HUNTER'S CORNER

Columnist Goes To Diary To Recall His Experiences

I have kept a Daily Diary since 1924 with special emphasis on my hunting and trapping experiences. Incidentally our Wedding Anniversary is on November 11th, 1924 and this event had a bearing on my purchase of a Diary. I kept a Diary of sorts from the time I started to hunt, trap and fish and that was before the Boer War. Brother Art and I, known as the inseparables, used the old fashioned box traps. We braved the predawn darkness until we reached the swamp through which a creek flowed but didn't venture into this fearsome place until the night shadows had drifted away before the rising sun. I remember the morning we were sitting almost holding our breath when the sound made by one of our box traps a springing sounded like a pistol shot and gave us quite a start. In the breathless hush of dawning the sound of the door coming down was startling. We walked home on air, or rather I should say flew home on air. That morning for we had heard the trap shut on a large male mink.

NAMES FOR TRAPS

We had names for all our traps. Not long ago I found an old book whereon I had kept my outdoors Diary. "Caught a muskrat in Cronje" "Caught a muskrat in Kuropatkin" "Caught a mink in Stumpy". We sure picked out the oddest names. Cronje was the name of a Boer general and Kuropatkin was a Russian general in the Russo - Japanese War over Port Arthur and the Isthmus of Darien. The hunting we enjoyed in those days was simply fabulous. A covey of grouse (Native partridge) in every alder swale... sometimes two if it was extensive and had a nice brook running through it.. black ducks made long skeins in the sky as they traded back and forth between Pownal Bay and the Old Home Lake and Wisner's. In the late September nights flocks of wildgeese, streaming into the Old Home Lake for fresh water, kept me awake at nights whether or not I was at the lake or home in bed. Alex Weatherbie, an old goose hunter who lived on the second farm from us, claimed that the goslings had to fly to the lakes for fresh water until they learned to get it from the hollow in their backs when it rained. He could have been right at that.

The black duck shooting brother Earl and I enjoyed in the twenties and thirties beggars description. It wasn't a case of getting one's limit it was which one of us would reach it first. Incidentally the Southport farmer and Earl are one and the same person. We used to have some neck and neck finishes some days. It's amusing to read the accounts ...they are all there in my diaries. Woodcock was one species of upland game bird that had Earl buffaloed. He seldom hit and I seldom missed. He also found the Huns difficult. With Huns I was either on or off If I was on the beam I'd average one and a half shots per Hun or a box of shells (25) for two limits. On occasions I have fired the full box and had only two Huns to show for the powder burned.

In the late twenties and early thirties I owned a beagle I called Ted... Theodore Le Barre to give him his full handle and he deserved it for he was top nobility in his field... and I had rabbit hunting de-luxe. I remember one pet rabbit ground... two top natural bunny swamps with a narrow field, just beginning to spout natural grass and short spruce bushes in between. When old Ted got started in one swamp when the bunnies were white and the ground was covered with the rabbits sprinting across the space between the swamps reminded me of drifting snow.

QUITE A DOG

Ted was quite the dog. When I was setting traps he'd run a rabbit for pastime but the minute I moved off for another location he appeared to have a built-in radar, or something like that, for I wouldn't get far before he'd be tagging along at my heels. In checking back over my hunts with him I remember one big buck rabbit we tangled with. The first year we hit his trail was in mid January. He was started in a juniper tangle back of that I called "The Old Hopper" place. He took off to the westward pronto and was out of hearing in nothing flat. Somewhere in a trackless swamp back of "Have'...Havilland Horton's give the full name ... he had his home. I didn't follow and after a long wait I headed homeward. Ted followed shortly after and gave me a reporachful look as I slipped on his collar at his snug kennel.

The same thing happened on my next trip out. Ted appeared to have a special grudge against this particular rabbit. It was my last hunt of the season. The following January he was back again making life miserable for Old Ted. By "miserable" I mean it was my leaving him in the woods before he had the opportunity to mouth his quarry. This January was a repeat of the previous year. On my third trip out I made up my mind I'd stay with Ted. I got an early start for I figured if this big buck was run long enough he'd return to the starting point.

For close to three hours I stamped my feet and waited. As the January dusk deepened and the frost cracked in long rumbles through the swamp, I heard the first faint "bell like" chime of Old Ted. I snapped to attention pronto. It was well that I did. He was a good 300 yards ahead. A hundred yards off he stopped and watched his back trail for a few seconds. I sensed that the old buck figured he was in for trouble this time and I guess I had him figured out right... he opened the throttle to full capacity with the intention of heading straight for parts unknown. The 10 guage lever action Winchester had other ideas. I had five shells in the magazine and I guess that gave me confidence. ... I only needed one. Old Ted picked him up and gave him an extra shake and then came over to me with tail wagging and a dancing light in his eyes ... we were going steady once again. Thats one hunt and shot I'll never forget Diary or no Diary.

Kidd Tires In Marathon; Drops Out After 22 Miles

By JACK SULLIVAN
Canadian Press Sports Writer

PERTH, Australia (CP)—Irrepressible Bruce Kidd, eager to tackle any distance run, tried the gruelling marathon at the British Empire Games Thursday and stuck it out near the head of the pack for 22 miles before quitting on the orders of his coach.

The 19-year-old Toronto student, a youngster in an event usually reserved for veterans of the distance field, had picked the 26-mile, 385-yard race himself, giving up a chance to run in the mile heats also held Thursday.

And he took a real good whack at it before coach Fred Foot of Toronto, noticing Kidd tiring, ordered him to stop.

Brian Kilby, a 24 - year - old draughtsman from Coventry, won the race for England after two hours, 21 minutes and 17 seconds of loping along the hard-surfaced course laid out on narrow roads.

Australia collared the silver and bronze medals for the grind, the fastest ever run in B.E.G. history. Dave Power was second in 2:22:15.4 and Rod Bonella third in 2:24:07.0.

Kidd was fagged when Foot, tagging alongside him in a car, signalled the end but he bounced back soon afterward.

"It was fun, it was really enjoyable," he remarked.

England dominated the track and field events Thursday and picked up a brace of gold medals when its fencing team easily won the final of the team sabres and Louis Martin, a West Indian, captured the heavyweight weightlifting title.

AUSSIES STILL LEAP

England's total of gold medals now stands at 21 and puts it closer to Australia's total of 28 firsts. However, the powerful Australian swimmers probably will put the issue beyond doubt tonight when they compete in the last seven swimming events of the games.

Besides the marathon, England won the women's 220-yard sprint, the men's shot-put and the women's javelin throw. Australia's Ian Tomlinson captured the hop, step and jump, Kenya's Seraphino Antao added the 220-yard men's sprint to his earlier gold medal in the 100, George Kerr of Jamaica was the 440-yard winner and a Pakistani army officer, Ghulam Raziq, won in the 120-yard hurdles.

Canadian wrestlers, weightlifters and fencers won five silver medals and Dave Steen of Burnaby, B.C., added a third-place bronze in the men's shot-put, giving the Canadian team a total of 12 silver and 13 bronze in addition to two gold.

And Canada has a good chance of picking up a third gold today when Mary Stewart of Vancouver goes in the women's 110-yard butterfly swim final.

The games wind up Saturday with the mile, feature of the track and field, and all eyes will be focussed on the possibility of a sub - four minute clocking.

Eight track and field events were held Thursday in dreary but cool weather that helped the marathoners but hindered the other performers.

Perth's heat-wave conditions took a dive when temperatures fell from the games-long mid-90-degree average to around 65.

KIDD DISAPPOINTED

Kidd was plainly disappointed. He earnestly wanted to win a race that always has been the private preserve of older men.

"In all my 53 years in sport I've never heard of a 19-year-old boy competing in a bigtime marathon," said Jack Davies, commandant of the Canadian team.

Kidd came out of the grind in good shape except for stiff legs. A doctor examined him and said "he's okay."

The other English gold medallists in track and field were Dorothy Hyman, 21 - year - old miner's daughter from Yorkshire, who won the 220-yard women's sprint in 23.8 seconds, giving her the 100 and 220 double; Martyn Lucking who put the 16-pound shot 59 feet, four inches for a games record, and Susan Platt, who threw the javelin 164 feet, 10½ inches against the wind.

Steen, Canada's bronze medallist, made the best shot-put of his career—58 feet, 8¾ inches.

Pat Dobie of the RCAF, a pretty 23 - year - old brunette, picked up Canada's first points in women's track and field with a fifth placing in the javelin throw.

The Saskatoon miss exceeded her own best throw with a toss of 145-9 ½—but was almost 20 feet behind the winner, Miss Platt.

Tomlinson, the Australia, scored in the hop, step and jump with a games record of 53 feet, two inches after a dingdong battle with teammate John Baguley. Each broke the games record twice.

Razio, 30-year-old army warrant officer, earned Pakistan's first track gold medal with a 14.3-second win in the 120 hurdles.

Kerr, the Jamaican, scored a surprising two-foot win over favored Robbie Brightwell of England in the 440, clocking 46.7 seconds.

Kenya's Antao, won the 220 in 21.1 seconds.

Pakistani wrestlers won six gold medals to make it seven out of a possible eight.

Three Canadian wrestlers captured second - place silver medals — featherweight Matti Jutila of Sudbury, Ont., welterweight Philip Oberlander of Montreal and flyweight Peter Michienzi of London, Ont.

Cosford White of Montreal placed second in the middle heavyweight weightlifting after he hoisted a total of 900 pounds in three lifts. The winner, England's Martin, lifted 1,035 pounds. Both topped the old games record.

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Royals Visiting Stadium Tonight

Things should sizzle tonight at Summerside's Civic Stadium where Prince County Combines entertain Sandy's Parkdale Royals in an Island Senior Hockey League tussle.

The Royals are leading the loop by a mere two points and a Combines' triumph would send Ron MacArthur's boys into a flat-footed tie with the Frizzlemen. The teams met at The Sports Arena last week and Royals skated off with a 5-3 verdict. They think they can duplicate their feat tonight at Civic Stadium but the Combines have definite plans to the contrary.

In their last two outings, the westerners showed loads of scoring power. They crushed RCAF Eagles 10-3 last Friday night at the Stadium and followed that one-sided decision with an 8-2 triumph over Old Spain Juniors Tuesday night at The Sports Arena.

Charlie Hogan should welcome the season's biggest crowd to date for this affair. It's no secret there's no love lost between these clubs and this contest tonight should be a bitterly fought one.

Royals are treating this game just as they would a playoff encounter. Buck Whitlock had his boys go through a workout after last night's Penguins - Eagles game at The Sports Arena. The veteran playing coach wants his club to take this one. MacArthur on the other side of the board of strategy is just as determined that Royals will go back home with their first loss of the season.

Action commences at 9:15 sharp.

SCORES HOCKEY POOLS

MONTREAL (CP) — Chief Judge Roland Paquette of municipal court sentenced a hockey-pool operator Wednesday to 15 days in jail and promised similar jail sentences for future offenders. "There is too much of this hockey pool business going on in the city," said Judge Paquette after Andre Caron, 30, pleaded guilty to possessing some 2,200 pool tickets. "It's high time something drastic be done to stop it."

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CONSERVATIVELY SPEAKING

By ISLANDER

Now and then I see something in the paper where Alex Matheson has been talking about the provincial debt and the condition of the province's finances. Usually the next day I meet someone who said, "who cares about government finances? I'm sure I don't." Then along comes Mel McQuaid and he said the province is in the best shape it's been in for a long time. Then I meet someone who said to me, "nobody cares how much the government's saving, at least I don't."

So I checked around a little last week and I talked to enough people to tell you that people care a lot more about government spending than you think, and furthermore they know a lot more about it than most people think.

But the best thing I've heard so far came from a fellow who I thought never did any thinking about government, never mind government finances, he jumped right into the middle of a good hot discussion and said, "I'm one fellow that cares whether government money is wasted or not," and everyone looked at him and he figured he better say some more, so he said, I'll tell you how I look at it, if government money is wasted it takes money away from good things that need to get done, if a lot of money is wasted in one place it can't be spent in another., then he said, if the present government is saving money then we'll get more roads and better schools and perhaps some extra help for the fishermen. If it's wasted, we'll never get anything." So I thought about it and he has a point. The more that's saved the more that can be done. So now when Mel McQuaid said he is saving money by buying stuff in large quantities and having a purchasing department, I go along. And I like the idea that every department has to stay in line and not spend more than it's supposed to. A few years of that and this province will be back on its feet again, and in the meantime, as I say, we'll get a lot of things done.

Last summer I got talking to a man from New York who was visiting the Confederation Chamber, I forget how we got talking but I remember he said to me "what's the best way to show my kids a real farm", I gave him the names of a couple of real good farms not far from Charlottetown where he could take his kids, before he left he said to me, "sometime I've got to come here and spend my whole vacation on a farm, I'd even like to have my kids be able to do a little farm work." A few days later I wwas talking to Dave Stewart who is in charge of Tourism and I told him about this man and what he said. So Dave said to me, "there's over fifty farms right now where families can go and have a real country vacation," "but that's not enough." He went on to say how tourist loans are now available to farm people who want to fix up their homes so visitors can stay for a week or two. He said that during this winter a lot of work will be done with country people to help them get started, this semed pretty good to me and since I might like to get into this myself sometime, I went home and did a little figuring, what it amounted to was, that I found out that with the size of house I've got and with this help from the government to get started, I can make myself an extra two hundred dollars every week of the tourist season. I call that pretty good and I figure a lot of folks will. Dave also tells me that starting next spring a special book will be put out listing all the farm homes that are open to tourists. After that there will be no excuse for city kids not seeing a cow, and no excuse for a lot of farm people not having some extra money in their pockets. This is what I call a real smart deal.

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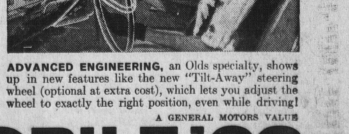

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