

BACK STRETCH

Continued from page 6
Lassie, whom he is greatly pleased with. She has been worked slowly and at last writing had been down to 2.30. After she got her hand legs the slowest miles she seemed to want to go were around 2.47.

They have a good blacksmith there and he has shod her all around with aluminum shoes. The first races were expected to be held Thursday and Lassie would be one of the contestants. We are sure the friends she made here will be hoping that she will give great pleasure to her new owners and the people of Bermuda.

DANNIE STEELE

The many friends and relative of Dannie Steele, one of the oldest and most popular drivers in Massachusetts and the dean of all Bay State reinsmen, will be pleased to learn that he and Mrs. Steele were receiving congratulations from many quarters on January 17, the 47th anniversary of their wedding. Dannie is an usual local at the Metropolitan Speedway where he has a full stable. Through the years this has been the case with Dannie and the reason is that his patrons are his friends and he enjoys their utmost confidence. As a boy of fourteen Dannie started his driving career and when he was eighteen he set up the track record at Charlottetown which stood for a long time.

In 1912 he had the former Grand Circuit pacer Vesta Boy 2.05 1/4 that was quite a notional horse and had seen his best days. At that time Halifax was the mecca for Maritime reinsmen and Frank Patch, owned by Adams and Mitchell, was the fastest pacer in the Maritimes his record at that time being around 2.13 1/4.

Parties in Boston hearing about the great pool selling that took place in Halifax, sent down the pacer Banner B. 2.08 1/4 for the free for all, which carried the biggest purse. There were two or three other horses, Maritime owned, that filled up the class. There was tremendous speculation on the event and Vesta Boy's chances were considered so slim that he sold for \$2.00 in a \$50.00 pool. The writer and another Islander visited Dannie the afternoon before the race and he seemed confident but of course we couldn't see it his way.

The first heat was won by Frank Patch in a fairly close finish with Banner B. Frank also won the second heat. In the third Frank and Banner B. were leading Vesta Boy at the three-quarter pole by at least 25 yards. Shortly after Dannie seemed to be gaining but when they were at the head of the stretch he was still back three or four lengths. Through the stretch he came on with giant strides, just seemed to be flying at the last end of it, and won by a neck.

Having the pole he won the next heat and in the race of the following day was again the winner. It was the biggest upset in harness racing that we can recall and those who had a bit of faith in Vesta Boy were handsomely rewarded. One of the last Maritime bred and owned pacers that Dannie drove was Bob Mac, that was practically unbeaten in all his starts that year finishing up the season with a record of 2.11 1/4, which with the heavy tracks of those days would be equal to about 2.08 or 2.09 today.

HORSE OF THE YEAR

At the New England Horsesmen's Banquet held in Boston January 17, Belle Acton 2.012-5, owned by George Landers of Kittery, Maine, was voted horse of the year. In 22 trips to the starting post the daughter of The Widower 1.59 1/4, a former New England favorite, was returned the winner in 16 with three seconds and two thirds. Rounding out her racing chart her season's winnings came to \$40,300, the largest ever gathered by a juvenile filly from the "Down East." This filly cost the owners less than \$1,500 and was certainly a rare bargain.

RETIREES

Marvin Childs has resigned as superintendent of Hanover Shoe Farms, Hanover, Penn. This brings to a close one of the illustrious careers of harness racing. It is that helped to write much of racing history in the "roarin' 20's" and who are still active today. The trio are Fred Egan, Tom Berry and By Shively. Childs took over the post at Han-

over in December of 1947. During his stay there he sent into the public sales ring at Harrisburg eight crops of yearlings. These 796 untried youngsters sold for \$2,946,450, with his final crop setting a farm record 111 sold for \$563,100, for an amazing average of \$5,073. Prior to Hanover, Childs had been superintendent of famed Almahurst Farm of Henry Knight at Lexington, Ky., for 13 years, where he had charge of both the harness horses and the thoroughbreds.

For a long period prior to Almahurst, Childs was one of the leading trainers and race drivers of the Grand Circuit. Coming out of Nebraska as a young horseman, he was not long in winning national recognition as one of the best in the driving profession. He appeared with such pacers as Ben Earl 2.01, Hal Boy 2.01, Hal Mahone 2.01, Raiter 1.59 1/4.

In 1927, he scored his greatest triumph, winning the most sought-after modern classic, the Hambletonian Stake. That Fall at Lexington, Ky., Childs defeated Walter Cox and Nescopee in the second racing of the stake, the fastest mile 2.03 1/4, the record for the mare Tosola's Worthy that was to go on to further greatness in the broodmare ranks. The new superintendent at Hanover is one of the youngest ever entrusted with such a position. Leo C. McNamara, Jr. of Indianapolis. Young McNamara is well grounded for his new position, coming from the McNamara family of Indianapolis which has made Two Galts Farm known wherever harness horses are raced.

In the Moncton Daily Times we notice that at a meeting of directors and management of the Moncton Raceway, Ltd., held in the Windsor Hotel January 24, a discussion took place regarding plans to renew the Monctonian Stake race for a purse of \$5,000 some years ago. It would be staged in July and should attract the fastest pacers in the Maritimes, Maine and other points. The directors and management were greatly pleased by the interest shown in the racing last season and their attendance and they plan that for the coming season they will provide the same with another banner racing year. Thirty meets were held during the 1955 season with over 36,000 in purses being paid out to horse owners.

It is hoped, weather permitting, to have the barns and track ready around April first to enable the horses to begin their Spring training. If this is possible some half mile dashes could be raced in May with the full scale summer racing getting under way early in June. Oty Stevenson, manager of the Raceway, will take over the duties of race secretary from the late Arthur Kelley of Woodstock. Mr. Kelly had been in the position of pari-mutuel manager will again be in the position.

Murray. Directors present were Walter B. Cluff, Woodstock, Leslie Stiles, Belmont, Mass. and Frank A. Ryder, Moncton.

The many friends of Walter Hennessey of this city were greatly shocked to learn of his death on Thursday night. "Wal" had not been in the best of health but always appeared with the same kindly, cheerful manner so that no one suspected his early passing. He was a kind and loving husband and father and a true friend to many. In fact all through life Wal had the capacity to make friends and to hold them and everywhere we go we meet horsemen who speak highly of him. He was a great supporter of harness racing and owned among others Barney Hanover 2.07, Hush 2.10, Charlotte B. 2.09 1/4, Filbert 2.09, True Hal 2.06, Dale H. 2.06, Royal-at-Law 2.04, Bee Building 2.13, Pagliacci 2.09 1/4, Cheeky Chief 2.04, Lucky Number 2.11 1-5, Sleepy Sam 2.13 4-5 and Royal Value 2.04 2-5. To his bereaved wife and family we extend our behalf of ourselves and other horsemen our deepest sympathy in their great loss.

While in Moncton recently we learned of the death of that very fine old reinsman Bennett Whalen of Amherst, N. S. He had been with horses for over sixty years and had driven on every track in the Maritimes. Wherever he went he was respected and liked and the horses he took care of would be sure of having the best of attention and be very kindly treated. One of his favorites was Junior Hal 2.10 that he had in training last season. To his relatives we extend our sincerest sympathy which we are sure will be shared in by owners and drivers throughout the Maritimes.



TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS

Maple Leafs Top Producer

Tod Sloan "the Slinker" of the Toronto Maple Leafs is currently having his best season ever. Leafs' general manager Hap Day signed Sloan to a conditional contract in the fall. By it Sloan gets a basic salary and a graduating bonus for every goal scored over 20, 25 and 30. Already having 28 goals Tod could get into the 30 bracket this weekend when the Leafs are at home to the Rangers tonight and play the Bruins in Boston tomorrow night. (CP Photo)



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York Club Rifle Scores

The following are the scores for Wednesday, January 25th, at the York Rifle Club:

- Class 1.
Jack Andrews 99
George Andrews 98
Raymond Vessey 98
Ira Lewis 97
S.J. Birt 96
Utley Birt 96
Irene Hardy 96
Arthur Borwin 95
H.T. Vesey 95
Edison Watts 94
Leigh Vessey 94
Peter Proud 93
D.K. Swan 93
Cecil Watts 88
- Class 2.
Myron Ling 97
A.J. Cluney 97
Lloyd Vessey 96
Louis Vessey 96
Leonard Ford 92
Frank Watts 89
Norman Brown 89
Joyce Ling 81
- Class 3.
Hazel Vessey 94
Betty Andrews 94
Robert Cooper 94
Bonnie Watts 94
Elizabeth Watts 94
Leslie Birt 94
George Proud 94
Frank Vessey 94
Alan Brown 94
Everett Wylie 94
Erma Watts 94
Donald Crockett 94
Class 4.
Stewart Vessey 94
Irving Vessey 94
Ray Doucette 94
Laker Lewis 94
Marjorie Lewis 94
Hilda Birt 94
Wendall Brown 94
Rosalee Cooper 94
Gary Thomson 94

National Gallery Shows Work By Quebec Artist

By DON PEACOCK
Canadian Press Staff Writer
OTTAWA (CP) — The National Art Gallery has reached into a peaceful Quebec village to lift another Canadian artist out of comparative obscurity with an exhibition of the late Ozias Leduc's works now touring Canadian cities.

The humble Quebec artist lived all his life, except for one brief visit to France, in the seclusion of his native St. Hilaire, a village near Montreal, where he died last June at the age of 91.

In his lifetime Leduc was known in the province chiefly for his decorations in churches. His murals can be found in about 30 churches, including the bishop's palace in Sherbrooke.

But in his long, unremarkable life he managed to complete almost 100 smaller oil paintings. From these some 40 have been chosen for the present exhibition.

TRADITIONAL ARTIST

Leduc, when he visited Paris in 1897, saw the works of the French impressionistic artists. But he returned to Canada still a traditionalist. His paintings depict with a simple realism the society of 19th-century rural Quebec with its poverty and rusticity.

This National Gallery exhibition was first suggested by Jean Rene Ostiguy, a former Montreal art critic and teacher who now acts as the gallery's information officer.

It was Mr. Ostiguy who helped Calgary architect-painter Maxwell Bates select the modern paintings shown at the Winnipeg Art Gallery last month amid some strongly worded criticism. Mrs. W. J. Waines of the Winnipeg Gallery's women's committee said the paintings left her "practically phys-

ically nauseated."

Asked whether the Winnipeg criticisms had any influence on the selection of Leduc's paintings, Mr. Ostiguy quickly replied: "Not at all." He said he recommended after the artist's death last summer.

"Tradition and good quality sometimes go together," he said, "just as abstraction and good quality do."

LONG UNNOTICED

Leduc won limited recognition in his own province as early as 1892 when he was awarded first prize by the Montreal Art Association for the best painting in a competition by an artist under 30. He was elected an associate of the Royal Canadian Academy in 1917 and awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Montreal in 1936.

It was not until 1954, however, that his skill with paints and brushes began to be more widely noticed. That year a retrospective exhibition of his work was shown at Montreal's Lycee Pierre Corneille.

The current exhibition left Ottawa in December, scheduled for showings at Quebec City, Montreal, Hamilton and Winnipeg. In its catalogue Mr. Ostiguy has written that Leduc always remained faithful to the old techniques, "yet he is close in spirit to our own generation because he always sought poetic values in his art."

Gilles Corbeil, a Montreal art critic also familiar with Leduc's work, writes in the same catalogue: "Leduc was indeed for Canada the link between the last lovely radiance of a past age and the mysterious dawn of a new day."

HUNTER'S CORNER

Continued from page 6

mainly of choice grasses and clover. Farm crops are not overlooked either. The little Ontario are also true rabbits like their English cousins. They also live in burrows or under brush piles and are fat as butter in October. Our so-called rabbits are in reality very long hares and are sometimes called snowshoe rabbits. They also dine on grasses and clover but their make-up appears to be different—it takes a sharp frost to prime them up.

Prime rabbits are eagerly sought as a choice food item. Some prefer rabbit to chicken. They are tops as a fricassee, pot-pie or in a savoury stew with dumplings. I have heard the complain that some householders feed rabbits to their dogs. In this connection Section 4 sub section 3(a) reads as follows: "No person shall feed, sell, or use, and it is illegal, is the 22 shot shell. It's a brass case crimped on the end and is loaded with foxes, mink or other animals."

In the days when fox ranching was booming rabbits snared in eastern Kings reached the city in thousands. Rabbit meat is too valuable to be wasted or destroyed, so for that matter is any form of game. Sub section 10 of Section 4 covers this angle. It reads thus: "No person who has taken a bird or animal suitable for human food shall wilfully allow the flesh thereof to be destroyed or spoiled."

The conviction in Magistrates Court (Queens County) this week of a person hunting rabbits with a 22 calibre rifle has brought the 22 rifle into the limelight. He was fined \$10.00 and costs. He told the court he knew it was illegal to use a 22 rifle on birds but thought it was allowed for hunting rabbits. He was wrong but the Court took his plea in the light that it was stock.

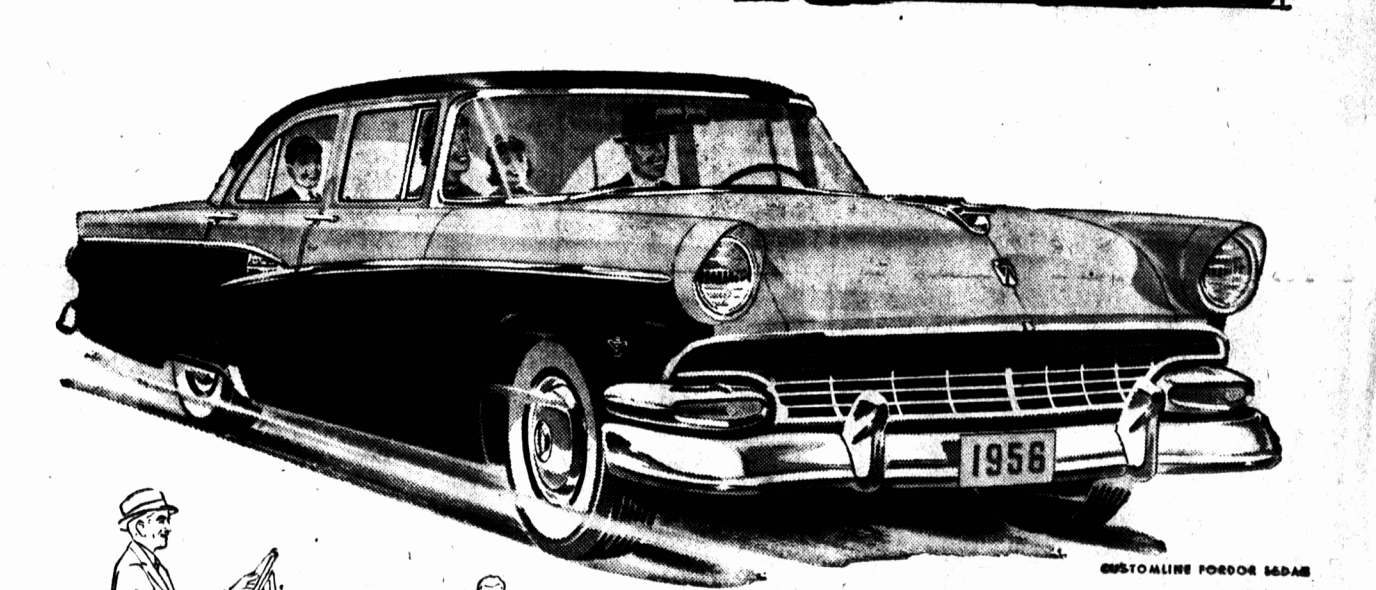
quite possible he did not know. It was on such an assumption that his rifle was returned. Future pleas on the same grounds may not bear the same weight.

Section 4 :2-a: reads: "No person shall, for hunting game, use or employ; a rifle or other firearm with a bullet or bullets". By definition of "game" means any animal, bird or fish mentioned in or protected by the Act.

RED SQUIRRELS

Many young men and boys in the country shoot and trap squirrels for their fur when their fur is prime and make a tidy sum in pocket money as well as enjoying healthful sport. Some use a shotgun; but with the price of 12 gauge shells there's not much profit left. Others use a 22 rifle. Squirrels are mentioned in the Act as being furbearers. In hunting squirrels the proper cartridge to use, and it is legal, is the 22 shot shell. It's a brass case crimped on the end and is loaded with fine shot size 9 or 10. It's very effective up to 20 feet and under. Squirrels are shot at or under that range. It has the advantage that it does not detract from the value of the pelt. A 22 bullet, unless through the head, will miss up a pel and cut its value by half. Although 22 shot shells may cost slightly more than the 22 long, it only amounts to a few cents. They may be purchased in Charlottetown for at least one hardware store has them in stock and it is quite possible that others also carry this line. The reason 22's are barred for use on game, including rabbits, is on account of the danger element. A rabbit or squirrel is just as dead whether shot by a 22 or a 12 gauge but if an army of hunters were allowed in the woods with 22 rifles there's no telling what might happen to humans or their lives.

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