



# DOWN THE BACK STRETCH

The biggest surprise that has hit the harness racing world in years struck at DuQuoin, Illinois, last Wednesday afternoon. It was the occasion of the Hambletonian race for a purse of more than \$106,000, raced on the DuQuoin mile track.

The Hambletonian Stake for three-year-old trotters was organized by prominent horsemen in the U.S. and the first meeting was held in 1926. It was won by Guy McKinney, driven by Nat Ray, a Canadian, in the time 2:04.3. The purse was \$73,451. In 1947, Hoot Mon, driven by Sep Palin, set up a Hambletonian record of 2:00. In 1955, Scott Frost, driven by Joe O'Brien, threatened the mark by winning in 2:00 2-5, and last year Hickory Smoke, driven by Johnny Simpson, won in 2:00 1-5—only a fifth of a second off the meet record.

Now to get back to the race, the favorite was Emily's Pride, that had been prepared under the supervision of one of the greatest trainers in the world—Fred Egan, and had shown that she was ready to take a very fast record. She did just that by winning the opening heat in 2:00 1-5—the fastest time on record for a filly.

There were 14 starters, and the one that was given the least attention was Little Rocky, sired by Star's Pride 1:57, dam Highland Lassie, that in his racing season as a two-year-old in 1957 had started five times and won one third place and sixty dollars! He had been carried along in the Camp Stable by head trainer Joe O'Brien, and no doubt Joe had more confidence in him than anyone else, or he would not have paid the final entry fee for this rich stake. But Joe certainly must have gotten as great a surprise as the more than 20,000 spectators, when he pulled Little Rocky out from 14th place at the half, and from eighth place at the three-quarter pole and went on to win the second heat in 2:02—a performance which gave his owners, the S.A. Camp Farm, the sum of \$26,146.22.

The third and final heat of the race was won by Emily's Pride (Nipe) in 1:59 4-5—a new record for the stake. Her winnings were \$62,750. Mr. Saunders, that fin-

ished third, won \$10,456, and Sandalwood, that was fourth won \$5,229.24.

While the eyes of the leading horse lovers of America have been on the Hambletonian, we have been enjoying some excellent racing in the Maritime Provinces, and we would like to say a few words about our local programs, which are the handiwork of race classifier E. Krank Acorn. To him must be given great credit for the good racing programs and Old Home Week's success.

Last Tuesday night, rain cut short a most interesting evening's entertainment, and among the good finishes we would like to single out the C Pace, which was the second dash on the card, won by Donald Clegg driven by George Callbeck. Donald Clegg like an entirely different horse with George handling the ribbons; he seemed very comfortable with a mile in 2:13. We would also like to say a word about Feather Duster, now in her 14th year, that won the B Trot from a real nice field of trotters in 2:14, with the very classy Miss Tom Scott (Wisener) second.

Perhaps the biggest surprise of the night was the performance of Here Am I, owned by Dr. Preston MacIntyre of Montague and driven by youthful J. Bernhard, that headed four good pacers to the wire in 2:11—A new record. His sire is Hero Mine and his dam is that good race mare of years ago, Eva Worthy. We look to see him in the 2:10 list before the season is over; he is five years old.

**NEW RECORD**  
The \$2,000 Alexander Memorial Pace, which was raced at Saint John Exhibition track Wednesday night, brought out a large attendance and saw Walter Rosecroft set up a new track pacing record of 2:07 4-5. The former record was 2:08 made by Kahla Byrd 2:05 3-5, on October 14, 1957, driven by E. Kirkpatrick.

Second to Walter Rosecroft in this record-breaking mile was Hal's Mam, owned by the Valley Stables, East Florenceville, N.B., driven by Clayton Killam, with Hal's Mae (R. Devlin) third. Walter Rosecroft also won the

other dash in this event, with Kahla Byrd (E. Kirkpatrick) 2, Abbeland (R. Barnett) 3, Hal's Mae (Devlin) 4, time 2:11 2-5.

Walter Rosecroft is eight years old, and he took a record of 2:07 1-5 as a four-year-old. During his racing career, up to the end of 1957, he had won \$10,723, and this year under the management of Roy Creamer, he has been racing remarkably well, and at Moncton, previously had lowered his mark to 2:06 1-5.

At Foxboro, Mass., raceway last Tuesday night, Betsy Boy, driven by Danny Steele, was third in the Class "C" Trot, time 2:17 1-5. On the same program, in the "C" Pace, Janelle, owned and driven by Harvey Spence of Bridgewater, N.S. was the winner in 2:15; the purse was \$700. Harvey followed up that victory by winning the 10th event on the program with Shadydale Melody in 2:14 3-5. The track was very heavy, which accounts for the slow times.

**DOUBLE WINNER**  
At Sackville Downs last Wednesday night Waycham, owned by Gordon Craikshank and driven by D. Walsh, was a double winner in races 3 and 7. Vera Signal (C. Smith) 2-6, Royal Onyx (J. MacGregor) 3-2, Lela Clegg (L. Austin) 3-3, times 2:17 4-5 and 2:18 3-5.

In races 2 and 6, Chrisdale (J. MacGregor) was 1-3; Billy Elgin (S. Daniels) 2-1, Crystal Maid (G. MANGER) 5-2, times 2:17 3-5 and 2:13 4-5; Chrisdale by Scotian Stables, Halifax, and Billy Elgin by Frank Daniles,

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**Truro.**  
Race 1—Dusty Velvet (K. Kaye) 1, Beware (MacGregor) 2, Avalon Gal (R. Loye) 3, time 2:18 1-5; winner owned by E.K. Morton, Windsor, N.S. Race 4, Bold Dean (Walker) 1, Pennsylvania (J. Balloch) 2, Royal Budlong (H. York) 3, time 2:17 1-5; winner owned by L and G. Stables, Halifax. Race 5, Congressional Boy (Langille) 1, Betty French (S. Daniels) 2, Don Truax (G. Gaudet) 3, time 2:16 3-5, winner owner Mrs. A. Langille, Union Mills, N.B. Race 8, Gay

will eventually go on to be top race horses in the future. Secretary W.G. Gillespie has gone to a great deal of trouble in keeping these Colt Stakes a will be a large turnout to witness them.

**BIG SURPRISE**  
The biggest surprise that has occurred on a Maritime track in a long, long time was the winning of the Feature Free-For-All

Three (D. Walsh) 1, Ginger Will (C. Smith) 2, Bobby Hunter (O. Phillips) 3, time 2:16 4-5, winner owned by L. Barribeau, Lakeburn, N.B.

Don't forget the Colt Stakes, which will be raced Monday night September 1 at the Charlottetown track, where you will see in action two, three and four-year-old trotters, and two and three-year-old pacers that have been prepared by owners and times for these events, and some of them

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Class 7—Tractor, Women and Girls  
Class 8—Tractor, 2 Sod  
Class 9—Tractor, 3 Sod

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