More Attend Races But Less Betting In U. S.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19 —(AP)— The growing tendency of the United States citizen to tighten the grip on his purse strings was reflected today in figures from the country's race tracks which showed that more people went out to watch the horses run this wear but wagered $158,936,660 less money than in 1946.

The Associated Press' annual year-end racing survey disclosed a marked trend away from the promiscuous on-the-nose spending that characterized the lush period following the war.

Reports from 21 states revealed that 25,704,853 paid admission during 1947 and shelled out $1,671,340,795 attempting to pick the winners.

At first blush these are astronomical figures indeed. However, they lose much of their impact when measured by last year's batch which show 24,859,505 poured a resounding total of $1,830,287,456 through mutual windows.

All but six of the 21 states recorded sharp decreases in mutuels intake and the two biggest racing centres, New York and California, had drops of more than $50,000,000 each. The third state in betting receipts, Illinois, was almost $32,000,000 behind 1946.

New York's betting figure this year was $352,624,464 compared with $407,105,748 last year. In California the receipts totalled $342,819,513 compared with $400,206,946.

The states which recorded betting gains were New Jersey, Michigan, Louisiana, Florida, Arkansas and Oregon.

Of these the largest rise in business was noted in Michigan where sportsmen spent $18,501,730 more than last year trying to beat the thoroughbreds.

The Back Stretch

(Continued from Page 8)

counts of the accident it is believed that it was in the mines that he lost his leg. Later on he joined in the Yukon Gold Rush and he delighted to tell listeners that he was the only one-legged musher in Alaska. Mr. Marchbank, who surrounded himself with an aurora of mystery, came to California in 1902 and some stories have it that he arrived with a fortune. Other tales say he was broke. In any case he became a wealthy man and in the 1920's appeared as owner of the Tanforan track along with William P. Kyne and Joseph A. Murphy. Later he emerged as sole owner of the track and it remained in his possession until two years ago when he sold it for a reported price of $1,600,000. There are no doubt many relatives of Mr. Marchbank's in this Province and also probably some of the older generation that will remember him or have heard tell of him. It is a trite saying that if you were to go to the North Pole or the South Pole you would probably find an Islander there, and just the other evening when we were reading a great story of the discovery of gold in California we thought of the ship Fanny and the some thirty Islanders who sailed away in her in 1849 to try their fortunes in California. As a boy some of these hardy men who came back would be pointed out to me as a Fortyniner.

We don't believe that Johnny Campbell and Scott Spencer 2.07 have received very many plaudits for a first class performance at Dufferin Park, Toronto, November 22nd. It was a $1,500 pace, $500. each dash with a first division and a second division and final had a purse of $500. The first division was won by Adage 2.02, one of the fastest free-for-allers in Quebec, with The Count B., Tom C. Grattan and Willowdean next in order, four other starters. The second division was won by Miss Royal Majesty, Peter Brooke G. second, Dan Axworthy third, Scott Spencer fourth. The final was the toughest kind of a race for first, with Tom C. Grattan nosing out Scott Spencer, Adage third, The Count B. fourth, Miss Royal Majesty fifth, Willowdean sixth, Peter Brooke G. seventh and Dan Axworthy eighth.

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Belloise Wins

NEW YORK, Dec. 19 — (CP) — Steve Belloise, a New York middleweight with a stunning right-hand punch, won a unanimous decision over welterweight Tommy Bell of Youngstown, O. in a 10-round bout tonight at Madison Square Garden. Belloise weighed 159 1/2 and Bell 148 ½.

Bell was knocked down three times by Belloise. In the second round the slim Negro from the midwest hit the canvas twice, bounding up the first time without a count and taking a one-count the second time. Again in the ninth Belloise flattened his lighter opponent, but Bell again sprang into the fray without taking a count.

A crowd of 9,022 paid $37,330 to witness the one-sided fray.

Urge Lesnevich Championship Be Declared Vacant

CLEVELAND, Dec. 19 — (CP) — The Cleveland Boxing Commission today wired a request to Abe Greene, president of the National Boxing Association, that Gus Lesnevich's light heavyweight championship be declared vacated.

The Commission noted that Lesnevich had refused a $60,000 offer to defend his championship against Ezzard Charles, rated by the N.B.A. as the No. 1 challenger, and instead had signed for a March bout with Billy Fox, whom Lesnevich knocked out last February.

"At the National Boxing Association's recent meeting in Montreal," the wire read, "a resolution was adopted making it mandatory that a champion defend his title against the No. 1 challenger at least every six months. We recommend that the resolution be adhered to in this instance.

"It appears to us that Lesnevich is trying to put off a defence of his title against the number one challenger and we must not co-operate with his intentions."

The Commission asked Greene to declare the light heavyweight title against the number one challenger and we must not co-operate with his intentions."

The Commission asked Greene to declare the light heavyweight title vacant and to order a title bout between Charles, the No. 1 challenger, and Archie Moore, the No. 2 challenger in the N.B.A.'s ratings.

Maritime Holstein Directors For 1948.

Maritime Holstein Directors for 1948 C.B. Sherwood, Norton, N.B.; R.A. Profitt, Freetown, P.E.I., and Lorne Logan, Wolfville, N.S., have been elected as the Maritime representatives for 1948 on the Board of Directors of the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada according to word received by Mr. G.M. Clemons, Secretary-Manager of the Association, Brantford, Ontario. These men were chosen through a mail ballot amongst the Association members in their respective Provinces. Mr. Sherwood and Mr. Profitt were re-elected while Lorne Logan is replacing Courtney B. Lusby, Amherst, Nova Scotia, who decided to retire this year.

Other Directors elected were as follows: W.H. Hicks, Agassiz, B.C.; J.W. Hosford, South Edmonton, Alberta, R.E. Stewart, Regina, Saskatchewan, J.E. Crawford, Winnipeg, Manitoba, W.A. Hodge, St. Laurent, Quebec, H.L. Guilbert, Vercheres, Quebec, Jules Montour, Trois Rivieres, Quebec.

Directors to represent Ontario will be elected at the annual meeting of the Association to be held in Toronto on February 4.

Railway Wage Increase Talks Break Down

MONTREAL, Dec. 19 — (CP) — Frank Hall, chairman of a negotiating committee representing 17 railroad brotherhoods, said today wage-increase negotiations had been broken off with representatives of the Canadian Pacific and Canadian National lines and a Federal conciliator would be asked to take over.

Hall said the Union's request for a general 35-cent-an-hour increase for 140,000 workers in Canada was rejected by the roads, represented at the meeting by William Manson, vice-president of the C. P. R., and N. B. Walton, vice-president of the C. N. R.

There was no statement from the railways immediately after the meeting.

Jewish Fighters Launch Offensive

(By The Canadian Press)

JERUSALEM, Dec. 19 — Jewish fighters, launching what Jewish sources described as the first blow to counter the Arab "invasion" of Palestine, killed 10 Arabs and wounded five others today in an attack on the border village of Khisas.

Subsequently the Palestine Government clamped a highway curfew on this Upper Galilee area, prohibiting the movement of all Jewish vehicles for 36 hours.

Shortly after the toll in the Khisas attack had been counted the Arabs struck back by raking a convoy of buses in the Judean foothills with automatic weapon fire. One Jew was killed and three others were wounded in this attack near Latroun.

GARDINER DEFENDS

(Continued from Page 1)

applied to farmers in Argentina.

(Under the Canadian-United Kingdom wheat agreement Canada will supply 160,000,000 bushels this year at $1.55 a bushel basis Fort William - Vancouver - Churchill. Price of wheat on the Chicago Grain Exchange is about $3.10 a bushel, generally considered the world price. In the crop year starting next Aug. 1 Britain will pay $2 a bushel for 140,000 bushels).

Other Speakers

Other speakers in the debate included H. W. Herridge (People's CCF—Kootenay West); J. A. Ross (PC—Souris); and F.S. Zaplitny (CCF—Dauphin).

At the House opening, Prime Minister Mackenzie King announced a $25,000,000 a year boost in salaries of civil service clerks, the pay and allowances of members of the armed forces and the rates of veterans' pensions and allowances.

External Affairs Minister St. Laurent said the Government did not feel it was violating the terms of the United Nations charter by allowing military equipment to go to China under terms of an agreement reached last year.

Mr. St. Laurent said Canada was supporting the United States suggestion that the Japanese peace treaty be drawn up by the 11 countries most vitally interested in the treaty.

Reconstruction Minister Howe said that to the best of his knowledge and belief the excise taxes imposed by the Government to curb purchases of non-essential articles would not cause unemployment in Canada.

In entering the agricultural debate after Mr. Gardiner had spoken, Mr. Ross said he agreed with the Minister that Canada should help Britain and Europe. However, that help should not be extended solely at the expense of Western Farmers. The people as a whole should bear the burden of furnishing foods to Britain and Europe at lower than world prices.

Mr. Zaplitny said that while Australian farmers might be getting less than Canadian farmers for their wheat it was true that it cost less to produce wheat in Australia.

Referring to the Government's agricultural policies he said that "everytime the Minister of Agriculture takes one step forward to stabilize farm economy it seems he takes two steps backward to throw it into chaos."

Mr. Herridge called for control of grain milling companies to provide cheaper and better feed grain to farmers.

Mr. Gardner said that Australia and Argentina charged less for wheat used on their domestic markets than they did for wheat sold to other countries. Under this system foreign countries paid for the social services and lower living costs that were enjoyed by the people in Australia and Argentina.

He continued:

"I submit that the only time any country can carry out a system of that kind, and carry it out successfully, is under the conditions under which we are living today, where there are nations all around and about these countries who must be fed or starve, and who must have wheat at any price that anyone asks them for it.

"In my opinion that is not a world price created on a market where demand and supply works. That is a practice which I am quite sure members would not want the government of this country to follow under present conditions.

"I believe they would not want us to go into this country and tell the farmers that we have sold wheat to Britain for $2.72 a bushel or $3.60 a bushel and that they at the same time received only $1.55 or $1.56 a bushel for it. I could understand, under these conditions, members rising in their places and attacking the Government for not having assisted our old ladies, or not having assisted people who are in great need at the present time."

Mr. Gardiner said farmers had confidence in the Government's agricultural policies. He read to the House a letter from a farmer saying he was prepared to trust "in God and Gardiner." The Minister felt this was the general feeling of farmers.

9TH CHARLOTTETOWN TROOP

Last evening at the regular weekly meeting of the Ninth, several boys completed more of their Tenderfoot tests and will be ready for investing if they are successful in passing their final tests this afternoon at the special badge work session to be held in the Social Hall at 2.30 p.m. After the meeting last evening the boys had a quiet get-together with refreshments in the form of ice cream being served in generous quantities.

Due to the usual Christmas holiday clean-up in Prince of Wales College there will be no games period for the troop in the Auditorium until Jan. 7th. Weekly meetings of the Troop will, however, be held along with some hockey practices and the usual hikes during the holiday. Owing to painters being at work in the Heartz Hall basement the Troop was unable to hold its opening meeting there this week. It is expected that next week's meeting will be held in the new H.Q. and it is hoped there will be a good turnout of the Troop.

Latest of the old A.S.M.'s of the Ninth to return to service in the Troop is A.S.M. Avon Andrew. Avon served with the old Ninth as T.L. and A/A.S.M. The S.M. and A.S.M.'s Rogers, Stearns and Wilbur Andrew are certainly pleased to have Avon back taking an active part again and he will certainly be a favorite with the boys in a short time.

Pair Charged With Winnipeg Theft

WINNIPEG, Dec. 19 — (CP) — Michael Stefanik, 30, and John Michaelis, 25, of Winnipeg were charged today with the theft of nearly $200,000 in bonds, jewelry and cash from the safety deposit boxes of a north end branch of the Royal Bank Oct. 23 and were remanded without plea. Bail was refused.

Police Chief Charles MacIver said also that James G. Davidson, 23, arrested in Sydney, N.S., last week on a warrant charging him with a burglary at Gimli, Man., also will be charged with the bank burglary, largest in Winnipeg's history. He announced $9,850 of the $27,900 in cash taken had been recovered.

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New bicycle admired by this little girl at the exposition in Milan, Italy, can be collapsed in about a minute into four pieces which fit into special case in foreground. In Europe, where bicycles are the standard vehicle for young and old, this development is comparable to a new-type automobile in North America

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox and Mink Farming

The first sale in Norway of silver fox took place on December 11th. 2,800 silvers were sold at from $54 to $100 Swedish kroner. A kroner is worth approximately 21 cents, therefore the price in American money would be from $11.34 to $20.84. 600 blue foxes were sold at an average of approximately 40 kroner or $10.00.

At Lampson, Fraser & Hutch's New York sale wild mink and ranch mink showed continued strength. Half-bloods brought a top price of $41.00 and the top price for the standard mink was $36.00, but as a rule the best price the ranchers got was $28.50 for standard goods. Muskrats rose to a top price of $4.10 but the bulk of the average good sold in the $2.50 to $3.20 price brackets. The mutation and silver fox catalogue was sandwiched in between the mink and muskrat sales. According to reports 405 platinum fox were 87 percent sold at a top price of $62.00 for pale clear goods. White marked brought a top price of $31.00 and full silvers a top price of $24.00.

At the Vancouver sale of the Western Canadian Auction Company an offering of 20,000 mink was 70 percent sold. Extra dark and dark, extra large and large brought a top price of $23.50 to $27.50. Some types medium and small brought from $13 to $16.25.

I. J. Fox who has numerous stores in the United States, reports that fox jackets are popular with customers at prices ranging from $195 to $350. "We sell more jackets than anything else," said he. "A typical best selling fox jacket features wide sleeves which can be unsnapped down the inner seam to form a cape."

At the Minneapolis Fur Auction December 14th, 65 percent of the ranch mink was sold. Prices ranged from $13 to $16 for females and from $19 to $27 for males. An offering of silver-blu mink brought a top price of $60. Other lots sold for around $50 average.

At the New York Auction Company's sale of mink 97 per cent sold with a top price of $36.50 for Yukon males and $38.50 for half-blood pelts. The firm prices for ranch mink is believed to be caused by the very high levels at which wild mink is being sold. Trade observers say that wild mink apparently is either scarcer this year or being withheld from the market and that ranch mink is being produced in greater abundance and will get the mink trade a better basis on which to promote the mink garment business.

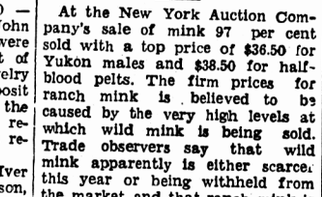
At the Soudack Fur Auction Sales, Winnipeg, last week wild mink sold for prices 25 to 30 per cent higher than at the same sale last season. Bidding was keen for the 25,000 ranch mink offered and they were 85 per cent sold at prices 10 to 15 percent over last season's corresponding sale.

The silver fox farmers of the United States have petitioned the Senate and Congress to pass a bill which will give loans to fur farmers over a five year period. At first this met with considerable opposition but the agriculture subcommittee on furs of the House of Representatives which held hearings December 5th and 6th viewed sympathetically the plight of the fox farmer. Their report showed that demand for silver foxes had declined because (1) The American market had been flooded with foreign furs since the close of the war. (2) Since the end of the war imports had been heavy because of the dollar shortage abroad. The sub-committee recommended that relief be given fox farmers. This was later adopted by the full agriculture body. It is expected that when the House reconvenes in January after the Christmas recess a bill authorizing government loans to silver fox farmers will become law.

Last week I had the pleasure of visiting Peter G. Clark, President and Manager P.E.I. Fur Pool, Ltd., and took up some of his valuable time discussing silver foxes. Peter is a tonic to anyone who is depressed. His faith has never wavered since we first knew him in 1913. That was when he organized the Pure Canadian Fox Company, purchasing some of the most beautiful Peace River males and females that ever left that favored fur land. From these he built up a herd which when the fox shows started was among the leading prize winners. At the International Fox Show in Boston 1923 they won the International Grand Sweepstakes Championship with Canuck Jane and many other prizes, and at the Royal Winter Fair and other shows were equally successful. They also obtained very high prices as pelts.

Mr. Clark was the prime mover and guiding spirit for many years of the Canadian National Silver Fox Breeders' Association and after retiring from its presidency founded the P.E.I. Fur Pool, Ltd. It was no doubt a good thing that these two organizations should be side by side as they attract the majority of fox furs in the Dominion of Canada to one centre—Summerside— and therefore exercise considerable control over marketing. That control has been of value in the difficult times which we are going through. Despite the strain of handling his customer interests in these hectic days Peter looks well and maintains a bright outlook. He believes that within a year or more the silver fox picture will have improved and also the quality, as the present slump in prices necessitates the removal by ranchers of their lower grade breeding stock. He is a strong advocate of quality and believes if the Marshall plan goes into effect and the London market opens up as it did pre-war then we will be in for good times again. We regret we could not have had a chat with Reag Tinney who had left the office, but we did have a handsake and a few words with Parvin Cass, who is well regarded as a judge of silver fox and whose experience is so valuable in a classification capacity at our fox shows.

The American Fur and Market Journal publishes the result of a query to a Swedish fur farmer asking what he fed his foxes This is the diet given. . . Fish and meat consisting of fish and fish waste, meat and leavings from killings, 50 to 60 percent; boiled potatoes 10 per cent; wheat brans and coarse oatmeal as well as a little fish and meat flour 20 to 25 percent; skim milk 5 percent; vegetables 5 percent; yeast and cod liver oil are sometimes added. The leavings from killings consist mainly of paunch and remaining entrails except heart and liver which cannot be had as animal food. Fish consists mainly of small fry not fed for human food and of cod's heads. As meat and leavings from slaughterhouses cannot be obtained at certain periods of the year foxes are mostly fed fish waste. Here are some of the prices the Swedes pay for their food, changed into Canadian money. . . Meat is 50c a lb.; spleen 20c lb, lights 25c lb; paunch 20c lb; third stomach 20c lb. If you will look back to the first of today's notes you will see that the average prices in Sweden run between $16 and $20 for silvers and probably $20 to $40 for platinums. How they can afford to raise foxes and pay the above prices for feed is a question we cannot figure out. There is no doubt the Norwegian and Swedish fur farmers are having a tough time of it. However, we understand that they do get supplies of whale meat at fairly reasonable prices and no doubt that enables them to pull through. In the interests of a brighter future it would be a mighty good thing if they too, like we are doing, would cut their herds of silver fox down very considerably.



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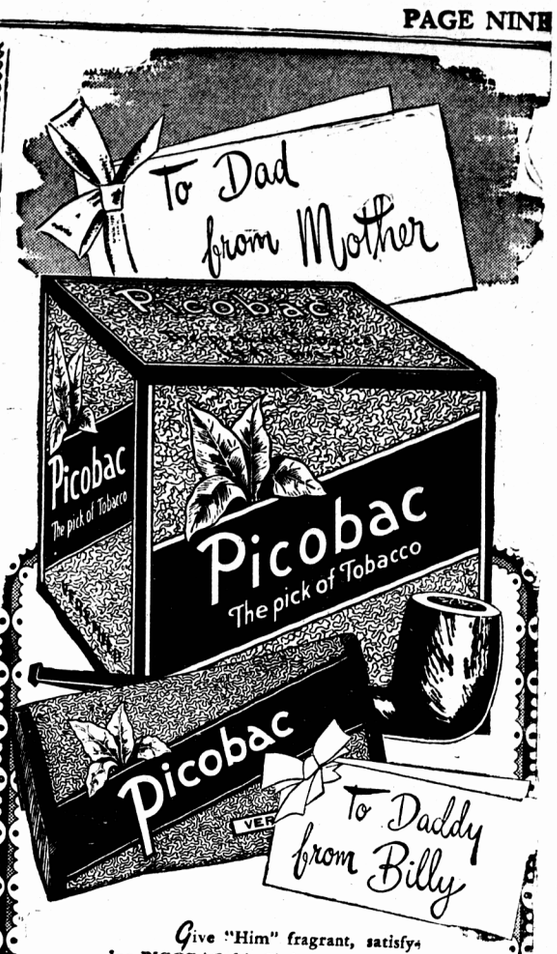

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Newsy Notes

(Continued From Page 6)

The reminiscences point to five subjects which had changed very greatly in the two generations treated of: Religious Feelings and Observances; Old Scottish Conviviality; Scottish Domestic Servants, old style; Scottish Humor and Proverbs; Scottish Stories of Wit and Humor.

On approaching the subject of Religion our author writes with true Scottish circumspection. It is not his intention, he says, to comment on recent church movements, nor on national peculiarities of faith or discipline. Yet it was impossible entirely to overlook the fact that for some years there had been a tendency to relax the sterner features of the Calvinistic school of theology, or at any rate to keep its peculiarities in the background.

The Dean wrote with greater freedom when he treated of the change in outward observances. Scotland had always borne the name of a moral and religious nation, and the mass of the people were a more church-going race than their opposite numbers in England. Among the upper classes, however, attendance at church was not thought of in the former times. When Sir Walter Scott wrote that Monkbarns—the Antiquary—had to be fairly "hounded out" to hear the sermons of good Mr. Blattergowl, he wrote from a knowledge of the Scottish gentry's habits. Sydney Smith, when (in 1840) he preached in Edinburgh to a congregation almost exclusively of ladies, took for his text "Oh that men would therefore praise the Lord"; and with the facetious touch he always used, he emphasized the word "men."

But within our author's own experience a great change had taken place; as will be seen in next week's Notes.

SMALL REMEMBRANCE

Many times we would like to remember someone at Christmas without their doing anything for us in return and some article of food made in the home answers this problem perfectly. Homemade cookies, a few slices of fruit cake, or a jar of homemade jelly, dressed up in holiday wrappings will be most welcome to anyone.

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