

**POLO PARK, HOME OF horse racing in Winnipeg for 31 years.** July 4, Winnipeg will be without a race track. Polo Park, opened in 1925, will be torn down after a summer meeting which ends June 13, 1925. In this photo taken last year, a field of horses rounds the paddock turn. (CP Photo).

# Winnipeg Racing Home To Close After 31 Years

**By AL VICKERY**  
**Canadian Press Staff Writer**  
**WINNIPEG (CP)**—Polo Park, the home of horse racing here for 31 years, will be shut down permanently after this summer's meeting which ends July 4. Winnipeg will be without a race track. The track, with its white high-board fence and old-fashioned red-roofed stables, will be torn down to make way for a big shopping centre to serve the expanding west end and adjoining city of St. James. The city once held three tracks and Polo Park is the last survivor.

Lou Davies, general manager of the R.J. Speers Corporation, major shareholders in the land, says he hopes a new track will be built in Winnipeg.

**OPENED IN 1925**  
 Polo Park opened June 13, 1925, when racing was becoming well established in the West.

Two other tracks operating in greater Winnipeg were not considered big enough for the sportsmen who formed the Winnipeg Jockey Club. The River Park half-mile track in the south end of the city was outmoded—the grandstand was a well-worn structure; the barns rickety; the surrounding fences battered. Whittier Park on the banks of the Red river in St. Boniface was also too small at five furlongs, and was the scourge of jockeys because of its sharp corners. Its well-known "barn corner" has been the scene of many disastrous spills.

Named to manage the new track was a man who was destined to become "Mr. Racing" in western Canada—the late R. James Speers who, a few years earlier, had ridden into the West on a bicycle from his Ontario home with scarcely a dollar in his pocket.

**FINE TRACK**  
 Speers put up 10,000 and Polo Park opened with a three-quarter-mile track, large grandstand, two-story clubhouse, beautiful lawns, spacious grassed centre infield, easily accessible paddock and a long string of barns.

Winners in those days were gingerly patted on the head by women in the fashionable waistless floral dress and pointed shoes. At most every racing man sported a straw hat. Otherwise, the general appearance of Polo Park has changed little.

Steward George W. (Judge) Schilling has been at the course every year since 1925.

Some improvements have been made. A pond was dug out in the mid-field. The method of buying and cashing tickets was speeded up; a mechanical starting gate was introduced; and concessions were modernized.

One jockey and one horse stand out in the minds of oldtimers around Polo Park. Few could dispute the choice of Johnny Longden as the top rider to appear at Winnipeg and of Joey as the favorite horse.

Longden, who came to Canada from England as a boy, rode at

## PERFORM FEAT TWICE

# Swiss Conquer Mt. Everest

**By PETER JACKSON**  
**KATMUNDU, Nepal Reuters—**Swiss mountaineers Monday reported they have climbed Mt. Everest, the world's highest mountain, for the second and third time and also made the first ascent of Everest's twin peak, Lhotse.

Albert Egger, leader of the expedition, announced the successful full assaults in a message to the Nepalese government, released Monday.

He said Lhotse at 27,890 feet was the world's fourth highest mountain—was conquered May 18, and Everest climbed in two assaults May 23 and 24.

The Swiss team, dogged by illness and bad weather earlier, is "feeling proud and happy," Egger said.

The triple victory is a record for a Himalayan expedition. Everest had been climbed only once before when Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing, Sherpa guide, of a British expedition reached the top May 29, 1953.

**ONE STILL UNCLIMBED**  
 Among the world's top 10 peaks only Dhaulagiri, 26,795 feet, remains unclimbed and an Argentine team is attacking it now.

Fritz Luchsinger, one of the two Swiss who climbed Lhotse, had only recently recovered from an appendicitis attack that had threatened to remove him from the expedition.

He and Ernst Reiss, using open-circuit oxygen apparatus, succeeded in what is in many ways considered a stiffer mountaineering test than Everest.

They made their 1,790-foot climb from the barren, gale-swept south col, lying between the two mighty peaks 26,000 feet above sea level. The expedition reached the south col May 15.

From the same spot, the two assaults were made to the 29,000-foot summit of Everest, a climb of more than 3,000 feet.

Hillary and Tenzing made their Everest assault from a high camp at 27,900 feet.

**TWO TEAMS REACH TOP**  
 Ernst Schmidt and Jurg Karmet became the second two men to stand on the roof of the world May 23. The following day, Adolf Reist and Hans von Gunten made the climb.

Two previous Swiss attempts on Everest in 1952 failed, although on the first bid Alpine guide Raymond Lambert, accompanied by Tenzing, reached 28,215 feet, the highest point then officially known to have ever been reached.

The route to Everest and Lhotse lies up the treacherous Khumbu glacier, which pours through a narrow gap from a gently-sloping valley, rimmed by towers of rock and ice. A steep slope of 3,000 feet leads to the south col, the lowest point of the ridge joining Everest and Lhotse.

The 10 top peaks with the countries which first conquered them are: Everest (Britain), K2 (Italy), Kanchenjunga (Britain), Lhotse (Switzerland), Makalu (France), Cho Oyo, (Austria), Dhaulagiri (Unclimbed), Nanga-Parbat (Austria-Germany), Manaslu (Japan) and Annapurna (France). Manaslu, 26,658 feet, was conquered a few weeks ago by a Japanese team.



**WINS FIRST START**  
 Canadian Champ, a hot favorite to win the 97th running of the Queen's Plate June 16, is shown winning his first start of the season at the old Woodbine track in Toronto. The big bay col, owned by Toronto stables of W. R. Beasley and ridden by jockey Dave Stevenson, beat four other three-year-olds and finished almost four lengths in front. He ran six furlongs in 1:12 1/5.

# Sports

The Charlottetown Guardian, Tuesday, May 29, 1956 7

## Scot In Upset Victory Over American In British Tourney

**TROON, Scotland (AP)—**David Mackie, a 22-year-old Scot, performed the first big upset of the British amateur golf championships Monday, eliminating one of the leading American contenders, Doug Sanders of Cedarhurst, Ga.

Mackie thought so little of his chances that he had bought a one-day round-trip ticket to Troon from his Glasgow home Monday morning. He will be staying at least another day, as a result of his 2-and-1 victory over Sanders, who had been rated high on the basis of strong showings in practice rounds.

Joe Conrad of San Antonio, Texas, last year's surprise winner, drew a first-round bye, then won his second-round match, beating Ewen of New Zealand 5 and 4.

A second upset was scored by Robert Manley of Savannah, Ga., who powered over Alan Slater of England. Slater is the cold-blooded Yorkshireman who gave Conrad a battle in the final last year.

**BRITONS WIN**  
 Prominent Britons who advanced through the first round included Ian Caldwell, 2-and-1 win-

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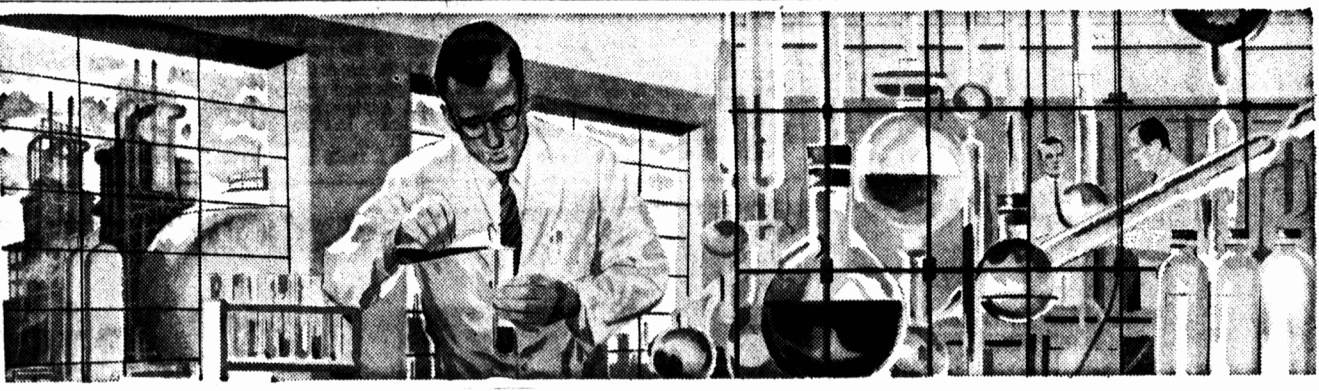
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 Christm island in the Indian ocean is the top of a mountain rising 15,000 feet from the ocean bottom, 1,200 feet above water.

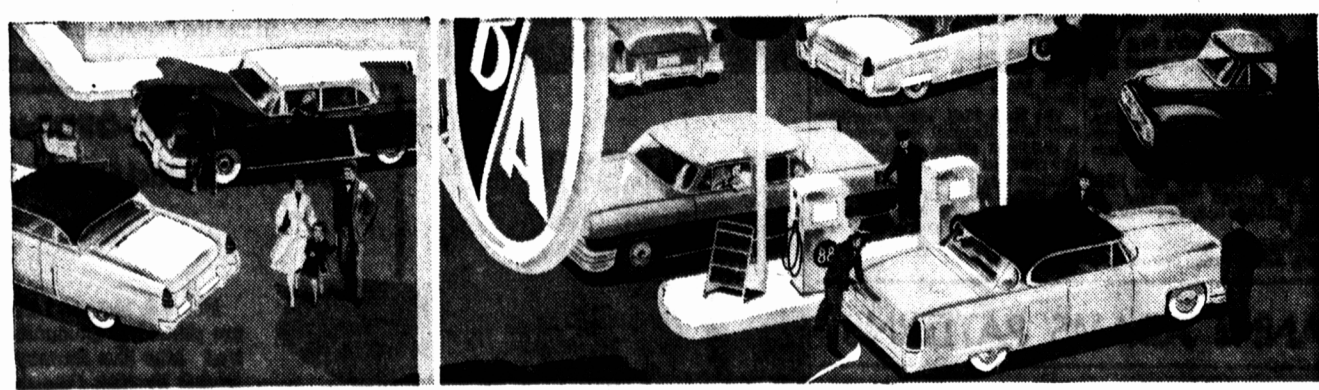
**TRON**  
 Ten To Ace, King's Plate winner found the distance too tough—the plate distance was 1 1/4 miles—and finished last in the 1942 running of the Canadian Derby. The eastern champion, a 1-10 pre-race favorite, took a 20-length lead at one stage, but faltered and was passed by every other horse before hitting the wire.

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