris which meant full day lost. Three scoring opportunities were had on the last hunt. Maybe its just as well I didn't participate. I'd have probably spoiled a perfect score on geese.

GENERALLY OTHERWISE

There are times when I fully believe that geese have a Guardian Angel to watch over them. So often have hunters waited for hours in vain and finally quitting in disgust were in the act of either picking up the decoys or storing them in the car or truck when geese choose this opportunity to arrive on the scene. The following are two authentic incidents that vary slightly from the impatient hunter angle. A group of hunters from Peakes were rigged out for geese on a windy, bitter cold morning in late November or early December. They arranged a snug enclosure with baled straw bundles and utilized some loose straw for bedding in the center.

One of the participants in this hunter told me what happened. He had snuggled down to await the dawn and was awakened to find the blind afire. There was a wild scramble to vacate the blind and in his hasty get-a-way he tore the seat out of his pants on a barbed wire fence. It really could have had a serious ending but alls well that ends well with this exception: When the geese arrived a few minutes later they had no blind to hide them and had to lie in the stubble — exit geese. Moral — don't fall asleep while smoking a cigarette whether you be in a goose blind or in bed.

WELL SET

The second incident has to do with a hunter from Alberton Plains. A large flock of geese had been visiting a stubble field at Glencoe for several mornings so a hunt was arranged in which a brother who works in Charlottetown and a friend who lives in the City made up a hunting party of three. A snug blind was built and the decoys set out and all they had to do was wait for the geese. Usually they arrived a few minutes after 7.00 a.m. but 8.30 came with no sign of geese and the two from the City had to leave so as not to be late for work. Vic was left to hold the fort. He has lots of patience, particularly when hunting geese, and was all set to stay there all day if necessary. If the geese were inclined to play a waiting game it was Okay with him.

Getting on toward noon however, he felt the urge to take a stroll in the nearby woods. He overlooked one important item; He left his shotgun in the blind. Yes, readers you have guessed it. The geese took this opportunity to drop in for in the middle of the set-up. The hapless goose hunter had to sit in the bushes and look on while the old gander hung a beating on one of his decoys. This old bird must have been a Sergeant Major type. Probably said how do you do to this decoy and receiving no answer hung a rap on him for dumb insolence. He was in dead earnest about it for his wing knuckles rapping on the wooden block sounded like hammer blows accompanied by abusive language.

A GOOD YEAR

This columnist has no complaints to offer with respect to the past hunting season. I never shot better in my life and that sure came as a pleasant surprise. My memories include: The dawning on opening morning — three single black ducks swinging in over the barren and three ducks in the game pocket — a crow hurtling earthward the beginning of a Caaw dying in his throat — the scrap of snipe leaving a bog by swale — a flock of ducks — the cry of geese in the dawning — the crash of gunfire and dark mounds motionless on a snow blanketed stubble — rabbits like white ghosts flashing through an alder tangle and skidding to a tumbling stop ——

Yes? I have some choice memories to tide me through the Winter evenings and not the least of these is matching my hunting partner shot for shot and that doesn't allow for many misses. In this happy frame of mind I wish all readers of the Column a Happy and Prosperous New Year and happy hunting in the years that lie ahead.

American Club To Be Sold

SEATTLE (AP)—J. Elroy McGraw, owner of Seattle Americans of the Western Hockey League, said Friday negotiations are under way for the club's sale.

However, he declined comment on a Post-Intelligencer story that the sale is imminent. The newspaper named as purchasers a group of Seattle and New York investors and said the price is believed to be in the neighborhood of $100,000."

Al Leader, WHL president said he knew nothing of the proposed sale. He assumed formal approval, if a sale is made, would be sought at a WHL meeting in Calgary Jan. 9.

THIS IS WINTER?

OTTAWA — Ted Giroard of Ottawa took full advantage of the unusual warm weather to clean up his lawn Christmas day. Attired in colorful shorts and a t-shirt, he works while his son Teddy (left) and neighbor Lew Thomson lounge lingly with for snow so they can use their Christmas gifts. The capital enjoyed record high weather for more than a week. (CP Wirephoto)

WE JOIN IN EXTENDING

GREETINGS

TO ALL HORSEMEN THROUGHOUT THE MARITIMES

* * *

PLAN TO RACE AT WOODSTOCK PARLOR TRACK DURING 1958

WOODSTOCK DRIVING CLUB LTD.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

To All Horsemen

IN THE MARITIMES!

As 1958 comes to the wire, may it be a GO for your luck, health and cheer!

CAPE BRETON TURF CLUB

Operating the Cape Breton Spirit Centre