

Back Stretch

mentioned is that of Frank Daniels who has been racing horses for over 15 years, following in the steps of his father and grandfather, so he can be expected to know the harness game as well as anybody. He was born in Lawrenceville, N. S. the 4th of August, 1917 and has a long career ahead of him as a driver and trainer.

At present he has eight horses. These include the pacer Follow Up Jr. 208 4/5, a 12-year-old gelding by Follow Up; Sport Volo 219, a 7-year-old gelding by Proteus; Nancy Britton 216, a 7-year-old mare by Peter Britton and Eddie 211, a 13-year-old pacer by Abbedale, owned by Fraser MacGregor; Truro; Billy P. C. Parker 211 4/5, a 12-year-old owned by Prescott Harvey of Windsor, N.S.; Hardroad Bill, 218, an 8-year-old pacer by Bonnycastle, owned by the Duncan Ignor of Halifax; Nell Fraser, a 4-year-old by Calumet & MacCubsey of Truro, and Billy Aubrey 215, a 13-year-old trotter by Captain Aubrey, owned by William McConnell of Truro. Expected to arrive this week is Jimmie Clebb 218 by Abner T. Clegg, owned by R. N. Dares of Eiderbank. Frank recently sold two horses, namely, Bud Abner 216, an 8-year-old pacer by Abner T. Clegg, and Tracey Direct 220 by Patrick Tracey 207 1/4. Tracey is in top shape having raced over the Compu during the winter. The new owner is Walter Riley, Windsor, N. S.

Another well known trainer, Nelson Moreside, has moved in to Truro Raceway with his two horses. He is no stranger to racing fans in Nova Scotia or throughout the Maritimes, can fit seam and drive with the best. He has a great liking for the old war horse, Mac Fingo 212 2/3 which he took to Truro last season. Although in his fourteenth and final year of racing he has been a horse that has consistently improved and his name will be found with creditable showings the last nine or ten years. In addition to lowering his record at Truro last year he was the winner of the Two Mile Trot, time, 2:42. The previous year he placed second to Pet Hanover in the Two Mile Trot, which was stepped in exactly the same time. Mac Fingo was one of the first "twos" sired by Calumet Fingo 204 1/4 when he was brought to the Maritimes. The pity was that his sire did not receive a better opportunity, as moved to Pleasantville, N. C., the farm of C. T. Black, he has become an outstanding sire of race horses. Trainer Moreside is expecting that Fingo's Girl 216 by Calumet Fingo, which he raced last year on the pacer, will make good on the trot. She has been on that gait all winter and he hopes will race creditably in this, her eighth year.

An 80-year-old driver, A. F. Coulton, who years ago raced against Ed "Pop" Geers and knew Nat Ray and had many contests with him, won a heat at Blue Bonnets Raceway the night of May 18th with Dexter Hawk. The time was 2:21. It was a chilly, damp evening but there was a very good crowd present. Another winner

that night was Lucky Number 211 1/5 by Kalmuck 215 1/4, dam, Jane Azoff 150 1/2. He was driven by Roach MacGregor and the time was 2:18. Lucky Number and Dexter Hawk, driven by Coulton, were coupled in the daily double and paid their backers \$33.90. Second in that event was Smokey Grattan, driven by Worrell Lewis. In the 7th race Madam Dillon won in 2:16. Second was My Darling 208 1/5, owned by Senator G. H. Barbour, and driven by Roach MacGregor. In the 5th race Reed's Cardinal, driven by Ed Halsey, Antigonish, was third.

Cyril L. Dauphinee, well known horse enthusiast of Halifax, has taken over the race track at Bridgewater, N. S., and is putting on a program of racing May 24th. We hope Cyril will meet with good success and that this former popular racing center will again be the scene of many sparkling contests. It was at Bridgewater that the fastest mile paced in the Maritimes in recent years was stepped by Jolity—2:05 1/4.

Hazelbrook and its vicinity is one of the best farming sections in this province and quite a number of good trotters and pacers have been bred there. For future racing there are a lot of promising colts that are being developed largely because of the most successful farmers, Lawson Wood, has with some assistance from the neighbors, built a real nice half-mile track on his farm with judges stand, etc., and the neighbors can be found there every fine evening trying out their speed prospects. Some 20 trotters and pacers have been counted and miles around 2:40 are common.

We understand that a race meet is planned for the afternoon of May 24 and it is expected that four or five classes can be made up from the 19 or 20 horses. The whole thing will be for fun; there will be no prizes and nothing that can injure the eligibility of a horse and it is expected that neighbors for miles around will be on hand to see the sport. Some of the horses owned there are Scotty Watson, Money Adda, Britton's Last, Anita Clegg, Thordale, Lee June, Ruby P., Lanadale, Prudigal Vic, Bonnie's Girl, Dan McElwain, Prince Marine and Bonnie's Money.

A despatch from the United States Trotting Association, Columbus, Ohio, states that a record number of harness horses will go to the races in 1954. Applications for racing certificates up to May 1st reached an all time high of 10,670, which is 886 more than the previous year at that date. Last year a total of 13,194 horses got to the races. If the current trend continues it is expected that 14,000 trotters and pacers will be given the word Go this year. Applications for racing papers for pacers have outnumbered those for trotters to date. Pacing requests total 6,285, trotting 4,385.

In the past few years we have had several cases where buyers of harness horses could not get registration papers from the parties who sold them the horses. The one and only way to buy a race horse is to make sure that he is registered and the owner has the registration papers and will turn

them over to the buyer. Promises are often like pie crust, and just recently we have had letters from several people and also calls locally that showed evidence of bad faith on the part of seller. Caveat emptor was one of the early Latin phrases we learned and as you know, it means—let the buyer beware—and in nothing is more caution needed than in buying a race horse or prospective race horse.

Another thing that is sometimes forgotten is that when the buyer receives his registration certificate properly endorsed, he falls to send it to the U.S.T.A. with \$1.00 for transfer, otherwise if it is left for over thirty days it is \$2.00 and over 90 days the fee is \$10.00. Owners of 1954 colts or earlier should get them registered right away. The fee for 1954 colts is only \$5.00 and we will be glad to send the necessary papers to anyone who requests them. Just address "Box 332, Charlottetown."

Last week in our report of the Saratoga sale we stated that there were no particulars in the report we had seen of Quebec buyers making purchases. Now we have before us complete figures showing horses sold, purchasers and prices paid, which appeared in the Horseman and Fair World, Indianapolis, Indiana. The 4-year-old racing mare Moo Moo and Charles M. Clay, a 3-year-old, were bought by Roland Martin, Rimouski, Que. for \$250 each; Fionne Frisco, a yearling by Frisco Dale, to Real Cournoyer, Drummondville, for \$100; another year-old by Sky Raider, went to the same party for \$450; Bellini Rosecroft, a 3-year-old pacer to R. Larat, Jogg, Ont. for \$250; Edgar Rosecroft, a 4-year-old trotter to Edgar Daller, St. Raphael, Que. for \$1,025; Winston Rosecroft, a 2-year-old by Henry Volo, to Andy Bell, Norwich, Ont. for \$2,400; Roan Prince, a 3-year-old by Victorious Hal to Edgar Daller, St. Raphael, for \$1,700 and Lucky Chips C. 220 3/5 to the same party for \$275.

Toledo 214, was sold to R. Gerard, Richelieu Park, Montreal, for \$925; Hard Way, a 6-year-old by Volation, to Roland Martin, Rimouski, for \$750. We looked up quite a number of the purchases in the 1953 Year Book and from the race records would say that they appeared to have been well sold. Of course one reason for the large number of buyers from Quebec is that these men were no doubt among the horsemen whose stables were burned out last fall at Richelieu and now they are stocking up with expectations of making good this year. We noticed that the horses they bought were young, ranging in age from yearlings to 6-year-olds and of course they will have lots of time to improve.

Hunter's Corner

a tendency to leave for sunny climes early in October, are present at full strength. The tough old veterans who live to burn powder when the lull whippers in the tide wash, and icicles draple one's moustache and the ducks and geese are hog fat and heavy as lead clamour for a season as late as possible. December's blasts hold no terrors for those hardy souls. The third or sandwich group, prefer an in between season.

The provincial department concerned are well aware of the wide difference of opinion among the different groups of hunters and is also convinced that it would be an utter impossibility to set a season that would please everyone. Selecting a suitable opening date is further complicated by the Federal Department at Ottawa taking a dim view on split seasons. Last year (1953) in a conscientious effort to strike a happy medium between the two extreme factions the season was opened on October 10, on ducks, geese, woodcock, snipe, Huns and pheasants. The season on ducks and geese closed on December 5, on Huns and pheasants November 20, and on woodcock and snipe on November 11.

A tabulated statement of the results of the plebiscite was published in our local newspapers this week. To an unbiased reader the results indicated that the majority of hunters either favoured the date set by the Department (Oct. 10) or October 15 on pheasants, Huns and geese with a very close vote on ducks. The highest single vote on ducks was for October 1 with 332. The overall picture showed that 391 voted for a season on ducks earlier than October 5 and 386 favoured a season later than October 8, October 10, 15, and 20, were the dates favoured. A majority of five is nothing here or there considering over 9,000 hunters did not take the trouble to vote at all and it is reasonable to assume those nine thousand hunters were either satisfied with the season that applied in 1953-Oct. 10, all around—or not greatly concerned whether it opened on the 1, or 10.

After reading the tabulated results the average hunter took it as an acceptance of the season set last year and an affirmative vote of confidence on behalf of the De-

partment concerned (Industry & Natural Resources). Considerable bewilderment has been expressed over the recommendation forwarded to the Deputy Minister by the Provincial Game Association. Quote—"That this Association, after careful analysis of the tabulated vote on the plebiscite, do recommend to the Provincial Government that the opening dates of the hunting season on Pheasants, Hungarian Partridge, Geese and Ducks, be in accordance with the majority votes, as follows: Pheasants, October 10; Hungarian Partridge, October 1; Geese, October 15 and Ducks October 1. (Sgd) H. R. Found, President P.E.I. Fish and Game Association! unquote.

Apparently they chose the highest single vote for one specific date regardless of what was voted before or after. For instance the vote on Huns for October 1 was 255 and on October 10, 248... a majority of 7 for an earlier season. The fact that 180 voted for a Hun season to open on Oct. 15 and 40 for October 20 cut no ice at all. In short 258 voted to have the Hun season open on October 1st or prior to that date and 510 voted for a Hun season to open between Oct 2 and Nov 1 with a

marked preference shown for October 10, and yet the scrutineers for the Game Association gave the October 1st date the nod. No wonder amazed hunters are asking themselves the question: "What's behind this?"

As mentioned earlier in this column, with a week's returns in three dates stood out above all others

as the hunters' choice Oct. 1, 10 and 15, with a very definite trend to open on the same date. This trend carried right through to the end as the tabulated figures indicate. Disregarding this trend by the voters and also ignoring Ottawa's aversion to split seasons three such split seasons were advocated October 1, 10 and 15. It appears since members of the Fish & Game Association cannot make up their minds in regard to seasons, apart from ignoring the wish of the majority of hunters who balloted, someone will have to make up their minds for them.

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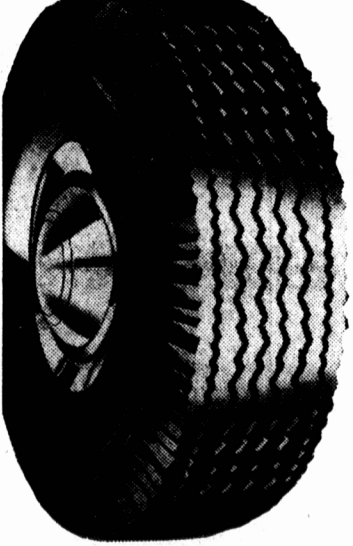
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