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**Back Stretch**  
Continued from page 6

meeting, the others being by the four-year-old pacer Thunderclap in 1:59 4/5 and Scottish Chief in 1:59 1/5. The trio are all owned by C. M. Saunders of Toledo, Ohio, whose stable is the leading money winner at the Hollywood meeting. Scottish Chief 1:59 1/5 cost C. M. Saunders only \$1800 as a two-year-old and shows promise of being one of the best investments he has ever made.

A 13-year-old horse was a winner two weeks ago at Hollywood Park in 2:01 2/5—rather extraordinary time for a horse of that vintage. Other top milers were Miss Frondean's trip in 2:03 1/5. She is a three-year-old and Joe O'Brien drove the two-year-old Cheryl Hanover, by Bill Gallon, to a win in 2:06 2/5. This year over sixty miles had been trotted or paced in 200 or better over U. S. T. A. race tracks. . . . The world's record for a harness horse track holding consecutive meetings is claimed for Freehold, N. J. where it staged its 101st consecutive race meeting this season.

We note that Theme Song 3, 2:03 2/5 by Algiers 1:58 1/2, that was sold to an Italian buyer recently for a large sum, arrived by air last week to join the stable of Bergami Arrigo of Bologna for racing. Prince Phillip 2:00, the first two-minute trotter by Darnley 1:59 3/5, is also being exported to Italy for racing. Both these trotters will be prepared especially for the Prix de Amerique that will be raced in France shortly after the first of the year.

The Quebecers really have the money and go after the good ones. Among the top buyers there is Joseph Coughon of Quebec City, whose teamster is Jules Giguere, who raced horses in free-for-alls at Moncton some years ago. The latest acquisition by Mr. Coughon is H. B. Chief 1:58 3/5, that was to be one of the big drawing cards for the coming Indianapolis Sale. No price is mentioned but it will likely be \$20,000 or more.

Imperial Hanover, the yearling that brought the sensational price of \$72,000 at auction in Harrisburg four years ago and was a failure when trained for his two-year-old and three-year-old stakes but later took a record, was put back into the auction at Harrisburg and was knocked down for \$6,400. Probably twice that amount was spent for training him since he was first sold.

Our correspondent in Norton, N. B. writes us that Frankie Carr, well known harness horse driver, is training four horses there and expects to have two or more added to his stable in the near future. They are Flaxey Pointer 2:06, Just Nellie C. 2:19, owned by A. C. Titus, general merchant of Norton, Galloway by Federal and

Eugene Handover, owned by Tip O'Neill of St. John, N. B. We trust Frankie will bring them along in good shape and have a very successful season's racing next year.

We have a letter from our friend Louis G. Najac, secretary of the Rhode Island Driving Club and harness horse writer for the Providence Journal. This is part . . . "The boys that went over to Harrisburg sale are all back and several of them made purchases to represent them in 1954 at the different raceways. I learned with regret of the death of Roger Duncan, who was so long secretary of the National Trotting Association and afterwards with the obituary in the New York Times U. S. T. A. There was a nice about him. I guess his heart was not able to stand the strain for he had been a very active man in by-gone days and one whose word was his bond. Whenever he would make a trip to the Maritime Provinces in the years past he would tell me all about it when he returned. He had a splendid memory for people and was one of the finest friends one ever had. This is the mildest season of the year that we have ever experienced. People are not wearing topcoats through daylight hours here. Dandelions are in full bloom on our front lawn." . . . Thanks, Louis, and we re-echo your sentiments regarding Mr. Duncan.

And here is a letter from Sanders Russell, noted trainer and Grand Circuit driver who has had exceptional success with his string at Roosevelt Raceway this year. Mr. Russell is located at Stevenson, Alabama, and the writer had the pleasure of a visit to his home and considers the layout for a trainer one of the finest that can be found anywhere. Mr. Russell writes: "Your friend R. G. Logue has some very good looking young material with me and has also sent the free-legged pacer Prince Maplecroft 2:08. Weldon Carroll has come down with them and plans to bring his family shortly. The Bannerway colt is a rather impressive individual, acts like he can pace and carries a head full of sense."

Bannerway was No. 220 in Tattersalls Sale at Lexington, Kentucky, Tuesday, October 6, 1953, but was bought privately by Mr. Logue from Clarence F. Gaines, proprietor of Gainesway Farm. He was one of the very tops in the consignment from Gainesway Farm, that had the highest average for colts in the Lexington sale. His sire is King's Counsel 1:58, one of the greatest race horses of all time and leading living sire of 2:10 pacers, 2-year-old pacers, and his dam is Direct Lady 4, 2:07 3/4 by Billy Direct 4, 1:55, grandam, Dell Direct 2:03 1/2. Bannerway's whole pedigree sparkles with speed and his photo reproduced in Gainesway catalogue shows him as a large, beautifully built and very

sensible looking horse. We Maritimers will be hoping that Mr. Russell and Bannerway will make the headlines in the future, and Dick Logue will be well rewarded for his investment.

A friend who keeps a big scrap book brought us in a copy of the Guardian dated August 17, 1944, with an account of the races held Old Home Week the previous afternoon. Here are a few summaries . . . 219 Trot & Pace—Gay Ann (Callbeck) 2-1-1; Flo Direct (Moreside) 1-8-7; Singing Sam (Smith) 3-2-8; Muriel Hanover (Haley) 8-5-2; Belle of Brooklyn (Harrison) 4-3-4; Lady Hal (Hood) 7-6-3; Bright Spot (J. O'Brien) 6-4-5; Wait N'See (W. Kelly) 5-7-6; Dickalena (Jardine) 9-9-dir; Time, 2:10 1/2, 2:13, 2:15. The time in the first heat was a stunning surprise and a new record for Flo Direct. The winning horse was owned by George A. Callbeck, Summerside.

Junior Free-For-All — Josedale Josedale Hoosier (Hood) 1-1-3; Gay Law (Conroy) 3-8-1; The Great G. (Mount) 2-2-2; Joe Direct (Gaxter) 5-3-5; Nate Hanover (Harrison) 4-4-7; Royalat-Law (Sweeney) 7-5-4; Dale H. (J. O'Brien) 6-6-6; Bonnie's Boy (Coates) 8-7-8. Time, 2:08 1/2, 2:09 1/2, 2:11 1/2. The winner was owned by Charles Walker, Halifax.

2:22 Trot — Christie Budlong (Brookins) 3-3-1; Baron (O'Meara) 1-2-2; McNeill's Pick (MacNeill) 2-1-4-3; Mickey Volo (Jay) 5-6-3; May Lee (Sprague) 4-5-5; Petey-at-Court (Haley) 6-4-6; Johnny Eager (Seaman) 7-dir. Time, 2:13 1/2, 2:12 1/2, 2:12 3/4, 2:13 3/4. The winning horse was owned by George Brookins, Kensington.

**Hunter's Corner**  
Continued from page 6

settled quickly. As I picked my way across the railway tracks the parking lights gleamed like jewels on the darkened road and a yellow moon rode the spruce ridge to the eastward. . . . upland game bird shooting was over for another year.

As the Chev purred along the pavement my thoughts turned backward over the period since the season opened. It was the leanest season since I started shooting—not that game was scarce but I never hunted less. In the words of a song: "The years roll by as swiftly as a wink. . . ." and I made a quiet resolution that it would

not happen again if I had my way. Every year from now on fades into the limbo of the past is one less from an allotted span that has already shrunk past the comfortable stage.

At the start of the upland game season if someone had told me that I would let a stretch of two weeks go by without giving the dogs a workout I'd have laughed heartily at the joke. . . . but it did happen. Still I have one satisfying memory to carry me through till the next opening day. . . . I evened up the score with the old cook pheasant that cackled in my face, and got away with it, on the holiday that fell on the 2nd shooting day of the season. That both barrel miss still rankled and kept rourouring at intervals as the time for hunting shortened. On the 19th at exactly 3 o'clock in the afternoon I turned Sambo and Gipsy loose in the tract of waist-high alders that was the old cacklers fortress.

I felt I just couldn't let the season end without an attempt to redeem my self as I hadn't had another chance since my first miss. Furthermore my better half would disqualify me as a hunter if I let a season go by without a pheasant for the table. She'd rather a pheasant than a goose. It was a sort of forlorn hope gesture for I



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didn't have much hope of a shot. When I set foot in the alders I heard him crow. . . a ringing challenge to every rival within hearing to stay away from his stamping ground. . . . and I felt a sudden surge of anticipation. He was about 200 yards away and close by the spot where Gipsy had flushed him out on the morning of October 12.

The veteran Sambo, winner in many bouts with pheasants, moved in swiftly and I was a good 60 yards back when the old cock rocketed out of the alder tangle. He shot straight up into the blue and then levelled off at a 45° angle. I can see him yet with his long tail streaming behind and every colour in his expansive make-up etched in clear detail including the opening and closing of his beak as he called the dogs and the world in general every name in the catalogue. When I

left home I wasn't taking any chances with seven and a half Canucks but broke open a box of long range Winchester sixes. I was glad of it.

I swung on him and pulled the trigger of the left full choke barrel. The recoil butted my shoulder and the report had a wicked SPAANG. He flew straight into the shot charge and his scolding neck snapped back between his wings and he plummeted earthward with his long legs dangling and his wings and tail sticking straight up. . . . as awkward a bundle as one can imagine. He was a two year old and weighed an ounce short of three pounds. He's still in the fridge as I want to stretch the anticipation as far as possible. It's shots like those that linger in one's memory especially when there is considerable satisfaction involved.

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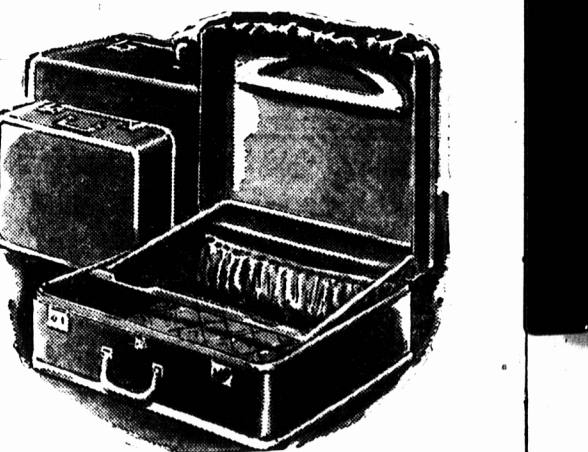
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