

Trotting of the Week.

A CAPITAL MEETING IN TORONTO.

FOUR DAYS OF GOOD SPORT.

No Canadian Record Broken, But Several Track Records Made.

Starmer—Samuel Hammill, Hamilton.
 Judge—Tos. Hodgson, V.S., Toronto; John Stanton, Whitby.
 Timmer—J. McFarren, J. J. Burns, Edward Taylor.
 Clerk of the Scales and Secretary—Geo. H. Briggs.

Events.	No. of Drivers.	No. of Starters.	Winners.	Winner's Time.	No. of Heats.
2:16 pace.	5	5	Gertie B.	2:16 1/2	4
2:17 trot.	11	11	Allen Wilkes	2:17 1/2	4
2:18 pace.	10	10	McNee May	2:18 1/2	4
2:19 trot.	10	10	McNee May	2:19 1/2	4
2:20 trot.	9	9	Arona	2:20 1/2	4
2:21 trot.	10	10	Lee Ward Wilkes	2:21 1/2	4
2:22 trot.	10	10	Ford	2:22 1/2	4
2:23 trot.	10	10	John K.	2:23 1/2	4
2:24 trot.	10	10	John K.	2:24 1/2	4
2:25 trot.	10	10	John K.	2:25 1/2	4
2:26 trot.	10	10	John K.	2:26 1/2	4
2:27 trot.	10	10	John K.	2:27 1/2	4
2:28 trot.	10	10	John K.	2:28 1/2	4
2:29 trot.	10	10	John K.	2:29 1/2	4
2:30 trot.	10	10	John K.	2:30 1/2	4

A total of 135 entries with ninety four starters in twelve races decided in fifty-five hours surely gives a guarantee that none of the elements were wanting for good sport at the trotting meeting which was held at Woodbine Park, on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of last week. And, truth to say, the sport was good, the racing being generally keen, and free from suspicion of jobbery. The weather was fine on each day, the track good except that it was a bit cuppy on the back stretch, and the attendance about twenty-five hundred on the first day (Toronto Civic Holiday) and from eight hundred to a thousand on each succeeding day. The only drawback and it must be confessed, it was a serious one, was unparliamentary and tedious waits between the races. Mr. Hammill, the starter, was nervous and evidently over-weighted in the task he had undertaken. Three bookmakers and a poolseller did business, but the speculation was very light.

First Day.

The sport opened with a 2:16 pacing race for \$500. Five were entered and five came to the post. The Hamilton mare Gertie B. (2:16) was first choice in the pools at even against the field. William Wallace, a bay horse, Jim Spruceport, N.Y., had a good many followers, but he acted so badly, being lame of the high fore-leg, that he finished last in the first heat. It was Jack the Ripper (2:18), a half-brother to Cornerback, that forced Gertie to keep a moving in this heat and compelled her to pace to her record to win. Astell (2:20), however, led for the greater part of the distance in all the glory of a set of two-minute harness, but entering the stretch he went into the air and Gertie B., Jack the Ripper (2:18) and Queenie Stanton (2:18) all passed him before he got fairly into his stride again. The whole four were pretty well lunched at the wire.

The second heat of the race was William Wallace's driver was determined that he should show what was

in him. As soon as the word was given he made a break for the lead, but Astell was also after the money. Jack the Ripper, too, was in the hunt, while Lambert the seeing what was going on nursed Gertie B., leaving the other three to race each other's heads off were they so minded. Between Wallace and Astell there was little to choose until the stretch was reached. The race had been clipper and it was apparent they were all afraid of a break. Head and head the aforementioned trio came racing down to the wire, fifty yards from which Thompson let out Astell. Wallace endeavored to hold him, but the effort was too great and he went into the air, the son of Goldilocks clipping 3/4 seconds off his own record and bettering Gertie B.'s by a quarter of a second. Jack the Ripper was a close third, Gertie fourth and Queenie Stanton last.

In the third heat Wallace early went to pieces and, retiring to the rear, finished there. A fight for Jack the Ripper had been going on for half the distance, when Gertie B. came up. But the latter did not appear quite right, and on Queenie Stanton making a dash at the leaders, Lambert studied her. Astell, who had been in the lead, was the wire, the first named only squeaking in by a head and shoulders, while the last named was right on the Ripper's flanks.

It was now Astell's turn to act badly. Try all he could Thompson could not get him to settle down in earnest. Gertie B. consequently forged to the front and, although Astell came at her strongly in the stretch, he could not maintain the pace, and going off his feet some more he passed down the line as he was about to finish. Jack the Ripper challenged as the Stratford horse fell off, but Gertie managed to keep him at a safe distance and to win, but not with a great deal in hand. Wallace was a good third, while Queenie Stanton for the last named pulled up very sore after this third heat and was drawn, having made a good fight to lose the purpose.

Astell was made favorite after he had two heats in the class. He was now restored to popular esteem. But she proved disappointing. Jack the Ripper stayed right with her all the way round until approaching the wire and then with a supreme effort he got in front of her and won by half a length. Astell was at the mare's throat-latch as they passed under the wire, the three having made a magnificent finish. Win. Wallace proved so ungovernable that he got the flag.

With Gertie B. and Astell with two heats each in and Jack the Ripper one, the three were called out for the final. Gertie was made first choice at \$10 with \$12 for Astell and The Ripper. It was a struggle for good as well as for money. They were in the lead with Gertie in the centre. Lambert was afraid of a pocket and so as Thompson with Astell crowded in on him he hustled his mare and made a dash for the pole approaching the wire, where he finished. The Ripper was cut off and a great cry of foul arose, which, however, Mr. Hammill ignored. After that Gertie B. went at it in earnest. Taking no chances, she managed to maintain her lead and the others doing parallel work, she was the winner, with the result that the Hamilton mare passed under the wire, winner of the heat and race in 34 seconds slower time than the previous heat was done in. Astell broke in the stretch and let up Jack the Ripper who finished second.

IN THREE STRAIGHT.

The 2:24 trot that followed, with its ten starters out of thirteen entries, was expected to produce a great struggle, but as the sequel proved, Bryson (2:24) had so much greater a turn of speed than the others that from the first it was apparent he had them at his mercy, although he had to clip four seconds off his record to

keep Mr. Charles Brown's reliable mare and beautiful driver, Maud J., from collaring him in the second heat. In the first he hit and skived a bit, but the judge did not think sufficiently to warrant him in displacing him. Consequently he got the heat, with Johnny Goldilocks, three lengths behind, second and Jack J. third. There was never any doubt about the second and third heats, notwithstanding that Ashmaid, a brown mare from Hornsleville, N.Y., did her level best in the wind-up. She kept the son of Summons at his work, but could do no more. Grimsby Girl had the call in the pools before the first heat, but after that she was no longer considered. She made a bit of a show at the beginning, but subsequently turned out to be very rank and the second of its eleven starters was postponed until the following day.

2:16 pace, purse \$500.
 Thos. Cook, Hamilton, b. Gertie B. by Clinton Fulton, Landon 1 1 1 2 1
 A. Thompson, Stratford, b. Astell, Thompson 4 1 1 3 3
 A. Fox's, Amherstburg, b. Jack the Ripper, W. 3 2 2 1 2
 Wm. Wallace, Windsor, N.Y., b. b. Allen Wilkes, Kinney 2 5 3 4 5
 Wm. Wallace, Windsor, N.Y., b. b. Allen Wilkes, Kinney 2 5 3 4 5
 Queenie Stanton (disqualified) 5 3 3 1 4 dr

Time. Three-quarters. Half. quarters. Mile.
 First heat 30 1:00 1:14 1:26
 Second heat 30 1:00 1:14 1:26
 Third heat 30 1:00 1:14 1:26
 Fourth heat 30 1:00 1:14 1:26
 Fifth heat 30 1:00 1:14 1:26
 Sixth heat 30 1:00 1:14 1:26

Betting—First heat Gertie B. \$20, field \$20; second heat, Gertie B. \$7, field \$10; third heat, Gertie B. \$8, field \$10; Astell \$10, field \$10; fifth heat, Gertie B. \$10, field \$10; sixth heat, Gertie B. \$10, field \$10.
 2:24 trot, purse \$100.
 H. Scott's, Calabaria, b. m., Bryson by Summons, Henning 1 1 1
 Chas. Brown, Toronto, b. m., Maud J., King 3 2 3
 J. Kennedy's, Hamilton, b. m., Bryson by Ashmaid, Kinney 6 4 2
 J. Tompkins, Hamilton, b. m., John Goldilocks, Bryson 2 0 3
 C. F. Richardson's, Buffalo, N.Y., b. m. 9 10 4
 G. H. McPherson's, Hamilton, b. m., Ashma, McPherson 4 7 8
 F. Brown's, York, b. m., Grimsby by Girl, Grubbs 5 9 9
 T. J. Conley's, Brockville, b. m., Maud J., Cobb, McPherson 10 6 6
 Connelock & Wheeler's, Brockville, b. m., Hunter Bay, Higgins 7 8 7
 A. Fox's, Amherstburg, b. m., Stratford, Fox 8 4 dr

Time. Three-quarters. Half. quarters. Mile.
 First heat 25 1:00 1:14 1:21
 Second heat 25 1:00 1:14 1:21
 Third heat 25 1:00 1:14 1:21
 Betting—First heat Grimsby Girl \$5, field \$10; second heat, Bryson \$10, field \$5; third heat, Bryson \$20, field \$1.

2:33 trot, purse \$500 unfinished.
 Joseph C. Brown's, Union, b. m., Allen Wilkes by Jay Bird, b. m., King 4 1 1
 John Merritt's, Hamilton, b. m., King 2 3 3
 R. Kennedy's, Dundas, b. m., King 2 3 3
 W. Collins, Toronto, b. m., Dick Mitchell, Collins 3 3 2
 J. A. Conley's, St. Catharines, b. m., Gipsy Boy, Wood 6 4 3
 J. A. Conley's, Brantford, b. m., Fred O. Johnson 3 7 7
 Spencer & McDonald's, Niagara Falls, b. m., May Stanton, Good 7 9 9
 D. Kerr's, Campbellford, b. m., Chestnut 8 8 8
 R. A. Brown's, Barrie, b. m., Henry K. Brown 10 6 6
 J. P. Wetmore's, Cleveland, b. m., Cornmeal, Italy 9 10 dr
 J. P. Wetmore's, St. Catharines, b. m., Reina, Welsh 9 10 dr

Time. Three-quarters. Half. quarters. Mile.
 First heat 25 1:00 1:14 1:21
 Second heat 25 1:00 1:14 1:21
 Third heat 25 1:00 1:14 1:21
 Betting—First heat, Dick Mitchell \$7, Allen Wilkes \$10, field \$10; second heat, Allen Wilkes \$10, field \$10; third heat, Allen Wilkes \$20, field \$10.

Second Day.

Allen Wilkes Wins the Postponed Race.
 On Tuesday the sport commenced with the unfinished race of the previous day in the 2:33 trot. Dick Mitchell, on the strength of a report that he could go the

journey in 2:20, had the call in the pools before the race started, with Allen Wilkes second choice. Collins was behind Dick Mitchell, and the first named continued to bet that he would have shown up better had the judges ordered a change of drivers. However, they didn't, and in the first heat he finished third hard foul. In the second, Allen Wilkes put the son of the third and fourth, when it was the turn of getting a side of the purse or being left out in the cold altogether. He trotted something like himself, especially in the last round, when he finished second and winner. Allen Wilkes, in 2:21. King Wilkes led the party at the finish of the first heat, with the lackluster Stanley Key next him, Mitchell coming third, and Allen Wilkes fourth. Notwithstanding this, Allen Wilkes, who is a handsome, chunkily built race horse, by Day Bird, owned at Clinton, that last year was a pacer, and could not do better than 2:24, had the call on the pools, although the field, with both the racing men and Mitchell, it sold for \$15. Allen went to the front early in the race, and stayed there to the end, moving with as little friction as a well-oiled piece of machinery, with lots of power on, and proving himself a perfect driver. He was a perfect driver, and to him all the way, with Prosperity Bay third, and Gipsy Boy fourth. After the second heat Allen Wilkes will favorite a two to one over the field. He thoroughly justified the odds by keeping his place in the pole, and speedily assuming a job that he never lost, although trotting well within himself. Dick Mitchell once as described, while King Wilkes went back. The fourth and last heat, which was trotted on the second day, and decided that the first was a repetition of the third. Dick Mitchell followed Allen Wilkes, all the way with Prosperity next him. There was a bit of shuffling among the others, but the affair was practically a procession.

FOREST BOY TURNS UP TURNS.

The 2:20 pace race was a gift from Mr. Thomas Taylor's Forest Boy (2:20) by Forest Man, who had a good field in the pool, including Lady Watson (2:20), by Sam Watson, Ohio (2:22), by Wildmont, Dick Smith (2:24), a pacer by Prince Imperial, Cap Sad (2:21), also a pacer, Jupiter, by E. 2:25, and Dick French, a chestnut fellow trot the North West. The first and second heats were all between Forest Boy and Lady Watson, and the latter looked like winner until hearing the wire in the second heat. The rate of going, however, was a little too hot for her, and at this instant she faltered, and the Boy went in with length to the good. Some of the crowd thought the Lady should have won, as started to cheer the driver, but if they had had any powers of observation they would have known better. Lady Watson was, as we have said, simply carried along at faster than she had any relish for. In the third heat she led for half the distance, where Forest Boy went up to her as from that out he had the lead and race a hand, Lady Watson taking second money. Chio trotted in good style, but the first two outfooted her. She, in fact, did not get the lead until the last round, when Dick Smith was hard on her heels, and Dick Smith was beating her in the last heat. A singular feature of this race was its evenness of the time, each heat being trotted in 2:19. Strange to say in the race the 2:20 pace race, the three winners were also done exactly as fast as each other, namely in 2:27.

THE POET LAUREATE RETIRED.

Half a dozen came out for the world. Tom Westbrock's Paycock was the most fancied, but he never could get better than second. In the first two heats Lou Thompson, a chestnut gelding from the middle of the state, came in and stayed them to the end. In the third Paycock hit

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