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Back Stretch

Continued from page 6

the Almahurst Free For All Pace in 1:57 4-5. The old record was 1:58 set by Directum I, driven by R. Snedker at Columbus, Ohio, in 1914 and by Billy Direct, driven by Vic Flemming at Lexington in 1937, and King's Counsel, driven by H. V. Fitzpatrick, at Lexington in 1946.

Faster miles have been paced against time such as Billy Direct's world record of 1:55, but this is a new record. The little side-wheeler, owned by William H. Cane, principal proprietor of Yonkers Raceway, was second until half way through the homestretch when he raced past the sensational Dudley Hanover with the result lowered to 1:56 4-5. He was driven by Frank Ervine, who broke him, trained and has raced him since he was a two-year-old. Good Time came back to win the second dash in 2:00 3-5. The final heat Dudley Hanover raced outside him the last half and finished at his saddle pad in 57 3-5 seconds!

Sampson Hanover, that has gone through the season unbeaten, paced a mile against time in 1:56 4-5, the fastest since 1938 when Billy Direct lowered the world's record in a mile against time in 1:55 and Her Ladyship paced against time in 1:56 3-5. The only other pacer ever to go faster was the fabulous Dan Patch, who went in 1:55 1/4 back in 1905.

Dan Patch actually paced a mile in 1:55 behind a windshield but Wallace's Monthly and its staff refused to recognize the mile because of the windshield being used. It may be mentioned that Sampson Hanover was converted from the trot to the pace last season but did not start in a race until this year. Three weeks ago at Delaware, Ohio, he paced in 1:59 3-5 to become the world's champion harness horse over a half mile track. With 18 victories he must be one of the leaders in that regard in the U.S.A. or Canada. Shortly after he was foaled he was stricken with an impaction in his throat which affected his breathing and for a time had a tube inserted in his esophagus. From a colt invalid to the most talked of pacer in years is certainly a success story.

Leo McNamara, owner of Two Gaits Farm, Indianapolis, Indiana, met with a great misfortune recently in the death of his super-stallion Chief Abbedale p. 200. This horse died of colic despite the efforts of the best veterinarians. He was a horse of magnificent appearance and a wonderful sire. At the close of last year he was credited with 114 pacers including Cheby Chief 2:04, owned by Wal Hennessey of this city. Another Chief Abbedale that raced here successfully was Joan Chief 2:12 2-5, owned by Harry Hirsch of Sydney, also Hedgewood Chief 2:04 1/2, owned by Heber Sweeney, Bridgewater. All three were winners here on Saturday night, July 14th, in an 1-1 in the 2nd and 5th dashes, time 2:12 2-5.

Despite their conversion to Bolshevism the Chinese have taken up harness horse racing, have built three tracks and have trained their Mongolian ponies to trot. They also have tracks where the runners perform. So far they have not adopted the pacing gait.

Ideal race weather and good racing resulted in three horses taking new records at Woodstock, N. B. last Friday night. There was a spill in the third race when Delilah B. and Chris McElwyn went down but injuries were slight and they started again in the sixth race. Race No. 1 was won by June Symbul with Bonnie H. 2 and Cail Budlong 3, time 2:17 3/5—a new record. The winning owner is H. L. Hayes, Saint John. The 2nd race was won by Impatient Lady, Dianna Dale 2, Black Dale 3, time 2:16 3/5—a new record for Impatient Lady, owned by Leslie Collier, Forest Station, Me. Races 3 and 6 were won by the three-year-old Mr. McGee, Little Don Worthly 2-8, P. E. I. Budlong 3-2, time 2:15 3/5—a new record. Mr. McGee is owned and was driven by J. H. DeWitt, Woodstock. Race No. 4 was won by Royal Jr. owned by Mrs. Al Lanelle, Union Mills, N. B. Our Scott 2, Brighton 3, time 2:15 2/5. Races 5 and 8 were won by Donald G. R. Direct Hanover 2-2, Morris Direct 3-4, Sudden Mary 4-3, best time 2:11 3/5. The winning owner is Weldon Flemming, Juniper, N.B.

Bernard Kearney, General Manager of Western Harness Racing Association, Los Angeles, Cal., has very kindly remembered us with complimentary tickets for the 6th Annual Western Harness Racing Association meeting which opened at Hollywood Park Oct. 13th. Everything has been done to make this the greatest of all California race meetings and it will be held in the most beautiful racing surroundings in the world. Every facility will be afforded racegoers to see the racing in a most comfortable manner with all the other necessary adjuncts such as dining rooms, rest rooms, rest rooms, etc. For anyone who wishes to see a holiday trip to the races in California will meet all expectations. Racing will continue until December 1st with the \$5,000 Pomona Pace Oct. 27th, the \$7,500 Western Pace Nov. 3rd, the \$10,000 Los Angeles Trot Nov. 10th, the \$7,500 Western Trot Nov. 12th, the \$10,000 San Diego Pace Nov. 17th, the \$25,000 Golden West Trot Nov. 4th and the \$25,000 Golden West Pace Dec. 1st.

Early Dawn came close to being a 2:05 pacer over a half-mile track when she won at Yonkers Raceway, N. Y. Tuesday night in 2:05 3/5. She is by Flaydale 2:04 1/2 and her dam is Duke Pottemkin 2:07 1/2 and she was bred by Lester Johnson, Fortune, P. E. I.

The benefit races for the Islanders hockey team Wednesday afternoon showed some good performances particularly that of Neil Budlong, winner of the 2nd and 7th races in 2:16 2/5 and 2:12 3/5, the latter being the fastest heat of the afternoon. In late July a party from New Brunswick spoke about this horse to the writer and we predicted then that he would take a record close to 2:12 as he had a barrel of speed and seemed good mannered. We are glad for the sake of driver Ike Moreside and owner Fred Taylor of Bradalbane that he has raced so well. Another surprise was the winning of the first race by the trotter Silver Chilcoat in 2:16 1/5. His last season's record was 2:20 1/5 and credit is due Claude Egan for giving him such a good driver. He is owned by Frank Roy, Brackley. Congratulations also to driver O'Meara for winning the second race with Babe Britton in 2:13 3/5 for owner George Thompson, and to Lorne Letcher for a win with Miss Donna Mae in the 6th race in 2:15 2/5. Other winners were Milldale, owned and driven by Willard Kelly, winner of the 5th race in 2:17 2/5, Jose-dale Clipper, winner of the 4th race in 2:17, owned by Bevan & Barbour and driven by James McGregor, and Silk Hal, winner of the 8th race. He is owned by Roy Bevan and was driven by Dave Wisener.

Carl McKenzie, Secretary of the Truro Raceway, has been most co-operative with us, sending marked score cards of each race held there giving full particulars of drivers, times made, thus aiding us to more easily compile our Annual Review of Harness Racing. The 35th Racing Session of the season was held on Wednesday night, Oct. 3rd. Other races staged after that were rained out so the curtain has been run down and there will be no more racing in Truro until 1952. Congratulations to the management of Truro Raceway, Ltd., on having held a long season's racing, thereby giving splendid opportunities for horsemen to race for the money. Everything was well conducted and we are confident that those who raced there were well pleased with their treatment.

In the Harness Horse for October 3rd is a splendid picture of Dannie Steele sitting behind Jose-dale Frisco at Foxboro Raceway. It was Dannie's 70th birthday anniversary. Dannie, who has been driving since he was fourteen, was the winner in the circle following the second race. There as the loud speaker and fans roared the Happy Birthday To You song, the veteran Massachusetts reinsman was presented with a large birthday cake centred with a horseshoe and a

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VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT... WHERE STETSONS LED THE NEXT BRAND OVER 6 TO 1

Hunters Corner

Continued from page 6

As the night shadows retreated, incoming ducks, formless black blobs against a screen of lesser blackness, fleetingly crossed our line of vision. From all points of the compass came the distant call of a Ring-necked duck. Unless a Ring-necked duck is killed it is very hard hit, and unless it is a lost bird, from then on the action was fast and furious. I felt so good over the result of my first two shots that I tried to duplicate on a pair that came in, apparently identical in height, position and speed as the first. I knew the minute I pulled the triggers that my timing was slightly off and I missed both clean. That is what makes duck shooting the exciting game it is. If one killed with every shot the sport would soon lose its appeal.

A pair of Ring-necks, their wing-miniature trophy for the long-time resident of the Metropolitan Driving Club. Surrounding Dannie in the photo are a number of young ladies offering congratulations and presenting gifts while another lady is holding Jose-dale Frisco. Dannie was a familiar figure on Maritime tracks for many years and away back in the early part of the century he held the track record of 2:17 at Charlottetown with Ada Mac. Dannie raced many winners during his career in the Maritimes and one of the best of them was Bob Mac that we believe he won all his races with the season of 1919 and he was the fastest Maritime bred performer of that year. At Charlottetown Sept. 27th, he won the Free For All with 1-2-1. Our Colonel (MacKinnon) 4-2-1-2-Hilda S. (Conroy) 2-3-3-3, Jennie Frisco (Hood) 3-4-4-4, best time 2:13 1/4.

The following telegram was received yesterday from Col. Jim Calkin, Woodstock, N. B. — "The final race meet of the season at Island Park Raceway last evening produced close finishes and three new records. Dianna Dale reduced her record to 2:16 4/5, last half in 1:06 2/5 to win the third race and again lower it to 2:15 3/5 in the sixth. Gail Budlong took a maiden record of 2:18 2/5 to win her class. Other winners Heinie Strong and Royal Jr." Many thanks, Jim.

beats a blur in the uncertain light, swung in fairly high over the decoys. For once my timing was perfect. I opened the ball with a clean resounding smack and when the ripples subsided both dark blotches on the water remained stationary. Unless a Ring-necked duck is killed it is very hard hit, and unless it is a lost bird, from then on the action was fast and furious. I felt so good over the result of my first two shots that I tried to duplicate on a pair that came in, apparently identical in height, position and speed as the first. I knew the minute I pulled the triggers that my timing was slightly off and I missed both clean. That is what makes duck shooting the exciting game it is. If one killed with every shot the sport would soon lose its appeal.

The Kid's double was barking in tune with mine and he was contributing to his share of the bag. By 10 minutes to seven, one hour's shooting, we had our limit of 14. Ordinarily we'd have prolonged the pleasure of the shoot but time was a limiting factor. The limit was not obtained without a quota of misses. Ring-necked ducks come in fast... very fast. They have a habit of banking when coming in to decoys and then swooshing right by without stopping. By "banking" I mean they'll set their wings, turn sideways and knife in with the speed of swallows. Four big blacks that dipped in to the 'rig' resembled a freight train in comparison with a fast Express. Even Green-wing teal showed them nothing in the way of speed.

It was an exciting and snappy duck shoot. I'll always remember my opening double and a couple of singles the Kid crumpled in mid-air on tricky overhead shots. The incident that will stand out in both our memories long after the ordinary details of the shoot are forgotten happened when a massed formation of Ring-necks 150 strong, peeled off high over the

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spruces to the north and dive-bombed us in three waves.

For the space of seconds the air was filled with ducks hurtling by within a few feet of our heads. They came in with a sizzling, tearing sound like cloth being ripped asunder. We could have reached out and knocked them down with our gun barrels and neither of us fired a shot. It's such incidents that makes duck shooting the sport it is. Lets all try and preserve it for the generation that comes after us.

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