

### Back Stretch

was Lovely Lady 2.03 1-4 by Scottland 1.59 1-4 and her dam was the famous brood mare Frances Knight 2.08 1-4. Lovely Lady took a two-year-old world's record of 2.07 for age and sex when she was taken a lot of patience and perseverance to finally hang this horse out but now we hope to see him win a good share of the purse money, but of course he is up against the best field of trotters that has been campaigning in the Maritimes since the 1940's.

Peter Astra was placed in the stud at one of the largest breeding farms in Kentucky and bred to some of the best mares, but he failed to get early speed and was thrown into the discard. Now we find that the Peter Astra's as they get aged are heading summaries in many parts of the United States. The other night at Maywood Park, Chicago, Daisy Astra, a 7-year-old mare by Peter Astra, set a new track trotting record of 2.04 3-5 and locally last year Arionway, owned by Harold Oudmore, took a record of 2.13 and was 11 times first, five times second and twice third.

The opening of the night races at Charlottetown last Saturday night turned out to be quite as exciting as expected. There was plenty of interest in every event and every winner had a close run for his money. The Free For All, of course, was the biggest magnet because it was the first appearance here of the highly thought-of Royal Value 2.04 2/5, raced last year by Joe O'Brien to that record at Roosevelt Raceway and now owned by Walter Hennessey and driven by Joe Hennessey. Then there was Lucky Chief 2.04 1/5, owned and driven by P. J. Cadejan, that has a whole string of wins as a free-for-all, including Charlottetown Old Home Week last year. Very few gave much attention to Johnny Kalmuck 2.08 3/5, owned and driven by Walter Kelly, or Direct Mite, owned and driven by Lorne Letcher, but the former proved to be the winner of Race No. 2 after Lucky Chief set a blistering pace in the first half. Walter Kelly had saved part of his speed for the final and came through in hurricane fashion to win in 2.12 with Direct Mite second, Royal Value third and Lucky Chief fourth. In the 6th race with the same field Royal Value won from Lucky Chief with Direct Mite third and A. G. Scott fourth. Time, 2:10—the first 2.10 mile stepped in the Maritimes this season.

The well trained stable of Earle Semple made a big showing on the card. Little Delbert 2.15 1/5, 5-year-old owned by James O'Brien, Ellerslie, won Races 1 and 5, best time 2.15 3/5. Second in the first race was Money Royal 2.13 4/5, owned by Dr. P. McIntyre and driven by Leo Collins, and Dale B. 2.11, owned by George Hughes and driven by Harold Stead was third in the 1st race and second in the 5th race. Race No. 3 was won by Mary Merk 2.08 2/5, owned and driven by Earle Semple. She was in front all the way with the mile in 2.16. Flaxscot 2.08 1/5 (Stead) 2, Winnie's Last (Shea) 3. In the 4th Race Ann's Boy 2.11 1/5, owned and driven by W. E. Bowness, was out in front all the way winning in the good time of 2.12 3/5, with Miss Donna Mae 2.11 a surprise second for agent-driven Emmett Bernard. In the 7th race with the same field the pacer Cahagen, owned by Dr. Geo. Bishop and driven by Shaw, went to the front early and finished a neck ahead of Ann's Boy in 2.12 3/5. It was one of the best finishes of the night.

We have been looking over the roster of harness racing drivers of 1953 that had 25 or more starts and would like to draw our readers' attention to the fact that Angus Allen, formerly of Halifax, who left a few years ago to race at Saratoga Springs, N.Y., made 133 starts, was 15 times lat, 24 times

and 16 times 3rd and the horses he drove won \$13,133. Well done, Angus. We are sure your many friends will be glad to know this. Earle B. Avery, who was born in Oldville, N.B., sixty years ago, made 314 starts, mostly at Roosevelt and Yorkers. He was 36 times first, 33 times second, 38 times third and won \$113,525. Johnny Conroy, Truro, N.S., who was born in New London, P.E.I., made 128 starts, was 40 times first, 25 times second and 17 times third and had the excellent percentage average of .465. He raced for small purses and the total winnings of the stable was \$6,866.

Clayton R. MacLeod, Westville, N.S., who also raced for small purses, made 179 starts, was 44 times first, 34 times second and 48 times third and won \$6,436. W. J. Floyd, Millon of Hamburg, N.Y., who was born in Woodstock, N.B., 52 years ago, and has raced around the top circuits in New York State, made 323 starts, was 55 times first and 40 times second and 40 times third with winnings of \$36,405. Claude O'Brien, born in Alberton, P.E.I., 46 years ago, made 71 starts, was 19 times first, 19 times second and 7 times third, winning \$18,919. He was racing a few of the members of the S.A. Camp stable. Joe O'Brien, Claude's brother, who was born in Alberton June 25, 1917, made 369 starts, was 85 times first, 72 times second and 62 times third with the excellent percentage considering the competition he was up against, of .395. His wife, Mrs. O'Brien, who was born in Alberton some 34 years ago, raced locally through the season, made 226 starts, was 44 times first, 39 times second and 47 times third and won \$8,812.

The well known Maritime sire Ginger P. 2.09 1/4, by Volonte 2.03 1/4 dam, Gentle Spirit, by Manrico B. 3. 2.07 1/4, died recently at his owner Frank McKay's farm, Charlottetown. There are quite a number of promising trotters and pacers showing up now in the Maritimes by him, the fastest and one that is surely heading for a 2.10 record is May S. Gratian 2.12 1/5. Another good prospect is the 5-year-old trotter Ginger Worthy, owned by George MacDonald, Mermald, winner of the 4-year-old futurity at Summerside last September, taking a record of 2.18.

The management of Truro Raceway, Ltd., were greatly pleased to have the largest crowd of the season turn out for Saturday night's card, which proved one of the best in years. The big race of the night was when Tonynite, owned and driven by Don Turner, was forced to pace in 2.10 3/5 to head off Clayton MacLeod's drive with the recent import Judge Miller 2.07. Tonynite won again in Race 8 with Judge Miller 2, Shelby Vic 3. Time, 2:11 3/5. These two miles so early in the season by the son of the Ontario sire Mr. Chips 2.03, show that he is high class material. He started this season eligible to the 2.20 pace and appears to be one of the best in that class racing in the Maritimes and even further afield.

Another double dash winner was Dr. F. Chips, owned by J. MacLeod, Yarmouth, and driven by C. MacLeod. He headed his field in races 3 and 7, best time 2.16—a new record. Don Turner added to his wins Race 6 with Tom Stuart, Lady Ruthie T. 2, time, 2.16 3/5. Andy's Right (Carter) 3. Andy's Right had won Race 2 with the same field with Follow Up Jr. 2. Time, 2:15 4/5. One of the most popular wins of the night and the most surprising was in Race 4 when Pencil Peter, by the P.E.I. sire Watson Peter, (last owner Clifford Bigger), headed his field of 7 home in 2.22 2/5 for owner-driver J. E. Washington, and also acquired a record of 2.22 2/5.

At Saint John Saturday night the principal interest was taken in the match race between the recently imported Sep Hanover 2.03 from

the Princeton Stables, Princeton, Me., and Thelma Lou 2.08, owned and driven by Milton Downey, that has had things her own way in Saint John fast classes. Sep Hanover proved the winner with the mile in 2.12, which is the season's record for the track. Other winners were, 1st dash, June Symbol (Hayes) time, 2:29; 2nd and 6th dashes, Valuable Doc, owned and driven by Lee Jones, Wickham, N.B., 1-1; Golden Amber (H. McIntosh) 2-2, best time 2:17; 3rd and 7th dashes, Eye For Now, owned by the Eye For Now Stables, Saint John, and driven by E. G. G. Wood) 2-4; Piney Boy (Lawson) 6-2, best time 2:17 2/5; 5th and 8th dashes, Aubrey Budlong, owned by Cormier and Bernard, driver Bernard, 1-7; Cedric Hanover, owned by H. Chase, Fredericton, (Chase) 3-1, Time, 2:14 3/5, 2:15 3/5.

A recent addition to the Sam Kennedy stable at the Charlottetown track is the 6-year-old pacer Faingo, that took a record of 2:10 2/5 as a 4-year-old and his all time earnings are \$3,856.25 but with allowances he is eligible to the 2.00 class. Dick Logie's 2nd and 7th dashes, Eye For Now, owned by the Eye For Now Stables, Saint John, and driven by E. G. G. Wood) 2-4; Piney Boy (Lawson) 6-2, best time 2:17 2/5; 5th and 8th dashes, Aubrey Budlong, owned by Cormier and Bernard, driver Bernard, 1-7; Cedric Hanover, owned by H. Chase, Fredericton, (Chase) 3-1, Time, 2:14 3/5, 2:15 3/5.

Well MacNeill's fair for taking a chance on a horse paid off at Chatham, Dominion Day, when Bobby Hunter, that had taken a matinee record of 2:21 3/5 at Riverside recently and was bought by him for \$1,000, from youthful owners Smith and Simmond, won the \$1,000 Miramichi pacing stake, copping the first two heats driven by Clark Smith, with Cash Hal, owned and driven by Louie Williams of Great Village winning the third. Bobby Hunter's time 2:21 2/5 was the fastest. The Free For All won as expected by Abbeland 2.08 2/5 in 2:12 2/5. Clayton MacLeod has found the key to the newly arrived Judge Miller 2.07, winning the first heat of the Free For All at Truro Thursday in 2:07 4/5—the fastest time in the Maritimes this season. The track record is 2:07 2/5, set by Iola Henley, owned and driven by Clayton MacLeod. It looks as though Clayton will have another Iola Henley in his string.

As long ago as we can remember Dominion Day was Summerside's big race day and one of the attractions looked forward to by thousands of people. The new management of the track has every reason to feel proud of the two programs they put on after-noon and night and the tremendous attendances they brought out. Perfect weather and the large crowds of nicely dressed people, the enthusiasm and the great finishes and fast racing all contributed to make this first big meeting of the season an outstanding one. Little Delbert, owned by James O'Brien, Alberton, and driven by Earle Semple, won the 1st and 5th races and showed a lot of brush in each, reducing his record to 2:14 4/5. True Hal was second in the first race and the trotter Flaxscot second in the 5th race. Races 2 and 6 showed up some new pacers that promise to hit the 2.10 mark in a year or two. Real Joe, a 4-year-old by Real Money 2.09, out of Allie Hal by Sampson Hal 2.02 3/4, showed surprising speed in finishing and took a record of 2:14 4/5. His last quarter in the first heat was paced in 31 4/5. There were a lot of other good ones besides him, notably Ann's Pride that was 2nd

### Hunters' Corner

rolled and nearly as thick as on Pelase Island where there are no predators. Hunters went from every state and province to North Dakota to hunt pheasants but during the last five years there has been a gradual decline in the pheasant population.

So bad did the situation become that in the spring of 1953 the North Dakota Fish and Game Commission ordered a pheasant nesting study. The results of the survey, first of its kind attempted in the state since the early '40's, meant bad news for the pheasant hunter and came as a considerable shock to game management officials who for several years have been attempting to determine reasons for the fast decline of North Dakota's once abundant pheasants numbers. Of the 123 nests under surveillance only five escaped destruction or abandonment. The survey of the original 123 nests disclosed: Predators destroyed 81; late snow and

usually heavy rain forced nest abandonment of 24; farming operations destroyed 13 and one nest was ruined by a horse. Three nests of eggs were hatched out successfully and two are still in the process of incubation.

The survey was made on four square miles of "excellent" pheasant territory. Each of the 123 nests was staked out as egg laying commenced and each was kept under almost daily survey. It is my own personal opinion that it is a mistake to visit nests after they are discovered. The rare visit for study purposes but discretion must be exercised. Four footed predators will become curious and crows will watch one's actions too closely for comfort. I feel that the regular daily visits increased the percentage of predator destruction.

A break-down of the 81 nests destroyed by predators shows that 28 were identified positively as having been ruined by skunks with 10 very probably having been taken by skunks. Badgers accounted for 14, while squirrels or weasels took another seven. One nest was destroyed by a domestic cat and five by crows. Sixteen of the nests were destroyed by unidentified predators. Incidentally three duck nests were located on the study area. All three were destroyed by predators. During the course of the survey 20 skunks were destroyed in the nesting areas.

This columnist has always contended that stomach analysis of predators affords no clue to the amount of wildlife destroyed in the egg stage. The content of eggs do not show in the analysis. One could examine crow stomachs without end and be completely in the dark in respect to the number of eggs eaten. Predation in the nesting season is, and always will be, a serious game problem. We in this Province of P.E.I. have been aware of this and took steps years ago to alleviate the menace.

When the price of fur on fox, skunk and raccoon dropped so low that trapping them for profit was out of the question the Provincial Department of Industry and Natural Resources encouraged trappers to continue by means of a bonus in the form of bounty payments. Bounty payment has been discontinued during the summer months but it is expected to be renewed this fall at the rate of \$1.00 per skunk snout and \$3.00 each for the face mask and ears of fox and raccoon.

For several summers a bounty of 20¢ per pair of crows feet has been paid by the department concerned although no announcement to that effect has been made for the current season. Crows destroy a lot of duck nests every summer and duck hunters should shoot a crow, or two crows would be better, for every duck they kill. In that way Nature's balance will be maintained. At least it will be an effort in the right direction. Nesting losses are terrific every season. In the years before the advent of skunk I enlisted the aid of farm boys in locating black duck nests. Out of 23 nests of eggs 19 were destroyed by crows before incubation was completed. Now they have the skunks and coons to help them in their destructive work.

### Mud Engineers Important To Oil Industry

EDMONTON, (CP)—Mud, in the oil industry's eye, is as essential as the oil to the motorist. There's a \$100,000-plus investment in almost every well drilled in Canada. If mud wasn't used in the process—at a cost of roughly \$2 a foot of hole—the drilling equipment would be ruined and the investor would lose his shirt.

Among Alberta oil men, therefore, so-called "mud engineers" have a place of high respect. Drilling mud is, mostly, just plain mud. The engineers in the early days used surface clay mixed with fresh water to form the drilling fluid. Today, a special type of clay called bentonite is used for the mixture.

From the preparation pits at the well site, called "sumps," huge slush pumps force mud down the hollow drill stem to the drilling bit. It passes through the bit's rotating cones, then returns to the surface between the drill stem and the hole wall. Then it's screened to shake loose bits of shale.

Its jobs en route are many and important. The mud lubricates the rotating drilling bit at the bottom of the hole; it prevents the walls of the hole from caving when loose earth formations are encountered; it seals the sides of the hole against intrusion of subterranean streams of water; and it carries rock cuttings up from the bottom

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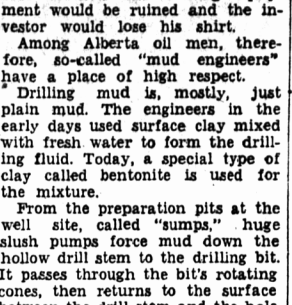
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—sometimes 2 1/2 miles or more—to millions of cubic feet of the valuable fuel. All drilling holes do not require the same type of mud. Some earth formations cause the mud to thicken and if the mud engineer isn't on the job it will turn to paste and soon be useless.

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650-16-6 ply—Plain	49.65	31.75
700-16-6 ply—Plain	54.55	34.30
700-17-8 ply—Lug	55.75	46.90
700-17-8 ply—Plain	68.75	43.10
750-16-8 ply—Lug	84.50	44.35
750-16-8 ply—Plain	76.85	42.60
750-17-8 ply—Lug	91.15	50.85
750-17-8 ply—Plain	82.90	51.80
750-20-10 ply—Lug	121.85	69.60
750-20-10 ply—Plain	110.80	69.60
825-20-12 ply—Lug	164.45	87.60
825-20-12 ply—Plain	149.50	86.60
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**PROWSE BROS. LTD.** PURSE \$1,300.00  
NO. 3—FREE FOR ALL TROT TO BE RACED FRIDAY, AUGUST 13th  
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First Division \$900; Second or more divisions \$750.00  
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**STERN'S LTD. LAUNDRERS** PURSE \$1,050  
NO. 5—2.25 PACE CONDITIONED  
First division \$1,050; Second division \$900.00; Third division \$750.00  
First Payment—\$18.00 Starting Fee—\$13.00

**HYNDMAN & CO.** PURSE \$1,200.00  
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**NO. 7—2.16 PACE CONDITIONED** PURSE \$1,200.00  
1.05 Pacers winning less than \$1,200 in 1953 also eligible  
2.12 Pacers winning less than \$1,200 in 1953 also eligible  
2.14 Pacers winning less than \$2,900 in 1953 also eligible  
First Division \$1,200.00; Second Division \$1,050.00  
Third Division \$900.00; Fourth Division \$750.00  
First Payment—\$24.00 Starting Fee—\$12.00

**NO. 8—THREE YEAR OLD** PURSE \$750.00  
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**NO. 9—2.25 TROT CONDITIONED** PURSE \$900.00  
First Division \$900.00; Second Division \$750.00  
First Payment—\$18.00 Starting Fee—\$9.00

**NO. 10—2.19 TROT CONDITIONED** PURSE \$900.00  
2.12 Class or slower winning less than \$2,700 in 1953 also eligible  
First Division \$900.00; Second Division \$750.00  
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**NO. 11—OVERNIGHT EVENTS WILL BE RACED FOR \$300.00 TO \$400.00 A DASH**

**GENERAL CONDITIONS**  
All classes to be three dashes—all dashes one mile.  
Entries close July 15 with horses to be named July 28 when starting fee is made. Eight to enter with six separate interests to start.  
DECLARATIONS for Monday, August 9th classes, must be made Saturday, August 7th, 2 p.m., Standard Time, at the Race Secretary's Office. Declaration for all other events must be made day prior to race at 10 a.m., Standard Time.  
In the event of divisions in any event, divisions will be classified. There will be a rebate on entrance for any horse starting in second, third or fourth divisions of any class.  
Any class not filling nominations may transfer to next fastest class.