



WHYS AND OTHERWISE

AS SEEN BY

H. L. G.

"No regrets," says Rabbit Maranville, one of the most colorful figures of the diamond pastime, who has laid his glove aside for the last time, and is making for other fields. The Rabbit is now manager of the Elmira Pioneers in the New York-Pennsylvania league. A couple of days ago his club lost the playoffs to the Scranton Miners. As he walked to the clubhouse, Maranville said: "That was my last day out there today. I'm through—finished as a player. Baseball has been good to me. I'll continue in the game as manager, if I can find something better, I'll move up. Otherwise I'll try to continue my job at Elmira." The Rabbit batted .326 in 123 games this year, but it was a field that his legs "got him." Rabbit played 24 seasons in the major leagues. His legs, which carried him through a major league career with Pittsburgh, Brooklyn, and Boston, never recovered completely from a fracture which he suffered at the outset of the 1934 season with the Bees. He and Babe Ruth were two of the most colorful baseball players who ever donned uniforms.

Olympic Games Comment

In the current issue of the Dunnville Chronicle, W. A. ("Bill") Fry, its editor and publisher, devotes his "Old Bill's Column" to an account of the Canadian team's visit to the Olympic Games. He follows with editorial comment, in which he expresses the opinion that Canada's showing, everything considered, was a good one. The veteran sportsman writes, in part:

"Let us not forget that we have only ten million to draw from, as compared with the many millions in each of such countries as the United States, Great Britain, Germany and France. Second, Canadian winter lasts so long that athletes lose during one-half the year the benefits of training done in the other half. And, third, Canadian sports leaders get practically no financial assistance from our Governments to carry on the work of developing Olympic prospects. What our athletes accomplished under these three handicaps shows that Canadians bow to no other nation as far as brains, stamina and courage go, but these have to be co-ordinated to become 'tops,' and that is where we fall down."

Leaving out all the post-Olympic arguments, the cries of favoritism, charges of mismanagement, and other allegations which, even when not groundless, have been exaggerated, it must be said that Squire Fry of Dunnville has selected three very good points. He has mentioned a trio of handicaps, any one of which can be counted as of major importance.

500 FLEE BILBAO AND SANTANDER

HENDAYE, France, Sept. 23—The ultimatum of Gen. Emilio Mola, northern Spanish rebel commander, that Bilbao and Santander must be evacuated before 1 a.m. Friday, caused between 400 and 500 refugees to flee from there to Saint Jean de Luz and other small ports along the French frontier.

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STALLION FUTURITY OPENED AT LEXINGTON YESTERDAY

Gurney C. Gue Tells of Show Which Will Feature Some of Fastest Horses in Business

(By Gurney C. Gue)

With the Championship Stallion Futurity for three-year-olds as a curtain-raiser, Grand Circuit harness racing at Lexington got under way on Tuesday, to be continued on Saturday and all through next week with a programme which promises to show who's who and why among the trotters and pacers of 1936.

As in the past for more than four decades the outstanding events of the annual meeting of the Kentucky Trotting-Horse Breeders' Association are the Kentucky Futurity and the Transylvania Stake, which have come to be regarded as the final and supreme tests for two-year-old, three-year-old and mature trotters of the free-for-all class. The juvenile division of the Futurity is on the card for next Saturday; the three-year-old division for Tuesday of next week and the Transylvania for the following Thursday. Twilight Song, 2.04, Rosalind, 2.01 3-4, and Greyhound, 1.57 1-4, each with a single fluke defeat to mar a succession of brilliant victories this season, look all over like the respective winners of these important fixed events, but the Lexington meeting is seldom without a sensational upset, and lightning, like death, seems to love a shining mark.

As the full particulars of Greyhound's winning race at Springfield, Ill., come out, they take a little of the luster off the great four-year-old's new record of 1.57 1-4. While the time reported was corroborated by numerous unofficial watches the little incident of the record-breaker having trailed closely in the wake of Angel Child, 2.00 3-4, through the first three-quarters of the mile escaped the attention of the reporters. This incident did not just happen but was openly prearranged for the purpose of giving Greyhound the well known advantage of a wind shield.

Had he started in an exhibition against time on this occasion with a running horse in harness preceding him, as the trotting mare did, the performance would have been void for violation of Rule 36 of the turf code, which explicitly forbids the use of a prompter in front of the record-maker at any stage of his effort. Of course, many heat-winners in races take advantage of the protected place close behind the leading horse on the inside track until the homestretch is reached, just as Greyhound did. It was not so, however, when Tilly Brooke in 1924 turned the Toledo track in 1.59, which has since been generally recognized as the race record. Horsemen who saw her performance in a friendly made-up bout with her stable-mate Mrs. Yerkes, 2.02 3-4, say the big bay mare went to the front and stayed there from wire to wire in both heats.

Since the application of the wind-shield rule is limited in terms to exhibitions against time, Greyhound's performance violated only the spirit and not the letter of the law and therefore will stand as a record. Horsemen will differ as to just how much the trotter in front helped him, but the fact remains that he has yet to trot a mile faster than 2.00 without this aid. That he can do so is almost beyond doubt, and it is to be hoped that he will make the attempt next week in the race for the Transylvania Stake.

Hanover's Bertha, 1.59 1-2, the first horse to trot a mile in 2.00 in a strictly legitimate way in a genuine public race, which she did in winning the Kentucky Futurity for three-year-olds in 1930, is represented in that race this year by her first foal, Brownie Hanover, 2.08 1-2, the colt by Truax, 2.03 1-2, that forced Rosalind out in 2.01 3-4, in the Hambletonian Stake at Goshen. Bertha's second foal, Patricia Hanover, by Mr. Mc-

Elwyn, 1.59 1-4, is among the prospective starters in the two-year-old division of the Futurity, and looks like a formidable factor since winning the Horseman's Futurity in 2.06 at Indianapolis.

It is safe to say that never before in the forty-four years of the Kentucky Futurity has a nine-year-old mare been represented by such trotters as these in both divisions, though in 1930 Miss Bertha Dillon, 2.02 1-2, was represented in the junior division by Charlotte Hanover, and in the senior division by Hanover's Bertha, full sisters, by Peter Volo, 2.02. Both fillies won and subsequently beat 2.00, while their four-year-old sister, Miss Bertha Hanover at the same meeting earned a record of 2.00. Miss Bertha Dillon was then sixteen years old.

MAROONS ARE AFTER FORMER MONCTON HAWK

MONTREAL, Sept. 23—Montreal Maroons of the National Hockey League are negotiating with New York Rangers for the services of Bert Connelly, the Montrealer who played on Moncton's two Allan Cup champions before he turned professional. Tommy Gorman, Maroon manager, said tonight.

Gorman, whipping things into shape as the hockey season draws near, said Earl Robinson had signed his contract, bringing the total of Maroons who have accepted new terms to six. The others are Bob Gracie, Marvin Wentworth, Carl Voss and Herbie Cain. Maroons in the main are taking salary cuts this year.

HOOF PRINTS

H. Stacy Smith's sensational colt trotter Mr. Watt, 2.08, winner of the E. H. Harriman Memorial on the half-mile track at Goshen's first Grand Circuit meeting, is expected to start at Mineola on Wednesday in the race with Townsend Ackerman's Optimist, 2.13 1-2, winner of the two-year-old division of the Reading Futurity. Mr. Watt is reported to be again in fine trim after the sudden illness which prostrated him on the eve of his expected contest with Twilight Song, 2.04, in the Good Time Stake a month ago. As this week's race probably will be his last for the season horsemen expected him to do something to be remembered if the Mineola track is at its best. Not a few experts believe Mr. Watt to be one of the fastest trotters of his age ever seen. It is therefore universally regretted that his only stake engagement for next year is in the Reading Futurity.

After having been campaigned incessantly since he was three years old the Kentucky trotter Star Bright, by Day Star, 2.05, now twelve, won the best race of his career at the recent Stockton meeting in California. Forcing Eleanor Volo out in 2.02, 2.02 1-2 and 2.06 1-4 at his first start, the old fellow turned the tables on her five days later in the free-for-all race which he won in 2.01 1-2, 2.01 1-2 and 2.03 3-4. His best previous record was 2.03.

FRANCE CAN SEND GAS MASKS TO SPAIN

LONDON, Sept. 23—The European committee for non-intervention in the Spanish civil war yesterday approved a report of its subcommittee allowing France to ship gas masks to the Spanish Government.

Coffey Star As St. Croix Wins

St. Stephen Beat Fence Busters 2 to 0 as Gordon Coffey Clouts Homer—Teams Meet Again Today.

ST. STEPHEN, Sept. 23—Gordon Coffey's home run to deep left centre in the fourth inning provided the turning point in a great struggle between the Springhill Fence Busters and the St. Croix club of St. Stephen here this afternoon, in the first of the Maritime senior amateur baseball finals. The win put the New Brunswick champions one game up in the "best-of-five" series.

His lusty circuit clout scored Moffatt ahead of him and established a 2-0 victory for the home club. The Busters threatened to score on few occasions, but they were caught on the paths or trying for home.

The second of the Maritime finals is scheduled here tomorrow afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, after which the Springhill nine takes the road for the journey home where the third and fourth games are carded, opening on Sept. 29.

Today's combat was one of the closest and most hard fought battles of the titular series over many years. Old time fans here stated tonight they had never remembered a game, since the local club won its first Maritime title six years ago, that had them so much on edge. The opener was a southpaws battle on the mound with Purney Fuller, the mite port-sider from Springhill, opposing Cecil (Lefty) Brownell, hurling ace of the St. Croix.

Although it was in the third that the winners got to Fuller's slants, it was not until the fourth that they were able to come through. Brownell was picked for a total of six hits and Fuller for seven.

Trapped on Paths

McLain and Ross were both cut down on the paths in the third as they opened up on Fuller but keen headwork by the Nova Scotia champions held them scoreless. McLain was trapped between third and home and Ross was cut off at the plate as he attempted to tally on McCarroll's hit.

Opening the last of the fourth Moffatt, lead-off man in the inning, shot a hard one at Fraser that went for a single. Fraser made a nice stop but was caught off balance, having to go far to the side to knock the drive down. Fuller pitched to Coffey as on his first trip to the plate he had fanned. Purney made the mistake of many moundsmen and the third serve was just about shoulder high and "right down the alley." Coffey belted it and in came the two runs that meant victory.

Local Softball Club Gained Win Over Saint John

Unleashing a severe hitting attack in the opening inning which paved the way for a 10-0 victory, Fredericton Aberdeens gained a grip on the New Brunswick senior softball semi-final series with Ketepec Aces at Queens Square diamond here last evening.

Aberdeens, winners of the local city and district championship, compiled a total of seven runs in the opening frame to increase it to eight in the second and boost the total to 10 by adding another pair in the fourth. The capital club gave Ben Mawhinney perfect support in both fielding and hitting. Aces, Saint John City and district champions were off in both fielding and hitting.

AUDREY McLEOD ELIMINATED IN WOMEN'S GOLF

POINTE CLAIRE, Que., Sept. 23—The Toronto veteran Ada Mackenzie swept the last Maritime threat from the Canadian women's close golf championship, defeating Audrey McLeod of Saint John 6 and 5.

Miss Mackenzie, a five-time winner of the Close Crown topped the New Brunswick Riverside Golf and Country Club girl in a morning round and then went out over Beaconsfield's par 75 layout later in the day to quell the titular hopes of 18-year-old Heather Leslie of Winnipeg.

That Perplexing Netcord Shot!

NEW YORK, Sept. 23—Should the netcord shot, heartbreaker of tennis, be abolished?

This question aroused debate in English tennis circles after several vital points in the Wimbledon championships and in Davis Cup matches were won and lost by the nerve-wracking margin of a netcord.

Proponents of abolition, arguing the stroke is unfair, want a netcord to be regarded as a "let," whether it is made on service or in a rally.

Stoutly defending the netcord, the tennis correspondent of the "London Evening Star" asserted to abolish the shot "would be to prolong matches to such an extent as to place them beyond the scope of human endurance."

"There is no game in which the element of luck does not play a part," he wrote. "Expel Dame Fortune from any playing field and you will detract from the game."

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HUBBELL WON 16TH STRAIGHT: GIANTS CLINCH

NEW YORK, Sept. 23—New York Giants' pitching master, Carl Hubbell, completed the best victory record in the major leagues in two years today by hurling his 16th straight win, a 5-4 decision over the Phillies at Philadelphia.

The triumph brought the Giants to within an eyelash of the National League pennant, assuring them of at least a tie for the title, and leaving them in a position where one victory for themselves or one defeat for the second-place Cardinals means the flag.

Hubbell's victory streak was the first 16-game run in the big time since "Schoolboy" Rowe hurled the Tigers into the American League pennant in 1934.

Brooklyn Dodgers staked Van Mungo to five runs in the first two innings at Boston and collected 18 hits to enable the big righthander to coast to his 17th victory of the season by an 8-6 margin over the Bees. Mungo fanned five batters to run his season's strikeout total to 236.

Lovelock Says He's Fed Up

NEW YORK, Sept. 23—Jack Lovelock said yesterday his ambition is to be a doctor, "not a human running machine," and indicated he will do no serious running after the invitation mile race at Princeton University, Oct. 3. He arrived yesterday on the Queen Mary. The New Zealander, who won the 1,500-metre Olympic championship, said he was getting a bit fed up with running. "My big moment was my victory in the Olympic 1,500-metre final. I'm afraid more races after Princeton would be anti-climax events."

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