

BACK STRETCH

and was sold to a horseman in New Zealand.

While the Grand Circuit meeting was in full swing at Lexington, Ky., and horsemen from all parts of the United States and Canada had gathered there to witness the sport, there died in hospital at Pinehurst, N. C. one of the greatest drivers that ever sat in a sulky — Vic Flemming. He was born in Dundas, Ont. 68 years ago and in his prime was acknowledged as one of the best in his profession. He was over six feet tall and well proportioned and had a pleasant smile that made him a favorite in any company. When Ernie McTague and Johnny Conroy took our horses up to the ice circuit in Dufferin in November, 1934, and we arrived later, we asked about the various drivers and they mentioned a young man named Vic Flemming that they said was considered one of the best.

That year he brought out Billy Brino, won the slow class events at both the racing tracks and was practically unbeaten in 1935. Vic gave him a record of 2.074 at Cleveland, Ohio. He followed that up by bringing out other pacers and trotters that took a large share of the purse money and in 1939 he raced Louie Grattan to win over the ice and next season he paced Grattan to win the Lexington, Ky. to beat the fastest pacers in the world at that time. Sanardo, Directum J. and Single G. In the Free For All Pace. Vic raced others of the Grattan tribe but his biggest success of all was with Grattan Bars that he won three \$25,000 paces with in less than three weeks. Grattan Bars was one of the toughest horses to handle that ever stepped on a race track and a kicking strap made of heavy wire covered with leather had to be used to keep him from demolishing driver and sulky. But for an accident he would probably have set up a world's record pacer.

Seventeen years ago at Lexington, Ky. Vic drove Billy Direct to a world's pacer record of 1.55 against time and that mark has stood until recently when Adios Harry paced in 1.55 in a race. Others that he gave fast records to were The Widow, 1.59 1/2, whose dam was Widow Grattan that he marked in 2.00. Among other bids to fame was setting up a world's record for 4-year-old pacers of 1.50 1/2. This double-gaited record will probably stand for all time. The two minute list also includes Nate Hanover 1.59, Dusty Hanover 1.59, Dillon Hall 2.00, all pacers, and the trotters Mr. McElwain 1.59 1/2, Peter Song 2.00, Earl's Moody Guy 2.00.

In 1954 he was involved in a very serious spill. Five horses and drivers were all tangled up in one of the worst accidents that ever occurred on the turf. Vic came out seriously crippled and has never been the same since that racing day. He did some light training and took an interest in his sons training and driving. Among the many horses he handled was one owned by a very prominent Maritime horseman. Alderman Frank Adams, Halifax. In 1929 he drove the pacer Dustless Grattan on the Grand Circuit and won with him and gave him a new record. Many will remember this horse that later became the property of W.D. Rice of Middleton.

James "Roach" MacGregor returned last Tuesday night from Quebec City bringing back with him the trotter's record of 2.09 and Jo-Jo Spencer, 2.09 1/2, both owned by Andrew Perry, Summerside, and Roy Bevan's new purchases, the trotter Jerry A. Hanover 2.06 1/5 and Ralph Hal 2.10 2/5. He raced Jo-Jo Spencer on Saturday night and was third with him in 2.12. Taurida Bay, owned and driven by Earle Semple, was second. He raced Jerry A. Hanover for Mr. Bevan and won 1.41 in 2.10, 2.11 in a classified trot. On Thursday night previously he started Scotland's Ace in a classified trot and won in 2.11 and in his next start he was second to Gentleman Joe in the free for all trot in 2.11. Ralph Hal was raced two weeks ago and he struck his quarter and was laid up but is okay now. Two weeks previously he was second in 2.08 to St. George and also won in 2.11, under Mr. Bevan's ownership and driven by Roach.

Roach also raced Bay State Pat or Joseph Beaudoin of Montreal, the new owner, once in Montreal and the other start at Yonkers Raceway, N.Y. He went along with the truck with him but it broke down and it was 48 hours before it could be repaired. Then he was held up 24 hours at the border and this meant lack of rest for Pat and a strain on his muscles which affected his performance at Yonkers. Despite that Roach believes that had the truck been in good condition he would have won, at least made things very interesting. Due to heavy rain the track was very muddy. Pat drew third position and went away flying to the top, was at the quarter in 30 1/5, to the half in 1.01 and as still leading at the three-quarters in 1.36 when the others started to overtake him. He was racing against seven of the fastest pacers in the world teamed by some of the best reinsmen in the world, but no horse having underdone the ordeal that he did could be expected to win in that kind of company. Ted Gibbons, manager of the track, said that had it been in its usual fast shape Pat could have been at the half in seconds. Philip Scott 1.58 3/5 was the winner, Hillsota 1.59 3/5, ridden by Earle Avery, was second.

After the above races Roach returned to take charge of his other horses and Mr. Beaudoin secured services of Ken Waples, considered one of the top drivers here. Mr. Waples made changes in the harness and apparently they did help as Bay State Pat's performances in Montreal with Waples in the sulky shows. With pract-

ically the same field that he had beaten over the same track and set up a record of 2.03 3/5, Bay State Pat was 4th in the fifth dash time 2.07, won by H.B. Chief, and 7th in the eighth dash won by H. B. Chief in 2.07 3/5. Roach gave Roy Bevan's new arrivals a light workout on Wednesday afternoon and both were much admired by the horsemen spectators who saw them in action. It is Roy's intention to send these horses to join others owned by him in Archie Llewellyn's care at Sackville Downs near Halifax, where racing is expected to continue until Remembrance Day at least.

We congratulate Roy on bringing such an outstanding trotter as Jerry A. Hanover to the Maritime and we also once again congratulate James MacGregor and Bay State Pat on their record-breaking performances over two of the foremost tracks in Canada — Richelieu and Quebec City, and also our good friend Andrew Perry, who made possible the above happenings.

We are always pleased to meet Emmett Bernard of Hunter River, who wears such a winning smile and we find him quite pleased after his trip to Sackville Downs, where he got a share of the money and liked the experience.

Our friend C.H. McGinley, Houlton, Maine, writes us giving summaries of races there and we note that Harold Ralph won the Clarence Merrill trophy at Topsham Lexington, Ky. as leading driver. They had a good attendance and good weather. The Fair is always held the second week in October. Racing will continue in southern Maine for three or four weeks or until the weather becomes too severe. Harold Birmingham, the man who sold the late Vic Flemming, I am sure horsemen in Prince Edward Island will be glad to know that an Island bred mare produced such a good performer. I always admired June and looking back I think I never saw a better product of Calumet breeding for size, conformation and flesh. Many thanks Tom, for remembering us. The news will be welcome to the many admirers of June Morning here. She was bred by Power Bros., Charlottetown, (dam Miss Victoria), who sold her to George MacDonald, Mermaid and from him she passed into the hands of J. Henry DeWitt, Woodstock, and later to Simonson Bros.

Despite the cooler weather now prevailing they had a large turnout for Wednesday night's races at Saint John and it was featured by the smashing of the season's track record by Sep Hanover, an 8-year-old horse by Scotland. He won the 4th and 8th dashes pacing the former in 2.11 2/5 and the latter in 2.11. He is owned by the Princeton Stable of Princeton, Me., and was driven by Al Langille, Morris Brooks (Devlin) was in the 3rd and 7th races Mighty Flashy (Porter) owned by T.P. Downey, St. John, was 1-6, Daniel Hal Scott, owned and driven by H. Jones, 4-1. Time, 2.16 1/5, 2.13 1/5. Other winners were, 1st dash, You'll See, owned and driven by B. Queen, Suzanne Pierre (Harry McIntosh) 2. Time, 2.18 2/5. Dash 2, Billy Direct Hal (C. Kirkpatrick), owned by Kirkpatrick Bros., St. John, Wayne Brewer (B. Campbell), 2. No time because Wayne Brewer was set back to second place. The 5th dash was won by Justice Dillon (H. Jones), owned by Mrs. Myers, St. John, Dusty Zombro (E. Langille) 2. Time, 2.17 2/5. The 6th dash was won by Leah's Girl, owned and driven by S. Downey of Summerside, P.E.I., Cover Up (R. Donovan) 2. Time, 2.17.

Clarence F. Gaines, the inventor of Gaines Dog Food, who is selling his stallions and retiring from the ranks of the breeders, recently sold a half interest in King's Counsel 1.58 1/2 to Castletown Farm, Lexington, Ky. He has been a second straight year the leading sire of racing winners, has 43 performers in the 2.05 list and 102 in the 2.10.

Thomas B. Heeley of Halifax, N.S. writes us... "My brother was at Saratoga track in September and saw Angie Allen driving a gram and I spied something in it that I knew would interest you. Our good friend June Morning, 2.04 3/5 appeared as the dam of a race winner. The winner, Tab Direct, is a 3-year-old black colt by Norris Hanover and the owners are Charles and Harry Simonson



FAVORABLE OUTLOOK FOR WEATHER

Above-normal temperatures in this map prepared on the basis of the outlook for most of Canada of the United States Weather Bureau long-range forecast. The outlook for most of Canada and the Pacific Coast areas will have near-normal temperatures. (CP Photo)

Spends Summer In Arctic To Finance College Year

GUELPH, Ont. (CP) — Many Candians work their way through college, but not many tackle the desolate icy tundra fringing the Arctic Circle. Jim Lindamood of Guelph, 21-year-old student at Queen's University, Kingston, has just returned from such an assignment. He and five fellow Queen's students obtained the job of staffing two-man radio stations in the Northwest Territories for the Canadian Aero Service Company of Ottawa, which holds a government contract for aerial survey of the Northwest Territories. The radio stations provide a useful fix for the aircraft.

Lindamood's camp at Lake Beechey, 275 miles northeast of Yellowknife, consisted of two small tents and a radio mast atop a barren hill surrounded by glacial moraine. The site was chosen by the company because the hill provided a useful fix for the aircraft. The nearest neighbors were the Eskimos of a tiny camp 20 miles away. A scant 100 miles to the north lay the Arctic Circle. The nearest white man's community was 140 miles distant. Early last May Lindamood and his partner flew to their post by way of Winnipeg, Churchill and Pelly lake and found the area still in the grip of winter. As June arrived the snows melted and the scene was brightened by colorful moss and lichen.

During their stay the camp was visited for two weeks by a geological survey party. A tiny mail plane landed occasionally. Lindamood was satisfied with his summer job. He said he made enough money to finance another year at university and hopes to do the same job next year.

MAN CAMP CHORES

During fine weather the men had their hands full with radio transmissions and from June 28 to July 7 there was flying at 24 hours a day, necessitating a shift system by the radio operators. The camp chores would have daunted most housewives. Food had to be carried a mile and a half from the lakeshore where it was dropped by parachute. Cooking was by gasoline stove. In their leisure hours, Lindamood and his companion shot two wolves and made pets of the cubs. They also took color photographs and made an electric guitar.

LEAVE WOOD ISLANDS: Prince Nova 8 a.m. 1 p.m. Chas. A. Dunning 11 a.m. 3 p.m. LEAVE CARIBOU: Chas. A. Dunning 8 a.m. 1 p.m. Prince Nova 11 a.m. 3 p.m. For daily report tune in to CFXY each weekday for First Weather Broadcast.

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HUNTERS' CORNER

ed from C. Goodwin Carter, Indian Orchard, Mass. Gentlemen: I am inclosing Game Census Form for 1955. In my opinion, there are more birds on the Island than there were a year ago; in fact, as many as I have seen in the eight years I have been to the Island. There were reports of a scarcity of birds in the western section. However, two days we hunted to the west of Summerside and found many very large coveys, so this would seem to be contradictory. Again I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your management of the shooting on the Island.

Incidentally Mr. Goodwin bagged 27 Huns in 5 1/2 days hunting. There's no kick coming there. This columnist is still of the opinion that the overall Hun picture is down. In some sections they may even show an increase but in others getting a covey on the move is quite a chore. Some days hunters run in a lucky vein. They'll set their dogs down in a 20 acre field within a stone's throw of the only covey it holds. Another day it will be just the reverse. By the time the dogs have just properly got started the covey sneaks out of the stubble and pulls the old "fade-away" stunt. Many of the old covey leaders have a hunch what is in the wind the minute setters or pointers enter a field.

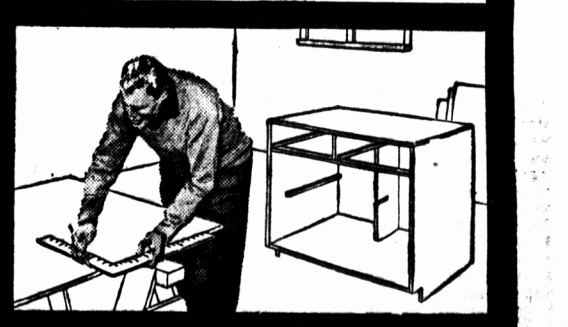
GOOSE EXPECTED
Goose shooting has entered a lull. The flocks that arrived weeks before the open season and settled on some particular stubble field underwent their baptism of fire on Saturday or Monday of the opening days. The usual heavy flight of new arrivals, some of them green as cabbage, is expected to hit the province around November 1st. The first week in November is generally conceded to be the goose week. The odd goose is being picked up by the persistent hunter, and also by those who do not hunt at all. A goose incident that happened this week just came to my notice. It has its amusing as well as its not so amusing side. It appears two goose hunters, from the home of goose hunters approximately 10 miles across the river from the city, were shunting bent in Village Green. They took a shot at a flock and watched one of its members leave the flock and fall several hundred yards away near a farm-

er and his wife who were enjoying a walk over their property. With some misgiving they watched the farmer run the goose down and catch it. Starting up their truck they intercepted the pair as they were crossing the highway opposite their gateway. The farmer played it pretty smart. Observing the truck bearing down upon him, its two occupants with fire in their eyes and powder in their hip pockets, he promptly hauled the goose over to his wife. She was master of the situation. She told them in part: "I didn't see you shoot the goose. Maybe you did and maybe you didn't. I do know that my husband caught the goose on our own property and I'm keeping it!" She won out. The hunters were in the right mood to have rolled her husband in the ditch and taken the goose off him. A woman would be real dynamic in an incident like that. Too bad boys...better luck next time.

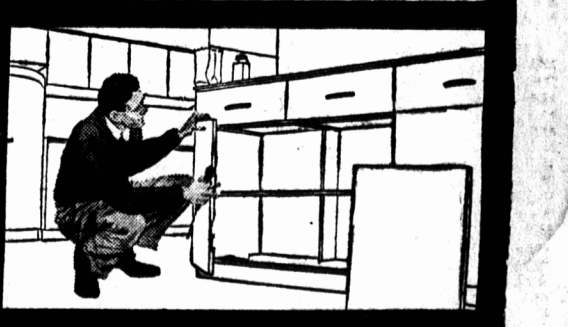


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