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Back Stretch

Continued from page 6

Jane Axoff, price \$5100. The horses have been shipped to California. Claude is driving there and won a stake with Diana Streak. Thanks, Doctor.

One of the most peculiar happenings that ever occurred in racing in England was at Newmarket, October 8th. Eleven horses ran in the Newmarket Town Plate race. Ten had women jockeys and one a male rider. The male finished eleventh. The winning jockey was

blonde Betty Richards, daughter of jockey Cliff Richards and niece of the famous jockey Sir Gordon Richards. Second was Rosedale, ridden by Valda Rogerson, whose mother won the same event 27 years ago. In last place was the horse ridden by William Evans, son of the Australian jockey W. T. Evans.

Last Saturday night at St. John Raceway, Headway had a double win in the Free-For-All for owner-driver Jimmie Given of Halifax. Abbeland (Goguen) was 2-2, Hedgewood Chief (Harrison) 3-3, Babe Britton (Sobey) 4-4. Time,

2:12, 2:10, the latter just two-fifths of a second off the track record set up in August by Abbeland. Dashes 1 and 6 had as winners Royal Jr., owned and driven by Al Langille, St. Stephen, 1-2, Morris Direct, owned by L. McKinney, Gageclown, and driven by C. Wood, 2-1, Ann's Boy (Bowness) 3-3, time, 2:18 2/5, 2:14 3/5. Dash No. 2 was won by Billy Whistler, owned by Jos. Hatty, St. John, and driven by Hayes, Piney Boy (Lawson) 2, time, 2:16 3/5. Dash No. 3 was won by Oliver Chief, owned and driven by A. Davidson, St. John, Spencer Key (Burt) 2, time, 2:15. Dash No. 5 was won by Josephine Clipper, owned by M. Coughlan, St. John, and driven by Walter Craig, Ramona Chips (Lawson) 2, time, 2:16 3/5. Dash No. 8 was won by Sandy D. owned and driven by H. Cormier, Moncton, Just Lucky (Langille Jr.) 2, time, 2:15 2/5.

R. J. "Dick" Logue was one of the visitors to Lexington during the Trots and at the Tattersalls sales purchased the yearling Banner Way by King's Counsel 1.58, dam, Direct Lady 3, 2:07 3/4 by Billy Direct 1.55. She is a half sister to Dell Frisco 3, 1:59 3/4, dam of the \$35,000 yearling American Way by King's Counsel 1.58. We do not have the figure paid but no doubt it would be a big one for this splendidly bred youngster.

We are indebted to our very good friend Alfred (Skipper) Quartermain, Newcastle, N. B., for the following item re a Maritimer who has made good in Uncle Sam's country. "Skipper" has recovered nicely from an operation which he had some time ago, and this will be good news to his many friends throughout the Maritimes. "R. Leonard Sweezy of 608 Lincoln Av., Saugus, is the owner of Prince James, an 11-year-old gelding that has through this season, at the Rochester, N.H., fair some weeks ago he broke a ten-year harness racing record when he won the Class AA Pace and the Governor Hugh Gregg trophy, pacing his mile in 2:06 2/5. A few days before he took both heats of a feature race at the same track and earlier at Foxboro, Mass. Prince James won the \$2000 purse and trophy for the Rep. Joseph W. Martin Pace and the feature Old Colony pace. His driver, Alfred "Bucky" Day, was the leading driver at the recent Foxboro meet and is now at Blue Bonnets track, Montreal, Canada." Mr. Sweezy was born at Chatham, N. B. and is now a prominent screen manufacturer in Saugus.

Racing at St. John Raceway closed for the season with a fine program on Thanksgiving afternoon featured by a Free For All in which Abbeland, owned by James Watt, Gaspe, Que., and driven by M. Goguen, was 1-1, Headway, owned and driven by James Given, Halifax, 2-2, Hedgewood Chief (Harrison) 3-3, Babe Britton (Sobey) 4-4. Time, 2:10 3/5, 2:12 3/5. The other events were single dashes. Race 1 was won by Blaze Dillon (Govang), owned by Herb Campbell, Sussex, Doc Banks B. (Bishop) 2, time, 2:25 2/5. Dash No. 2—Ima Corporal (W. Carr), owned by C. B. Smith, French Village, 1, Twinkle Dawn (Akerley) 2, time, 2:20. Dash 3, Princess Tina (A. Langille, Jr.), owned by Mrs. Al Langille, St. Stephen, 1, Top Royal (Burt) 2, time, 2:17 2/5. Dash No. 4, Flaxey Pointer (W. Carr), owner A. C. Titus, Norton, 1, Surprise Lady (Goguen) 2, time, 2:18 2/5. Dash No. 5, Symbol Ma-

jesty (Harrison), owner, Bev. Milton, Moncton, 1, Arlene's Money (A. Langille, Jr.) 2, time 2:15 1/5. Dash No. 7, First Angel (A. Langille, Jr.) owner, J. N. Porter, Easton, Me., 1, Colonel Sherbrooke (Jones) 2, time, 2:19. Dash No. 8, Just Lucky (A. Langille, Jr.) owner, Tom Stewart, St. Stephen, 1, Adagio (Wood) 2, Dash No. 10, Thelma Lou, owner and driven by W. Downey, St. John, 1, Ann's Boy (Bowness) 2, time, 2:14.

The 1953 harness horse racing season at the Sydney Sports Centre was brought to a successful conclusion last Monday afternoon with the Cape Breton Turf Club putting on a 10 dash Thanksgiving Day card. Here are the winners - Races 1 and 4—Classified Trot, Prairie Pete, owned and driven by Roddie Andrews, 1-3, Clean Up, owned and driven by D. Rankin, 2-1, time, 2:17 2/5. Race 2, Classified Pace—Calumet Onward (Young) owned by Smith & Young, 1, Incus Truitt, 2, time, 2:17. Races 3 and 7—Trickle Scott (A. Young), owned by William Gaum, Sydney, 1-6, Georgie Direct (B. Coady) 7-1, owned by Pier Horsemen's Club, time, 2:16, 2:17 2/5. Race 5 Classified Pace—Shinar Direct (G. MacDonald), owner, R. J. Logue, 1, My Pride, 2, time, 2:19 3/5. Races 6 and 9, Dan Budlong (T. Reid), owner, Joseph Reid, North Sydney, 1-5, Victory Hy (G. MacDonald) 5-1, time, 2:15, 2:16 2/5. Race No. 8, Classified Pace—Helen K, owned by William Morrison, Lockport, driver, Moreside, 1, 2:25 3/5. Race No. 10, Friar, owned and driven by Don Rankin, Ball's Creek, 1, Maudine Reamore, 2, time, 2:22.

Truro's concluding race meet for the season was held Thanksgiving afternoon and drew a large holiday crowd. The feature race was the Two Mile Trot and the 13-year-old Mack Fingo surprised everyone by winning from a large field in 4:46. Race 1—Buck P. C. Gratian (Smith), 1, Phil Vitale (MacLeod) 2, time, 2:18. Winning owner is Miss D. Miller. Tugwash, Race 2 and Edith Hooper (Walker) 1-1, Pepper Shaker (Gould) 2-4, Rita Federal (Mauger) 3-2, time, 2:19 2/5, 2:18 3/5. Winning owner, S. Walker, Lower Sackville. Race 3—Money's Worth (Cruikshank) 1, Leo's Dream (Pinkney) 2, time, 2:22. Winning owner, Nelson, Truro. Race 4—Two Mile Trot—Mack Fingo, owned and driven by F. Moreside, Lower Sackville, 1, Vella Gratian (McNeill) 2, Great Doon (Haley) 3, Lusty's Queen 4, six other starters. Races 5 and 8—Gallant Bobby (Connors), owned by C. L. Dauphinee, Halifax, 1-1, P. E. I. Budlong (Jewell) 2, Tommy Morgan (McNeill) 6-2, time, 2:18 1/5, 2:16 3/5. Races 6 and 9—Miss Cherry Valley, owner, E. MacMillan, driven, C. MacLeod, 1-1, John Clegg (Walker) 2-4, time, 2:15 3/5, 2:15 4/5.

Horsemen are reminded that the annual meeting of the Prince Edward Island Harness Racing Club will be held (upstairs) in City Hall, Tuesday, October 20th, at 8:00 p.m. All who are interested in the raising and developing of colts in this province should make an effort to be there and hear the report of the president and secretary-treasurer. These two men, Dr. R. F. Seaman and W. G. Gillespie, have been the main cogs in keeping up interest in colt racing and by so doing encouraging the breeding and raising of colts. They have given a great deal of time and thought and have sacrificed much to put this association in the proud position it is today and they can look back on their accomplishments and feel justifiable pride, for all over the Maritimes and much farther away are horses that have been bred, trained and raced because of the encouragement these stakes have provided.

Blue Bonnets Raceway has felt the effects of inclement weather and some night meets could not be held due to it. There is a partial list of the achievements of Maxtime horses since last Back Stretch - - - June Bee 2:10 1/5, owned by Munroe & Lavette, Sydney, and driven by Rennie MacDonald, won C. Pace, CC Pace, Vanguard 2:08 3/5 (W. Carroll) 1, time, 2:13. Owner, Duncan A. MacDonald, Sydney, E. Pace, Gohstetter (Parker) 3, time, 2:10 2/5. C. Trot, Jennie Kalmuck 2:10 3/5, 1, time, 2:18, owner-driver, Larne Letcher, CC Pace, Penny Lyn 2:06 (W. Lewis) 2,

Hunters Corner

Continued from page 6

wildgeese present as many flocks would be feeding in stubble fields or resting on inland lakes.

Blue-wing teal were scarce in some sections and plentiful in others. For some reason hundreds of them favoured the salt marshes this season. I do know that on some ponds and rivers the Blue-wings moved out a week or so prior to the 10th. There is no definite information at the moment that these concentrations migrated south but on the contrary

Wayne S. Gratian (Taylor) 3, time, 2:13. B. Pace, Handbook 2:03 2/5, owned by Richard Jabalee, North Sydney, driven by Don Ratchford, 1-3, time, 2:10 3/5, 2:11 3/5. CC Trot, Flaxcott 2:18 1/5, owned by F. J. Cadeagan, driven by R. MacDonald, 1, time, 2:11 2/5. Handicap Pace, Crusader Chief 2:09 4/5 (W. Lewis), owned by A. L. Cadeagan, Glace Bay, 3, time, 2:11 2/5. Class B. Pace, Miss Knox 2:09 3/5, owned by Cmdr. G. H. Buntain, and driven by Ike Moreside, 1, time, 2:13. There have been other winners and placings but we did not get information about them.

The recent fire at Richleau Raceway is without doubt the greatest race track catastrophe in the history of the sport in Canada. Some 400 horses were stabled there and the fire broke out in the stalls immediately behind the grand stand. It raced through stall after stall with owners, trainers and stablehands working feverishly to free their horses. Then the grand stand itself collapsed and in it was the restaurant, mutual booths and totalizers. Some of the horses ran six miles from the track before being picked up and one was caught on a main street of Montreal. Twenty-two horses were burned and one had to be shot because of injuries and it is expected that several more horses' lungs were damaged so severely by inhaling smoke and flames that they will have to be destroyed. Many of the top trotters and pacers of Canada were stabled there and the loss in horses, grand stand and equipment is stated to be in the vicinity of half a million dollars.

shifted feeding grounds. A few shots before the opening date will move teal (Blues) but better food elsewhere will also cause a change in location. When Blue-wing teal decide to go south the move is pretty general all over but on the 10th they afforded excellent shooting on some marshes.

Quite a few geese were shot on the opening day and I have personal knowledge of over 50 being bagged during the first week of the season. On the opening morning some hunters literally had their geese handed to them on a silver platter... it was just that easy. Some visiting hunters are reporting Huns far more plentiful than last year while others feel they are scarcer. Their viewpoint is governed entirely by their luck in finding them. The cagey Huns have learned a lot since their importation and even if they were three times as plentiful as they are now one would still have to hunt, and hunt hard, to secure the limit of 8 birds per day. Right now some hunters would settle on 8 for the season.

Pheasants as usual are their cagey selves and even the hens have wised up to the extent that they are almost as hard to find as their male consorts. I had a chance at a big rooster on the holiday. He barged out of an alder tangle almost in my face talking in six different languages all at once and I blew two clean holes in the air. The nearest I got to having him on a platter was the smell of his breath and that's not very satisfying. My partner and I tried the ducks for about an hour and a half on the opening morning. It was like shooting on ring-necked ducks and by comparison a black duck is a lumbering truck when it comes to sheer speed. One always knows when a flock, or even a single, is approaching. There is a noise like tearing cloth and if one is not ready they are gone. They are like a formation of Jels... one hears the noise after they are out of sight. We split a days limit (8) between us and then I moved out in quest of bigger game.

Amusing incidents are coming to light in connection with the opening day's hunt. For instance farmer's in the Orwell Cove district thought for a moment that

a Nudist Colony (page the Doukhobors) had sprung up over night when a man sprinted down the length of Donald John's point discarding his clothes as he ran. Hunters in the area declare it was a 'strip-tease' act of the highest order. The cause was soon apparent... the performer's skill was drifting out into Orwell Bay with a \$300 shotgun lying across the thwart. The water was up to his chin when he caught up with the

drifter. By what they tell me September Morn had nothing on this urban Tarzan. The \$65 question at the moment is: Who is the Summerside barber who hooked and landed two one-and-a-half-pound sea trout while fishing for smelts at Mill River? If this question is answered correctly someone will come knocking on his door... and won't be looking for a shave either. That would be foolish.

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