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VERXAS

RECORD AVERAGE FOR TROTTERS AT OLD GLORY AUCTION SALE EQUAL TO BILLINGS DISPERSAL

(By A. G. Asdikian in N. Y. Telegraph.)

The three days Old Glory auction of trotters at Squadron 'A' Armory passed into harness turf and breeding annals as the most phenomenal ever held, considering the total number sold, amount received, general average, lively bidding and great demand for all and every offering, irrespective of age and quality.

The demand for yearlings and prices paid during the three days were more sensational in comparison with previous trotting horse sales of any kind or held anywhere than the disposal of 438 thoroughbred yearlings at Saratoga last August at an average of a fraction less than \$3,800 per head.

Since the late William B. Fasig established thirty-one years ago, what is now known as the Fasig-Tipton Company, it has conducted over seventy public sales of trotters in New York, Boston, Cleveland and Indianapolis, yet in none final results have shown the average of \$825.42 for 420 head sold last week. Quite frequently final averages have hardly been more than half of last week's mark.

In more than one respect this sale far exceeded the one-day event on June 6, 1917, when the entire collection of trotters owned by C. K. G. Billings at his then famous Curl's Neck Farm, at Jamestown, Va., were sold at the Madison Square Garden, headed by the champion Harvester, which sold for \$3,100.

Close to Billings' Average.

At that sale, which was one of the most sensational in trotting annals, ninety-one head were sold for an average of \$342, against the grand average of \$325, or only \$17 per head more, including the Harvester, the champion pacer, Williams at \$8,000, an the finest and most expensive collection of broodmares.

The sale more than fully demonstrated that, due to the number of harness turf's juvenile features and their cash values, there has developed an unprecedented demand for properly bred youngsters, with individuality to warrant them as prospects for these future events.

The prices paid for the sixty-two yearlings from Walnut Hall Farm at an average of \$1,150.34 and the average \$1,217 for sixteen yearlings from Beaumont Farm consignment was by all odds the most phenomenal feature of the sale.

Although the highest priced horse from this collection brought less than The Harvester, yet its final average for seventy-three head as varied in age as those of the Billings dispersal, showed a final average of \$1,430.35, close to 50 per cent. being broodmares.

Chestnut Peter at \$29,000.

Basing opinions on the performances of youngsters and auction sale prices, horsemen and breeders unanimously agreed that Manager Burgoyne of Walnut Hall Farm secured one of the greatest auction bargains in Chestnut Peter at \$29,000. This son of Peter the Great will no doubt replace one of the three active stallions at stud service, San Francisco, who will be placed on the farm's pension list like the "Daddy" Moko and Walnut Hall.

Sale returns showed that there was very little demand for the get of San Francisco, as the nineteen sold by him reduced the average for the forty-two by Guy Axworthy and Peter Volo by almost \$300 per head, although two by him sold for \$2,000 each.

Before Chestnut Peter was brought in few guesses valued him less than the trotting stallion auction sale record price of \$32,000. These would no doubt have been verified if the contending bidder, Frank P. Fox of Indianapolis, had continued his bid.

The price paid was the fourth highest on record—Bingen at \$32,000 in a Readville sale, bought by Arthur H. Parker of Boston; The Harvester at \$30,100, by Paul Kuhn of Terre Haute, and Todd at \$30,000 by the late William Bradley of this city, yet none despite their ages had made at the time of their sale as good a record as Chestnut Peter.

Placed where he will be perhaps for all time, this son of Peter the Great will have ample opportunity to far exceed the speed producing mark of his sire during the next few years, with his present record at the age of 11 next month.

Sale's Effect on Breeding.

As in all former years, the Old Glory sale once again proved itself an indicator of trotting horse values and prospects for next breeding season, much to the satisfaction of breeders, small or large. The adage, "Breed at least one mare to a good stallion" will from now on be repeated all over

the country with every assurance of paying prices if sold in New York, or chances to enter and race them in purses of higher value than ever offered for trotters, especially 2 and 3-year-olds

As stated in the sale's daily reports the distribution of horses sold here was very wide, and when the training season opens next Spring it is certain that every prominent trainer will be educating one more of the high priced juveniles, only a fractional percentage of which were not eligible to the rich events of 1926 and 1927.

At present the world's second highest priced yearling at \$10,600, and the next two highest of the sale, \$6,000 and \$5,500, are already members of the Murphy stable, Cox secured at least half a dozen high class prospects while his close neighbor, Will Dickerson, in charge of Arden Homestead Farm, bought enough to bring out another 1925 Peter Maltby. This, however, does not mean that some lower priced juvenile will not far outdo the choicest on the so-called battleground

Fewer Racing Prospects.

The number of racing prospects changing ownership and training stables was not as big as many buyers hoped for, not due to any scarcity but the unwillingness of owners to part with them.

Two of the most outstanding race trotters in the sale catalog caused the most comment, because one, Peter Buskirk, was bid in at \$4,700, trainer Pitman, the seller no doubt putting a much higher value on this fast son of Peter the Great.

Interest will center on the second one, however, Bob Armstrong, 2,034, which was bought by the veteran horseman and lover of fast trotters, Nathan Straus, for \$5,000 the top price from that contingent. After the sale it was said that for the present, at least, this sensationally fast trotter will remain in the training stable of Frank Phillips as Goshen.

Horsemen who have known M. Straus as owner and driver of fast horses were sure that a horse of this type will not be retired to the "Straus Horse Home" for life without his owner seeing him speeded either in matinee races for amateurs or in purse events.

This is the first trotter the veteran horseman has bought for more than a decade and in point of speed record also one of the fastest he has ever owned.

That a goodly number were purchased for export was certain, but how many or at what prices will not be known correctly until Mr. Tranter issues export certificates. The advance report that the stallion Orlolan Axworthy will head the export list was widely circulated after the horse was sold to Peter Goode for \$5,700.

Mr. Tranter was the consignee, but stated that he knew nothing about the report and can not say for certain until a certificate is applied for if the horse is going abroad. The other two fast record stallions, Lu Princeton (2,01) went back to the Good Time Stable to continue his career at the stud and Peter Chenault returned to Kentucky and probably to the same stall which he left to come to the local sale.

The sale's second highest priced stallion, Justice Brooke, at \$10,000, will now head the new breeding establishment of Kentucky, John P. Crozier's Kingston Farm, in charge of Bob Moreland, who outbid Harry Burgoyne for possession of this noted sire.

The last 1925 auction sale begins at Chicago this week and while it will distribute close to 700 head, yet not representative enough to measure up with the Old Glory in prices, demand or quality.

THIS MOOSE HAD FOUR ANTLERS

A recent number of the Toronto Globe shows on its first page a half tone engraving of the double antlered moose head recently taken in Charlotte County, and purchased by the government. Beneath the engraving is the following inscription: "Snapshot of set of freak antlers taken from a moose shot by Charles Lee of Chamecock, Charlotte County, New Brunswick this season. It will be noted that this forest monarch carried two complete sets of antlers. This curiosity is now the property of the Eastern province, having been purchased by Chief Game Warden Gagnon on instruction of Hon. Charles D. Richards Minister of Lands and Mines."

WATER SUPPLY OF DOMINION ABUNDANT

One of Canada's greatest natural resources, and one to which we give very little thought except when we are individually affected, is our water supply, particularly for domestic purposes. We have become so accustomed to have the water available simply by turning a tap or by using the pump-handle, that only when something untoward happens and the supply is absent do we give real consideration as to its source or its adequacy.

Canada is fortunately well provided with water, says the Natural Resources Intelligence Service of the Department of the Interior. We have no arid areas, and very few sections where even during periods of minimum precipitation the occasional well becomes dry. In the cities and towns where water is supplied as a public service large equipment and well-organized staff are necessary, while enormous investments are required to provide for the distribution of the water. Even for this service the price we pay is very reasonable, because we are paying only for service. We pay nothing for the water—its one of nature's gifts to Canada and is provided to consumers for their own use without charge. When, however, the water used is commercialized, or made to earn a monetary return for the user, the guardians of Canada's natural endowments collect a value in the common interest.

A recent illustration of the cost of a water supply is contained in a report on the operating expenses of the steam railways of Canada in 1923. For the use of their locomotives only, these railways paid \$2,550,891, quite a tidy sum when measured in dollars and cents, but small in comparison with their coal bill of \$59,280,418. And yet the fuel represented by the latter account would have been of comparatively little use but for the water necessary for steam making.

Water as water has innumerable uses, and in very few of them could a substitute be found. Water-power is also one of Canada's basic elements—one on which our pulp and paper industry, our mining development, our chemical plants and many other commercial endeavors are solely or almost entirely dependent, and which, in addition, is in large measure the source of our domestic lighting and power supply.

The primary resources of Canada are many, and of these we have been in most cases generously supplied, but of none can it be said that it is more valuable or of more general use than our water supply.

E. Pearlmuter of Montreal is a guest at the Barker House.

M. D. Coll of Saint John is at the Queen.

George D. Ellis of Saint John was registered at the Queen last night.

C. T. Nisbet of Saint John is in the city.

Evidently the weed eaten by an Illinois cow that poisoned her milk was entirely the wrong kind of milk weed.

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