

FOR FARMERS, STOCK BREEDERS AND GARDENERS

Horse Memoirs

(C. E. MacKenzie)

IN THE NINETY'S
(C. E. MacKenzie)

The hearing of a name sometimes does a wonderful lot to bring back events in our earlier days. Not long ago I heard some one make a remark about the great French leader Carnot; this brought back to memory that when the writer enumerated the sons of All Right and other earlier sires that there had been omissions which were unintentional on the writer's part.

The horses "Carnot" and French All Right, the latter from a Flying Frenchman mother, both sons of All Right, were in the line light in the earlier days of our trotting horses as were McCaus Kingbird and his son "Night-gale Nat", MacNutt's Messenger, "Harry Vulcan" a son of Vulcan thoroughbred. Graduate, a son of Principal, owned by the Woodside Stables; Banker, a son of Westlawn, owned by H. A. Darby, Wellington; Jay Bee, a son of Administrator and last but by no means least, "Beau Prince," owned by Emile Arsenault, Wellington, and later by Mr. George Reddin, Charlottetown. This horse was a son of Hernando and made the mile in 2.28.

Black Prince was another good son of All Right owned by H. E. Dawson, Tryon. All these horses sired good road horses, many of which figured in many of the meets on Provincial tracks as a study of summaries will attest.

In speaking of Island race tracks from a list which I have on my desk I find that this Province has or has had at some time almost two dozen race tracks; the larger number of which has fallen into decay. In the early nineties we had beginning at the western part of our Province: Casey Glen at Tigress; one at Alberton; one at Roseville; one at O'Leary; Lareside at Wellington, Summerside; New Annan; Kensington; Tunnel Track, Cape Traverse; Tryon; Central Park, Hope River; Cymra; Rustico, (near St. Augustine); Upton, Charlottetown; Riverside (Veron River); Prairie; (Avondale); Garfield, (Belfast); Summersville; Montague; Georgetown; Marie; St. Peter's; New Zealand and Souris, and last, Northam, built in 1893; all these tracks have been the scene of interesting races where our local speedsters made interesting sport for race fans. Of this list some have been abandoned with changing times and conditions and last season we only had meets at Northam, Summerside, New Annan, Upton, Charlottetown, Montague, Summersville, Georgetown and St. Peter's, while in the years from 1895 to 1900 we had meets in almost all the above mentioned where there were no doubt many exciting finishes.

I notice from a perusal of old time summaries that colt races were in vogue during this active period of horse racing and while some of these colts may have been

over-worked there was no doubt much speed developed, as these summaries show. For instance at Lakeside Park, Wellington, on September 12th, 1895, two meets were run off; one took seven heats and the other five to decide winners. In the two fifty class with six entries, Banker, chestnut stallion by Westlawn, owned by H. A. Darby, finished 4 3 2 1 0 1 1. Beau Prince, bay stallion by Hernando, made the score of 3 1 1 2 0 3 2 fifth heat being a tie between Beau and Banker. French All Right by All Right scored 1 2 3 3 5 2 3. Little Joker a son of Harry Messenger being fourth; Barney D. by All Right fifth and Island Messenger sixth. The above three stallions were seemingly well matched and it must have been an interesting race indeed, they all being local horses, each having backers among the fans; one would imagine that feelings would be running high. One feature demonstrated the endurance shown by these horses; still another tribute to our foundation females.

In the green race at this same meeting there were eight entries, namely, Tommy C. by Island Chief entered by E. Hillman, Margate; Well Ahead by Administrator, entered by C. Craswell, St. Eleonors; Milton Swift by Milton Hero, entered by John Connick, Norboro; Nettie B. entered by D. S. Boats, Bloomfield; Black Prince by All Right, entered by H. E. Dawson; Argu time Cove; Emore by Col. Lee, entered by J. R. Currie, Port Hill; Lunkhead by French All Right entered by J. A. Brennan, Tignish, and Odd Fellow by Island Chief, owned and driven by J. A. Mork, Margate. The five heats were tried in about 3.00 Milton Swift winning the first; Well Ahead the second and Tommy C. the next three. This taken at random from the summaries will serve to show the interest taken in horse racing 37 years ago. Another item of interest to our present day racing fans is the fact that at the above meet Milton Swift's sire, Milton Hero, was a son of imported Gladstone (Glyde) while at Cymra the same year another grandson of this same horse, Grey Bay by Silver King, won the three minute event, while at O'Leary the following year, Lady Paul, a daughter of Challenger (Suffolk Punch) was placed fifth in the green race.

Still another instance along the same line would be the horse George Lee 2 23 1-2 by All Right, whose dam was a mare by Prince Edward, a son of Old Glyde. The above instances go to prove that our Clydesdales of over half a century ago were much lighter and more trappy than the present day Clydesdales.

While I am here I may say that in the good sons of Gladstone I filled to mention the Basst horse. This horse when used on light mares produced real road horses and if I mistake not, the horse Tommy Stewart that made a mark

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of 2.35 was a son of Basstis Gladstone. I have before me a list of all provincial records of 2.45 and better which contains ninety one from 2.11 3-4 to 2.30 and two hundred and six from 2.30 to 2.45. The following are a list under their sires each of which were either owned or bred on Prince Edward Island. All Right is credited with twenty-eight sons and daughters with records from 2.23 1-2 to 2.45 while his son Black Pilot 2.30 1-4 sired nine with records from 2.21 to 2.39-1-2. Dean Swift and his sons, Island Chief, Sir John Dean, Rileys Dean and Gay Boy sired thirteen with records from 2.24 1-4 to 2.45. Abdallah Messenger sired five with records from 2.25 1-4 to 2.44. Hernando had six with marks from 2.22 to 2.40 while five colts sired by Harry Morgan made marks from 2.30 to 2.45; Preceptor four; Administrator 2; Messenger Boy, two and Kimble Morgan, two; in all P. E. Island sires had almost one hundred representatives in this 2.45 list; besides we would get our share of untraced horses which were marked that year. Regarding numbers 1895 was a good year for P. E. Island horses. Speaking of the horse Salando 2.22, son of Hernando, he made the above record at Lewiston, Maine, winning the 2.27 trick purse four hundred dollars, taking the second, third and fourth heats in 2.23 1-2, 2.23 1-4, and 2.22. This horse was at one time owned by James Macdonald, V. S. of Summerside, his original name being Lalande but in some way the initial letter got changed to S., while owned in Summerside he was very unsteady and in his own race there he got beyond control of his driver and refused to participate in the race preferring the stable. Salando when he made his mark of 2.22 was eight years old and is thus described by The Turf Farm and Home: A son of Hernando out of a mare by the noted Saladan thoroughbred Salando was sixteen hands high and weighed 1125 pounds. He started in eleven races that year and won eight first monies, two seconds and one third. He was not only a trotter but a first class gentleman's driver, sound and safe for a lady to drive and at that time was owned by J. J. MacMann of Milton, Maine. Another maritime bred horse that made good in 1895 was Pilot Jr. or as he was afterward named, Special Blend. He was sired by Black Pilot son of All Right and got his mark of 2.18 1-4 also at Lewiston, Maine, by defeating the bay stallion Haley by Nelson and the chestnut mare Halle by Hamburger in straight heats in 2.19 1-4, 2.19 1-4 and 2.18 1-4; his owner at that time was E. LeRoi Willis, St. John, who drove him to victory in this race. What would be more interesting to Island fans would be the following letter from J. K. Steiner, Registrar, Chicago, under date of September 3rd, 1895: "Mr. Willis has made a selection of name for his stallion formerly called Pilot Jr. and I have registered him as Special Blend. This has enabled me to complete the registration of Black Pilot, which I have done, giving him the number 27674. I enclose certificate of Black Pilot. Under the then standard rule, Black Pilot being sired by a standard sire and having a record of 2.35 or better and that had sired one animal having a mark of 2.30 or better; this was rule four in the standard rules as existing in 1895. Now possibly the above may be useful when tracing out for standard registration as I understand a breeder is still able to grade up to standard. Having access to racing activities from 1895 to 1904 I can promise fans interesting reading so watch out for Saturday's Guardian."

Several generations develop during a season and given optimum conditions increase is very rapid. The insect is carried over in the corms in storage in the adult stage under normal conditions and breeding may continue while the corms are in storage especially if they are stored in a relatively high temperature. Since adults live over the winter on the corms it is very important that all forms of the insect be destroyed before the corms are planted, otherwise live adult thrips will be placed in the flower garden along with the corms. Since gladiolus thrips are very abundant and widespread in Manitoba, and since the cost of killing them on corms in storage is very small, we advise treating all corms at least four weeks before they are to be planted. One of the cheapest and simplest methods of treatment is to use naphthalene flakes. One ounce of naphthalene flakes is sufficient for 100 corms. Place the corms in a paper bag or in a fairly tight box and scatter the required amount of flakes over them. The fumigation to continue for two or three weeks at a temperature of not less than 60 degrees F. At the end of this time the excess naphthalene fumes should be removed and the corms thoroughly aired. Fumigation must not take place in a very tight container as the collection of moisture within the container will probably cause sprouting, which should be avoided. Care should be taken to treat all gladiolus bulbs at one time as after treatment they may become infested again if brought in contact with infested stock. Ductan says that at Ottawa control on growing plants in the garden was secured by spraying the plants with a mixture of Paris green 2 tablespoonsful, brown sugar 2 pounds and water 3 gallons. Spraying should be commenced as soon as the first thrips are to be seen. Spray inside the leaves. Spray every other day for a week, and repeat the series whenever necessary. The spray should also be applied as the mist and the plants should not drip after the application. The plants may be sprayed with tap water from time to time to remove the spray. Apply the spray with good pressure. Store corms over winter at a temperature of not higher than 40 degrees F. Treat the corms before planting. Plant corms as far away as possible from last year's gladiolus bed. Give plants plenty of water during the growing season. Fertilize to stimulate growth. Keep the flower crop cut. Apply the poisoned spray if necessary.

Minard's Liniment for Rheumatism.

NEWSY NOTES

BY AGROCOLO

THE "NESTING BOX" CONTEST

It will be in order to repeat the rules for this contest, as some of my young readers may have missed the opening statement; and, besides, there is now to hand a list of the books given as prizes.

Each contestant must put out at least three bird-boxes, but is not limited to that number. When a box is occupied this must be certified to by the school-teacher, and the certificate is to be retained by the contestant till the close of the competition, due notice of which will appear in The Guardian. Thereafter the contestant will take any notes relating to the occupant of the bird-box, which may be of general interest; and these notes together with the certificate will form the basis for judging the competitors.

There will be five prizes. For the three papers which stand at the head of the list, there are three copies of Dr. P. A. Taverner's "Birds of Eastern Canada," neatly bound in cloth. They are well illustrated in colors, and as they are out of print and I myself haven't a copy, I really envy those lucky folk to whom these will go. The fourth in the list will obtain a volume containing "Treasure Island" and "Kidnapped" by R. L. Stevenson, two splendid tales of adventure; while the fifth (and last) prize winner will have "Lewis Carroll's" complete works, comprising "Alice in Wonderland," "Through the Looking Glass" and "Other comic pieces."

We are indebted to Robie W. Tutts, Esq., Chief Magistrate Bird Officer for the Maritimes, for the copies of "Birds of Eastern Canada," and to A. J. W. Myers, Esq., Ph. D., Hartford, Connecticut, a distinguished Islander abroad, for the last two prizes. It is no easy task that the contestants will take up. Birds seem to have their likes and dislikes; in one situation a nest may be destroyed time after time, and the birds will immediately set to work to build it anew. In another case the situation may seem ideal, but do what you will, the birds won't come near it. To understand something of the bird's mentality contestants are advised to study Dr. Taverner's Bulletin on "Bird Houses," which may be had (gratis) from the Department of the Interior, Ottawa.

WHAT SPARROW WAS THIS?

Enquirer, Hunter River, says: "Dear Agrocology, yesterday, while walking with a friend, we noticed a bird in the middle of the road. We thought it an English sparrow, and took no immediate notice of it until it rose. It was about the same general color as the English sparrow on most of its body, and about the same size, but more graceful and slender. What we noticed especially was its small well-shaped head which was distinctly striped black and white. Its cry was a sweet piercing whistle, very sweet and loud, and this it was that arrested our attention. Please name it, if possible, through your interesting column."

Two of our sparrows have black-and-white striped heads, and had Enquirer mentioned a white patch on the throat as well, then we might have been certain that it was the white-throated Sparrow, which is a handsome bird, with a high-pitched, very clear and sweet whistle," says Chester Read. He further states that this species is "a bird of the ground, a ways busy and always happy."

The other, the White-crowned Sparrow, has a white crown, bordered by a black strip on each side, and while it to a great extent resembles the previous species, it has no white throat-patch. It is slightly larger than the last. My correspondent who evidently takes an interest in our feathered allies, may notice the following species which are not yet uncommon in the Island. The Vesper Sparrow, with chestnut shoulders and white outer tail feathers, which flash in flight like those of the Junco. The Tree Sparrow, with reddish-brown crown (but no black about the forehead) and a single blackish brown spot in the middle of the breast. The Chipping Sparrow, with his chestnut cap, black on the forehead, and a black line through the eye; a most trustful bird. The Song Sparrow, with two or three dark spots central on the breast, and several radiating lines of smaller spots on each side;

a strong and musical singer. One was hopping about my garden this morning.

Enquirer asks for a description of the Starling. It is a bird of the same size as the Kingbird, and while its plumage differs at different ages, we will commonly recognize it by a metallic green and purple lustre something like that of the Grackle, but spotted above and below with buff or white. It is smaller than the Grackle, and the bill is light-colored, (yellow to white) the last an important distinction.

"CAGE BIRDS"

A press article tells of a foreigner in London, Eng., remarking upon the number of pet animals kept in the great city; how every family seemed to have either a dog or a cat. And he was further astonished to learn that hospitals had been established for them when sick, rest homes for them when convalescent or aged, and cemeteries for them when they paid the inevitable debt of nature. Truly, he concluded, these people are fond of animals!

A neighbor, who has just returned from the Old Country, tells me that the most remarkable development in this line is the keeping of cage birds, which far outnumber all the pets. There is a special weekly magazine devoted to the interests of canaries, and British and foreign pet birds. Page after page is filled with notices of local Societies and Shows; one would imagine a society in every village from John-a-Groat's to Land's End! Canaries take first place more for their song than for their plumage, which by the way now seems to include cinnamon color on the one hand, and green on the other—and there is even some talk of a black canary! The parrot tribe come a good second, I imagine, particularly the small kind called Budgerigars; and these are selected for their ability to "talk" and for their funny antics. A bird called the shama (which is new to me) seems to be third favorite.

The living quarters of these pets range from the humble "singlet" cage to the elaborate outdoor aviary the size of a small house; the latter being found in private gardens and public parks. Many of the birds in private hands are allowed a great amount of freedom; the door of the cage is left open and the little inmate roams the room till night calls it "home." Near Stockport a beautiful yellow and blue Meaw (parrot) may sometimes be seen sporting itself on the top of a signpost at some cross-road. It is well-known, so that the owner wasn't astonished when he got a telephone message: "That parrot of yours is perched on top of Stockport Town Hall. What are you going to do about it?" He did nothing and "Molly" was back home within a quarter of an hour. Molly's cruising radius is about eight miles.

Alongside all this activity in bird-culture, a very considerable industry has sprung up. There are about a dozen large wholesale firms who import and blend the "bird-seeds" which form the staple food of the hardbills. Cargoes of dried flies, brought from South America, where they are prepared by the natives; and ants eggs (cocoon really) from other parts of the world, give the necessary protein. There is also a great trade in cages, appliances and wire net.

Besides private breeders, there are many dealers who advertise a most extensive range of foreign and British birds. A pair of Canadian geese may be had for \$18, at the present rate of exchange. A pair of black swans \$50; and a pair of adult (aying) emus about \$350. A talking parakeet (sings "It ain't gonna rain no more;" the parrots are Americanized!) will cost you \$25, which is about the average price. A Macaw, like "Molly," is dearer; \$80. The budgerigars previously mentioned are more within reach; they come in greens (\$3 per pair) Yellows, Blues, Cobalts, Mauves to whites (\$15 per pair). Canadian Eagle (Horned) Owls are worth \$20 each.

British birds are of course very cheap. A lark, one of the finest of the native songsters, costs 25 cts, or three for 60 cts. Equally cheap are the gold finches, linnets, and bullfinches. As a side line, many of the big dealers list pet monkeys. One list comprises fifteen species, from pet Chatter Monkeys, the cheapest at \$6.50, to Dogface Baboons at \$30.

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The latter, I imagine, won't have a big sale as yet!

THE END OF THE BIRD HOUSES

A correspondent tells of a conversation with a school-boy who happened to be travelling on the same train as he was. After some preliminary talk my friend asked: "Did you ever make any bird houses?" "Oh, yes," said the boy, "we had a lot of them at our School Fair." "Do you ever put them up?" "Oh no!" was the reply. "Where are they now?" was the next question. "Oh, just kicking around!" My friend's letter goes on: "It seems to me that your contest will help to carry on the idea to a better end than just stopping with the building of the house. It has always seemed to me a lame and impotent conclusion to stop there. I hope the teachers and inspectors will give you some encouragement in your very worthy endeavors, which are at the same time practical and cultural."

Early Vegetables From Bermuda

(Special to the Guardian)
HALIFAX, N. S., April 20.—The Bermuda celery crop now being shipped to Canada is stated by the Bermuda Department of Agriculture to be the best quality and best

packed celery ever exported to the Dominion, according to officials of the Canadian National steamships. The celery is now appearing in the Halifax and Saint John markets and further shipments are due on forthcoming arrivals of Canadian National ships. New Bermuda tomatoes are expected to be put on the Canadian market about May 18th. The tomato crop of Nevis, Montserrat, St. Lucia, Barbados and St. Vincent is over for the season. The quality of the tomatoes from these islands of the Eastern group of the British West Indies has been much superior to any received for some years

North America Lodge To Meet In Halifax

(Canadian Press)
TRURO, N. S., April 20.—Invitation to the most worshipful lodge of North America to hold its next annual session in Halifax was extended today by the Grand Lodge of Orangemen of Nova Scotia, in annual meeting here. The only occasion on which the National Grand Lodge met in Nova Scotia was in 1895, when the session was held in Halifax.

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GARDENING
(Continued From Page 8)

They are black with an apparent cream colored band at the bases of the wings. There are four stages in the life history of the insect, namely, egg, larva, pupa and