DOWN THE BACK STRETCH

Yonkers Raceway, one of the finest half mile tracks in the world, opened its racing season last Monday night. Six hundred new stalls had been built and were all ready for the arrivals from Florida and elsewhere. The first tenant to move in was Stanley Dancer. He had been training not too far from Yonkers, and later Billy Haughton came in from Florida with between 60 and 70 trotters and pacers. Attached to each of the barns is a dormity for grooms containing three rooms and up to date bath facilities. Six of the barns have 76 stalls each and two have 84 stalls each.

There are also four blacksmith shops and a harness shop. The floors are made of 8-inch concrete, four inches of gravel topped by ten inches of packed dirt. Each stall has a floor drain, sliding Dutch door and window. There are plenty of cold water and hot water outlets in the barns. The stalls are ten feet square which, according to biblical history, is the same size as used by Solomon's charioteers. The cost of the barns was $2,700,000. They are built of cinder block and concrete and in addition to the above stable requirements they have everything else necessary for modern conveniences of horses and grooms. Yonkers will have a total program of 105 nights and the season will be divided up between that track and Roosevelt Raceway.

STABLES BURN

Fire of an undertermined origin levelled three large wooden stables at the Topsharm, Maine, Fair grounds last week. Six race horses had to be killed because of injuries. The officials of the fair grounds estimated the buildings replacement value at $30,000 and William Berry, State Racing Steward, valued the destroyed horses and lost equipment at nearly $40,000. Two of the horses Peter McManus 3, 2.14 3-5, a 4-year-old pacer owned by Ken Irvine of Mars Hill and Pineland Jill 3, 2.13 2-5, a 4-year-old pacer owned by Walter M. Reed, Fort Fairfield, ran back into the blazing stables and succumbed. Four were rouned up by police and fire fighters in downtown Brunswick and five were caught on the Topsham Bridge.

Other horses were so injured by the flames that they had to be destroyed. They are Express Vic, owned by Harold Ralph, Chuck Lybrook 4, 2.06 2-5, a 5-year-old pacer owned by Harry Bass, Houlton, Lightning Volo, owned by Russell Peavey, Bangor, June's Hope, a 2-year-old out of June Morning 2.04 3-5, owned by Simonson Brothers, Bridgewater, Maine. June Morning was bred by Power Brothers, Charlottetown, and was formerly owned by George MacDonald Mermaid, who sold her during her early racing career to J. Henry DeWitt and he re-sold her to Simonson Brothers. June is the fastest pacing mare ever bred on Prince Edward Island.

Stanley Mayhew and Cyril Smith were in the vicinity of Topsham shortly after the above fire took place and they said it was one of the saddest sights they had ever seen.

The world's fastest 2-year-old pacer Torpid is being readied for a long season of racing and is entered in all the principal 3-year-old pacing stakes in the U.S.A. He is owned by Sherwood Farm of Irvington, N.J. and closed out a brilliant juvenile campaign last fall when he raced to victory over the mile track at Lexington Kentucky, in 1.58. This performance had surpassed all previous records for a 2-year-old colt and also beat the 1.58 1-5 mile which the sensational filly Good Counsel set up earlier at DuQuoin, Ill.

The world mark of 2.00 for juvenile trotters is held by Scott Frost and he was driven to that record in 1954 by Joe O'Brien. Torpid won 17 of his 19 starts last year and his owner collected $73,376, which is a new record for 2-year-old pacers. In addition he won at Roosevelt Raceway in 2.02 2-5 and in doing so set a new world's half mile track record for pacing colts that was later tied by Adios Express, owned by Sol Camp and driven by Joe O'Brien. These two will meet again in battle array in the larger stakes this season.

FAST HEAT

Away out in Sunny California at Santa Anita track on March 20th Hawkins Hoss, owned by Walter S. Found of Merced, formerly of this province, was photoed out in one of the fastest heats raced there so far this season 2.01 3-5. It was the Lakewood Pace, purse $5,180 and Hawkins Hoss was parked out for the most part of the mile making his performance a really exceptional one, probably equal to 2.00. Sea Eagle, owned by C. M. Saunders, got the nod from the judges.

Joe O"Brien started Diamond Hal in the Free For All Pace, purse $5,800, but he couldn't make the grade and finished fourth in 2.01 1-5. The winner was the sensational Dottie's Pick 1.56 4-5, owned by J. E. and C. E. Armstrong of Brampton, Ont. and driven by Del Miller. She had the honor of being the fastest harness horse in the world last year. Joe O'Brien stated after the above race that Scott Frost, Horse of the Year in 1955 and 1956, would not be started at the meeting. He had not beaten 2.13 up to that time and will move east with the other horses of the Camp stable about the middle of the month of Yonkers Raceway.

The Rudnick Speed Sale at Dover, Delaware, held March 19 resulted in between 50 and 60 horses changing hands. The top price of the sale was $4,500 paid for Mary Ogle 3, 2.12 4-5. In the Year Book she doesn't look like that kind of a trotter as in 29 starts she had one first, five seconds and 12 thirds and won $1,835. The Maritime horsemen Layton Petigrew, who races in Quebec, bought Spencer Rapid — no record — for $1,050 and Elsa Hanover 7, 2.08, a 10-year-old pacing mare for $560. A lot of the horses sold from $135 to $560.

The fast trotting mare Misstatement 6, 2.02 4-8, owned by Walter S. Found Merced, Calif., and trained by Clarence Hansen, has been retired after failing to stand training. This mare earned $14,082 last year and has a lifetime total of $21,766.

Horsemen friends will feel great sympathy for Dr. Hammond Kelly, who met with a very distressing accident last Sunday which will incapacitate him for a considerable time. The Doctor has never spared himself in answering calls and his excellent services have been remarked upon by hundreds of people throughout Queens Country. We all hope that before too long he will be able to be up around again practising his profession.

In conversation with Mrs. Gallant we learn that Emmetts has improved greatly in the past week and should be able to leave hospital in a few more weeks but of course he will have to take things easy for a considerable time. Fortunately his son Jack is helping out and that will take some of the worry from Emmett's shoulders. He has always placed the horsemen's needs above other considerations and it is that and other good qualities he has which has made him so popular.

PURSES LARGER

We note that they are hiking the purses in the stakes that will be raced in the State of Maine this year. Two races call for nomination fees of $50 on each horse and 34 have nominated for the pace which is expected to have 12 to 15 starters on race day and the purse will be $10,000 or slightly better.

Only one pacing feature has ever exceeded a $10,000 purse in the New England States and that was the $25,000 put up by Allan J. Wilson of Boston for a free for all pace at Windsor, Conn. track over a quarter of a century ago.

It brought together a son and a daughter of Grattan Royal, then owned by Charlie Barrett of Park Hill, Ontario. The two Grattans had a terrific contest, each winning two heats and one other contestant winning a heat. The final was won by Grattan Bars. He went one to take a record of 1.59½ and to win two $25,000 stakes and Widow Grattan took a record of 2.00 and is the dam of one of the best pacing sires in the United States — The widower 1.59½. Allan Wilson was born in Cardigan, P.E.I.

Gorham, Maine, where the feature pace mentioned above will be raced, is also holding a free for all trot that has attracted quite a number of entries, two of them owned in the State of Maine — Galaphone 1.58 1-5, world's champion racing trotter over a half mile track with 2.00 1-5 and the champion trotting filly Egyptian Princess 2.00 3-5. The former is owned by W. T. Maybury of Dexter, Maine, and the latter by the Woolworth Brothers of Winthrop, Maine. We presume that Scott Frost 1.58 will also be an entry and is so it will be anybody's race.

Ruth Ann Rodney, a 2-year-old filly that paced a mile in 2.11 at the Ben White Raceay, Orlando, Florida, two weeks ago and a few days later paced a mile in 2.13 with the last half in .59 3-5 and the last quarter in 29 seconds, has been sold by owner-trainer-breeder Thomas B. Carlock to Pine Acres Farm and Walnut Hall Stud and will be trained and raced by Billy Haughton. She is a free-legged half sister to Thomas B. Scott p. 1.58 3-5 and has stepped the fastest half mile that we can recall by a 2-year-old in the month of March.

HISTORY

Wes Nicholson, well known barber of this city has very kindly turned over to us a number of issues of the Horsemen and Fair World, also other harness horse publications, score cards, etc. Among them are interesting articles written by great turf writers of years ago and summaries of some of the great races held over our local tracks that we are sure our readers will be interested in. . A tough one The 2-19 Trot-2.22 Pace raced at Fredericton, September 18, 1913, with the final heat on September 19, Devilish Dorothy (Cameron) 4-7-2-1-2-1-1; Don Paine (Carroll) 1-1-3-3-5-3-3; Lady Bell (Dug (Brickley) 5-5-5-4-8-4-4; The Patchen Lady 6-2-1-dr; three other starters. Time, 2.19½, 2.20½, 2.18¼, 2.24¼, 2.20¼, 2.19¼, 2.24. Devilish Dorothy was owned by the late Dr. J. T. Jenkins, Charlottetown.

And this is another famous seven heat race . . . Seek and ye shall find — we found to be true for after considerable hunting around we finally landed on the summary of the seven heat race. It was one of the toughest ever seen and the surprise about it was not so much the win of Uscita, who was known to have great staying qualities, but the amazing showing of The British Soldier that was always thought to be only good for three heats. Uscita was splendidly driven by Dannie Steele, while The British Soldier had the old past master, ex-Mayor O. S. Brown up behind him.

It was P.S. at his best and those who can think back will recall how cleverly he drove the Soldier that day. Miss Belle Rico was in her top form and was well handled by owner W. B. MacArthur, while Brenton H., dead-game son of Oakley Baron, driven by Henry Hooper, put up a marvelous performance being the contended in three of the heats and the winnter of one. Here is the summary—Charlottetown Exhibition, Sept. 28, 1921-2.19 Trot. Uscita (Steele) 4-4-4-1-1-4-1; The British Soldier (Brown) 3-1-3-4-4-1-2; Miss Belle Rico (MacArthur) 1-2-2-3-3-2-ro; Brenton H. (Hooper) 2-3-1-2-2-3-ro, Gay Moko, 5-dis. Time: 2.17½, 2.18, 2.19½, 2.19¾, 2.18½, 2.21.

The first five heats were raced on the 28th and it wal almost dark when they were postponed until the following day when the last two heats were raced, the first of them being on by The British Soldier amid tremendous cheers. It was a close finish and required the most superb tactics of driver Brown to head the daughter of

KUENN SAFE AT THIRD

Harvey Kuenn, Detroit Tigers' shortstop, is safe getting back to their base after the St. Louis Cardinals caught him in a rundown between third and home Kuenn broke for home as Ray Boone grounded to Ken Boyer at third. Hoyer made his throw to home and here makes his tag on Kuenn after taking the return throw from catcher Hoble Landrith. Boyer dropped the ball and Kuenn crawled back safely. Al Dark, Cards' shortstop stands behind.

SPORTS TRAIL

Nothing Short Of Broken Bones Seems To Stop Enos

By WHITNEY MARTIN

NEW YORK (AP)—Note that Enos Slaughter, the kid who seems destined to stick with the Yankees this year, has been sidelined with a groin injury.

Declaring that "it can't be my age," the perennial youth—he'll be 42 April 27—says he'll catch up with the injury before the season opens, meaning he'll just get out there and work and work and eventually wear away the ailment.

We never cease to marvel at grandpappy Slaughter. Injuries which would incapacitate athletes 20 years his junior leaves him unperturbed.

Only broken bones force him to admit he isn't ready to play, and even those keep him out for a minimum of time.

We recall that in the first game of a world series he was struck on the arm by a pitched ball. He trotted down to first with no more apparent concern than if he had been used as a quick lunch by a mosquito.

He didn't even rub the arm.

"I wasn't going to let anyone know it hurt," he said simply.

Yet the injury was so serious the arm swelled, and it would have put anyone else out of the lineup. He continued to play through the series. He played out there in right field possibly dreading the time when he might have to make a throw. Fortunately the occasion did not arise.

Slaughter's ability to keep going on and on is due to two factors—never allowing himself to get badly out of condition, even during the winter months, and a determination that refuses to allow him to recognize the years.

We've watched him in the spring, when he would don a full-length rubber suit, although only a few pounds above playing weight.

Racing around like a teenager he soon would be sloshing around inside that rubber, the perspiration threatening to drown him any minute. He was the original fluid drive.

A little thing like a groin injury isn't going to keep the indestructable Enos idle long. He's all rawhide.

Peter Billiken. In the final heat the Soldier tired in the stretch and Uscita won. Dr. F. W. Christopher when he reads these notes will no doubt remember the thrill he got, but good sportsman that he was he congratulated driver Brown over J. Stanley Wedlock and also the other contestants, he was a good winner and would have also been a very cheerful loser.

Cyclone Taylor Has Operation

VANCOUVER (CP)—Fred (Cyclone) Taylor, 73, one of Canada's all-time hockey stars, was in satisfactory condition in Vancouver General Hospital following an emergency operation.

He was taken to hospital from his home Wednesday. Nature of his illness was not disclosed.

SPORT SNAPSHOTS

Injury Make A Baseball Payer A Liability To Team

By JACK SULLIVAN
Canadian Press Staff Writer

TORONTO (CP)—With hockey, baseball and football fighting for sports-page space these days, it appeared natural that someone should wonder out loud if baseball players are sissies compared to hockey and football players.

The question came up a couple of weeks ago when someone (a hockey fan) said that ball players drop out of action at the slighest hint of an ailment. They just can't take it with the men of the ice lanes and football field.

Eddie Froelich, who should know, says it isn't so.

EXPERIENCED TRAINER

Froelich has had plenty of experience in the three sports. He is trainer of Chicago Black Hawks of the National Hockey League and Chicago White Sox of the American Baseball League. At one time he held a similar job with Chicago Cardinals of the National Football League.

Froelich, writing in the Sporting News, makes the point that a bruised finger or hand will force a baseball player out of the lineup. "He can't throw with a bruised finger and he can't grip a bat properly. The same goes for a bruised hand. If he makes one throwing error it may cost the game and he's no good at the plate if he can't swing."

These ailments, Froelich claims, wouldn't handicap a hockey or football player.

He recalls the case of Harold (Mush) March, five-foot-five right-winger with the Hawks from 1928 to 1945 who, at one time in his career, played with a fractured thumb "and never missed a turn on the ice."

DEBATABLE POINTS

"Protection with a splint was all that was necessary. They do it in football, too" Froelich says. "You can play football or hockey with fractured ribs . . . in fact, if you're a lineman you can play football with a torn knee cartilage. When I trained the Cardinals, I sent linemen out with knees so bandaged up that they had only 50-per-cent movement. But that was all they needed."

Froelich got some argumnet on his last point from George Stockwell who was trainer of the Toronto Argonaut football club for 27 years.

"I wouldn't agree with that 50-per-cent mobility," Stockwell said. "A lineman needs at least 85-per-cent mobility after being taped up. If he has only 50-per-cent he'd be just about useless to the club."

Stockwell agreed that a lineman can play with a torn knee cartilage. "If it isn't too sever, a good taping job will allow him to play out the season but that boy must go to hospital for an operation on completion of the season," he said.

RIFLE SCORES

The weekly shoot of the York Rifle Shoot was held on Wed. Apr. 3, 1957 with high honors going to Myron Ling with a possible of 100.

Myron Ling	100
Jack Andrews	98
Alvin MacDonald	98
Louis Vessey	98
Howard Watts	98
David MacKinnon	97
Peter Proud	97
Lloyd Vessey	97
Angus Cluney	96
Shirley Vessey	96
Arthur Brown	95
Norman Brown	95
R.A. Vessey	95
Erma Watts	95
Joyce Ling	93
Willard Murray	93
Edison Watts	93
Fred Pound	92
Carol Hardy	91
Laken Lewis	91
Alex Robertson	90
Betty Andrews	89
Alan Brown	89
Barbara Cooper	88
Leigh Vessey	85
Robert Cooper	84
Bonnell Ling	80
Earla Ling	80

FAMOUS BANK

The Bank of England, central bank for the United Kingdom, was established in 1694.

Agrees To Revoke Racing License

MIAMI, Fla. (AP)—The Florida State Racing Commission announced Thursday it has unanimously agreed to revoke the license now held by Tropical Park Inc., for violating Florida racing rules and regulations.

The commission said it found that Tropical Park, through its president, Saul Silberman, had violated the law regarding distribution of horse racing information on numerous occasions.

Ireland Withdraws From Cup Play

DUBLIN, Ireland (AP) — Ireland withdrew from the 1957 Davis Cup tennis competition Thursday rather than play Hungary at Budapest.

The Irish Lawn Tennis Association said it was not prepared to send a team to Budapest in view of the "apparent state of unrest in Hungary." The Hungarians insisted the first round match be played in Budapest as scheduled.

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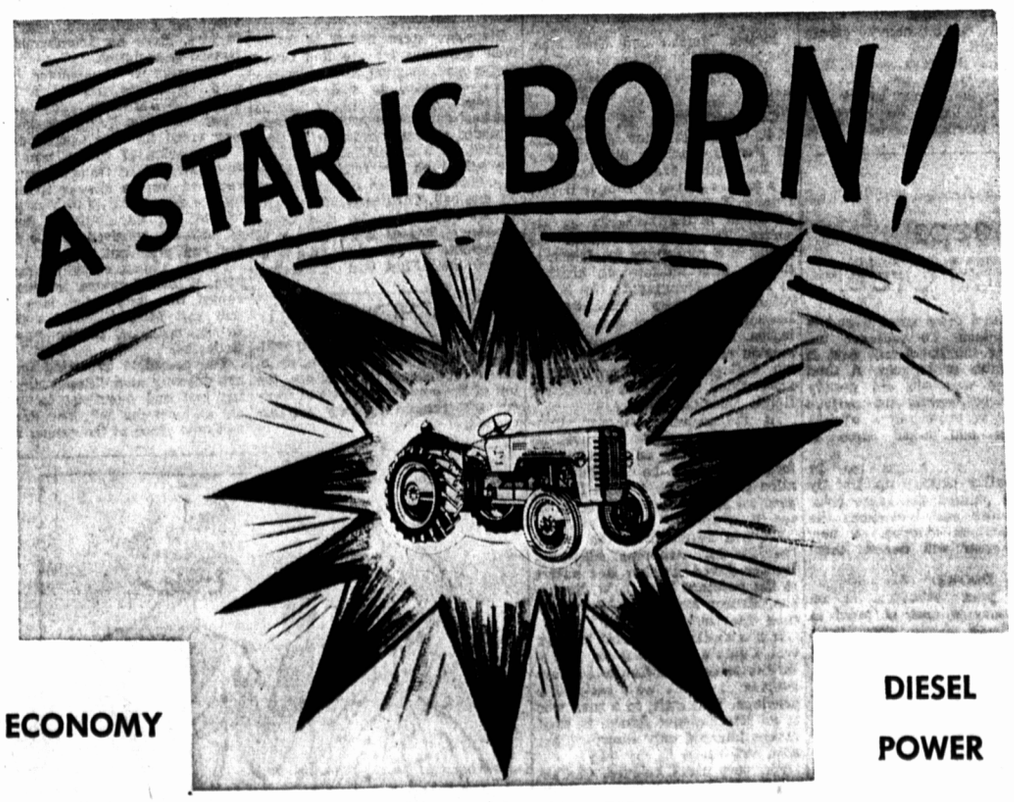

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