

Back Stretch

(Continued from page 6)
minutes. It is planned to
spring so that the horses will
be able to step with some sec-

Budlong, 2.16; Ronnie Spencer,
2.09; Penny Royal, 2.16; Twilight
Melody, 2.16 3-5; Pius, 2.16, and
a four-year-old Jollity owned by
Ree McHugh, which is a blue
roan with white spots on the hips
and is attracting a lot of atten-

2.05 2-5; Titan Emblem; Pepsit
Boy; Come On Billy.
The Buddy Cruikshank stable-
Just Rita, 2.11 2-5; Waycham,
2.04 4-5; Brewer's Gallon, 2.00
3-4; Newport Chief, 3, 1.59 3-5;
Jimmy Flood; Bruce Clegg;
Sylvia Lynn, due to foal.
The Jack MacMillan stable-
Miss Bineta 2.19; Falcourt Pal,
2.16 4-5.
We had a brief visit from
Stanley Mayhew, Kinkora, P. E. I.
Stanley will have a strong stable
this year, with this as a partial
list: Pet Hunter, 2.13 2-5; Fea-
ther Duster, 2.10; Lady Aubrey,
2.08; Dexter Scott, 2.11; Vivian
Strong, 2.14 (b) and 2.11 (p);
Oradale, a green trotter by Play-
dale, and several others that have
been given the very best of care
by the popular young trainer,
Clarkie Smith.

Hunters' Corner
(Continued from page 6)
while it slept, half covered with
drifting snow, on the ice at the
edge of an open spring and im-
mediately wants the bounty on
foxes raised. He sings a hopeful
song of woe about predation but
is as mute as the Harp that hung
on Tara's walls when two emm
on a stormy winter evening shoot
a bran bag full of black ducks
at the same spring. I know of
men who refrained from shooting
red fox pups because there was
no bounty of them. They prefer-
red to let them live in the hope
they'd run across one when there
is a price of three dollars on its
head.
BRED FOR BOUNTY
I sometimes chuckle over the
incident of a farmer who allowed

a skunk to mother a litter of
seven under a chicken house un-
til they qualified for bounty —
not Old Age Pension — and then
collected but let the mother go.
She returned the following spring.
In short time she was worth
seven dollars a year until a prow-
ling bounty hunter shot her. The
farmer was really burned up
over this event. A bounty is not
intended to be used as a money
making scheme. It is paid as an
inducement to hunt predatory
animals when the price of their
pelts is not enough to warrant
the time taken in skinning and
flushing.
I was in the bounty office a
few years ago when a man, who
rated as a professional fox hunt-
er, came in with nine fox pups
about the size of week old kittens
and one adult fox mask. The

mother of one of the litters hap-
pened to be out when the den
was dug open. He argued that he
should be paid thirty dollars. I
inquired which fox was in the
den and he told me the one with
the five pups. "Would the five
pups have lived without their
mother?" Ans. "No." "Q." "Why
should the Department pay out
eighteen dollars when an expendi-
ture of three sufficed to do the
job?"
NOT PLEASANT
He had no answer for that one
but intimated he was through dig-
ging out dens — not so long as
there was no bounty on young
pups. The ruling is that if a
fox pup, and this also goes for
the young of skunk and rac-
coon, is old enough to fend
for itself is considered in the
bounty bracket. Three month old

fox pups are pretty old fashioned
characters and can catch mice
easily. It's a messy business pay-
ing bounty on kits of any species.
In the days when bounty was
paid on young regardless of age
there were times when one need-
ed a gas mask. Five or six would
be packed into a tin can and
left till there were so ripe they
started to blend into an odorifer-
ous mass.
When the lid was off it was
time to open the door. It was a
case of taking ones word for
what the tin contained or how
many. I happened to be there
once when I figured they were
young kittens but how to prove
different was the question. The
bounty on young kits was dis-
continued for it encouraged frau-
dulent practices and was highly
unsanitary to boot. If red fox

pelts fetched from twelve to eigh-
teen dollars each as they did
some years back there would be
no need of a bounty.
The animal rated as Public
Wildlife enemy No. 1 is not the
fox, skunk or raccoon but our
common house cat and the woods
and fields are full of them. Many
live in the woods and swamps
the year 'round. A traveller told
me this winter that last June he
left Portage in Prince County at
ten thirty for Charlottetown. Just
for curiosity he kept count on
the number of cats he spotted or
whose eyes the headlights picked
up. 53 was the number and he
probably missed as many more.
Big tomcats have been known
to carry home half grown rab-

bits, adult Huns and hen pheas-
ants, to say nothing about song
birds of different species, and
yet only the odd hunter will liq-
uidate the big toms he encounters
in the wild back — country each
fall and winter...sometimes mil-
es from human habitation. A
few years ago a hunter in the
Grand Tracade area lined up the
sights on a big cock pheasant as
a first dawn lighted the east
and was in the act of sprang
the trigger when a big cat sprang
out of a near by hedge on to
the pheasant. The gun roared
and the cat went one way and
the pheasant another. It was a
good try but this particular hunt-
er has more misses in his sys-
tem than hits.

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