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5.25-5.50/16	26.45	11.00
5.50/17	22.15	5.90	16.25
5.25-5.50/18	20.90	5.50	16.40
6.00/16	18.95	4.55	13.40	26.50
6.40/15	27.45	10.70
6.50/15	33.65	15.45
6.50/16	24.60	8.15	16.45	33.75
6.70/15	19.45	5.00	14.45	28.95
6.70/16	30.25	11.30
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Back Stretch

Raceway officials take in insisting that the horsemen take over a \$1,000,000 cut in purses in 1954. On account of the arbitrary and adamant position of Roosevelt Raceway officials at noon the same day, the 72-hour notice was filed by S.O.A. according to U.S.T.A. rules. The following afternoon, Saturday, May 15, approximately 300 S.O.A. members met at Turn Hall at Yonkers and went on record unanimously and unalterably opposed to the over \$1 million cut in purses and told the S.O.A. Executive Committee that they would not enter their horses until such time as the S.O.A. committee and Roosevelt officials negotiated a satisfactory purse schedule.

At almost the same time Walter S. Gibbons, who has been Race Secretary at Roosevelt Raceway ever since its inception and is one of the best known, best liked and best informed horsemen in America, resigned his position, no doubt as a protest against the high-handed methods of the management, and has been appointed general manager at Foxboro Raceway, Mass. Walter Gibbons was born in Halifax and raced horses in the United States and the Maritimes with great success. As a driver he was most popular and when he went to work with Roosevelt Raceway horsemen everywhere were glad to enter there if they had a horse of proper calibre. No man is more widely known in harness horse circles than Walter and his memory for names and faces is phenomenal. We regret his leaving Roosevelt but hope it is for the best, because we have a great liking for him and are quite sure that he is the best man in the United States or elsewhere for a position such as general manager or race secretary of a meeting.

In the mail today our good friend Dick Hegan, New York banker, very kindly forwarded us a clipping entitled "Roosevelt Slaughters Expenses. These are extracts:—"The boom days are over at Roosevelt Raceway. In fact, the raceway has slashed expenses by \$700,000... and wants its employees to take a 25 per cent cut in pay. That's what Alvin Well, secretary of the Old Country Trotting Association, said yesterday at a luncheon meeting with a group of horsemen. Well was attempting to convince the horse owners they should give up their fight for a bigger cut in the parimutuel take. But the horsemen were unconvinced. At the insistence of Don Millar, executive vice-president of the United States Trotting Association, raceway officials and horse owners met this morning at the raceway for another conference.

"Here are some of the economies which Well said the Raceway already has put into effect: \$150,000 has been slashed from the commissions paid by George Morton Levy of Old Westbury, counsel to the trotting track, \$100,000 has been saved by eliminating experimental work... such as gadgets on the starting gate and various electronic and photographic gadgets used to chart and record the races. \$148,000 has been slashed from the advertising budget. \$60,000 was cut from the fund set aside for charities. \$30,000 was saved by eliminating "Trot Talk", the track's newspaper. \$30,000 was saved by making the raceway program less fancy. \$17,000 was saved by eliminating free van service from Yonkers Raceway to Westbury. Horse owners now have to pay for trucking their horses from one raceway to the other. \$27,000 was saved by ordering grooms to buy their own meals... the track had been feeding the grooms half their meals for free. \$50,000 was cut from the entertainment and travel expense budget.

"Well said that contracts with unions—the washers, ticket sellers and mutual clerks—permit the raceway to cut pay to union members 25 per cent because of the 32 per cent slash in the mutual handle ordered by the Legislature. The union leaders asked, 'What happens to the horsemen?' And, Well said, he has explained that the horsemen would take a substantial cut because the track wants them to accept 25 per cent of the parimutuel take in purses... a figure which would be considerably lower than 25 per cent of last year's parimutuel take. The word is that the unions will accept the pay cut if the horse owners agree to the smaller purses. But if the horse owners won't take a cut—the unions won't either.

"Well said the track this year will charge a little more for box office seats although the general admission fee will not be increased. A year ago, the Old Country Trotting Association got about \$5-

800,000 from the parimutuel handle, Well said. This year, he estimated, the revenue will be reduced about two million dollars. 'We have already saved \$700,000,' he said, 'and hope to make some money on admissions and box seat sales. The difference between that total and the expected two million dollar revenue decrease must be saved in purse money.' Well said the Old Country stockholders want to make a 6 per cent return on their investment... worth \$6,000,000, counting all improvements and assets. 'Present indications,' he said, 'are that current planning will net the stockholders a 5 per cent return.'

Visitors to Montague last Sunday had the privilege of looking over Alfred Lowery's stable and they found Alfred in his usual good humour and quite enthusiastic over the string he is preparing for the season. He has an ideal spot for training. The horses and equipment are housed in a very commodious barn a short distance from Montague track. Everything was neat and clean and they noticed an attractive house which is occupied by his assistant, with flowers in the windows and everything bright and sparkling. The nearby Montague track has been kept in good shape and could be gotten ready for race in a short order. Alfred's stable consists of Premier J. Walter, that as a two-year-old last year took the very creditable record of 2:22 1/5 and had winnings of \$636.75. He will be ready to meet the other good 3-year-olds and possibly one of them may threaten the present provincial record made last season—2:09—made by Jerry's Nightmare at Charlottetown, Aug. 4th.

Real Joe is a 4-year-old pacer by Real Money 2:09 1/2, dam, Hallie Hal, a splendid race mare. Cottage Frank, a 2-year-old pacer by Simcoe Harvester 2:04 1/4, dam, Miss Marjorie Hal, and another 2-year-old pacer that he is readying, Ruthie, by Real Money, dam, a Lacomia mare. Leo Harvester is a 5-year-old pacer by Simcoe Harvester and his dam is by Watson Peter. He also has the broodmares Valie Long 2:14 1/5 by Calumet Budlong; Hallie Hal and Minnie Cope, by Lacomia 2:09 1/2, dam, the famous trotting mare of years ago, Miss Belle Rico 2:16 1/4. Belle was purchased by the late W. B. MacArthur from Albert H. Merrill, Melrose, Mass., and was extremely well bred. She went numerous times against the best trotters in the Maritimes. They often went to five heats and more. The tracks were slow and while her record was 2:16 1/4 she would easily go several seconds faster under our system of racing now and our faster tracks. As a matter of fact it was a bar then. The above are all owned by Jack Annear and Alfred Lowery. The remaining member of the stable is Colonel Budlong, by Calumet Budlong 2:02 1/2. He showed well on the trot last year, the writer timed him in better than 2:20, but as he wanted to pace he has been turned over to that gait and will make his debut as a slow class pacer this season. He is owned by the Hon. Dougald MacKinnon, Minister of Public Works.

The most talked-of performance of the new season's racing to date is the mile at Yonkers Raceway last week by the 4-year-old trotting gelding, Lord Key, owned by W. J. Alberg of Glen Head, N. Y., and driven by that celebrated old-timer from Oklahoma, Warren Dennis. He took on the top trotters racing in New York and led them home in 2:02 4/5 to establish a new world's record for 4-year-old trotting geldings. The former mare of 2:04 was made by Earl's Moody Guy. We mentioned a couple of times recently the fact that the stallion Long Key had been greatly overlooked for breeding purposes. This is just another instance to show that the statement was true. Warren Dennis is the man who gave Silk Hal her record of 2:09 1/5 and it was from his stable that she was transferred to the present owner, Roy Bevan of Charlottetown.

The second fastest trotting mile of the season was at Buffalo Raceway last week when the 7-year-old gelding Lord Stewart, paced out Fag Me in a \$5,000 stake, time 2:03 3/5. It was the second fastest trotting mile ever stepped over Buffalo Raceway. At the opening of the Maryland Circuit William E. Miller's Roscroft Raceway the Ohio owned mare Lady Dunn, that took a record last fall at Lexington, Ky. of 2:00 4/5 and won the Sheppard Memorial Stake in 2:00 3/5. The star of the opening there was Newport Chief 1:58 3/5. This 4-year-old stallion driven by De. Cameron, races for Octave Black and although the track was muddy he landed the Free For All Pace heading such top stars as Meadow Rice, Chuck Volo and others in 2:06 3/5.

Harry Coleman left the Brockton Fair grounds about ten days ago for last Saturday's opening night meeting at Cumberland, Me. He has as usual a strong stable but the biggest stable awaiting that opening is being managed by Bill Hazen of Bedford, N.H. He has 29 with the old standby Fly Volo 2:06 1/5 as star of the group.

We deeply regret to learn of a serious accident that happened to Frank L. Wiswall, Honorary Secretary and Counsel of the United States Trotting Association. Mr Wiswall was driving a 3-year-old trotter when the horse in front of him made a break and bore to the right. The two training carts collided and Mr. Wiswall was hurled to the track, received a fractured vertebra, contusions of the nose and forehead and multiple bruises. He is at present a patient in the Saratoga hospital. Mr. Wiswall has been one of the biggest factors in formulating the rules and regulations of the United States Trotting Association and has given of his services extensively since its formation in 1890. We trust that his injuries will not prove as serious as expected and that he will soon be around with his glad

handshake and happy smile.

May 24th harness races at Summerside were attended by a good crowd who thoroughly enjoyed them. The Class A Pace was really a hummer. Ann's Boy 2:11 1/5, owned and driven by Ensor Bowness, won with 1-2-1; Dick Erla 2:04 3/5 (Rogers) 2-1-2. Time, 1:06, 1:04 2/5, 1:04 1/5. The second and third heats were among the fastest, if not the fastest, that we can recall for half-mile heats on May 24th in this province. Creditable showings in the same events were made by Buck P. C. Grattan (Smith) with 4-3-3 and Guy Harvester (F. Reeves) 5-4-4. They were also stepping quite lively in Class B Pace with Propane, owned by Lloyd Small and driven by Don McNeill third in the first heat and winner in the next two. Marion E. (Kelly) 1-3-3; Hilda Mac (Smith) 4-4-4. Time, 1:05 1/5, 1:06 2/5, 1:06 4/5. Class C Pace was won by Captain Morgan, owned and driven by M. Kennedy, with Jay's Hope (A. Jay) 2-3; Muriel C. (Kelly) 4-2; Baby Senator (Fox) 3-4. Time, 1:10 4/5 and the second heat in the surprising time of 1:06 4/5. Congratulations to the Summerside horsemen, they certainly must have had their charges in good shape.

At Sydney a good race card was marred by a spill in which Greg MacDonald, one of Cape Breton's youngest drivers, suffered knee and ankle injuries and in the shake-up several horses landed in a pile. Joe MacDonald had a very close call from serious injuries Greg in hospital, present. Dash winners were, Buddy Lewis of New Waterford with My Pride and Betty Reamore; Doug Ratchford first to the wire with Grace Reamore; Jimmy Moffatt a winner with Hedgewood Grattan and Trixie Scott, also a winner with J. Graham driving. Other winners were the trotter Clean Up 2:09 1/5, owned and driven by Joe McDonald, and Scotty Boy 2:16 4/5, owned by Wilson Collins, and driven by B. Hickey. Between 400 and 500 persons attended the races at Lawson Wood's

Hazelbrook track the afternoon of May 24th. Seven dashes were raced and everyone voted it a splendid afternoon's sport. Winners were: Class A Trot and Pace, Britton's Lassie (L. Young) with 1-2-1; Dan McElwyn (C. Wood) 2-1-2; best time 2:26—quite a nice effort for so early in the season. Class B. Trot, Bonnie's Girl (C. Wood). Time, 2:40. Class C Trot and Pace, Gypsy C. (L. Coady).

Cyril Dauphinee, one of our best Maritime sportsmen, re-opened Bridgewater track May 24th after it had been idle for several years. A very good crowd was on hand to witness some really splendid racing. Among the starters were two imports brought in recently by Heber Sweeney, both of which won their events. Anthony L. raced as a 3-year-old through Ohio last year and took a record of 2:10 2/5. In 18 starts he won four firsts and four fourths and is eligible to the 2:24 pace. Ginny Forbes, a green pacer brought in from Wisconsin with the reputation of having speed to burn. Anthony L. won the first and fourth dashes easily. His time, 1:04, is the fastest in the Maritimes this season. Ginny Forbes won Races 3 and 7, time, 1:07, 1:07 4/5. Other winners were: Races 2 and 6, Dudy Dale, owned by George Turner, Westville, best time 1:06; Races 5 and 8, Stranger Boy 2:23 4/5 (Cleveland). Race 9 was won by Gallant Bobby, owned by Cyril Dauphinee, time, 1:08.

We understand that Roach MacGregor drove My Darling 2:08 1/5 to a win at Blue Bonnets last Monday night in 2:13 3/5. Vanguard 2:08 3/5, owned by Duncan MacDonald, Sydney, was also a winner... At Yonkers Raceway in 40 events raced in five nights with



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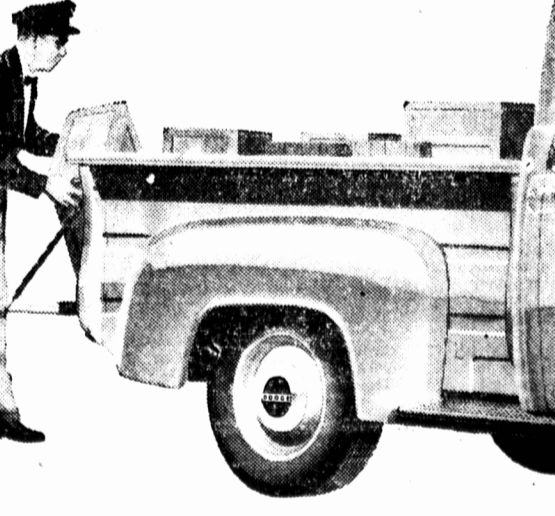
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