

Down The Back Stretch

away recently and was one of the owners of the Hanover Shoe Farm, pages 30 and 31 is a list of the standard record two-year-olds of 1954. On 23, Questions and Answers, which gives explanations of rules that are more or less technical. On page 24 is "The Best of Gocher" the memories of the three books written by the late W.H. Gocher. On pages 29, 30 and 31 is "The Story of The Man from Missouri," Bob Burns, Toledo horseman, who feels he has added years to his life by the change. On page 33 is a tribute to the late William E. Miller, President of Rosemount Raceway, who died recently from a heart attack just as he was finishing a race with Josedale Alate; also tributes to other horsemen including William Barefoot, owner of the great pacer Single G., who died at 92 years of age. On pages 37 to 49 are decisions of U.S.A. cases, suspensions and fines and on 49 and 50 a list of the registrations during the months previous.

With racing in full swing at the fall fairs in Maine and a number of lifetime bred or owned horses of this time, we requested our friend Cecil H. McGinley of Union, Me., to keep us posted on happenings in the potato state. He writes: "A friend who listened to the Albany, N.Y. radio report on the Seaside race last week told me that Henry DeWitt was the winner with Maiky Frisco in 2:08 and with Dominion's Pride in 2:07 4/5 the same night. He shipped there from Presque Isle fair and I also heard that Skelter, owned by Bob Brown, won at Quebec City in 2:06 3/5."

"The unexpected death of Bill Stiles of Woodstock is a great loss to his home city and to the business life of the community. He was a keen horseman and placed N. D. Hal 2:05 at the head of his stud and had seven weanlings by him the last time I was there. I think he had nine brood mares and five head racers." Cecil enclosed clippings with results of races in Maine. Skowhegan six day fair was carried through with almost perfect weather resulting in \$23,379 passing through the mutuels. It was the first uninterrupted meeting race in Maine this season—six straight days without rain. On the final day Watchin's Julia by Watchin, won the Class C Trot in 2:14 2/5. A. Union, Me., Marcia Clegg was second in the 2:24 pace, time 2:11 4/5. Frank Adams by Watchin, won both dashes in the CC Trot, the mile event in 2:13 4/5.

The fourth day of the Fair was highlighted by the fact that it turned out to be the fastest time in the 5th race. It was the fastest time of the entire week's racing—2:07. Mr. McGee was bred by W. D. Profit, Kensington, P.E.I. and his dam was Maywin by Watson Peter, dam, Delta Aubrey by Captain Aubrey, and she was bred by Alfred Jay, East Royalty. He was purchased in his two-year-old form by J. H. DeWitt, Woodstock. Dominion D. Hal took a record of 2:09 4/5 is also out of her and so is Marcia Clegg. The same afternoon Major Clegg was second in the 2:25 Trot. Marcia Clegg was second in the 2:22 pace. All the above are by Abner T. Clark; 2:04 1/2.

James Flood, master mechanic at the Guardian office, returned from an extended visit to his daughter and son-in-law, Betty and Joe O'Brien, and one of the pleasant incidences of his visit was flying from Vernon Downs to California with Mr. Sol Camp in his plane. While there they looked over from the air his thousands of acres of potatoes, his thousands of acres of forest and big cattle ranch with 12,000 head, and then by auto travelled around seeing some of the properties from the ground level. Mr. Camp has super-energy and thinks nothing of attending the races in New York then flying home to California and flying back again to the next meet. Jim returned home looking in the best of health and said that he had one of the most pleasant trips in his experience.

Claude O'Brien returned home late last week after spending 14 months in the United States and all that time he was connected with the Sol Camp stable, of which his brother Joe is head trainer and driver. Claude was principally employed in breaking young colts and giving them lessons and assisting in the shoeing. Later on he took over some of the colts, many of which were purchased at high figures, and continued training them at Vernon Downs, where part of Joe's stable was located. Joe, with racing experience, was at Roseville, Springfield, Ill. Some of his doings have appeared in this column. Claude said that they had not trained their horses nearly as hard as others but when he left their methods were paying off. As an instance he spoke of the 3-year-old Aristocratic Boy, that he started a couple of times at Vernon Downs and he improved each trip. Then Joe took him to Springfield mile 2:1. Grand Brewer, a 4-year-old, was 1:2 Time, 2:02, 2:01 3/5, Aristocratic Boy cost Mr. Camp \$21,000 and it looks as though he will be worth every dollar of it.

At Vernon Downs just shortly before Claude's departure he drove Kinging Way, a 2-year-old pacer by the Council, dam, Jane Asoff 1-18 1/2 to a win in 2:12 and the same night drove Pigeon Hill, a 3-year-old trotter to a win in 2:06. Both these were purchased as high-priced colts and before the season is ended they will be making the headlines in good style. Scott Frost was another one that Claude trained. He is a 2-year-old by Hoot Mon and Joe was second both heats in the Greyhound Two Year Old Trot at Springfield, purse, \$18,358 with him in 2:04 1/5, 2:04 2/5, heading such star two-year-olds as W. Ahead and Galophone, who a month ago had been slated as the greatest 2-year-old of the year.

Another 2-year-old that is marching right to the front is Dutch Hanover. He won his last two starts and took a record of 2:03 3/5 and he also won at DuQuoin on

Tuesday. We asked Claude about Meadow Pace, a 3-year-old by Adios, that was sensational as a 2-year-old last year winning \$42,660. Claude said he had shoulder lameness early in the season and they had to go along very carefully with him but before he left Vernon Downs he had worked him in 2:06 and Joe expected to start him shortly. Since speaking to Claude we notice where he started at DuQuoin on Tuesday and won the \$13,964 Matron Stake for 3-year-old pacers, both heats in 1:59 4/5, and he had to make a choice of whether to drive him (Smith) Hal 1:59 1/5 in the \$67,000 Little Brown Jug at Delaware, September 17th.

Joe's stable in Claude's opinion, will reach its zenith at Lexington and will continue good for the California meet which follows, and that is no doubt where Mr. Camp would like to have it shine in all its brilliance. Mr. Camp was very anxious to retain Claude's services, offering him a beautiful home, air-conditioned, and the management of his big breeding farm. It is Mr. Camp's intention to build a new breeding farm with a five-eighths mile track equal to anything in the world. His ambition is to bring the breeding of race horses and racing in California to the days of Senator Stanford, when the best of sires in the world were sent forth year after year from that nursery. While we were all proud to see Claude given such recognition yet we, like others, are prouder still to have him come back and live with us.

Pronto Don, that won practically every big purse trotting race last season and has been such a disappointment this year, made a comeback at Roseville Raceway in the Invitational Trot, purse \$15,000. Second to him was Lord Stewart and third that remarkable trotter Katie Key by Long Key. The time for the mile was 2:00 2/5 and the mile and one-sixteenth, 2:10 1/5, which is a new world's record for that distance.

Chris O'Donnell, who is an excellent sportsman, was no doubt pleased when he received the news that Bay State Pat paced in 2:10—the fastest mile paced at Old Home Week. Chris was prepared to give him away a year ago but one horse was nothing. Chris as he has a high class stable and last week at Foxboro, Bay State Tom by Volstead (the same sire as Bay State Pat) won the \$5,000 Invitational one mile dash and trophy in 2:05 flat from six fast free-for-allers. One of the horses in the Invitational Pace that finished third was Patrick Prince, owned by Walter S. Foster, Merced, California. Dannie Steele was also a winner at Foxboro recently with Arch's Easy Flo, time, 2:12.

What is considered the fastest gray pacer in the history of harness racing is Bobby Swift that won at Vernon Downs recently in 2:00 2/5. One of the greatest gray pacers that ever lived was The Eel 2:02 1/4, Canadian bred that raced against the best in the world in his day.

Roach MacGregor left Tuesday afternoon for Quebec City where he will race the Andrew Perry stable consisting of Jo-Jo Spencer 2:10, Bay State Pat 2:10, Yula 2:10 4/5 and the 4-year-old trotter Winnifred G. 2:18 2/5. William Batesman, who has been in the Charlottetown Hospital undergoing treatment, is now out and around and given a warm welcome by his many friends. Billy is a great horse lover and was caretaker and assistant trainer in the years ago for some of the best performers racing then. He has never lost that interest and we hope that he will be spared many years to enjoy the sport.

Fall fairs are on this week at Truro Raceway and Saint John Raceway and next week Fredericton Exhibition opens on Monday, Sept. 6th with a Junior Free For All and on Thursday there is a Free For All and on the 11th another racing program. There will be a total of 24 dashes....

Dr. Edward G. McQuaid of Baltimore, Maryland, a valued reader of this column, remembers us with one of the best photo-finishes we have ever seen. It was taken at Roseville Raceway and five horses are practically just noses apart. The Doctor writes: "I have read your column for years and enjoy it so much and I see in memory such drivers as P. S. Brown, Henry Hooper, George Reddin, Hammond Kelly, Max Steele and others, also Billy Brown, the efficient and courteous clerk of the course, that have passed on."

Here are summaries of races held this week in the Maritimes... Fredericton, N. B., Monday night—Both dashes by the feature event were won by Top Royal (Carr), owned by Miss Halliday, Calais, Me., Nottingham Chuck (G. Walker) 2-5, Bay State Joe (Mehan) 5-2, Time, 2:12 4/5, 2:13. In the 1st and 5th dashes Fredericton's Girl (Al Langille), owned by C. H. McGinley, Houlton, Me., was 1-3, King Hedgewood (Giberson), owned by the Presque Isle Racing Club, 2-1, Time, 2:18 2/5, 2:19 2/5. In the 2nd and 6th dashes Flying Fingo, owned and driven by Fred Johnson, Easton, Me., was 1-1, First Again (Imman) 2-5, Lucky Spencer (Burr) 3-2, time, 2:13 2/5, 2:14 3/5. In the 3rd and 7th dashes Pure Gold, owned and driven by Al Langille, was 1-2, Jo-Ann Castle, owned and driven by E. B. Savage, Fredericton, 3-1, Arlene's Money (Linden) 2-3, Time, 2:18 3/5, 2:15 4/5.

On Tuesday night at Charlottetown a torrential rain storm made it impossible to carry out the full program, but six of the eight dashes were raced, two of them un-

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der pretty disagreeable conditions. The most notable performance of the night was the winning of the classified trot by the 5-year-old Ginger Worthy, owned and driven by George McDonald, Mermaid. These were raced at a mile and a mile and a quarter respectively. Time for the mile was 2:20. Frisco the Great (Downess) 2-2, Night-hunter Alice, owned by James Brown, Hunter River, and driven by Elmer Smith, won the Curtain Raiser, Miss Pall (Campbell) 2-1, Sleepy Sam, owned by Walter Hennesey and driven by Joe Hennesey, won the 2nd dash with Lady Abner (Smith) 2-1, Time, 2:16 4/5. The 3rd dash was won by True Hal, owned by Walter Hennesey and driven by Joe, with Avalon Gal (McAiduff) 2-1, Time, 2:16 4/5. The 4th dash was won by Keppoch Playgirl, owned by H. B. Willis and driven by Harold Stead, Ellis (O'Meara) 2-1, Time, 2:23.

Wednesday night's races at Saint John resulted as follows... 1st and 4th dashes, Dannie Dale Boy (Crawford), owned by Bright Spot Club, St. John, 1-2, Spencer Key (Queen), owned by Barry St. John, 5-1, Time 2:18, 2:16 3/5. In the 2nd and 6th dashes Little Scout, owned and driven by D. M. Lawson, St. John, was 1-6, Diana O. Gratlan, owned and driven by J. Robichaud, Bucoche, 3-1, Time, 2:15 2/5, 2:17 1/5. In the 3rd and 7th dashes Jean Aubrey (Davison), owned by L. Cook, St. John, was 1-1, Colonel Sherbrooke (Armstrong) 3-2, Billy Protector (Renaud) 3-2, Time, 2:21 2/5, 2:23. In the 5th and 8th dashes the pacer Colonel Mansford, owned by L. MacAulay, Sydney, and driven by Joe McDonald, 1-3, Ramona Chips (M. Lawson) owned by the Bright Spot Club, 4-1, Time, 2:14, 2:15 2/5.

At Moncton Raceway Wednesday night in the 1st and 5th dashes Peter Federal (Killam), owned by Frank Ryder, Moncton, was 1-2, Lou Budlong (MacArthur), owned by T. J. Ling, Kensington, P.E.I., 2-1, Chevie G. (Moreside) 3-4, Time, 2:18 3/5, 2:19 2/5. In the 2nd and 6th dashes Rajah Hanover (Moreside) owned by Myron Bell, Charlottetown, was 1-3, Tommy Morgan (MacNeill), owned by F. C. MacKay, Northam, P.E.I., 2-1, Time, 2:16, 2:14 3/5. In the 3rd and 7th races Miss Knox (MacNeill) was 1-6, Anuncio (Walker) 3-1, Single Streak (Belliveau) 2-4, Suffolk Chief (Moreside) 7-2, Time, 2:13, 2:12 1/5. In the 4th and 8th races Ann's Dream (MacNeill), owned by Jack Curran, Summerside, was 1-1, Abbeland (Jardine) 2-2, A. G. Scott (Moreside) 3-3, Mighty Grand (Killam) 4-5, Texas Hanover (Barrieau) 5-4, Mighty Bold (McAiduff) 6-6, Time, 2:09 3/5, 2:10 2/5. This is a new record for Ann's Dream, who has certainly turned out to be a real top pacer in defeating such a formidable list of free-for-allers. About a week ago Suffolk Chief, 4-year-old pacer owned by Cmdr. George Buntain, was second in a very close finish over Moncton Raceway in 2:12 2/5 and you will note that he was second in faster time in the 7th race Wednesday.

Racing was held on Wednesday afternoon and Wednesday night at Truro Raceway in connection with the Provincial Exhibition which is on there. Winners in the afternoon were: Races 1 and 4, Fraser Scott (LeBlanc) owned by Carl McCully, Truro, was 1-1, Pepper Shaker (L. Walker) 2-2, time, 2:18 3/5, 2:17 3/5. In races 2 and 6 Billy P. C. Parker (Daniels), owned by P. Harvey, Windsor was 1-1, Tom Stewart (D. Turner) 2-6, Follow Up, Jr. (Fletcher) 6-2 time, 2:15 4/5, 2:15 4/5. In races 3 and 7 the Trotter Patrick Budlong, owned and driven by George Turner, was 1-1, Junior Hal (MacLeod) 2-4, Time, 2:17 4/5. In races 5 and 8 W. F. McVolo (Carr), owned by W. F. McGibbon, St. Stephen, was 1-1, Handbook (Ratchford) 2-2, Time, 2:10 2/5, 2:08 3/5.

In the night program race 1 was won by Baraco, owned and driven by C. R. Johnston, Truro, Wayne Budlong (Kennedy) 2-1, Time, 2:22. In races 2 and 6 Twilight Melody (D. Pinkney), owned by R. D. Bennett, Weymouth, N. S., was 1-1, May Josedale (MacLeod) 2-3, Nancy Budlong (Daniels) 3-2, Time, 2:18 3/5, 2:17 1/5. In races 3 and 7 Pepper Boy, owned and driven by George Turner, Dartmouth, was

er. He had the answers in Court. He gave his reasons for shooting the duck that it was wounded and in bad shape so he put it out of its misery. He also done another good turn for his cat... it had a good dinner. Asked why he went to the trouble of wrapping it in his sweater he replied that it was very hot and he took his sweater off and it was easier to carry them both together. I think he'd make the quiz show. The Court must have been impressed with his Boy Scout act. He got off with the minimum fine.

Many broods of ducks are still in the "flapper" stage, especially the late hatches, and if a duck cannot fly it's no sign that it was wounded. Quite a few complaints are being received regarding the shooting at ducks. Shots are heard by anglers and farmers in the early dawn and late dusk and ducks observed in hurried flight. Ducks have been seen in flight with a leg hanging. The open season is over a month distant so what will hunting conditions be on many ducking grounds on October 9... Not hard to guess.

Anglers are along marsh and streamside from dawn till dark and some I know have definite evidence to impart but are withholding it. They lack the intestinal fortitude of the fisherman in question. If there were a few more like him poaching conditions would improve... and fast.

After all, fellows, the gunner who opens his own season in August, shoots till the opening day and then hangs his gun on the rack, is sabotaging your sport so why cover up for him? Why grouse and complain about the blinds you find and the empty shotgun shells kicking around your favourite shooting spot when the day breaks on the opening? You hold the key that will solve the problem... remember that.

1-2, Rockford (Conroy) owned by Well MacNeill, was 2-1, Time, 2:16 1/5, 2:14 4/5. In races 4 and 8 Joey Harvester (Conroy), owned by Well MacNeill, was 1-6, My Darling (O'Meara), owned by Senator G. H. Barbour, 3-1, Time, 2:13 2/5, 2:12. In races 5 and 9 Buddy Clegg (L. Walker), owned by J. C. Ryan, Springhill, was 1-2, Rusty Hanover (Carr), owned by Sunrise Stables, Calais, Me., 4-1, Time, 2:17, 2:17 1/5.

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Hunter's Corner

but who waits till the opening day, stopped him and inquired what in heck he thought he was pulling off. The guy didn't have to answer for at that moment the head and neck of the sweater and hung there limply in mute condemnation of his act. The fisherman didn't waste words but told him bluntly he was reporting him.

In due course I called on the 16-year-old poacher. I thought rather whimsically how time rolls around and it seemed almost like yesterday, although it was 24 years ago, that I was on the trail of his grandfather. It was a bitter March day with alet stinging one's face and the eerie notes of spring wild-geese coming in broken cadence downwind. My quarry eluded me as I talked at asking Prince, my black western perch, to swim the Black Bush channel. That would have been sheer suicide for both of us. How time flies.

The subject of my visit admitted he was expecting trouble. His story in condensed form is as follows: "Went over to the sand hills to hunt foxes. Saw this duck sitting by the edge of the pond. It was small... don't know whether it could fly or not. Shot it and took it home and gave it to the cat". I asked him why he wrapped it up in his sweater. No answer.

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