

Back Stretch


friendly man and well liked by all the employees. Len is settled down to work now and has five horses in his stable and expects to have several more in the next few weeks. All the boys at the track are glad to see him back again and to hear about the doings in far away California.

A. D. Napke, Secretary of Chatham Raceway, has "done it again," that is to say he has received a very large entry list for the \$1,000 1954 Miramichi race to be raced at Chatham July 1st. Here is a list of the owners who have entered:

1. C. W. Belliveau, Dieppe, N.B.;
2. J. H. DeWitt, Woodstock, N.B.;
3. and 4. Edward Dalton, Newcastle, N.B.;
5. W. Flemming, Juniper, N.B.;
6. and 7. Vernon Irving, Shediac, N.B.;
8. P. T. LeBlanc, St. Augustine, N.B.;
9. Wm. McCombs, Newcastle, N.B.;
10. A. G. Murchie, Dalhousie, N.B.;
11. W. E. Monaghan, Alberton, P. E. I.;
12. B. J. Milton, Moncton, N.B.;
13. A. D. Napke, Newcastle, N.B.;
14. and 15. B. J. Ryan, Newcastle, N.B.;
16. L. D. Scrimgeour, Newcastle, N.B.;
17. Clarke Smith, Hunter River, P. E. I.;
18. Clifford Stewart, Newcastle, N.B.;
19. E. Shea, Alberton, P. E. I.;
20. H. M. Sweeney, Bridgewater, N.S.;
21. J. S. Watt, Gaspe, Que.;
22. Harold Wilbur, Moncton, N.B.;
23. Louis Williams, Great Village, N.S.

And now we hear from our valued correspondent Anthony Perry of St. Nicholas, P. E. I. — "First I must say that my chief interest in writing you is to bring to your attention the death recently at Miscouche of the late Urban R. Gillis, who was a prominent farmer, fox breeder and produce dealer, was also an ardent supporter of harness racing, having raced and bred several with records of 2:10 or faster. Most noteworthy of those bred by him are Eleanor G. 2:10, Donald G. R. 2:08 2/5, both by Calumet, Budlong 2:02 3/4 out of Mr. Gillis' favorite race mare Helen D. 2:11 1/4, by Atlantic Express 2:07 3/4. She produced several others, some of which will be heard of in the near future. The late Mr. Gillis was 67 years of age at the time of his passing. He is survived by his wife and family at Miscouche, who have the deepest sympathy of all in their very sad bereavement.

Before leaving Halifax I was at the Walker Stable and given a good reception and shown a



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nights before the big day it froze quite hard and on the opening morning many ponds were covered. The water was to quite a time worn expressions, as cold as ice. It really has'nt warmed up appreciably yet. One of those fine days trout are going on a biting "binge" that will make everyone sit up and take notice and then we'll be scratching our heads in an effort to figure out what caused it. What we don't know about trout would fill a big book.

Big trout, the five and six pounders, do not always bite because they are hungry. Sometimes the offering annoys them and they strike in a fit of temper. On other occasions I feel they are like we humans. Did you ever eat a hearty meal and yet feel that you were not quite satisfied? I performed a post mortem on that 6 1/4 pounder Lloyd Weeks, City, landed from the hole below Crosby's Mill, West River, 9 or 10 years ago. There were 11 smelts in its stomach some of them 7 inches long — he was full clear to the gullet. I can well imagine this big sockdolager lurking in his lair beneath the slabs digesting his meals but with a slight gnawing feeling in his stomach nevertheless. When a big blob of juicy, wiggly worms dangled in front of his nose he gave his big fluke tail a quarter turn and sucked them in. I'll bet that wasn't the first time worms were dangled under his nose but he wasn't in the right mood. When he was in the right frame of mind his 'after dinner mint' cost him his life and at the same time saved the lives of hundreds of lesser fry. Trout of that size are cannibals of the worst type. The first thing I know Weeks' will be looking for a medal.

I saw the 4lb. 12 oz. silvery beauty landed at Montague on the second day of the season. It was round by Lloyd Walker. Heading the stable is the chunky chestnut stallion, Seven Up Direct 2:08 3/5, by Patrick Direct 2:07 1/4. He looks real fit and should make a splendid sire when through racing. Another well liked member is Peerless Hanover by Dean Hanover 1:58 1/2. Then there is that honest trotting mare Lusty's Queen, also the veteran Doctor L. B. and a green prospect, Sapphire Lady by Goodwill Bill, an Ontario sire who was by Volante. On my return home I spent the week-end in Moncton and while there paid a call on Leonard Barrieau at his farm in Lakeburn. He has a round 30 head of horses and colts headed by his 2:10 sire, Federal 2:01 3/4, also Mighty Hanover 2:02. I saw several Mighty Hanover foals and they look real good.

Perhaps the best liked of all those I saw was a three-year-old full brother to Royal Bank, that took a record of 2:06 1/5 in the Earle Avery stable at Roosevelt the past year. The first named, Federal Reserve, looks like he will follow in his brother's footsteps. Mr. Barrieau has bought from parties in Quebec the pacer Peach Butter 2:08, that was purchased from Harry Hirsch by the Quebecers for a reported price of \$5,000 after winning a fast event in Charlottetown. Peach Butter did not race last year due to an injury. Another well-known pacer in his barn is Texas Hanover 2:01 1/4 by Dean Hanover 1:58 1/2, dam, Hollywood Susan 2:02 1/2 by Peter Volo 2:02. He also owns Scott Cash 2:06 by Cold Cash 1:58, dam, Wilma Scott :06 by Peter Scott 2:05, so you will see that Mr. Barrieau has three very fast record stallions and extremely well-bred ones.

Thanks very much, Anthony, for supplying us with the above information. We in common with all who knew him, regret very much the passing of Urban Gillis. We were away at the time it happened otherwise we would have paid tribute to him in this column for no one more richly deserved it. The writer knew him as a fox breeder and as a horseman and raced against his horses and always found Urban one of the finest sportmen one could meet. His passing will sadden many friends.

Kremlin's Finance Minister Declares Tough Seal Shoddy Goods Costly To Soviet Union

By DON DALLAS
LONDON (Reuters) — Shoddy goods turned out by Russian factories last year cost the Soviet state 3,200,000,000 rubles (\$800,000,000 at the Soviet-fixed exchange rate), Moscow radio disclosed Thursday.

The figure was quoted by Finance Minister Arseni Zverev in his U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet. He also severely criticized ministerial failings.

The Soviet rubber-stamp legislature continued Thursday to discuss the budget at separate meetings of its two chambers.

Moscow radio reported that Premier Georgi Malenkov, Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov, Nikita S. Khrushchev, first secretary of the Communist party, and other high-ranking Soviet figures were "warmly cheered" by deputies when they appeared on the government benches.

A full report of Zverev's budget speech showed the finance minister hitting inefficiency in several branches of the national economy. Certain trusts and combines had not even reached the pre-war level of production, he said.

On the work table of our local taxidermist Mr. Anse Calder, and the worms were about half peeled from its streamlined body. Its flesh was as red as the finest sockeye salmon that ever came out of B. C. Who says fresh run sea trout do not move into our tidal fresh water pools in April? I've seen monsters from the deep sea lurking in this pool that even da' fuzzo couldn't land. I know a tidal bridge spanning a small river where a local angler hooked something (he claims it was a trout) on two different occasions last summer. The reel screamed and the rod bowed as it headed down the channel that led to the open sea until the line ran out. . . . zip and the fun was over. It was a thrilling experience while it lasted.

I'd be willing to bet a sizable sum that if we could see beneath the water on occasions and get a look at the big trout that show an interest in, or make a half pass, at our lures or Garden Hackles, we'd either buckle at the knees or reel in as fast as we could.

I wet a line for 15 minutes shortly after noon on Good Friday. I knew there were trout there but they were not in a mood to reciprocate my overtures. If trout grabbed everything that was tossed their way we'd soon have no trout. However, methinks a trout harvest is in the offing.

New Twist To Car Troubles

EDMONTON (CP) — Two new twists have been added to the strange things happening to cars these days.

G. A. Larson of Edmonton has not been bothered with a pock-marked windshield, but he reports that Wednesday night his car radio started to give forth an organ-like series of musical notes.

Nothing unusual, you say? Mr. Larson thinks so. He said his car radio was not turned on.

Reginald Pennoch of Vancouver said his car has an oval-shaped pock-mark seven inches in diameter in the bonding between the two plates of glass which form the safety windshield. He said the mark first appeared while driving through Bellingham, Wash., en route here from Vancouver.

The marks inside the windshield mostly are small, said Mr. Pennoch. He described the seven-inch mark as looking like the imprint of a drinking glass on a table top.

At the same time the marks started to appear on the windshield, his gas gauge started to behave erratically, he said. It moved all over the dial and stopped at the full mark when the ignition was turned off. He said a mechanic could find nothing wrong with the gauge.

Tough Seal Hunt Nfld. Captain Says

By STEWART MacLEOD
Canadian Press Staff Writer
ST. JOHN'S, Nfld., (CP) — The black-hulled sealer Terra Nova, only Newfoundland vessel to survive this year's seal fishery, slipped into port Thursday and her skipper said the hunt was "terrible".

At one time the last ship home was welcomed by whistle tooting and flag waving but the Terra Nova docked on the south side of the harbor with only the sound of her own whistles.

It was an unexpectant climax to the hunt which Capt. Gus Carter said was the "worst ever I experienced".

Capt. Carter, a veteran of 33 trips to the sealing front, said "The weather was hard, and the ice was loose. I never saw any thing like it."

Flippers Spoiled
The Terra Nova brought 6,700 seals to port, little more than half a cargo. Thirty barrels of flippers, a delicacy here, which were to be sold by the 45 crew members when they returned rotted as the ship spent 14 days stuck in the ice.

Three Newfoundland ships, the smallest fleet in history, went to the ice fields this year.

The Newfoundlandier, out of Port Union, lasted only two weeks and was crushed by rafting ice.

Her 65 crew members walked to safety over shifting ice. A week

ASSESSES BLAME

The biggest shortcomings, he noted, were in the ministries of the timber and paper industry, of construction materials and of the food industry.

Further complaints about ministerial deficiencies were voiced by Arseni P. Safronov, chairman of the budget commission of the council of nationalities.

In the debate which followed Zverev's report, he named three ministers who, he said, would have to do better in future.

He said Zosim A. Shashkov, minister of sea and river navigation, was responsible for the "uneconomic administration of water transport so that some ship accounts showed a deficit at the end of the year."

Alexander F. Zasyadko, minister of the coal industry, and Alexei I. Kozlov, minister of state farms, were told they must speed up the development of housing estates for workers of their ministries.

Safronov said their subordinates at the ministries had not made full use of funds for housing and that the building of houses had lagged behind.

BUSY ARTERY

The Manchester ship-canal, taking vessels 35 miles from the sea to the big industrial centre, was opened by Queen Victoria in 1894.

New Vice-President Of Research Council

OTTAWA (CP) — A 51-year-old Canadian engineer who played a major role in the development of mine-detecting equipment during the Second World War has been appointed vice-president of the National Research Council.

B. G. Ballard, director of the division of radio and electrical engineering since its inception in 1948, fills a post left vacant by the appointment of Dr. E. W. R. Steacie as president of NRC April 1, 1954.

Mr. Ballard's war work was recognized in 1946 by the award of the Order of the British Empire.

CLERMONT W. I.
The April meeting of Clermont W. I. was held at the home of Mrs. Albert Stafford on April 13. Roll call was answered by seven members with household hints. The secretary gave a financial report of two card parties and parcel post held since last meeting.

Sick committee reported one call, correspondence was read and discussed regarding the district convention to be held in Hamilton on June 24, and a letter from Rural Beautification secretary also that the government grant of \$250 had been received.

The sum of \$5 was paid for blanketed received and is to be drawn for at next social gathering. \$5 was voted for cards for members. Some Bazaar work was

later, the James Spurrell, out of Corner Brook, was bashed on the rocky shores of the province's west coast but her 15 crew members also escaped.

passed in also quilt blocks, Mrs. Cecil Mill invited the members to her home to quilt same. Mrs. Cecil Mill was appointed to make arrangements for a rummage

sale, date to be announced later. Program for evening consisted of two contests. Next meeting is to be held at the home of Mrs. William and Mrs. Gerald Mill.



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