



DOWN -The- BACK STRETCH

Matinee races at New Glasgow and Amherst, N. S., this afternoon will usher in the racing season in Nova Scotia.

Dr. Dave MacKenzie, surgeon specialist of Montreal, who spent some weeks in Santa Anita, California recently, and very kindly sent us particulars of the racing there, is paying his usual summer visit to the Province and is being welcomed by hundreds of friends.

Horsemen are reminded to send in their old eligibility certificates when applying for new ones as this rule is now mandatory, and also please remember that when you sell a horse you should give a transfer certificate to the new owner and he should have it registered right away.

Wellington McNeill while on a business trip to the mainland visited several tracks. At Amherst there were ten horses being exercised and put in condition for the racing. The next visit was to Sackville where he said the track had been much improved and there are quite a number of speed prospects and aged horses being gotten ready.

Port Egin is the headquarters of Harley Harrison and Well had a look over McKillop Cash 202, George B. Gay's free-for-all, and nine others under the general Harley's care.

The new board of directors of the Provincial Exhibition are making many changes to the grounds, buildings and track. The latter has been gone over with a giant bulldozer and thousands of loads of clay have been taken out of the gutter next to the inner rail and spread over the track.

There are between 40 and 50 horses either stabled at the grounds or being brought in for training each day. The fastest mile to date is to the credit of Percy Downe's Mac Watson—2:25—and the other member of Mr. Downe's stable, Miss Ireland has been in 2:28. Owners or trainers occupying stables and the number of their horses are: Emmett Burke, 4; Roy Barnett, 3; Willard Kelly, 6; with 4 others brought to him for training; Louis Kelly, 3, one of these being Harry Cox's new speed acquisition; Charlie Horton, 2, in Austin Tierney's barn, who is also taking care of Roy Bevan's three-year-old; Len O'Meara, 4; Dr. George Bishop, 2; Jiggy Arling, 3; Walter Hennessey, 4; Col. J. P. Hooper, 3.

In addition there are a number of horsemen in the vicinity of Charlottetown who train regularly over the oval. These include Harold Slead with 3 and Percy Downe, as mentioned before, with

two. Incidentally, Miss Viny Jones is located in the MacKinnon barn with 12 riding horses that are much utilized in giving lessons to children and young ladies. Miss Jones is a thorough equestrienne and her pupils made a wonderful showing at Amherst Winter Fair last fall.

D. K. Macleod returning from the closing exercises at Acadia University where his son Bob graduated in Arts, receiving his B.A. degree, took the opportunity of visiting the Truro race track and renewing acquaintance with Billy Hood, Johnny Conroy, Billy McManus, Angie Allen and other horsemen there. Their horses are in grand shape and have been on the go for the past six weeks but no miles better than 2:30 had been stepped. Many questions were asked about the "Islanders" and many of them are looking forward to being with us Old Home Week August 12th to 15th.

Our friend Dick Egan very frequently remembers us with clippings of interest to horsemen. From a recent one we glean that the start of the local harness season at Roosevelt Raceway near New York is almost arrived and there are hundreds of horses stabled at the track, which means that the track is filled with them from early morning until mid-afternoon. Steve Phillips, well known starter, gives lessons each morning with the Phillips gate which starts its second year at the Raceway. It responds to every whim of its inventor. There is a practice track adjoining the regular half-mile racing strip and it is there that practically all the horses get their training work-outs.

One of the best liked colts is Uncle Ben, a two-year-old pacer from the Warren Dennis stable. He is almost a replica of Ensign Hanover, that was the greatest money winning two-year-old of 1945. The sire of Uncle Ben is Billy Direct 1.55, world's champion pacer, and his dam is Vivian Hanover by Guy McKinney 1.58 1/2. Steve Phillips tells the story of how Billy Direct set the world's record at 1:55 back in 1938 at Lexington. As Steve tells it: "Billy Direct was one of the finest horses that ever made a start. He could always be counted on to be ready when I called the word Go and sounded the bell. On this day at Lexington Billy twice went away fine but the rest of the field of five or six horses were not ready. The third time they went away fine but as I sounded the bell I noticed Billy Direct on a break. Needless to say he was 'shut out' to the consternation of the fans. Later in the day the owners of the horses asked that he might make the try against time. His record breaking performance appeared to be ready when I called the word Go and sounded the bell. His record of 1:55 still stands and he is now one of the most sought-after sires."

Interesting to record are the miles reported from Roosevelt Speedway, which of course bear no comparison to those locally as that track opened a couple of months ago and the horses were practically ready even then, most of them having been trained down south or in the west. Frisky Lee stepped in 2:10 with a quarter in 30 seconds; Clark Hanover in 2:16; quarter in 31; Cardinal Abbe and Uncle Ben in 2:16; J. T. Barnes in 2:12; Summer Sun and Keen Hanover in 2:06; Royal Light in 2:17.

We regret to note the death of one of the greatest drivers of hopped pacers the world has ever known—Charles A. Valentine, which occurred at Grove, Ohio, May 4th. "Val" had almost reached the eighty mark and from his earliest boyhood he was with horses. He received very little schooling as a boy but later was happily married to an intelligent woman who kept his books, taught him reading and writing and helped him all through life. Charlie was a natural reinsman and could very quickly decide the type of training and driving that a horse required. He was also

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SPORTING NEWS

PAGE EIGHT THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN MAY 24, 1947



Golfers and tennis followers will hold the spotlight in Island athletic activities today and on the holiday Monday when Belvedere Golf Club and Charlottetown Tennis Club members officially open their seasons that are expected to be the best in a good number of years.

Fairways and greens of the C.O.F. Club are said to be in the best opening day shape in years. Increased interest and increased membership plus a hustling band of officials have drawn up an extensive schedule that opens today and Monday with men's sweepstakes play with the ladies division getting in their opening matches a little later in the season.

Taking advantage of every fine day old established wielders of the masher and nibblers plus newcomers to the game have been getting in practice rounds and already tales of long, booming drives and par getting close shaves have been going the rounds.

Some of the stories may be a little far-fetched by the enthusiastic golfers but there is little doubt that the season opening today will mark a new era in local golf circles and although no major tournaments are lined up for the season a glance at the season's schedule now posted at the Clubhouse bears out the fact that members have a busy season ahead of them.

Pointing for bigger things in the future and still with the possibility of an Island Open meet being held here during the summer Charlottetown Tennis Club members will get in their opening alleys today and Monday on courts 1, 2 and 3, and a large number are expected out for the opening.

Work which was started about a month ago is now nearing completion. Courts 4, 5 and 6 which have been gone over thoroughly, levelled off and resurfaced are not quite ready for play yet but on their completion the Club will boast six of the finest courts to be found anywhere. The fences, clubhouse, stands and grounds have also been gone over thoroughly. In brief, a transformation program is in progress and when completed the site will once again have reached its former high estate.

Interest in next Saturday's opening flight program at the Forum is increasing by leaps and bounds these days and promoter Charlie Archer announced last night that plans for the show had been completed and all that remains is for the boxing public to place their stamp of approval on the first of a series of bi-weekly programs that will see a list of top-notch scrappers perform in well-matched cards.

Seats were being placed in position in the big ice palace yesterday and already there has been a keen demand for tickets, advance sale of which will start next Thursday. Meanwhile the ten fighters that will perform on the card are coming toward the end of their intensive training programme and fans will see superbly conditioned mitt-slingers jump into the ring on the night of May 31st.

Co-promoter Gussie McLellan of Halifax states that McCloskey and Tex Medley are in razor-edge condition for their main event date. McCloskey, particularly is said to have worked himself into his finest condition. The Ace, still looking forward to fights with Pyle and Wynnot has to surmount the undoubted challenge of Medley, followed by Jim Mooney before getting his long-awaited chance at the two top liners of their division.

Medley will prove no easy stepping stone nor Mooney either. Both have displayed plenty dynamite in previous encounters and Medley's record of 65 knock-outs in 75 fights is an impressive one but still McCloskey's handlers are confident that the Ace will continue his string of victories, unbroken since the night about a year ago when Joe Pyle stopped him in two rounds.

That defeat still rankles within McCloskey. He is making no excuses for the setback but ever since has been attempting to get a return match, his efforts haven't been successful but it now appears he will again face his dusky conqueror under the lights of the ring pitched in the centre of the Forum.

With capable officers guiding the destinies of the league and capable managers and coaches appointed the outlook for the coming Junior Baseball League which gets underway here on June 16th has a rosy tint. President Johnny Williams who heads the league has always shown great interest in the development of the youngsters. "Fixit" has had more than ordinary success with midget and junior hockey squads when in a coaching role and he will use the same ability when leading the youngsters in his executive role.

Honorary President Percy Turner is another prominent sports follower whose interest in the kids is well known. Always willing to help materially or otherwise Percy is certain of showing more than keen interest while Bill Boyle and Ray McDonald during the past few years have done much behind the scenes in furthering junior sport.

Lt.-Col. MacKinnon Re-elected To Head P. E. I. Rifle Ass'n

The annual meeting of the Prince Edward Island Provincial Rifle Association was held last evening. There was a good attendance of members present and all of them were enthusiastic and promised their every support towards making the season one of the most successful in its long history. The president's report appears below and was unanimously adopted, also the financial report of Secy.-Treas. Major W.A. Smith.

Reports of the inter-Maritime team and the Ottawa teams of 1939 were submitted by Lieut.-Col. W. J. MacDonald. A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to be tendered to all contributors and to the press for their very valuable support. Discussions in regard to rifle shooting and its re-establishment were taken part in by practically all present. Lt.-Col. W.W. Reid, D.S.O., commanding the 17th Reconnaissance Regiment, stated that the officers of his regiment would donate a trophy. This was followed by Lt.-Col. D. N. Bell, commanding the 5th Divisional Signals Regiment, who also promised a trophy. Both officers were warmly congratulated by the president and received nearly applause from the riflemen.

Officers Elected
The election of officers resulted as follows:
Patron—His Honor Lt.-Gov. J. A. Bernard.
Honorary President—Lt.-Col. W. Reid, D.S.O.
President—Lt.-Col. D. A. MacKinnon, D.S.O.
Vice-President for Kings—Lt.-Col. W. J. MacDonald.
Vice-President for Queens—Lt.-Col. F. B. Conrad.
Vice-President for Prince—Major J. S. Wright.
Chairman of Council—Lt.-Col. F. B. Conrad.
Secy.-Treas.—Major W. A. Smith.

Executive Committee—Lt. F. G. Kennedy, Lt. P. T. Hooper, Capt. A. J. McCabe.
Range Committee—Capt. A. J. McCabe, Capt. E. R. Burke, Major A. F. Gormley.
It was decided to hold the annual prize meeting on the new range near T-Hill July 28th and 29th. It is expected that a splendid program of trophies and cash prizes will be given. The holding of the meeting at that date gives more opportunity for the selection of the Ottawa team of 24 riflemen to shoot in the D. C.R.A. matches in mid-August.

A sum sufficient to provide for the expenses of the inter-Maritime team to shoot with Nova Scotia and New Brunswick at Bedford in June was voted.
A resolution of regret was passed to be forwarded to Mrs. Percy Williams, wife of the Association's auditor, who passed away since the last annual meeting. Another resolution was passed extending deepest sympathy to Major J. M. Jones and family whose son, Ft.-Lt. A. M. Jones was killed in the recent war. Major Jones had the distinction of being on Bieleys teams many times. Ft. Lt. A. M. Jones won the Judson and Nicholson tyro matches at the 1939 rifle matches.

The members of council elected for 1947 were as follows: Lt.-Col. D.N. Bell, Lt. F.G. Kennedy, Capt. A. J. McCabe, Major A. F. Gormley, Lt.-Col. W. W. Reid, Major A. W. Allan, Lt. P. T. Hooper, Capt. E. R. Burke, Q.M. Sgt. J. C. Stewart, G. A. Coles, Lt. R. E. Jenkins, Lt.-Col. D. N. Bell, Cpl. A. V. Spillitt, Major W. A. Smith, Capt. J. J. Connolly, Cpl. P. J. Landrigan, Capt. Lloyd Wellner, Major F. J. Storey, Capt. J. Coles, Capt. C. G. Ives.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
To the Members of the Provincial Rifle Association, Gentlemen:—
It is almost eight years since we met together in this building for the 74th annual meeting of the Association, the evening of June 2nd, 1939. We little thought then that it would be eight years before we would hold another meeting. The war which commenced in 1939 upset everyone's plans and its effects prevented a continuance of rifle shooting since. Now, however, the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association and all Provincial Rifle Associations are planning for meetings this year and it is fitting that we should also.

It has been the custom at annual meetings to give a resume of the previous years' occurrences, and so I will go back to our meeting of June 2nd, 1939, and give you a list of the officers elected and from then continue on and show the highlights of that year.
The roster of officers was as follows: Patron Hon. George D. DeBols; Hon. President, Lt.-Col. H. M. Davidson, V. D.; President, Lt.-Col. D. A. MacKinnon, D.S.O.; Vice President, Lt.-Col. F. B. Conrad, M.M. for Queen's County; Major W. J. MacDonald for King's; Colonel U. G. Dawson for Prince; Members of the Council were—Lt. F. G. Kennedy; Lt. A. J. McCabe; Sgt. P. J. Landrigan; E. R. Burke; Lt. R. A. McCabe; Lt. P. T. Hooper.

With capable officers guiding the destinies of the league and capable managers and coaches appointed the outlook for the coming Junior Baseball League which gets underway here on June 16th has a rosy tint. President Johnny Williams who heads the league has always shown great interest in the development of the youngsters. "Fixit" has had more than ordinary success with midget and junior hockey squads when in a coaching role and he will use the same ability when leading the youngsters in his executive role.

Honorary President Percy Turner is another prominent sports follower whose interest in the kids is well known. Always willing to help materially or otherwise Percy is certain of showing more than keen interest while Bill Boyle and Ray McDonald during the past few years have done much behind the scenes in furthering junior sport.

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The battle of the duck season opening date is over. By a vote of 24 to 4 a Resolution to have the duck season open on October 15th with a cut in the daily bag limit from 12 to 8 and a season limit reduced from 150 to 100 was passed by a representative group of sportsmen that comprised 15 new members from country districts. No mention was made of the closing date. If Ottawa allows one month it will naturally close on November 15th. If the unexpected 6 weeks is granted gunners will be allowed to shoot ducks legally until the last of November.

The first resolution presented to the meeting asked that the season on ducks open on October 1st and close on November 30th, with a proviso that if the full two months was not allowed that two weeks be taken off the month of October. This resolution came under heavy fire as it was felt by the majority of gunners present that it was of no advantage to ask for more than we expected to get and that mentioning October 1st as the opening date would only result in confusing the issue. Morley Bell, M. L. A. Summerside, spoke strongly in favour of a shorter season as he felt that even 6 weeks was 100 per cent more than we should ask considering the current continental duck shortage.

Mr. Bell's remarks carried weight with the meeting but it was a foregone conclusion when the Pownal Troop marched into the Hall four deep that any hopes a few of the die hards held for an opening date on October 1st, was absolutely squelched. Those hardy gunners like to shoot ducks when the salt spray freezes in their hair and the "lully" whistles from the shores of Chrystie's Island and Crown Point. A surprising feature of the meeting was the fact that the majority of the old members of the Association, practically all of their residents of Charlottetown, were strongly in favour of October 1st.

R. C. M. Police are keeping a close check on anglers who are fishing for trout, without procuring the one dollar license required by law in the case of residents and the \$2.00 fee levied on non-residents. To date 7 resident anglers and 3 non-resident have been checked and found wanting. The latest convictions occurred on Thursday morning (May 22nd) when a resident of Bridgewater, N. S., found angling without a license at New Glasgow on the previous afternoon was assessed a fine and costs totalling \$5.00. Charlottetown resident found angling at Millvale on the same afternoon without the necessary square of card board was fined an equal amount.

It is now common knowledge that scores of fishermen from the sister provinces partake of the good angling afforded by our streams and ponds without the necessary license and purchasing a \$2.00 non-resident license and it is gratifying to note that Police are paying more attention to this phase of the license business. Formerly when an officer found a visitor to the province angling without a license he was issued with one and the fee was collected. This procedure has now been changed and the Non-resident is placed in the same category as the resident angler if found without a license namely: they have a date, a pressing one, with a Magistrate right off the bat.

Hungarian partridge have started to lay and several nests holding from 7 to 9 eggs have already been found. There is a bumper crop of breeding Huns on hand and along the secondary dirt roads pairs of those sporting birds are frequently surprised in the act of dusting themselves.

Fresh run sea trout are on the move up our streams and rivers and some splendid catches have been made by local anglers. There is a real thrill coming when one removes a silvery beauty off the fly and finds his hands covered with fine scales glistening like quicksilver.

4 lb. 2 oz. trout taken from Ross's Mill, by Clarence Higgins, D. F. C. on the opening morning had to take second place to a 4 pound 9 oz. trout taken from the salmon hole below Billie Bon's on the Fortune River by a Souris angler and this trout in turn had to yield 1st place to a 5 pound 2 oz.

Eleven New Glasgow Race Horses Sold

NEW GLASGOW, N. S., May 23—(CP)—One of the biggest harness racing history was completed today by Bill Stewart of New Glasgow who sold 11 horses, all well-known to Maritime harness fans, to Alex Parsons, London, Ont., race king. The horses were shipped last night to the Batavia Race Track, New York. The amount involved was not revealed but local turfmen estimated it at about \$30,000.

Horses sold were: Billy Jane, Colleen Scott, Pat Abbe, Fort Light, Mona Direct, Pat Stone, Ucheen Abbe, Alpha Hal, Rosenda Hanover, Rainbow Hanover and Nelda A. Volo.

Sweepstakes Competition At Golf Club

Men's sweepstakes, this afternoon and Monday will officially open the local golf season at the Belvedere Golf Club and officials of the Club are confident of the largest turnout in years being on hand for the holiday program.

Entries for today's and Monday's events will be received at the Clubhouse with the opening drives expected to go booming down the fairways at 2 o'clock.

Ch'town Tennis Club Season Opens Today

With courts Nos. 1, 2 and 3 ready for play, opening practice matches of the Charlottetown Tennis Club players will get under way this afternoon at 2 o'clock.

A decided increase in membership has been noted this season and a large crowd of racket wielders are expected to be on hand. Work on courts 4, 5, and 6 is expected to be completed soon, officials stated, with the "go ahead" signal expected to be flashed within the next couple of weeks or possibly sooner, depending largely upon weather conditions.

Four Summerside Baseball Teams To Play Monday

The four teams comprising the Summerside Baseball League will see action for the first time on Monday, May 26th, when the Red Sox, last year's champions tangle with the Kinsmen Juniors, a team of youngsters who will give any team a mighty tussle for honors.

The first two play at the R. C. A. F. grounds in St. Eleanor's at 2:30 p.m. and the Alport nine and the Veterans clash in the night cap at the high school grounds at 5:30 p.m. Large holiday crowds are expected to attend both those games.—S.

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Gus Lesnevich Floors Melio Bettina In 59 Seconds Of 10-Rounder
By SID FEDER
NEW YORK, May 23 (AP)—Light-heavyweight champion Gus Lesnevich exploded the heavy-weight hopes of southpaw Melio Bettina all over Madison Square Garden's ring tonight by flattening the former 175-pound king in 59 seconds of the first round of their scheduled ten-rounder. Lesnevich weighed 170 3/4; Pettine 190 1/4.

City Baseball League To Open On June 8
The first game of the City Baseball League will be played on Sunday, June 8, with the Anchors meeting the Rovers. It was decided last night at a meeting of the league. The president, S. P. Doyle presided. All officers were present.

Bowling
CH'TOWN ALLEYS
Candlepin—Semi Finals
Old Timers—
E. Doucette..... 93 91 87
J. Cameron..... 92 99 83
R. Duncan..... 79 80 84
V. Duncanson..... 90 103 84
F. Doucette..... 85 93 82
Total—1325.
Tigers—
F. Doyle..... 89 87 94
B. McCallum..... 72 78 83
J. Ranaghan..... 87 97 87
W. Taylor..... 78 89 95
Total—1316.
High single V. Coyle 103.
High three H. Poulton 278.
Points:—
Old Timers 3 1-2.
Tigers 1 1-2.

Practice Schedule
A schedule for senior and junior baseball practice sessions was drawn up last night at a meeting of the Baseball League. On the park diamond for Monday, May 26, the K. of C. team is to practice at 5:30 and the Rovers at 6:30. On the Knights of Columbus diamond the Kinsmen are to practice at 5:30 and the Anchors at 6:30. The full schedule will be published later.

Legion Practice
Legion baseball practice at 7:30 Sunday afternoon. All players interested in making team please attend.

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