

# 1956 ❖ Maritime Harness Racing Review ❖ 1956

(Continued from page 7)

2:00. Stonedale is a well made colt that has shown a lot of pace in the pasture. The get of Wilmington are racing especially well this season, winning quite large stakes and taking fast records. He is engaged in over \$50,000 worth of futurities.

Chief McKlory p. 2:01 1/5, is a 6-year-old bay gelding by Dale McKlory p. 2:01 3/5, dam, Marilyn Chief p. 2:02 3/4. He has been race timed in 2:03 1/5. On his arrival at Woodstock, N. B., he was looked over by some of the top horsemen in New Brunswick and his owner, our good friend Bob Brown of Woodstock, was told that he had a sure winner for 1957.

James MacGregor, well known reinsman of Charlottetown, was the high bidder on the 2-year-old gelding Rusty Con, a brother to Junior Con p. 2:05 4/5 and Sister Mac p. 2:07 4/5. His sire is Congressional 2:04 1/2 and his dam is Eileen Mac 2:06 1/2, dam of six that raced in better than 2:10. We hope that "Roach" has another Bay State Pat in this fellow.

Lloyd MacAulay bought the yearling Highley's Cash. He is by Indian Land p. 1:59 4/5, that Joe O'Brien drove to a sensational win in the Marlborough at Santa Anita, Calif. some years ago. The first of his get are being offered this season. Highley's dam is Disappointed by Chief Abbedale 2:00.

Richard Jabalee of North Sydney, was high bidder on Flashover p. 2:15 1/5 h.m.t. He is a 3-year-old trotter by Nibble Hanover, dam, Beth Hanover by Andy Flash.

The L. & G. Stables of Halifax bought the 6-year-old brown trotting stallion Abbassong p. 2:04 1/5, by Victory Song 4, 1:57 3/5, dam, Queen Abassy 2:10 1/4. Last year he won \$11,895 and was raced by the Billy Houghton. He was one of the high priced ones—\$3,900. The L. & G. Stables also bought the 4-year-old brown stallion Bold Dean by Dean Hanover p. 1:58 1/2, dam, Bold Sister p. 2:10 4/5. He raced at Saratoga this year where he was a close second in 2:08 2/5 and is eligible to the slow trots.

Jimmy Given of Halifax paid a visit to Yonkers Raceway and bought by private sale what is described as a very likely race prospect. At Harrisburg Gordon Robinson bought for his patron, J. K. Curran, the yearling filly, Mount Holly by Bill Gallon 1:59 1/4, dam, Miss Flair by His Excellency p. 1:59 1/4, dam, Flair Hanover, dam of five in 2:10. She is staked in nearly \$100,000 of events and is very highly regarded.

Clayton MacLeod, Westville, N. S. bought the 2-year-old pacing filly Lou Creed by Jimmie Creed p. 1:59 4/5, dam, Eldora Groff—her first foal.

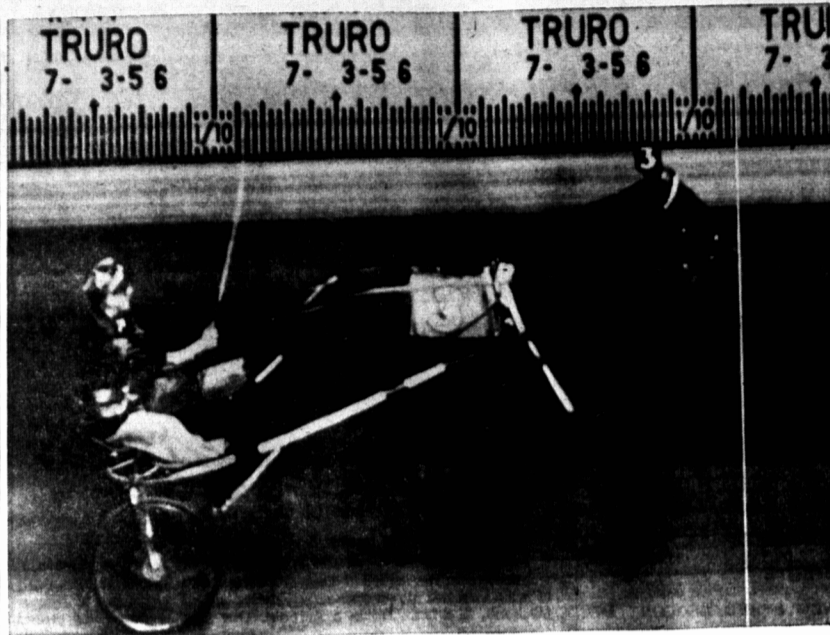
Several horsemen from Saint John, N. B. attended the Blood Horse Sales venue at Delaware, Ohio, November 27-28-29. This is the third season they have been at that sale and have always returned with a number of good performers. This year purchases numbered sixteen, and were made by Mac Lawson, Bruce Lawson, Buddy Wilson, Gerald Alexander, Hazen Kirkpatrick and Millett Coughlan, all from Saint John. It was the largest number of horses ever purchased by Maritime horsemen at any sale anywhere for one track.

Skipper G. 2:07 4/5 is a 9-year-old pacer by Bonycastle p. 2:03 1/4, sire of Dr. Stanton 2:00 and many others. He got his record at Paynesville, Ohio, half mile track and is eligible to the 2:15 pace.

Nancy's Hi-Lee p. 2:14 1/5 is a 2-year-old mare by Banner Hanover 2:04. She took her mark in her second start at Paynesville, Ohio, this season and was close up in 2:09. She has plenty of speed, having paced halves in 1:02.

Speedway Ginny p. 2:08 2/5 is by Pat Chief p. 2:05 4/5 and is a 4-year-old black mare that much is expected from.

Betsy Topsfield is a grey mare foaled in 1949 by True Volo. Betsy has a mile track record of 2:02 and is eligible to the 2:17 pace. She is double gaited and has been a mile in 2:12 on the trot.



CONVAIR 2:01, owned by Harry Hirsch, Sydney, N. S. and driven by George Mauger, setting up a new track pacing record at Truro, N. S., July 3, 1956—Time, 2:07.

Bonnie Michael p. 2:09 is a bay gelding, four years old by Bonycastle 2:03 1/4. He has won nearly \$4,000 racing for small purses this season, has excellent manners and is perfectly sound.

Watson Star p. 2:08 is a 9-year-old chestnut gelding by Court Jester p. 2:04 1/4. At the end of 1955 he had won \$13,000.

Brookdale's Tip 2:08 3/5 is a 6-year-old bay gelding, pacer, by Brookdale p. 1:59 1/4, dam, Bessie Counsel by Chief Counsel p. 1:57 3/4. This is a really well bred pacer and is highly thought of.

Honor's Rogue 2:10 1/5 is a 6-year-old pacer by His Honor p. 1:59 1/4. Last year he started 25 times, was 10 times first, twice second and four times third.

Kahla Byrd p. 2:05 3/5, is a 4-year-old pacer that was electrically timed in 2:03 3/5. She is by Poplar Byrd 1:59 3/5. Last year she started 18 times, in very fast company, was 3 times first, twice second and once third and took a record of 2:09 1/5.

Eather B. p. 2:15 is a 5-year-old bay mare by Mr. Volei p. 2:01 1/4, t. 2:05 1/4. She had several wins and other placings in 1955 and racing for small purses had won \$1,680.

T. O. R. t. 2:04 2/5 is a 2-year-old bay stallion by High Volo t. 2:05, p. 2:05. In 1955 he had four wins, was twice second and twice third and had total money winnings of \$21,515.

Ruby's Jester p. 2:09 2/5 is a 5-year-old bay gelding by Court Jester p. 2:04 1/4, winner of the Fox Pacing Stake and sire of 11 foals in 2:05. His dam is Miss Ruby p. 2:02 1/4, a great race mare that still holds a world's record. This chap has breeding enough to take a very fast mark.

Wilmington Chief p. 2:09 2/5 is a black mare foaled in 1950, by Wilmington 1:59 1/4, dam, Tallahassee 2:05 4/5, dam of five with records better than 2:10. This mare should take a very quick mark.

C. B. L. p. 2:11 1/5 is a 4-year-old bay gelding by The Widower 1:59 1/4, one of the world's greatest sires, whose dam was Widow Grattan p. 2:00 by Grattan Royal 2:08 1/4. The Widower is the sire of this year's sensational 3-year-old pacer Belle Act p. 1:58 3/5 and also of Meadow Rice 1:58 1/5, winner of over \$203,000.

Little Oscar is a 4-year-old brown gelding pacer by Oscar Rotan 2:10, that has been trained very lightly and stepped miles in 2:15 easily in June.

These two horses were purchased in Ontario—Mac Dale 2:06 4/5, a 9-year-old bay gelding by Brookdale 1:59 1/4. This is a real bearcat pacer, tough as they

make them and he never gives up trying. Last year in 45 starts he was 14 times first, 7 times second and 11 times third racing in fast company. This should be one of the best race horses brought to Saint John in a long long time. Dear John is a 2-year-old bay colt by Bob Lee 2:03 1/4. Very little has been done with him but he is well bred and is a likely pacer.

James MacGregor also attended the Delaware sale, accompanied by Joe Hennessy. They spent a couple of days looking over the speed that was to be sold and Roach picked several he liked and was fortunate to be the high bidder on them. The new arrivals are Chester Lee, a 3-year-old winner by Chesterton 2:00 3/5, trotter of \$108,369 including the 1946 Hambletonian Stake. Chester Lee's dam is Carrie Lee 2:11 by Calumet Chuck 2:04 and his grandam is the famous trotter Millie Irwin 2:03 1/4. The owner's statement is that he is one of the nicest colts he ever had, was worked in 2:22 in April and turned out as he couldn't get enough stalls at the race track.

Little River Mark, a 2-year-old pacer by Volstad t. 2:03 1/4, sire of Bay State Pat p. 2:01 2/5 and several others with records better than 2:05. This colt was raced at Roosevelt Raceway in the Baby Races but was sent home at the opening of Yonkers due to stall restrictions. Andrew Perry is the new owner of this chap.

Princess Spangler is a yearling brown filly by Direct Spangler, one of the coming sires of speed in the U. S. A. and his dam is Countess Colby by Colby Hanover p. 2:00 1/2. She is a beautiful filly, perfectly sound and should take a fast record.

For Dr. George Bishop he brought back Denny Pointer by Pegasus Pointer, sire of our local free-for-all Argot Pointer 2:07, and the dam is Loretta Volo p. 2:05 3/5. He raced every year since he was a 2-year-old, and is now nine. He has never been lame until this Spring when he had his hind leg injured by a kick from another horse and his training had to be stopped. He was turned out and is now perfectly sound. In 1955 he started 26 times in fast company, was 5 times first, 3 times second and 3 times third with earnings of \$5,175. His total earnings are \$43,365.05.

For Ben Mitton of Moncton he brought back Bookmor p. 3: 2:05 1/5, a 4-year-old brown pacing gelding by Eddie Scott 2:04 1/2, son of Scotland 1:59 1/4, and his dam, Sue Mc is by R. E. Mc 2:03 1/4. He was timed electrically in 2:02 3/5 at Hazel Park, Michigan, last year.

For S. H. Horsman of Moncton, he brought Johnnie Russell 2:07 2/5, record but not in 1956, an 8-year-old bay gelding, pacer, by Cimarron Direct. Last year his

earnings were \$3,115 and this year he took his record.

The latest arrival to the Maritimes is Chief Ozaukee, a 5-year-old pacer by Dusty Hanover 1:59 1/4. All we know about him is that he took a record as a 3-year-old of 2:16 on the pace. Sheldon Campbell of Saint John took Royal Jr. 2:01 1/4 out to Wisconsin and brought back the above pacer which was received in trade.

### OUR DRIVERS AWAY FROM HOME

As has been the case for several years the name of Joe O'Brien, son of Harry O'Brien, Alberton, has rung throughout the length and breadth of Canada and the United States as one of the greatest drivers of all time. This season with the privately owned S. A. Camp Stable of Shafter, Cal., the earnings of that stable approached the half million mark and it was the biggest money winning private stable of the year and the earnings were spread over a stable of stars of all ages. Perhaps the most outstanding victory was that of Scott Frost at Hollywood track, November 2, 1955, when he won in 1:58 1/5 a new mark for the 4-year-old son of Hoot Mon. At Lexington in the Almahurst Free For All Pace Diamond Hal, the Camp Stable's star pacer, was pitted against the two leading pacers over half mile tracks, Dottie's Pick and Queen's Adios and Diamond Hal came through with a win in 2:02 2/5. The track was heavy, otherwise it would have been better than 2:00.

In a feature pace at Indianapolis, Ind. Joe O'Brien brought the 2-year-old March Away home first in 2:03 2/5. He was home bred and therefore the victory was all the more creditable. In the 2-year-old Trot at the Grand Circuit, Indianapolis, all the stars were lined up for the \$23,700 Horsemen's Stake and Bond Hanover, driven by Joe, was the winner. At Springfield, Ill. Grand Circuit meeting in the first division of the Ohio Standardbred Futurity for 2-year-old pacers, Joe drove Adios Express to victory in 2:02 3/5 and at Lexington in the Poplar Hill Pace he drove the 3-year-old pacer Joe to the winner, Adiosway, home in 2:01 2/5. Joe also won with the home-bred Dazzleway at Lexington in 2:01. 2:03. These are just a few of the many victories won by the Camp Stable.

During the racing season the Camp Stable crossed the border to the Richelieu Park and set up a new Canadian trotting mark of 2:01 3/5 with Scott Frost in the \$15,000 trotting stake. Diamond Hal also holds the Canadian pacing record for a half mile track at Richelieu—3:00 2/5.

Here are the winnings of the top of the Camp Stable for 1956: Diamond Hal, 12 wins, earnings, \$85,851; Bond Hanover, 10 wins, earnings, \$44,003; Adiosway, 7 wins, earnings, \$25,463; Mack Primrose, 12 wins, earnings, \$16,605; Razzle Dazzle, 6 wins, earnings, \$15,251; Time Me, 1 win, earnings, \$13,514; March Away, 7 wins, earnings, \$10,144; Nora Frost, 2 wins, earnings, \$13,210; Pigeon Hill, 3 wins, earnings, \$9,344; Two Ways, 3 wins, earnings, \$7,227; Littlestown, 2 wins, earnings, \$6,896; Waymaid, 2 wins, earnings, \$4,996; Silver Chief, 2 wins, earnings, \$4,714.

Joe O'Brien's ranking among the leading reinsmen of the United States Trotting Association has been remarkable. In the past nine years he has always been in the top ten. During the 1956 season he gathered in his largest total, \$422,618. From 1948 through 1956 horses driven by him have won the amazing total of \$2,170,253. His total dash wins during the past season were 109 and his nine-year total dash wins is 831.

Credit also must be given to Sol Camp, who has been a liberal buyer of the best yearlings at the various auctions. This year he bought five yearlings for a total of \$89,000 and that has been his policy through the years, to buy

what is considered the best from the leading stock farms. Our congratulations to Mr. Camp and to Joe, and our hopes that the accident which caused his hospitalization will not interfere with his training and driving in 1957.

Another Maritime driver who is very close to the top of the ladder in the United States is Earle Avery, formerly of Woodstock, N. B. Since Earle became connected with the Clearview Stables of Winthrop, Maine, the proprietors of which are nephews of the originator of the Woolworth chain of five and ten cent stores, he has gone rapidly up in the estimation of leading harness horsemen in the U. S. and Canada. He picked up a real bargain two years ago and it was the little filly Egyptian Princess and she has been the mainstay of the stable the past two years. She was knocked down to the Woolworths for \$2,000 at the Castleton Farm sales in Lexington in 1954. As a 2-year-old she won several stakes and finally at Lexington she wiped out one of the oldest records in the books by winning in 2:02—a world's record for a 2-year-old trotter. This season she took a race mark of 2:00 4/5 at Springfield, Ill., and that stood as best for a filly this year until it was surpassed by Nimble Colby's 2:00 2/5 at Lexington.

Egyptian Princess won the stakes at Goshen and Reading and also set up new records and she was a winner at Roosevelt, Springfield, DuQuoin and Indianapolis. Among the stakes she won was the Castleton Farm Breeders' Stake of \$7,138 in 2:01 1/5 and 2:00 4/5.

At Sportsman's Park she won the Breeders' Filly Stake of \$7,066 and she also won at DuQuoin in 2:01 3/5 and 2:01 2/5 and at Indianapolis took the Breeders' Filly Stake in 2:03 and 2:03 1/5. She won the Reading Fair Futurity, \$13,798 from nine other starters. It was considered one of the best bunches of 3-year-olds that ever started. The times were 2:04 4/5, 2:03 1/5, 2:04 4/5. Her middle mile applied the record for trotting fillies of her age over a half mile track and her three heat total cut 2 1/5 seconds off the three year old record made by Kimberly Kid.

At Delaware, Ohio, on a very windy afternoon she stepped that half mile track in 2:03. Her total earnings for the season were \$49,097 and for the two seasons, \$78,757.

In addition to Egyptian Princess, Clearview Stables also raced several other horses and Earle was up behind Hillsota 1:59 the past two seasons and gave him his record at Hollywood Park of 1:59 in the \$75,000 American Pacing Classic. Hillsota was purchased towards the end of the season by Clearview Stables. Another star in Earle's stable was the sensational filly Maine's Dream p. 2:00, who was only 3 1/2 years of age and sex to go in that fast time.

Angus Allen, formerly of Halifax, is continuing his winning streak at beautiful Saratoga Raceway, Saratoga, N. Y. Last year he was the top driver there but this year although he did real well with his stable he had to be content with third place in the aggregate. Angie, as his friends here call him, is very popular with other harness horsemen and owners and has one of the good stables racing in that locality.

The stable with which Don Larlee was connected was racing against the best in the United States and they won a number of firsts and a lot of placings but did not connect a first in any of the big stakes. His reputation as a driver is excellent and he is assured of continued support in his chosen career.

Earle Semple, after racing at Charlottetown early in the season, took his stable to Quebec City where he raced last year, and had continued Success there. Sleepy Sam stepped over that oval in 2:12 which was a new record and a good performance. Bruce's Sister 2:09 1/5 won a number of dashes and also placed well. Wilbur M. didn't win any firsts but won other placings and looks like a good prospect for 1957. Jan B. 2:07 was first or second several times at Quebec and also won two firsts at Sussex prior to going there. He was racing against some of the best pacers in Quebec. Whispering Willow p. 2:11 won firsts and seconds and quite a number of placings. Simcoe Tass, a trotter by Follow Up, lowered his record from 2:13 4/5 to 2:11 2/5 and raced good.

Most of the horses in Earle's stable are owned by Bert F. Steele of Bangor, Maine, and one or two in partnership with Earle. They recently acquired the 3-year-old trotter, Fanboy, by Clever Hanover. He took a record this year of 2:13 and won several races in 2:13 to 2:16. This trotter has an excellent reputation and is described as a two-tenner.

Earle had many nice things to say about the Quebec track management, particularly Henri Bertrand, classifier, and also others that he had contact with. The fact that he is planning to return there next season shows that he enjoys being there.

Asked about the stallion Dean Gallon 2:07 2/5 Earle said that he had bought him back and that he had given him a thorough rest this Summer and Fall and may possibly start him again next Spring. With his excellent breeding he is sure of quite a patronage in the stud.

Earle has just completed a new barn 30 x 60, which will accom-

modate 14 horses and equipment. It is lined with British Columbia fir, has a concrete floor with plank- ing over the concrete in the stalls. It has electric lights and water supply and is one of the best horse barns ever built in this province and reflects great credit on the contractors, Gerald MacLean & Son of Kensington.

Rannie MacDonald of Cape Breton, who raced in Ontario and Quebec and campaigned seven horses, starting in 100 dashes in all, was 17 times first, 19 times second and 16 times third, which was certainly an excellent record considering the company he had to face. In Quebec and also at Richelieu there are hundreds of horses and sometimes the going is very tough and for that reason Rannie's record will be appreciated by those who understand the situation. For the several years he has been racing in Quebec and Ontario Rannie has always made good and the past year has been no exception. He is now getting a stable ready for 1957 and has located in a new barn built at Milton, Ont.

George Mauger took that good pacer Convaire 2:01, owned by Harry Hirsch of Sydney, to Saratoga Raceway where he met some of the best in the U. S. A. and he was a winner there and also placed in other races.

Another Island stable, that of H. Roy Bevan, left our shores in early September, with trainer-driver Archie Llewellyn in charge and after winning along the way arrived in Quebec City on September 5th. When they returned home and tallied up the results they found that Jerry A. Hanover 2:06 1/5 had won three dashes, two seconds and two thirds and other placings. Ted Genesee 2:10 4/5 was once first, five times second and won several thirds and fourths. Ralph Hal 2:11 3/5 was only once out of the money and Sid Joseph 1:58 4/5 won two firsts, seconds, thirds and fourths and the time he made in those milts ranged from 2:00 2/5 to 2:08 2/5, so he was in hot company.

One of the highlights of the racing season at Exhibition Park, Saint John, was the winning by Time Table 4, 2:03 of his 100th race on October 3rd. He is 15 years old and is owned by T. P. Downey, Hillsboro, N. B. and was driven by J. Lang. He has been owned by Mr. Downey since 1949 and has raced extensively throughout the Maritimes. Prior to coming to the Maritimes he was a well known winner over such tracks as Saratoga, N. Y., Roosevelt Raceway, Quebec City, Shawinigan Falls, Montreal and Three Rivers. He took his lifetime record of 2:03 in 1945 at Quebec City which was also a new track record and it remained as that until last year when it was lowered by Bay State Pat to 2:02 3/5. He also broke track records at Shawinigan Falls in 2:04 1/4 and at Richelieu Park in 2:05.

During his turf career he has made 347 starts, has been 100 times first, 73 times second and 73 times third, with total lifetime winnings of over \$85,000. The largest purse, Time Table ever won in the Maritimes was the famous \$5,000 Monctonian, raced in that city in 1947 which he won in 2:08, 2:07 1/4 and 2:09 1/4.

MANY THANKS  
The above completes our Review of the 1956 racing season which 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.

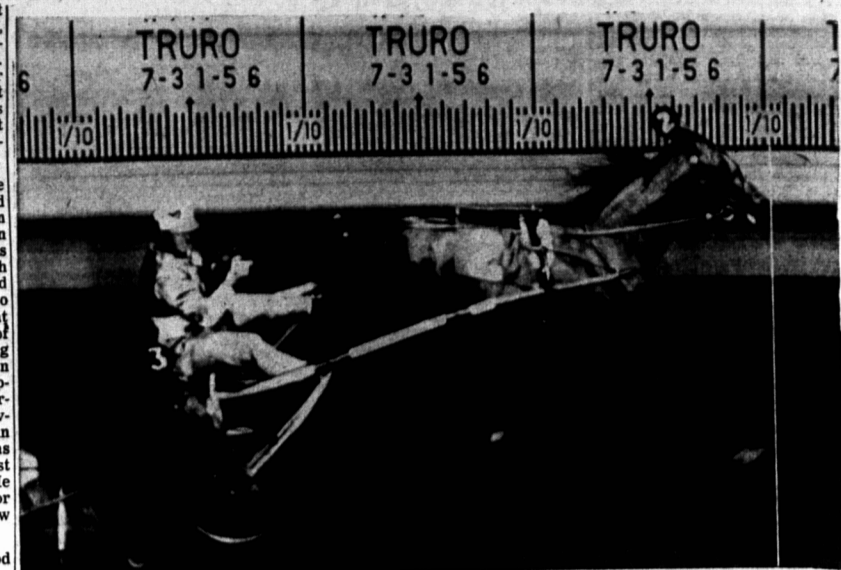
We also want to give our most sincere thanks to the race secretaries of Maritime tracks for their cooperation in loaning their judges books to us so that we can verify the entries made on our card system during the racing season, and thus give our readers a correct account of track records and track happenings. From past experiences 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 1956 was a successful one and that 1957 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

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 rights of the best picture system in America.

Mr. Godfrey and his staff are among our busiest men 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 for 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.



FARSCUD 2:07 1/5, owned and driven by Don Turner, Dartmouth, N. S., winner of the most dashes in the Maritimes, season 1956—24.

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## British Soccer Suffering A White Christmas Hangover

LONDON (CP) — Like many a yuletide celebrant, British soccer clubs Thursday were suffering from a mighty collective headache—a white Christmas hangover. Snow caused postponement of more than 25 scheduled league games from Saturday through to Boxing Day and cut attendance figures by 50 per cent. Wednesday, Boxing Day, no less than 15 of 46 scheduled games were cancelled and attendance at the 31 grounds where play was possible fell to 368,000 compared with the 656,000 Boxing Day fans who turned out in 1955. Total attendance for the three days of holiday soccer this year was 1,058,684, compared with some 2,500,000 the year before. Soccer officials said it was the most disastrous Christmas showing in memory and would place a heavy financial strain on clubs that rely upon Christmas receipts to boost revenue. Hardest hit was Coventry City in the third division, south. The club failed to complete any of their three games. On Saturday their home match with Crystal Palace was abandoned after 35 minutes through floodlight failure. On Christmas Day a snowstorm at Newport caused play to be stopped after 67 minutes and Wednesday's second meeting at Coventry was postponed because of snow.

## Matchmaker To Go To Court

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Boxing matchmaker Babe McCoy said Thursday he will go to court in an attempt to nullify a lifetime ban imposed on him by the California Athletic Commission. McCoy and his attorney, Jules Covey, expressed confidence the court will overrule the commission. The complete text of the commission hearing—McCoy called it a "Kangaroo Court"—will be submitted to a judge for court action. McCoy was accused of arranging "fixed" bouts, illegally collecting portions of fighters' purses and other violations of regulations.

NOT 24 HOURS  
The earth makes a complete rotation on its axis in about 23 hours 56 minutes.

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And  
GOOD RACING  
To All  
HORSEMEN  
IN 1957  
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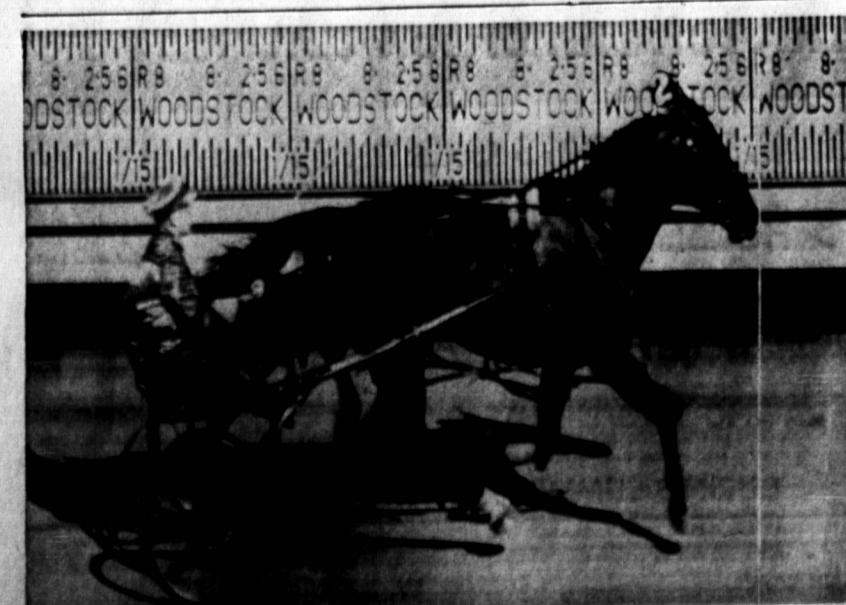
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WE ARE HAPPY TO EXTEND OUR  
SINCERE BEST WISHES  
TO ALL  
HORSEMEN  
WHEN IN CHARLOTTETOWN MEET THE  
RACING FANS AND DRIVERS AT  
MILTON'S OLD SPAIN



THE  
SAINT JOHN  
EXHIBITION  
ASSOCIATION  
EXTENDS  
To old Friends --- our Acquaintances --- and many Patrons ---  
Best Wishes for a —

GOOD START  
AND  
STRONG FINISH  
IN  
1957  
A Happy New Year To All!



SLICKER TASS 2:06 2/5, owned and driven by Bruce MacDonald, Lincoln, N. B., stepping the fastest mile over Woodstock, N. B. track in 1956—2:06 2/5, August 2.