

Back Stretch

Continued from page 6

his arm and just by a sort of miracle got extricated in time or it would have been a real bad affair for him.

There is no doubt that Aubrey Rodney did not intentionally or carelessly cause the accident and he would feel very badly about it as he has had a long and excellent career with trotters and pacers. Back in 1913 he won all the top purses for trotters on the Grand Circuit with Baden 2:09 3/4 by Bingara, and that led to his sale to the Russian government that same fall for \$50,000. Of course he went into the stable of Czar Nicholas, who had a great love for race horses and had a track built near his palace. The Orloff's, Russian breed, were very good trotters and pacers and they were particularly good on ice and no doubt Rodney would have been taking part in those ice races in 1914 but for the outbreak of the war which involved all Europe.

FAST MOVING
Joe O'Brien covered a lot of territory last week, flying from Inglewood, Calif. to drive Diamond Hal in the \$75,000 pace at Yonkers Raceway Thursday night, then hiking back to California to drive Scott Frost in the \$75,000 American Trotting Classic. Scott Frost had won the first of the three dashes which make up the classic, but was defeated in the second one by Jean Laird, who won by a head in 1:59 1-5. In the final last Saturday before a crowd of 16,889 who were watching in a 94 degree temperature, Scott Frost finished first in 1:58 2-5, which was a new track trotting record for Inglewood.

The same afternoon Dottie's Pick won the American Pacing Classic in 1:57 4-5, which is a world's record for pacing mares in a race on a mile track. The world's record against time is held by her Ladyship and is 1:56 3/4, made at Lexington, Ky. in 1938, driving by Sep Palin. These big purse races not only bring together the fastest horses in the world but they also bring tremendous betting to the mutuels. On the above afternoon a total of \$1,157,263 passed through the iron men, the second highest amount in Western Harness Association history.

PASSED UP
We are reminded of this bit of poetry - Of all sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these, it might have been. That thought came to us when we picked up the Harness Horse and saw that Hal Adam had won a \$3,000 purse a few nights ago. In the spring of 1952 we made a visit to Alabama to see a trotting mare in the stable of Sanders Russell. Mr. and Mrs. Russell were very kind to us and we were given the privilege of driving several horses on his track.

One of them was a 2-year-old named Hal Adam and we carried out the instructions of Mr. Russell who was working another horse alongside of us. When we pulled up we noticed that the time was 2:20 2-5 and we made an offer for the pacer. The price asked was more than we could afford, so we did not take him. He wasn't campaigned that year but in 1953, 4 and 5 his total winnings were \$36,797.50 and he is still earning far more than it cost to race him. Lassie Lucille, the mare we brought back with us was quite as good as we could expect but certainly not in a class with Hal Adam.

Track and weather conditions were not at all ideal for racing at Sackville Downs Saturday night, but that didn't prevent it from being an excellent meeting with some battles which pleased the spectators very much. Island drivers were very much to the forefront winning four firsts, five seconds and three thirds. It was the final meet of the season there and we would like to pay a tribute to the management for the splendid track they have afforded to the racing men, the good purses and continuous racing until weather conditions at this season of the year caused a discontinuance. We predict a bigger and better season for 1957, for Sackville Downs.

Summary: Race 1, B Trot and Pace - Eleanor's Dream Boy (Ratchford) 1, Wait For Me (O'Meara) 2, Gracie Lou (L. O'Brien) 3, Just Barbara (C. Smith) 4. Time 2:21. Winning owner, Capt. John Cruikshank, Halifax. Race 2, DD Trot and Pace - Jimmie Flood (Seaman) 1, Countess Blondell (Campbell) 2, Texas Hal (Haley) 3, Helen Hoosier (L. O'Brien) 4. Time 2:22 5-8. Winning owner, B. C. Cruikshank, Halifax.
Race 3 and 7 A Trot and Pace - Peter Federal (Somers) 1-3, Pepper Boy (G. Turner) 3-1, Perfect Hal (O'Meara) 2-2, Direct Mile (Letcher) 4-5. Time 2:16 3-5, 2:15 1-5. Peter Federal is owned by Maple Stables, Summerside, Pepper Boy by George Turner Westphal.

Race 4 - Big Boy (R. Barnett) 1, Fortune's Pride (L. Kelly) 2, Watchin's Lassie (O'Meara) 3 (DE), Time 2:17 1-5. Winning owner, Don MacAnlay, Pugwash.
Race 5, BB Pace - Connally (Jones) 1, All Spice (Haley) 2, Chevie G. (Letcher) 3, Vera Signa (C. Smith) 4. Time 2:16 4-5. Winning owner, C.L. Duphinee, Halifax. Race 6, CC Trot and Pace - Royal Scott Jr. (O'Meara) 1, Hurry Up (Campbell) 2, Ginger Will (C. Smith) 3, Mr. DeWormer (L. O'Brien) 4. Time 2:21 3-5. Winning owner, George Gregory, Charlottetown.
Race 8 - Harry Worthy (Barnett) 1, David MacLean (Johnston) 2, Jimmie Flood (Seaman) 3, Tyndall Semple (Plakney) 4. Time 2:24 3-5. Winning owner, Ronald Delaney, Inverness.

Tonight the annual meeting of the Prince Edward Island Harness Racing Club will be held " upstairs " in City Hall at eight o'clock. A report of the season's activities will be presented by Secretary, Treasurer W.G. Gillespie and Dr. R.F. Seaman, president of the club, will preside. It is important that as many as possible owners of young trotters and pacers will be present.

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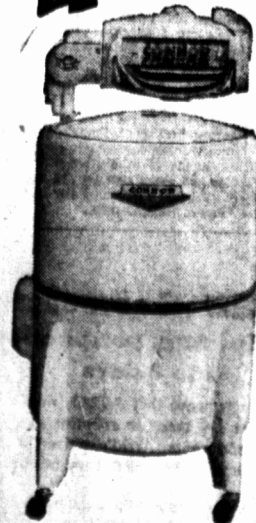
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