:-: 1943—HARNESS RACING REVIEW—1943 :-:

Notable Performances Are Witnessed By Huge Crowds During Past Great Season

Jollity, Driven By Johnny Conroy Paces Two Fastest Heats, In One Race, In Canada During 1943. Joe O'Brien Again Leading Driver.

By D. A. MacK.

Once again we take pleasure in presenting to our readers our Review of Maritime Harness Racing with the outstanding happenings of the season of 1943. It was one of the greatest racing seasons of all time with many tracks having record attendances and track records broken in all three provinces. New speed in the form of trotters and pacers with fast records livened up the interest all over the circuits and as a result one of these importations the two fastest heats in Canada this season over a half-mile track were paced.

Despite unfavorable weather conditions which prevailed in mid-summer, which caused postponment of meets in New Glasgow and Truro, the total number of race days held was 11—five more than the previous year. This did not include matinees or a few meets we did not secure particulars of.

The above are but a few of the many interesting happenings that have caused our sport to enhance its popularity and stamp it as the premier summer and fall outdoor amusement.

A Great Racing Season

The total number of classes or events raced was 163, contested in 464 heats. The starter's gong sounded first at Bridgewater, N.S. on June 23rd and ended at North Sydney and New Glasgow, N.S. October 11th. Nova Scotia had the greatest number—22 — New Glasgow, five, July 14th, August 25th, August 28th, September 15th, October 11th; Bridgewater four, June 23rd, September 6th, September 29th, September 30th; North Sydney five, July 1st, July 28th, Sept, 6th, Sept. 8th, October 11th, Amherst four, July 21st, July 22nd, August 18th, August 19th; Truro three, July 4th, July 7th, September 1st; Inverness July 21st.

Prince Edward Island held eleven days, Charlottetown putting on six days, a four-day Old Home Week, August 10-11-12-13, and a two-day Goodwill meet September 22-23; Summerside three, July 2nd, July 7th, August 4th; Montague two, July 14th, September 6th.

New Brunswick had eleven days with St. Stephen holding meets on July 15th, July 29th, August 13th, August 19th, September 6th; Chatham three, June 24th, July 1st, September 6th; St. John three, July 1st, July 15th, September 6th.

In addition to the above regular race meets matinee events or races were held at Alberton and Riverside, P.E.I., at Middleton, N.S., Shediac, Port Elgin, Buctuoche and Campbellton, N.B.

A rough computation of the estimated crowds published in newspaper despatches or obtained from spectators gives 140,000 as the probable number who witnessed the harness horse performance the past season. This probably constitutes a record.

Over Four Score 2:10 Miles

A few years ago a 2.10 mile was a rare occurrence but due to the fast horses now performing on Maritime tracks, particularly this season, there is scarcely a race meet that does not see one or more stepped in that time or better. We thought 1942 with its 53 miles — which was a new record—could not be duplicated, but lo and behold we find checking up that no less than 63 miles were trotted or paced in 2.10 or better in 1943.

The Nova Scotia owned pacer Jollity 2.05¼, heads the parade with ten. Next in line is the Amherst owned Rhea Mae 2.04½ with nine. Forty-eight of the 2.10 miles were stepped in Nova Scotia—18 of them at Bridgewater—20 on Prince Edward Island—13 of these at Charlottetown—while New Brunswick accounted for 15—9 of these were trotted or paced at St. Stephen.

Fastest Miles Trotted Or Paced

The fastest mile trotted or paced was that of Jollity 2.05¼, owned by Moriarty & Lahey and driven by Johnny Conroy, when he paced to that record in the third heat of the Free For All Trot and Pace at Bridgewater, N.S. September 6th. In the second heat he paced in 2.05½. These two heats are the fastest raced over any Canadian track this season. The fastest heat trotted was the 2.03¾ mile of Watchim 2.07, owned by Alderman Frank Adams, Halifax, and driven by Billy Hood, at Amherst, N.S. August 18th.

Several Track Records Equalled Or Broken

A glance at the list of track records which appears elsewhere on this page will show that new records were made or equalled at several tracks viz: at Bridgewater, Truro, New Glasgow, Amherst and Inverness, in Nova Scotia, at Summerside, Prince Edward Island and St. Stephen and Chatham, N.B.

Following are the horses that trotted or paced in 2.10 or better over Maritime tracks the season of 1943:

JOLLITY 2.05¼—10—Charlottetown Aug. 13, 2.10, 2.07½; Amherst Aug. 19—2.10, 2.10; Bridgewater Sept. 6—2.05½, 2.05¼; Bridgewater Sept. 30—2.09, 2.06½; New Glasgow Oct. 9—2.09¾, 2.10

RHEA MAE 2.04½—9—New Glasgow Aug. 28—2.09¾, 2.10, 2.09; Truro Sept. 1—2.08¼; Bridgewater Sept. 6—2.07; New Glasgow Sept. 15—2.08, 2.09; Charlottetown Sept. 22—2.08; Bridgewater Sept. 30—2.09½.

JOSEDALE HOOSIER 2.07—8—Bridgewater June 23—2.09, 2.09½; New Glasgow July 14—2.07; Charlottetown Aug. 11—2.09; New Glasgow Aug. 25—2.09, 2.09¾, 2.09; North Sydney Sept. 18—2.09.

DALE H. 2.05—6—Summerside, July 7—2.09¼; Montague July 14—2.10; Montague Sept. 6—2.08, 2.10; New Glasgow Oct. 9—2.09¾, 2.10.

HARRY DIRECT 2.07¼—5—St. Stephen July 29—2.09¾; St. Stephen Aug. 19—2.09; Chatham Sept 6—2.09, 2.07¼, 2.09.

CHESTNUT BARS 2.06 — 5 — Charlottetown Aug. 12—2.09¾, 2.08, 2.08¾; St. Stephen Aug. 19—2.08½ 2.08¾.

THE GREAT G. 2.02½—5—Amherst Aug. 18—2.10; Truro Sept. 1—2.10, 2.09, 2.10; Charlottetown Sept 23—2.08.

HAL B. DIRECT 2.04½—4—New Glasgow July 14—2.06¼; Amherst Aug. 19—2.08¼; North Sydney Sept 6—2.09¾; Bridgewater Sept. 29—2.07¾.

NATE HANOVER 1.59—4—Bridgewater June 23—2.08¾; Truro July 7—2.09, 2.08¾, 2.09¼.

VICTOR LEE 2.07—4—St. Stephen Sept. 6—2.10, 2.09, 2.08¾; Charlottetown Sept. 22—2.08.

BONNIE'S BOY 2.05¼—3—Charlottetown Sept. 22—2.07½, 2.09; Bridgewater Sept. 29—2.10.

HAPPY L. 2.03½—3—Summerside, July 7—2.07½, 2.08¾, 2.07¾.

WATCHIM 2.07—3 — Amherst Aug. 18—2.08¼; Bridgewater Sept 29—2.08¾, 2.09.

SAN TON, 2.07¼—2—Bridgewater Sept. 6—2.09, 2.09½.

JEAN HENLEY 2.08½—2 — St. Stephen Aug. 19—2.09¼; Bridgewater Sept. 29— 2.08½.

USCITA BRITTON 2.09 — 1 — Charlottetown Aug. 11—2.09½.

HAL McKINNEY 2.06¼—1—St Stephen Aug. 19—2.09¼.

JUNE EVANS 2.09—1—Chatham Sept. 6—2.10.

GRATTAN AXWORTHY 2.01½—1—Bridgewater June 23—2.09¼.

SUNNYMEDE 2.07¼ — 1 — St Stephen July 15—2.09½.

SIR ADMIRAL 2.10—1—Bridgewater Sept. 6—2.10.

BASIL HANOVER 2.04½ — 1— Charlottetown Sept. 22—2.10.

TRACEY HANOVER 2.03 — 1— New Glasgow Oct. 9—2.09

BONNIE BUDLONG 2.10 — 1 — New Glasgow July 14—2.10

LAWYER GRATTAN 2.08 — 1— St. Stephen July 15—2.09½.

Maritime Race Winners

Of the 163 "events" raced over clay in 1943, Bonnie Budlong 2.10, owned by B.C. Cruickshanks, Halifax, and driven by C. Smith, was the leading winner, heading 11 summaries through the season. Watchim 2.07, owned by Alderman Frank Adams, Halifax, and driven by Billy Hood, (that last year shared honors with Squire Hanover 2.08 of trotting the fastest heat in the Maritimes) was runner up with eight wins. Other race winners were: Josedale Hoosier 2.07 six wins; Nate Hanover 1.59, Sir Admiral 2.10, Jollity 2.05¼, Coronation McKillop, 2.13¾, five wins; Rhea Mae 2.04½, Grace Abbey, 2.12½ four wins; Chestnut Bars 2.06, Lady Hal 2.11¼, Singing Sam 2.10½, June French 2.12 Wait N'See 2.12, Albert E. Grattan 2.11¼, Jean Henley 2.08½, O. U. Volo, 2.13, The Baker 2.06¼, three wins; Johnny Eager 2.11¼, Millie Kalmuck 2.08-½, Hillside Scott 2.11½, Archie Lee 2.19½, Lady Rose 2.15¾, Brownwood Tiger 2.07¼, Pagliacci 2.09½, Lee McKillop 2.10½, Manchester's Alberta 2.15, Peter Reamore 2.11, Dale Cochato 2.06¼, Calumet Didjon 2.15¼, Happy L. 2.03½, Winnie Scott 2.11, Aylmer Worthy 2.15-¼, Harry Direct 2.07¼, Carnation Lady 2.15½, Royal Hanover 2.04½, two wins; Royal Prince, Miss Claire Budlong, 2.23, Basil Hanover, 2.04½, Squire—Hanover 2.08, Kelly's Nightmare 2.17½, Uscita Britton 2.09, Lela Budlong 2.26½, Scotty McKane 2.17¼, Belle of Brooklyn 2.15, Royal Jim 2.15¾, Marguerite Rose 2.16, Rip Abbe 2.-14, Paulabbe 2nd 2.11, The Great G. 2.02½, Marjorie Budlong 2.15½, San Ton 2.07¼, June Evans 2.09, Jolly Harvester 2.14¾, Hal McKinney 2.06¼, Skippydale 2.14½, Miss McDale 2.17¼, Bob Long 2.21¾, Aubrey Dillon 2.11½, Bonnie's Boy 2.06¼, Mickey Volo 2.15½, Marchmont 2.10¾, Inflation 2.14¾, Top Hat 2.10½, Victor Lee 2.07, Hal B. Direct 2.04½, Tracey Hanover 2.03, Major Y., June Grattan 2nd 2.20, H.M. Volo 2.11¾, Mart Harkaway 2.04½, Palomar 2.15½, Miss Admiral Mac 2.14½, Sunnymede 2.07-¼, Muriel Henley, one win.

Fastest Performers On Maritime Tracks Season 1943

Fastest two-year-old pacer—Lela Budlong (G. McIntyre) owned by Yeo & McEachern, Montague,—Charlottetown, Aug. 10.—2.26½

Fastest three-year-old pacer—Lady Rose (R. MacLaine) Wilfred Praught, Cherry Valley—Montague, Sept. 6—2.15¾.

Fastest four-year-old pacer—Rip Abbe 2.14 (B. Poley) Ollie Mason, Monticello, Maine,—St. Stephen, Aug. 19—2.14

Fastest four-year-old trotter—June French 2.12 (B. Hood) J. Pope Clarke, Charlottetown,—New Glasgow, Aug. 25—2.12.

Fastest pacing gelding—Jollity 2.05¼ (J. Conroy) Moriarty & Lahey, Dartmouth, — Bridgewater, Sept. 6—2.05¼.

Fastest trotting gelding—Sunnymede 2.07¼ (W. Keyes) W. H Keyes, St. Stephen—St. Stephen, July 15—2.09½.

Fastest pacing stallion — The Great G. 2.02½, (T. Semple) C. L. Dauphinee & B.C. Cruickshanks, Halifax,—Charlottetown, Sept. 23—2.08.

Fastest trotting stallion—Watchim 2.07 (B. Hood) Frank Adams, Halifax, Amherst, Aug. 18—2.08¼.

Fastest pacing mare—Rhea Mae 2.04½ (J. O'Brien) F.C. Coates, Amherst — Bridgewater, Sept. 6—2.07.

Fastest trotting mare — June Evans 2.09½ (H. Harrison) George Turner, Dartmouth, — Chatham, Sept. 6—2.10.

Fastest new performer pacing — Grace Abbe, 2.12½ (M. Jabblee) Angelo Passerina, North Sydney, N.S.—Bridgewater, Sept. 29—2.12.

Fastest new performer trotting—Mickey Volo 2.15½ (T. Semple) Arthur Jay, Borden, P.E.I., Charlottetown, Sept. 23—2.15½.

Reduced Records

(Record first shown is mark at begining of season)

(Trotters)

Johnny Eager 2.20 to 2.11¼, Summerside, July 7. (D Seaman) owned by Dr. R.F. Seaman, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Mae Lee 2.22 to 2.16¼. Charlottetown, Sept. 23. (J McManus) owned by Howard Johnston, St. John N.B.

Hillside Scott 2.11¾ to 2.11½. Bridgewater, Sept. 30. (J. Conroy) owned by J.A. Kerr, Truro, N.S

Coronation McKillop, 2.15¼ to 2.13¾. New Glasgow, Oct. 11 (M. Jabblee), owned by T.F. McKinley, Sydney, N.S.

Kelly's Nightmare 2.22½ to 2.17-½. Montague, July 14. (W. Kelly) C.H. Horton, Murray River, P.E.I

(Pacers)

Bonnie Budlong 2.15 to 2.10. New Glasgow, July 14 (C. Smith) B.C Cruickshanks, Halifax, N.S

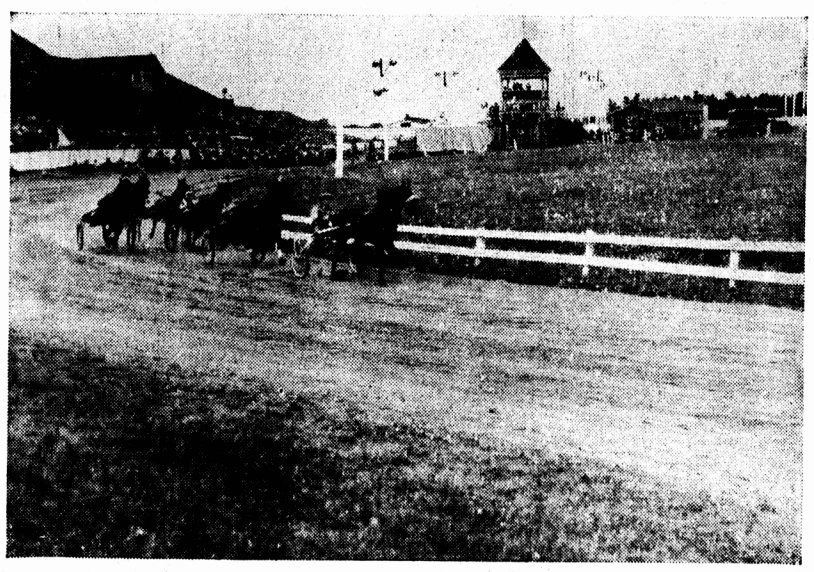
Bennie T. Reamore 2.30 to 2.21 North Sydney, Sept. 8. (R. Oland) R. Oland, Coxheath, N.S.

Winnie Scott 2.13½ to 2.11. Bridgewater, Sept. 29. (T. Semple) John Farmer, Kinkora, P.E.I.

Walt N' See 2.15¼ to 2.12. New Glasgow, Aug. 28. (W. Kelly) Willard MacDonald, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Peter Budlong 2.15½ to 2.14½ Summerside, July 7, (C. Schuman) P.L. Bowness, Summerside, P.E.I.

Sir Admiral 2.11½ to 2.10. Bridgewater, Sept. 6. (J. O'Brien)



Watchin, 2.07, Billy Hood up, leading in the Free-for-All Trot at Exhibition Races. Watchim holds the Maritime stallion trotting record of 2.07 and also the Bridgewater, N.S., Amherst, N.S., Inverness, C.B., track trotting records. He is owned by Frank Adams, Halifax, N.S.

Pictou Foundries, Ltd., Pictou, N.S.

Josedale Hoosier 2.07¼ to 2.07. New Glasgow, July 14. (B Hood) C. & S. Walker, Halifax, N.S.

Mitzi Bars 2.18½ to 2.14. Charlottetown, Aug. 12. (B. Poley) MacPherson & Mathieu, Campbellton N.B.

Marguerite Rose 2.23½ to 2.16 Charlottetown, Aug. 13. (J. Conroy) Fred Lahey, Dartmouth, N.S.

Jollity 2.08 to 2.05¼. Bridgewater Sept. 6. (J. Conroy) owned by Moriarty & Lahey, Dartmouth, N.S

Rip Abbe 2.15½ to 2.14. St. Stephen, Aug. 19. (B. Poley) owned by Ollie Nason, Monticello, Maine.

Lady Hal 2.12¼ to 2.11¼. Bridgewater, Sept. 29. (L. O'Mera) owned by Wellington McNeill, Southport, P.E.I.

Harry Direct 2.08 to 2.07¼. Chatham, Sept. 6. (B. Ryan) owned by Robert Ryan, Houlton Maine.

Jolly Harvester 2.19 to 2.14¾. Chatham, Sept. 6. (H Harrison) owned by Mac O'Brien, South Nelson N.B.

The Following Horses Took Records of 2.30 Or Better Trotting or 2.25 or Better Pacing On Maritime Tracks in 1943 (They Had No Records Previous to 1943)

(Trotters)

Christie Budlong — 2.21½ Charlottetown, Aug. 13. (J. Arbing) owned by James Shaw, Cardigan, P.E.I.

Mickey Volo — 2.15¼ — Charlottetown, Sept. 23. (T Semple) owned by Arthur Jay, Borden, P.E.I.

(Pacers)

Calumet Mary — 2.13½ — Amherst, Aug. 18. (H. Harrison) owned by Sproul & Traer, Chatham, N.B.

Miss Claire Budlong—2.23—North Sydney, July 1. (M. Jabblee) owned by J. McKillop, North Sydney, N.S.

Grace Abbe — 2.12½ — Bridgewater, Sept. 29. (M. Jabblee) owned by Angelo Passerina, North Sydney, N.S.

Lady Rose — 2.15¾ — Montague, Sept. 6. (R. MacLaine) owned by Wilfred Praught, Cherry Valley, P.E.I.

Lela Budlong — 2.26½ — Charlottetown, Aug. 11. (G. McIntyre) owned by Yeo & MacEachern, Montague, P.E.I.

Scotty McKane—2.17¼ — Charlottetown, Sept. 23. (I. Moreside) owned by Milton Bell, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Alta K.—2.21 — Charlottetown, Aug. 12. (F. Kennedy), owned by Miss A. Kennedy, Truro, N.S.

Royal Jim—2.15¾ — Charlottetown Aug. 12. (L. Kelly) owned by George Hughes, Brackley, P.E.I.

Manchester's Alberta — 2.15 — North Sydney, Sept. 8. (H. Hastings) owned by T.F. McKinley, Sydney, N.S.

Belle of Brooklyn —2.15 — New Glasgow, Aug. 28. (B. Morrison) owned by W.G. Stewart, New Glasgow, N.S.

O.U. Volo—2.13 — Bridgewater, Sept. 6. (R. Beales) owned by R. Beales, Middleton, N.S.

Marjorie Budlong — 2.15½ — Montague, Sept. 6. (T. Weir) owned by L.A. Rankin, Mt. Herbert, P.E.I.

Nancy Budlong — 2.17 — Montague, Sept. 6. (E. Semple) owned by Leo Praught, Cherry Valley, P.E.I.

Billy Bishop — 2.18 — Montague, Sept. 6. (Dr. H. McIntyre) owned by Dr. H. McIntyre, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Royal Rhythm—2.17 — Chatham, Sept. 6. (R. Ryan) owned by Robert Ryan, Houlton, Maine.

Bob Long—2.21¾—North Sydney, Sept. 8. (W. Vickers) owned by R. V. Vickers, Sydney, N.S

June Grattan 2nd—2.20 —North Sydney, Oct. 11. (Hunt) owned by F. Collins & H. Hunt, North Sydney, N.S.

(Record Against Time)

Carnation Lady p. — 2.15½ — Charlottetown, Sept. 22 (H Haley) owned by H. Haley, Milltown, N.B.

Following Are The Maritime Track Records Trotting and Pacing

NEW BRUNSWICK

FREDERICTON — Pacing — 2.02-½—Walter Dale 2.00¾, Sept. 15, 1937, (H Clukey)

Trotting — 2.07 — Peter Pokey 2.06½, Sept. 13, 1934, (H. Clukey)

Secretary, D.W. Griffiths.

WOODSTOCK — Pacing — 2.05 —Ray Henley 2.02¼, July 14, 1938, (E. Avery)

Trotting — 2.09 — Alloway 2.04¾, July 13, 1937, (R. Ryan)

Secretary—B. R. Brown.

ST. STEPHEN — Pacing — 2.05 —Walter Dale 2.00¾, Sept. 2, 1937, (H Clukey)

Trotting — 2.09½ — Sunnymede 2.07¼, July 15, 1943, (W. Keyes)

Secretary—F.D.J Graham.

BUCTOUCHE — Pacing — 2.09½ —Billy Bondeer 2.09½, Aug. 4, 1939 (Clarke)

muck 2.08½, Sept. 2, 1942 (W. Kelly)

Secretary—John A. MacDonald.

TRURO — Pacing — 2.03¼ — Rhea Mae 2.04½, Sept. 1, 1943 (J. O'Brien)

Trotting—2.10 — Alloway 2.04¾, Aug. 28, 1940 (R. Ryan)

Secretary—F.C. McCurdy.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

ALBERTON — Pacing — 2.09½ Direct L, 2.09½, July 5, 1939 (J. O'Brien)

Trotting — 2.09½ — Dude Potempkin 2.07½, July 5, 1939 (L. O'Brien)

Secretary—Harry O'Brien.

CHARLOTTETOWN — Pacing — 2.05½—Bud wenger 2.05¼, Aug. 20, 1936 (E. Avery)

Trotting—2.07¾, Alloway 2.04¾, Aug. 16, 1940 (R. Ryan)

Secretary—J. W. Boulter.

HAMILTON — Pacing — 2.13½ —Guy Ann 2.11½, July 5, 1938, (G. Calbeck)

Trotting — 2.12 — Lusty Frisco 2.07¼, July 6, 1938, (C Schuman)

Secretary—Roy Woodside.

MONTAGUE — Pacing — 2.07¼ —Patrick Direct 2.07¼, Aug. 8, 1934 (R. Isnor)

Trotting — 2.08¼ — Heatherbell 2.08¾, (D.A. MacKinnon)

Secretary—George McIntyre.

NORTHAM — Pacing —2.08 — Barney Hanover 2.07, July 26, 1939 (T. Semple)

Rainey G. Henley—2.06, Sept. 10, 1941, (R. Barnett)

Trotting — 2.08½ — John Dean 2.08¾, July 13, 1936 (H. Sweeney)

Secretary—Clifford McDonald.

SUMMERSIDE — Pacing — 2.07-½—Happy L. 2.03½, July 7, 1943, (E. Semple)

Trotting — 2.08—Squire Hanover 2.08 (T. Semple) and Watchim 2.07, (M. McArthur) July 15, 1942.

Secretary—Willard MacDonald.

KENSINGTON —Pacing — 2.08¼ —Jane Azoff 1.59½, July 12, 1939. (W. Kelly)

Trotting — 2.10¼ — Lusty Frico 2.07¼, July 27, 1938 (C. Schuman)

Secretary—Myron MacArthur.

Leading Reinsmen of the Maritimes

For the second year in succession Joe O'Brien of New Glasgow has topped all other drivers in the race for points, having a total of 161 to his nearest opponent, Billy Hood, of North Sydney, who has 116, Willard Kelly, Southport, is third with 91, and the following are next in order: Bob Morrison, Chester Smith, Johnny Conroy, Harney Poley, Mike Jabbiee, Tyndall Semple, H.M. Sweeney, Earle Semple, Ike Moreside, Harley Harrison, Harry Hastings, Joe Hennessey.

New Speed Brought In For 1944

As soon as the racing was over owners got busy in their quest for new and faster horses and several visited the auctions at Harrisburg, Pa., or got in touch with parties in Quebec and Ontario who had speed to sell. Here is a partial list of the newcomers that will be seen in action in 1944 and the owners of same:

Muriel Hanover, 2.08½—Harry Haley, Milltown, N.B.

Girtline, 2.08—Power Bros., Charlottetown.

Lee Brewer, 2.06¾—(that plotted the three fastest heats in Canada the past season, 2.06¾, 2.07½, 2.08-½)—Milton Bell, Charlottetown.

Judd, 2.07¼—Samuel Walker & Son, Halifax, N.S.

Wilkin 3, 2.06¼—H.M. Sweeney, Bridgewater, N.S.

Royal at Law, 2.04—H.M. Sweeney, Bridgewater, N.S.

Peerless Hanover, (trial 2.10)—H.M. Sweeney, Bridgewater, N.S.

Widow's Pride 2, 2.06—Allison Langille, St. Stephen, N.B.

The Walnut Abbe, 2.06—George MacLeod, Westville, N.S.

Mighty Hanover 3, 2.02½ William G. Stewart, New Glasgow, N.S.

Colleen Scott, 2.06½—William G. Stewart, New Glasgow, N.S.

Full Moon, 2.13¼—Dr. George Bishop, Charlottetown, P.E.I

Tipp Abbe, 2.05—Dudey Patch Club, New Glasgow, N.S.

Nitro Hal, (trial 2.10)—Gun Shop Employees, New Glasgow, N.S.

Billy C. Parker—George Kane, St. John, N.B.

Buck P.C. Grattan — George Kane, St. John, N.B.

Lone Ace, 1.59¼—John D. Mehan, St. Stephen, N.B.

Honan Crowley, 2.07—Roy Sadler, St. Stephen, N.B.

Cochato Princess 2.13—Hayman & Walker, St. Stephen, N.B.

Well Known Horsemen Pass

During the year death robbed us of several well-known horsemen, men whose names and contributions to the sport were noteworthy such as Ollie Rudderham, who passed away at Point Edward, C.B. at the early age of forty-seven.

Ollie was one of the top drivers of the Maritime Circuit for years. Many will remember his handling of Tracey Hanover, 2.03 in the 2.12 Pace at Charlottetown some years ago, when he won with him, in 2.06 from a fast field of pacers in one of the greatest finishes seen in years. This was just a sample of many other great drives Ollie made.

Possessed of a cheerful disposition he made friends wherever he went and during his severe illness which confined him to hospital for years he constantly received messages of sympathy from horsemen friends all over the Maritimes.

JOHN HAMILTON GREY MURPHY had passed his ninetieth birthday and had always enjoyed good health and a clear mind. He loved horses and owned many good ones and made a considerable contribution toward improving the breed here. Mr. Murphy had many devoted friends who were very saddned by his passing.

DR. J.M. NICHOLSON was another horseman who by the importation of well-bred stallions aided in the development of fast performers. Many will recall the best of these, Kalol, 2.19¼, a horse that but for an accident would probably have set up a new Canadian trotting record. Dr. Nicholson was an expert trainer, balancer and veterinary dentist. He was also an excellent writer on matters pertaining to harness racing and his gifted pen is greatly missed.

GORDON DAWSON had passed four score years, and through a long and busy life which included a trek to the Klondyke in 1898 kept an even disposition that made friends for him everywhere. Returning here after the gold rush he farmed and as a sideline bred trotters and pacers. Many of these took part in the futurities and made good. Hundreds of friends paid last tribute of respect to this fine old horseman.

With the above we conclude the Review of the Sport we love so well. No doubt there are many things we could have touched on at greater length and very probably some things which should have been written about that we overlooked. If so we regret it. For our part it has been a pleasure each week to write about our favorite Sport in Down the Back Stretch, and in the concluding week of the year prepare this report which, imperfect as it is, will give in retrospect the happenings of a most exciting race season.

Once again we are glad to pay tribute to the splendid publicity given our Sport by Frank Power, Halifax, son of our esteemed friend, the late James W. Power, and to Don MacLeod of North Sydney who has also written very valuable publicity in Cape Breton. We are also greatly indebted to The Canadian Sportsman, Tillsonburg, Ontario, for the large amount of space devoted to Maritime racing. This journal is becoming more and more popular through the newsy harness notes and write-ups which it contains.

Let us say once again that harness horse racing as a sport has a value which far outweighs any defects it may have. It brings us out into the open where we gather together and as we become interested in our favorite horses trotting or pacing in the various events, we naturally loose our feelings, give vent to our enthusiasm and thereby throw off the cares and worries which posses us. As we have often remarked, there is no substitute for a good afternoon's racing. It is a morale builder, a health builder and a destroyer of care and worry.

This depicts one of the most exciting heats raced over Charlottetown track and is a credit to the cameraman that snapped it. Many equally good heats have taken place over this same track but the participants did not catch the camera's eye.

And now, good friends at home and abroad, we bid you adieu and wish you one and all a Very Happy New Year.

RACING ON THE SNOW

You have been to the races and seen all the nags
That have won the big stakes and written caught the red flags;
You have heard the bell ring and seen the judge shout
To the trotters and pacers: "Hitch up and come out!"
Well, they see the word and rush off for a mile;
Are pulled up, then unhitch and blow out for a while;
Come again, score again, and so on till it's done,
And the starter announces which trotter has won.

Now that is just great as it's racing to rule,
And as straight as the lessons the boys learned at school.
Then the purses are paid and the horses cooled out,
And the people go home all delighted no doubt.
That is sport for the days when when shirt waists and straw hats
Have been swapped for thick gloves, furry collars and spats;
When the wagon and sulky, with colors so gay,
Are again on the floor with the bells and the sleigh.

If you want the real thing you must get on the snow,
Where the classes are open and all kinds can go
At most any old gait and in any old way,
Just so long as you're happy and try to be gay.
Then the pacer in straps and the trotter in boots,
Head and head, race it out between laughter and hoots
From the neck-craining crowds on the sides of the streets,
Without which winter racing would not be complete.

As you drive through the crowd you see all kinds of folk,
From the man who sells hay to the old sport who's broke;
And for the talk, well, it's horse, only horse and his speed,
With a splutter of cheers for the man in the lead.
If you want to get wise, just squeeze into the bunch,
When the star has jogged up and the boys had a hunch
That she'll turn in the rear and spread eagle the lot,
And the talk that will follow is rapid and hot.

—30—

OLD HOME WEEK AND PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION

Will surely be a part of the entertainment program and utility events of 1944 and Charlottetown will give glad welcome to visiting friends that big week. Dates will be announced early in the New Year.

Bonnie Budlong, 2.10. Winner of most races (11) on Maritime Circuits in 1943. Owned by B.C. Cruickshanks, Halifax, Driven by Chester Smith.

Jollity 2.05 1-4. Fastest Maritime pacer season 1943. Paced the two fastest heats in Canada in a race—2.05 1-2, 2.05 1-4. Owned by Moriarty & Lahey, Halifax, N.S., driven by Johnny Conroy