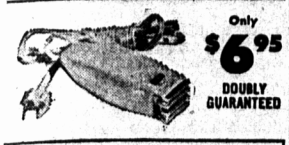


VICTORIA (CP)—Arthur Reginald Whitmore of Toronto, 67, editor of Canadian Nature magazine and national secretary of the Audubon Society of Canada, died here Thursday night from a heart attack.

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Back Stretch

Continued from page 6

Mr. Gray. He was at that time, I think, a four-year-old and had worked around 208 and the price was I believe in the neighborhood of \$8,000. Nat brought him out the following winter on the ice and I believe he won every race he started in, and the following spring raced him on the Grand Circuit where he took a record of 2.06 1/2 and showed sensational speed but met with an accident and had to be retired. Some years later I noticed where he was racing one-quarter mile straightaways on the ice in Minneapolis or St. Paul or somewhere up in there.

"Mr. Barrett had bred a few mares to him before selling him and I am assuming that these started to show because everything he sired could pace and when the Christmas Review came out one winter the writer noted an item 'would like to know the address of the owner of Grattan Royal 2.06 1/2' and it wasn't long following that we were informed through the turf press that Mr. Barrett had repurchased Grattan Royal and everyone knows what happened after that. However, after returning from the funeral I just looked up the results in the two-minute list of that horse's get.

"He sired: Louie Grattan, that got a mark of 2.00 in 1923; Grattan Bars, 1.59 1/2 in 1928; Widow Grattan, 2.00 in 1930. By the way, Vic Fleming drove the first two. His sons sired: Dominion Grattan, 1.50 in 1936, by Oro Grattan; Grat-

tan McKlyo, 1.56 1/2 in 1950, by Silent Grattan 2.09 1/2; Joseadale Alate, 1.50 in 1952, by Grattan McKinney 2.04; Dazzle Direct, 1.59 1/2 by Grattan Direct 2.04 1/2. His daughter produced: The Widower, 1.50 1/2 in 1938, his dam, Widow Grattan 2.00. His sons' daughters produced: Jimmy Creed 1.59 4/5 in 1947, from Virginia Grattan by Silent Grattan 2.09 1/2; White Mountain Boy 1.58 1/5 in 1950, from Merry Bars 2.04 1/2 by Grattan Bars 1.59 1/2. Son of daughter sired: Widower Cyrus 1.59 1/5 in 1951, by The Widower 1.59 1/2; Meadow Rice 1.58 1/5 in 1952, by The Widower 1.59 1/2.

"There was one son that went to Australia, Grattan Loyd, that sired Gold Bars 1.59 3/5 and Gold Bars in turn might very well be the sire of a 2.00 performer before the records are complete. The reason I stuck Gold Bars down before now is it is not in the records that we get from the U.S.A. At all events you will note that that horse standing up here in Canada and not having as good mares supposedly as are obtainable from our friends to the south of the border, to have twelve in the ultra select society is a record that Canada and especially Charles Barrett, if he were alive to see it, should be very proud of. Thanks very much, President Hatch.

Nat Ray's father, Charles Ray, came over from the Old Country where he was a trainer of runners and his two boys were riding the runners Nat was then of the pro-gram weight and in his first season on United States running tracks he competed mostly in Kentucky. In 1897 he came east to ride on the New York tracks and represented some of the most prominent steeplechase owners. With the jumpers he was on the topmost rung of success in 1902-3-4. Nat won the American National Steeplechase for the fourth time in 1906 at Belmont Park. When running races were barred in New York Nat's family returned to Canada and Nat rode the runners for a couple more years, then switched over to the trotting and pacing game, and had a remarkable season's success with the pacer Little Alfred 2.05 1/2.

It was in the winter of 1914 that Ernie McTague, Johnny Conroy and the writer, who were at Dufferin Park, Toronto, became acquainted with Nat and his father. Nat was very popular with everyone, was full of jokes and stories and his stable was the headquarters for meetings when the work was done. He was a real success as a driver and it was not very long before he had a good stable. His most widely known success was with the trotter Guy McKinney, that he raced through his

three-year-old form without a loss in 1926, winning the then record sum for a single season of \$68,742.

In 1925 he persuaded Walter Gandler of Coca-Cola fame to buy Taran Grattan from George Walsh. Taran was entered in the \$25,000 Kalamazoo Derby and Nat won with him. It was then one of the richest pacing stakes ever offered. Nat also trained and developed Peter the Brewer and gave him his record as a four-year-old of 2.02 1/2. That was the year that Peter the Brewer was racing against the Maritime trotting star Bill Sharen 2.04 1/2 and they were the two best trotters on the Grand Circuit. Peter the Brewer is the sire of Calumet Budlong 2.02 1/2 and many others. A real good Canadian pacing gelding that Nat developed and raced was Jimmie McKerron, that won almost \$15,000 on the Grand Circuit and took a record of 2.01 1/2. Among other stars were June 2.02 1/2, the trotter Chilcoot 2.04 1/2, Edward P. 2.04 1/2 and Knight Onward 2.04 1/2. For several years Nat has been racing a horse or two at Roosevelt or Yonkers and was training in Florida when he passed away.

The Cape Breton Turf Club, Ltd., proprietors of the Sports Centre Race Track, Sydney, N.S., have issued their 1953 race program. They will hold six daylight events and 34 nights under the lights with 200 dashes with possible extras, and estimated purses of \$45,000 or over. It will mark the fourth season of racing under the lights in Sydney and the Turf Club is confident that with the experience they have had they are equipped to go forward with the promotion of programs that will attract public favor and greater interest of horse owners in the future. As an evidence of this fact their patrons have imported into Cape Breton for the '53 season approximately 23 new horses at a cost of \$29,000.

Their ambition is to give the racing public programs that will attract the best horses racing in the Maritimes and they realize that this can only be done by progressively better purses as time goes on and revenue becomes available. A new car will be given away to some lucky person attending Coronation Day races with a chance for each dollar admission ticket. Coronation Day, June 2nd, will have six dashes, the Queen's Stake Free For All Pace with two dashes, the Coronation Stake Free For All Trot with two dashes, and other dashes. The big race week will be August 3rd to 8th with larger purses including a \$3,000 Free For All Pace and a \$1,500 Free For All Trot. A racing grand finale of the season will be on Thanksgiving Day with a Free For All Pace and a Free For All

Trot, a Junior Free For All Pace and four classified dashes.

E. Frank Acorn, Race Secretary of the Charlottetown Driving Park and Provincial Exhibition Association, has been working on the 1953 race program for some time and it should be released shortly. Judging from last year's program we can expect an even better one with plenty of opportunities for all classes of trotters and pacers to perform.

Our good friend W. G. "Bill" Gillespie, Secretary of the P.E.I. Harness Racing Club, very kindly brought us in a copy of the Orlando Sunday Sentinel Star, which had a great deal about the United States Trotting Association meeting held there and a special race which was gotten up for members, five of whom took part and which was won by Sanders Russell of Stevenson, Alabama, who is one of the top drivers of America. There was also a lot of other racing news in the paper. Bill doesn't know just who thought of him but guessed it was Willard MacDonald or Willard Kelly, who were visiting there about that time.

Hunter's Corner

Continued from page 6

Killed and a few odds and ends behind. In my mind's eye I pictured the old ring-neck crashing through branches and dodging tree trunks in the night with old "yellow eyes" right on his tail. It was a lost cause. When he broke out into the open he'd had it. The farmer told me just recently that there have been no pheasants around this grove since.

Notwithstanding old "hootie's" bad standing on my books I agree that it is a wise move to protect this particular pair of owls although I wouldn't want to see Amherst turned inside out to do it. It would be interesting to learn what they are feeding on and whether or not they'll continue to nest in the town if they are not molested.

My guess is it was good hunting that brought them to Amherst in the first instance and that their food will consist of starlings, pigeons, English sparrows, rats, if there is a dump handy, and whatever else they can pick up. I wouldn't bet too much on an old tomcat if he happened to be spotted. This would be good riddance especially if he happened to be serenading his love from atop a board fence at time of his demise.

I have been in contact with the Great Horned Owl all my life and feel that I am fairly well versed in his habits. It dates back to the days as a youth not yet in my

teens I surprised them in the grey-ing dawn robbing my traps of milk or muskrats and later catching them at the site. The last 24 years as active game officer has afforded many opportunities to watch his depredations. I have learned that, while he is equipped by Nature to hunt at night, he also hunts a lot by day. I once saw one strike down a black duck near noon on a sunny day and have seen them swoop down and pick swimming muskrats off the surface of a beaver dam on cloudless evenings an hour or more before sunset. I have known them to kill anything in fur from a mouse to a skunk and in feathers from a tom-tit to a goose. I once saw a horned owl in a cage that had had its wing broken in a scuffle with a skunk. Before the skunk died he had gotten hold of a wing and snapped the large bone off short.

Yes, I know old "hootie", dislike him and admire him at the same time. He's strong, handsome and tough, tougher than even Joe Stalin, and his hunting call, when the Hunter's Moon rides the spruce ridges, awakens a responsive chord in my breast. He's a hunter and killer deluxe and yet the woods wouldn't be the same without him. Knowing him as I do I can see no point in anyone doling him out in a little Lord Fauntleroy suit... it's not becoming to the owl nor does it go over with the outdoorsmen who know him as he is.

Advertisement for Stetson hats with text 'where East meets West' and 'the Stetson Open Road'.

Advertisement for Clover Club Dance at Charlottetown's Finest Dance Hall, every Saturday night.

Advertisement for McGowan Motors featuring Good Year Super Sure-Grip Tractor Tires.

Advertisement for Naval Recruiting Officer H. M. C. S. Queen Charlotte in Charlottetown.

Large advertisement for M. F. Schurman Co. Ltd. featuring kitchen modernization steps and building materials.

Large advertisement for Pre Easter Sale featuring men's suits, coats, and shirts.

Advertisement for Hambly & Innis at 166 Gt. Geo. St.

Advertisement for Dodge cars featuring a '3-way smoother ride' and 'road-test the '53 Dodge'.

Advertisement for Horne Motors featuring a comic strip and car sales information.