



The meeting of the Ontario Jockey Club has come and gone, and has been put down on the records as the most successful one ever held under the auspices of the club. The attendance on the first and second days was phenomenal, and on the third and fourth was as large as could reasonably be expected. Some of the American visitors expressed themselves as both surprised and delighted with the way in which things were conducted. They could not understand, however, why there should not be a great many more running meetings in Canada. These gentlemen were probably unacquainted with the difficulties that sportsmen in the Dominion have had to overcome in the past. However, a brighter day seems to have dawned, and certainly the O. J. C. have reason to congratulate themselves on all their surroundings for the four days. The weather, that uncertain quantity, was of the most glorious description, and consequently attendance was good in like ratio. In a word, the results were such as to justify the club in extending their province in the future, and turfmen may look for larger purses and an increased number of races. Wednesday might fairly be looked on as an off-day; still there were over 3,000 people present, and they were not disappointed in the quality of the sport provided for them. The event of the day was the winning of a very long shot, 20-1 being out on the boards in the Hotel Stakes opposite Frank L's name. He had been kept in the back ground and his backers realized handsomely on the race, the Altonwood stables' representative winning nicely from such horses as Calgary and Pericles. Mr. Daly has not been doing badly with his string, landing the Don Purse of \$300. Victorious, the winner of the Plate, started in again on the third day and added another bracket to his list. In the jumping race, Hercules again proved his right to the title of invincible. The Hunter's flat was captured by Dublin, who started out to win when the flag fell, and he stayed in the lead until the post was past. Mr. Dawes' luck changed, and Redfellow captured the sixth race, a purse of \$300 for horses that had not already won at the meeting.

The last day was a fitting wind-up to the meeting. The wealth and fashion of the Queen City were all there, and when the returns were figured out it was discovered that about 35,000 people had visited the Woodbine during the meeting. That ought to bridge over any little financial difficulty for some time to come. The races were all splendidly contested; all the finishes were close, and, with one exception, all the favourites won. Mr. Seagram added two more victories to his stables' credit. That Terror colt has been well named, and three brackets in one meeting shows that there is hardly any danger of his eating his head off just now. His victories are deservedly popular, for, if there is one man more than another who should meet with success on a race track, that man is Mr. Seagram. In the open flat, that slashing big horse, Redfellow, again carried Mr. Dawes' colours to the front, in the fast time of 1.57 $\frac{3}{4}$, while in the steeplechase Mr. Loudon won a capital race on the great little horse Mackenzie. Mr. Seagram had fortune again smiling on him in the Ladies' Purse. Mr. Daly's sprinter, Salisbury, was a hot favourite in this race, but the old gelding, with 139 lbs. to carry, was not equal to the task. Orinoco had only 110 lbs. up, and after a rattling struggle captured the race by a length and a half. In the two-year-old sprint for half a mile, Mr. Hendries' filly, Cottonade, gave promise of better things in the future, winning nicely by a couple of lengths from Lord Stanley. The closing event of the day was the Consolation, which was balm to the feeling of Mr. Daly, who won with Bohemian, and so wound up the best race meeting ever held in Canada.

It will be in order now for the race-goers to turn their attention to Bel-Air. Here is another jockey club which, like the O. J. C., has surmounted obstacles that seemed at some stages of the game to be impossible. But pluck and perseverance, like blood, tell in the long run. Next to the O. J. C. meeting just concluded, the Bel-Air summer races will take precedence. Spread over three days with 15 events on the card, with good purses and a large number of entries than ever appeared on the track in the Province of Quebec, the public need not be afraid of getting less than their

money's worth. Nearly all the horses that were at the Woodbine will be in Montreal, although many of them are now at the Buffalo meeting.

At the time of writing it is, of course, impossible to say much about the Blue Bonnets' trotting meeting, which opened last Tuesday. It will be a pity if the efforts made by the new lessees do not meet with a full measure of support from the public, for certainly never before have a management been actuated with better intentions to have nothing but genuine, square sport. The wonderful improvements made in the track and its surroundings have cost a considerable outlay of money; the grand stand is the equal of almost any in the country; the grounds have been thoroughly well drained, and the track itself is certainly not equalled in the Dominion. Those horsemen who have been working their horses speak of it in the highest terms; then the entry list is a decidedly large one, and the ringer will have a very hard row to hoe, as the judge appointed by the National Trotting Association is said to be merciless to all sorts of racing crookedness. The old style of taking conditional entries has been abolished, and some gentlemen who own horses and who thought that the system they had been accustomed to in the past would still hold, have discovered their mistake when it is too late. They will know better next time, and send in their entries when they are called for. The new management have started in the right way. Keep up the good work, gentlemen.

One of the features of the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association, which is very conducive to a healthy interest in track events, is the holding of regular weekly handicap races. These runs give the ambitious young athlete not only a training but they put some experience into him that he is not liable to forget when he "sets" for the shot in the open championship events. Of course there is such a thing as over-handicapping, that may be somewhat discouraging to the crack men; but the work is generally so well done that there is but very seldom any cause for complaint. So far this season all the signs lead one to expect more than an average of good results at the M. A. A. grounds. The track is pretty well used every fair evening, and Trainer Stevenson has his hands full. He has the consolation, however, of knowing that he has some first-class material to work with that may be expected to do both themselves and their Mentor credit when the year is a little older. The spring games, which will be held to-morrow afternoon, come a little early in the spring, when our backward spring is considered, but for all that they may be calculated on to give an insight into the space the winged wheel will be able to travel at when the time for the championship comes round. Last year, if memory serves aright, in a few instances the handicapping was exceedingly severe, but the experience gained in the meantime will probably obviate this difficulty. There is one little bit of advice that may seem gratuitous to the older athletes, but which is frequently very necessary to the rising lights: Don't overdo your practice work, but, on the other hand, don't underdo it. After being on the track a few times and making a pretty good showing, for which you have been congratulated by your friends, there is a possibility of catching a very contagious and very fatal complaint of the hydrocephalic order. The athletic career of some very promising young men in Montreal has been ruined by it, and this is about the time when a trainer will begin to exercise some of his authority with advantage.

Not much has been heard recently from the devotees of the shot gun, and the numerous gun clubs all over the Dominion seem to be taking a midsummer siesta. Some little time ago there was quite a stir among the gun men in the way of agitating for a better enforcement of the fish and game laws, but even this seems to have been lost sight of. The Montreal Fish and Game Protection club has certainly not been idle, but the work possible to be done by one organization with a small membership must be limited in the extreme. However, the example is a good one, and as long as an energetic secretary is successful in obtaining convictions against law-breakers the effect is salutary. There is one shooting event of considerable importance on the cards at the present time. Mr. David Robert of Contrecoeur, it is understood, has been entrusted with the providing of about six hundred birds, and several hundred dollars will be offered in prizes. The date has not been fixed yet, but it is expected that some of the best wing shots in the country will be on hand.

Those who had the good fortune last year of attending the camp of the Northern Division of the American Canoe Association at the Lake of Two Mountains will, if possible, enjoy the same treat this year at Pigeon Lake. At first it was the intention of holding a cruising meet in Georgian Bay, but as this was discovered to be inconvenient on account of the different equipment required, the executive wisely decided to change the programme, and at a recent meeting decided on Jacob's Island, Pigeon Lake, as the site, and from July 15 to 29 as the date. The programme has met with the approval of most Western canoeists. The locality decided on is easy of access, to the Northwest of Peterborough, as canoes can be transported either by rail or water. The island is an ideal one for the navigator of the frail bark, a sloping grassy bank, easily accessible for small craft, backed up by a splendid grove of huge maples that will afford sufficient shade for the most comfortable kind of tent-pitching, while the opposite side of the island has a finely sheltered and safe harbour, with always enough light breeze to delight the heart of the sailing man, sweet well-water and an abundance of provisions procurable from the farmers along the lake shore. What more does the canoeist want? The arrangements are in the hands of a pushing and energetic committee, who have already done considerable work towards completing arrangements. Peterborough is a home for canoeing, and the residents of that thriving town will give all the assistance in their power.

The Montreal Swimming club is an institution that the city could ill-afford to do without, and thus the present success of the organization is a matter for congratulation. The attendance at the baths has been constantly increasing and the members are taking a more active interest in the workings of the club. At the annual meeting there were 75 members present and the following officers were elected:—President, Thos. C. Bulmer; first vice-president, R. Reinhold; second vice-president, Wilfred A. Huguenin; hon. secretary, Fred. G. Henry; hon. treasurer, Thos. J. Darling. Committee: Chas. E. Benedict, H. R. St. Michel, E. Irwin, R. S. Clift, E. Faneau and James Wilson.

The lacrosse league has got under way as far as the junior leagues are concerned. The big ones have still a little time before them to improve their form, but the juniors are so numerous and have so many dates to fill that they must necessarily begin early. They are not in anything like shape yet, and the matches played on Saturday last were of the ragged kind and left lots of room for improvement.

The Toronto Lacrosse Club last year adopted the system of weekly handicaps, which proved so successful that they will be continued this season.

The M. A. A. A. have usually been happy in the choice of officials, and this year is no exception to the rule. The board of directors met on Wednesday night and elected Mr. Jas. A. Taylor to preside over them, while Mr. W. L. Maltby will act as vice-president.

The Toronto Bicycle Club are proud of their champion, Mr. David Nasmith, who secured first place in the road race in Cleveland on Saturday. The T. B. C's champion rode a great race in the previous week on the Kingston road. He was a living exemplification of what conscientious training could do, and the results at the C. W. A. meet in Hamilton next week are anxiously looked forward to.

Articles of agreement have been made out for the double scull event. Perhaps a race like this may revive a little of the waning interest in professional sculling. Perhaps it will not.

R. O. X.

A Beautiful Gift.

In the window of the Canada Plating Co., Craig street, Montreal, this week, appeared a magnificent gift, the workmanship of the company, and presented by them, through Mr. Geo. R. Gray, to Miss McLaren, of Guelph, Ont., who, on the 4th inst., became the bride of Mr. Joseph N. Babson, of the above named firm. The gift was a complete set of table silverware of the highest quality, cased in a handsome cypress cabinet, on the satin lining of which appeared, in gold letters, the following: "With the best wishes of the Canada Plating Co." The design and finish of the articles were extremely elegant.