

1-2 GEORGE V., A. 1911

Again there are certain owners so closely mixed up with bookmakers that gave suspicion attaches to the combination, and it is not going too far to say that their horses are often run in the interests of those who lay the odds. Much of the trouble is directly traceable to the fact that a low class of Jew gamblers have, during the past few years, invaded the ring and may now be said to practically control it. A liberal percentage of them are absolutely devoid of principle and act on the belief that their mission in life is to get money; make it honestly if they can, but make it anyhow. It does not require a Conan Doyle to detect the chief manipulators in this line of business. Their greed invariable oversteps their prudence, and an experienced turfman, going the rounds of the ring during the progress of a race, can easily spot the conspirators who have a card up their sleeve. One of the most pressing duties which devolves upon the managers of our race meetings is to have at their command the services of a thoroughly competent person such as described above. The information such an official could present to the stewards on duty, immediately prior to each race, would be of great value and it would often defeat any rascally schemes entered into.

There is very much more along the same lines, especially to prove that the thoroughbred to-day is not as good as the thoroughbred of thirty or forty years ago.

Mr. McCARTHY.—What is the object of this?

The CHAIRMAN.—I want to know if Mr. Nelson agrees with the statements of E. King Dodds.

The WITNESS.—Certainly not.

*By Mr. McCarthy:*

Q. Mr. Dodds has been suffering from an unfortunate affliction for a number of years?—A. I would rather not discuss his personality.

Q. But people have got to know these facts about Mr. Dodds who do not live in Toronto about Mr. Dodds. He has been blind, has he not?—A. Yes.

Q. For a period of perhaps more than five years?—A. I do not think it is any more than that.

Mr. RANEY.—A couple of years.

Mr. McCARTHY.—Excuse me.

The WITNESS.—About three or four years.

The CHAIRMAN.—Has he been deaf also?

*By Mr. McCarthy:*

Q. Has E. King Dodds been in New York lately to see the conditions there?—A. No he has not.

Q. He has been in the unfortunate position that he could not see if a man were Jew or Gentile on the Woodbine track?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What age man is Mr. Dodds, do you know?—A. He is a man about seventy something, I think.

Q. Has he been an active participating horseman of late years?—A. No. Mr. Dodds has been living in the past for twenty years. Mr. Dodds is a friend of mine and I do not want to be called upon to say anything against him.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. He would be living in the past about the age of fifty, Mr. Nelson?—A. As far as active connection with racing is concerned, yes, sir.

*By Mr. Raney:*

Q. He was editor during all these years of a sporting paper?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. The best sporting paper in Canada?—A. The only one.