



# DOWN THE BACK STRETCH

Track members with the United States Trotting Association have been considerably reduced since 1950 when there were 546 tracks in operation. The establishment of night racing plants in many sections has caused the big reduction in this district. In 1950 there were 31 tracks and in 1955, 19. District 1—Ohio—has the most tracks in operation—81, which is two more than in 1950. District 5—Illinois and Iowa—is next with 74.

A new classification schedule for 1957 has been adopted for all USTA tracks. There will be just seven classes for next year's racing, according to the report of the USTA classification committee. The BB, CC, and DD classes have been dropped and they will line up as follows: FFA, FFA Jr., AA, A, B, C and D. Also, a horse starting in a new class must win so three times and must win one of those three before he can be moved up to a faster class. Later we will have full particulars of this change.

A new amendment has been adopted by the USTA concerning the use of the Hanover name for the foals of the Hanover Shoe Farms. There has been considerable controversy in the press between Lawrence B. Sheppard, president of the USTA and the Hanover Shoe Farms and the "Horse tracks of America" during the past summer and this was referred to the USTA for action and that action has been to establish the right of the name "Hanover" as applied to the colts bred and raised at Hanover Shoe Farms.

**REDUCE DUES**  
The USTA because of the large amount of racing conducted over its tracks and the fact that the treasury is quite well filled, has reduced the dues for all track categories in the percentage of their purses. All pari-mutuel tracks giving purses of over \$50,000 will be cut from 2 to 1 1/2 per cent, a drop of 1/2 per cent. All other pari-mutuel tracks were cut from 1 1/2 to 1 1/4 per cent, a drop of 1/4 per cent. Maritimes tracks were cut from one to three-quarters per cent, a 25 per cent drop. It will be noticed from the above that due to the representation of our directors from the Maritimes our tracks have always paid smaller percentage to the USTA than any other tracks in America and we are glad to note that even the percentage of one per cent has been reduced to three-quarters.

The total amount raced for over 100 Maritimes tracks in 1956 was \$445,826.04. On the basis of one per cent deduction, which was the case last year, the USTA received \$4,458.26, which would certainly not pay for the clerical work, the Year Book, Hoof Beats and all the other incidentals, and this we are sure will be appreciated by our hundreds of members in the Maritimes who have backed the USTA through the years since its inception. Its rise since 1939 when it was formed has been truly outstanding and is due largely to the wise policies adopted by the very fine men, many of them of great wealth, who love harness racing and labored to bring a governing body that would have the highest standards.

**LARGER PURSES**  
To show the growth of purses in the Maritimes we may say that in 1952 we raced for \$241,050; in 1953, \$305,100; in 1954, \$302,800; in 1955, \$419,839 and in 1956, \$445,826. Just to drop back another five years to 1947, we find that in District 11 we raced for \$204,725. In 1947 the total amount raced for on all USTA tracks was \$7,338,876. In 1956 it was \$21,862,611, almost three times as much as it was in 1947.

The USTA Board of Directors now has seven trainer-drivers on its roll, namely, Del Miller, Billy Houghton, Sanders Russell, Edgar Leonard, McKinley Kirk, Joe O'Brien, top Grand Circuit driver, and Preston Jenuine, California.

Friends of Del Cameron of Harvard, Mass., will be glad to learn that he is back training his stable at Pinehurst, N.C. following an operation at the Dr. P.E. Hayward Clinic at Taunton, Mass. Allan MacLeod, former chairman of the Massachusetts Racing Commission, is now an official of the USTA and is devoting all his time to the affairs of that Association. He recently returned from an extended trip to the West coast. We notice that Peter Song 2:00, the good trotting sire that was at the C.T. Black Stock Farm, in Virginia, is now at W.H. Dickinson's Connecticut River Stock Farm.

Sidney Stead, popular druggist, is the new owner of Connie French 2:15 1/5 and we had the pleasure of looking over pedigree. She is by Pagliacci 2:09 1/2, bred at Walnut Hall Farm, Donnerall, Ky. Her sire was Lord of the Rings and his dam was Astra by San Francisco 2:07 1/2. Connie French's dam was June French 2:10, that many will remember when she raced through the Maritimes in the ownership of the late J. Pope Clarke. June French was by Prologue 3, 2:10, sire of two in 2:10 and nine others with records of 2:13 or better. Prologue was by Volomite 2:03 1/2. The dam of June French was French Lick Gal by Mr. McElwain 1:59 1/2, sire of 343, and her dam was Betsy Belwin 2:08 1/2 by Belwin.

The whole pedigree seems with speed and Little Connie is a good deal of herself, as the writer has reason to know. We don't know if Sid will ever follow in his father's footsteps and drive harness horses, but if he does he will have a high standard set for him. The writer has been in quite a few battles with Harold and a trainer driver does not exist. We never knew him to take a mean season after making a runaway of the scoring race in the 1955.

faculty of going the short route without doing damage to others or impeding their speed.

Mrs. Anna Dobson of Hunter River, N.S., in our paper yesterday and showed us a very beautiful hooked rug. The design was of horse standing in a field of luscious green grass with a tree nearby, and around the field was a fence done in white. There was also a very natural looking pump thing was a masterpiece and is a great credit to Mrs. Dobson's handiwork.

**HALF MILLION**  
The stable of Delvin Miller topped the half million dollar mark the past season. The exact amount won totalled \$502,634.44. In addition to that Del's assistants won a considerable amount driving campaigners from outside states.

Protector 3, 1:59 1/4, died recently in Kentucky. He was 28 years old and was sired by Peter Volo 2:02, dam, Margaret Arion 2:10 1/4. As a 3-year-old he set up a world's trotting record of 1:59 1/4. In the 1955 Register he is credited with 145 trotters in the list with one in 2:00 and 22 in 2:05. He is also credited with 49 pacers (6 in 2:05) and has sired 19 sires and also sired the dams of 103 trotters, 3 in 2:00, 28 in 2:05 and 65 pacers with records of 2:05 or better. That good stallion Cyclonic P, 2:08 was sired by Protector and his dam is Taurida Abbey by Guy Abbey. He was bred at Walnut Hill Farm where Protector was owned at the time of his death.

Good news comes from Florida and it is that the Ponce de Leon Raceway midway between Jacksonville and St. Augustine, has been reopened for training and racing. The million-dollar half mile plant is already receiving its first stables and a real bang-up race meeting is planned to Open March 1st and run through to April 20th. The manager is Ernie Allison, a very capable man who will without doubt make a great success of this track. Horsemen friends from the Maritimes who visit Florida will make no mistake if they take a run over to Ponce de Leon track.

Our friend Jerry Gillespie of Parrsboro, N.S. has remembered us with a beautiful holiday card and on it is written: "Lew Austin of Springfield, that turned San Ton 2:08 over to the trot, was down in No. 4 when the explosion occurred. He was underground for two days but inside of 24 hours after his was rescued he was the proud owner of the pacer Cole Dale 2:17 that he bought from parties in Moncton. It was the late Laurence Gillespie who brought him to Parrsboro when he was only a 3-year-old. He raced real good in Moncton this season. I think Laurence bought him from the late Willard Kelly." Thanks, Jerry, and a very happy Christmas to you and your friends.

**I.S.H.L. SCHEDULE**  
Following is Island Hockey League schedule for next week:  
Monday - Montague vs. Aces at Civic Stadium.  
Tuesday - Montague vs. Parkdale at Sports Arena.  
Thursday - Aces vs. Montague at Sports Arena.  
Friday - B.Y.C. vs. Aces at Civic Stadium.

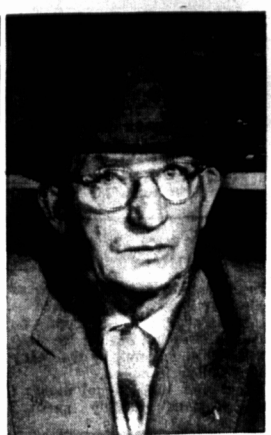
# Sports

6 The Charlottetown Guardian, Saturday, Dec. 15, 1956

## Prov. High School Curling Ch'ships For Ch'town Feb. 6

Mr. F.R. MacLaine, Provincial chairman of the High School Curling Committee of the P.E.I. Curling Association, has been busy this week lining up the Provincial playdowns for Island High School curlers.

Since Monday Mr. MacLaine has visited Alberton, Summerside and Montague and reports that, together with Charlottetown players, no less than 129 young curlers will be entering the regional competitions from these four centres.



F. R. MACLAINE

The regional playdowns are held in the Island's four curling centres to decide the four teams that will compete in the Provincial playdowns at Charlottetown February 6th.

There are 50 curlers showing an interest in the Charlottetown regional playdowns. Thirty-five are from Queen Charlotte High School and the remaining 15 are from Prince of Wales College.

Montague has 29 curlers; Alberton, a new entrant in high school play, has 26; Summerside 24. Each of these centres will hold their local competitions sometime after Christmas. The four regional champions will meet in a double round-robin playdown at the Charlottetown Curling Club to decide the team that will represent P.E.I. in the Dominion Championships to be held this year at Winnipeg. This week long bonspiel begins on February 18th.

A nationally known soft drink company is underwriting all expenses of the Dominion Championships this year. This firm will not only donate challenge trophies but will take over the expenses of flying all Provincial championship teams to the Dominion bonspiel in Winnipeg. In addition the firm will give trophies to each member of the winning team in the Dominion playdowns and crests to all competing curlers.

## SPORT ECHOES

### Method Of Scoring Unfair: To Saints And S'side Aces

Standing of the pre-Christmas league with one game left to play:

Team	W	L	D	Pts
Albany	4	2	0	8
Freetown	3	2	1	7
R. C. A. F.	2	2	2	4
Alberton	1	3	1	3

Delbert Dawson would seem to have the league scoring race about sewed up. He has a lead of 8 points on the highest scorers in Alberton and R. C. A. F., the two teams playing next week, and the boys have only one game to make the difference up.

Here are the standings:

Team	G	A	Pts
Dawson, St. P.	6	14	20
N. Noonan, St. P.	9	7	16
Cameron, St. P.	5	8	13
Gaudet, Alb.	6	7	12
Wickstrom, R.C.A.F.	6	6	12
Carruthers, St. P.	8	3	11
C. Mill, Fre.	5	5	10
MacMurdo, Fre.	4	5	9

**N.H.L. WEEKEND**  
Following are games slated in N.H.L. this weekend:

**SATURDAY**  
Boston at Canadiens  
Rangers at Toronto  
Chicago at Detroit

**SUNDAY**  
Canadiens at Rangers  
Toronto at Boston  
Detroit at Chicago



## DOING WELL WITH OTTAWA

Claude (Angie) Carroll, a product of Charlottetown's minor hockey leagues, is playing great hockey with Ottawa Junior Canadiens this season. Angie moved up to the Junior Canadiens this season after making a runaway of the scoring race in the Metropolitan loop with St. John Braves last season. Angie is in his second to last year of junior competition and his present team was the stepping stone used by Forbie Kennedy in his rise to the Chicago Black Hawks. Angie is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Carroll of St. John's.

## CURLING

### AT CHARLOTTETOWN

Mixed Curling at Charlottetown Club Saturday.  
7:00 p.m.

Ice 1: A.A. MacLeod, Iris McLellan, Leslie Doyle, Arlene Guinness, vs. Vic Williams, M. Dochendorf, Geo. Anderson, Irene Dindings.

Ice 2: Ernie McInnis, Connie McLeod, Mary Tait, Shirley Venist, vs. Robt. Pitt, Dorothy Stewart, Mel McFadyen, D or H LeClair.

Ice 3: Lew Turner, Marj. Stewart, Jerry Venist, Emma Johnston, vs. A. Tait, Jean Grant, Jack Boomhower, Hattie McLaine.

Ice 4: Frank Johnston, Jean Giddings, S.W. Willis, Doris Doyle vs. Bob LeClair, Sybil MacMillan, Frank McInnis, Jennie Boomhower.

Spares: Jean McLean, Joyce Coady, Alice Trainor, Marion Thompson, Lida Webster.

Are the Alberton Regals improving or the Freetown Royals fading? Guess it would take a combination of these two conditions to account for the 5-1 drubbing the Regals handed the once proud Freetown sextet. The Royals have been beaten in the last two games, and by the league's second division clubs.

We hear there is a rumor the Aces want to make a deal for the B.Y.C. goal-tender, Thane Doyle. Has anyone heard that the Yankees are trying to get a replacement for their centerfielder, Mickey Mantle? We don't believe the above rumor, but if it were true that the Aces management are looking for a Charlottetown replacement for our Prince County product, Thane Mann, we'd feel like suggesting they see a psychiatrist right away before the condition became aggravated. Next thing we know somebody will want to trade our new electric clock for the one they have at the Sports Arena.

The new scoring system cooked up by the Island League is a little less than fair to the Saints and the Aces, if our information is correct. We haven't seen the schedule but we've been told Summerside plays 37 games and three of the other teams play 22, five more than half of Summerside's contests. If this be true, the point and half-point system is scarcely equitable.

For example, Coke Grady is in eleventh position in the latest scoring statistics. If average points per game were considered he would be in fourth place, as follows: O. Carver 3.82; Hughes 2.57; Dowling 2.43; Grady 2.42.

In the middle of a season there will naturally be a difference in games played at times, but at the end of the season each player should at least have an opportunity to appear in the same number of games, sickness, injuries and the coach's choice are other matters which of course are not considered in the computation.

If a trophy is offered the leading scorer, this says em is clearly unfair. If there is no award, it is still not fair, but perhaps it would not make so much difference in that case. In any case, we'll be around to tell the public just how the Aces are standing on a game-percentage basis, and if one of our boys happens to be at the top of the heap when the schedule is over, we promise to devote a whole column of "Sport Echoes" to his honor and glory.

## Heavy Mail Sent To Troops Overseas

OTTAWA (CP)—The greatest shipment of Christmas mail and parcels since December, 1945 now is enroute to Canadian troops in Europe.

The directorate of the armed forces postal services estimated an increase of 25 per cent in weight over last year. A total of 70,000 pounds already has been sent on its way so far, compared with a complete Christmas shipment of 45,417 pounds last year.

## Welcome In Store For U.B.C. Crew

VANCOUVER (CP)—The University of British Columbia rowing crews arrive by air today and officials have called on Vancouverites to give them a rousing welcome.

The four-oared crew won a gold medal at the Olympic Games in Melbourne and the eight-oared crew won a silver medal.

Along with the rowers on two fights will come cyclists, wrestlers, yachtmans, and marksmen last of Canada's Olympic competitors.

The welcome will be mainly for the rowers. They will be greeted by Lieutenant - Governor Frank Ross of British Columbia, Mayor Fred Hume of Vancouver, and members of the B.C. cabinet and legislature.

Each youth will be presented with a wrist watch by the City of Vancouver and the Lieutenant-governor will present signet rings.

## Paper Says Coach Not Coming Back

TORONTO (CP)—The Star says Jim Trimble probably won't return to his coaching job with Hamilton Tiger-Cats of the Big Four football league.

It says Trimble said in a long-distance telephone interview from his home in Drexel Hill, Pa., he has applied for the job of head coach at the University of Indiana and has a better-than-even chance of getting it.

The Star quotes Trimble as saying he will gladly return to Hamilton if he fails to land the Indiana post.

## SEVENTH CONSECUTIVE VICTORY

# S'side Aces Regain Lead With 7-2 Win Over B.Y.C.

The Summerside Aces vaulted back into first place in the Island Senior Hockey League at Civic Stadium in Summerside last night, beating the Basillea Youth Club by the score of 7-2. It was their seventh consecutive win.

The game was a bit scrambling on the part of previous contestants. The Home forces had a wide margin in play in the first period, blanking the visitors 4-0.

The second frame was more evenly contested and produced the best hockey of the night. Each team fired a goal, penalties figuring in both counters. MacArthur and Bernard were cooling their heels when the BYC boys broke the goose egg, and Red Howatt was in the sin bin when Aces scored. Thane Doyle was at his best.

In this frame, saving his team on labelled shots again and again, Young Mann, not overworked, was steady throughout.

The Summerside team outscored BYC 2-1 in the third period. Doyle in the BYC nets received a penalty for cross checking with three minutes to go in the game. Square-brigs serving the sentence. Eustace Reeves, Ace rearguard, won the Holman "most valuable player" award.

**Lineup:**  
BYC—Goal, Doyle; Defence, F. Shepherd, Ready, Smith, Perry; Forwards, Howatt, L. Shepherd, Squarebrigs, Burke, J. Shepherd, Delaney, Weatherbie.

Aces—Goal, Mann; Defence, MacArthur, Steels, Reeves, Bernard; Forwards, C. Grady, V. Harris, Hennessey, Chlow, Cutcliffe, G. Harris, Gallant, Lewis, W. Shepherd, G. Grady.

## Most Hungarian Athletes Appear Heading Home

MILAN (AP)—Hungary's crack team of Olympic athletes toured the glittering shops of Milan Friday — and it appeared most of them were stocking up to return to their trouble-torn homeland.

So far, only one member of the 127-strong party which came back to Europe from the Melbourne Games has announced his intention to stay outside the Iron Curtain.

He is pentathlon star Aton Moldrichs, whose fiancée is awaiting him in Stockholm. Nearly 40 others remained behind in Australia out of the original team of 175.

Hungarian sports minister Julius Hegely, who accompanied the team to Melbourne, said they would leave on Sunday morning by train for Belgrade, en route home.

namaker, V. Martin, M. Sullivan, vs. Dr. MacIntyre, H. Inman, R. Hamilton, A. McKeehan.

West Ice: A. MacDonald, M. Poole, G. Kennedy, D. McHerron, vs. H. Moar, V. MacDonald, C. Nicholson, J. Jardine.

## Little Tanya Leaves For Her Native Land

By ALVIN STEINKOPE

LONDON (AP)—Little Tanya Chwastov, whose father tried to take her to Russia, left by air Friday night for her native land, the United States.

Tanya, 2 1/2 years old, was gay in a red dress and bright red shoes. She waved cheerfully to photographers as she was carried to a New York-bound BOAC plane by her mother, Mrs. Elena Romanov Diaczok of Detroit.

Tanya had been a ward of a British court since Oct 12 when she and her Russian father, Alexis Chwastov, were taken from a Soviet ship a moment before it sailed for Leningrad.

## ATTENTION TV SET OWNERS

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## POINT-MAKER - - - By Alan Maver

JEAN BELLEVEAU, OF THE MONTREAL CANADIENS, DEFENDING GOALING CHAMP.

IN LEADING THE NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE SCORERS WITH 89 POINTS LAST SEASON, HE SET TWO NEW RECORDS FOR A CENTER: MOST GOALS, 47, AND MOST POINTS, 89.

## Al. Balding Fights Way To 2nd Round

SANFORD, Fla. (AP)—Al Balding of Toronto barely squeaked under the qualifying wire Friday in the second round of his defence of the 15,000 Sanford open golf tournament.

Balding, who won the inaugural Sanford open last year and 2,400 first prize, shot a three-over-par 73 to bring his second-round total to 141—qualifying mark for the 66 pros who will play the final holes today and Sunday. He is 13 strokes back of the leader.

## Montreal Royals Acquire Cressman

MONTREAL (CP)—Montreal Royals of the Quebec Hockey League announced Friday acquisition of Glen Cressman, 22-year-old forward who was with Rochester of the American Hockey League earlier this year and has played a few games with the parent Montreal Canadiens of the National Hockey League.

Cressman played last season with Chicoutimi of the QHL.

The club also reported that forward Walter Bradley had suffered a broken thumb in Thursday night's game in Quebec but it is hoped he will be able to play Sunday, with a cast on the thumb.

## MacPhail Named Personnel Director

NEW YORK (AP)—Lee MacPhail Friday was named director of baseball personnel of the New York Yankees. He will be assisted by Johnny Johnson who has been connected with the team for 10 years.

MacPhail, director of the baseball club's farm system since 1949, will continue to work with the minor league clubs but also will have the job of negotiating contracts with the Yankee players.

The new position was created after Bill Dewitt, formerly assistant to general manager George Weiss, resigned to become baseball co-ordinator between the major and minor leagues.

# OPEN TONIGHT

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