Home, Sweet Home Was Never Like This—The "Train of Tomorrow" has among other innovations an observation lounge car shown here, with four different levels. It is drawn by a 2,000 horsepower Diesel engine and is air-conditioned. It was on display at the C.N.E.

Sports – And One Thing or Another

By FRANK MANN HARRIS

("A Sixbit Critic")

Complying with a public demand that would have taken a microscope of the highest power to even see, our ever-thoughtful sports impresarios have now served us mid-August football, with the thermometer topping the 90 degree mark. The results were best described by Winston Churchill in his immortal phrase about "blood, sweat and tears." The athletes provided sweat a-plenty, blood in varying quantities from bashed beezers and the like; and tears were clearly observable in the eyes of promoters vainly looking for dividend-paying crowds that failed to show up.

* * *

Our personal reaction, after a very brief look, was similar to the old one about the character whose wife coaxed him to church one morning when the minister's subject was "The Prophets of the Bible." After two hours and a half it looked as though the preacher was finally running short of wind; but, after a deep breath, he began again, with "We have now dealt, first with the Major Prophets and, second, with the Minor Prophets; but now, brethren, just what place must we ascribe to the Prophet Zechariah?"

* * *

At this, the character stood up in his pew and said, "If it's all the same to the rest of the folks, the Prophet Zecariah can have MY place—I'm going home." That, briefly, is our position as regards 90-in-the shade football—only for "going" you can read "staying".

* * *

The automotive industry has long taken pride in its up-to-the-minute merchandising methods; and if imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, may feel flattered by an incident recently reported to us. Business was brisk at the little booth where the overhead sign read JUICY HAMBURGERS ONLY 5c. But when the hungry customer finally secured one of the delicacies he was surprised when the price demanded was just four times as great. "The list price is five cents," he was told in answer to his protest, "but it's a nickel extra for each of the accessories—onions, relish and mustard."

* * *

Now we must confess to a really severe shock. Two or three weeks ago Dick Irvin, of the Canadiens, came out with the breath-taking statement that a goal-tender is 50% of a hockey team; which brought a prompt rebuttal from Conn Smyth, in whose studied opinion a good center forward is an even more valuable asset to a club.

* * *

Very naturally we fully expected to see so vital a matter flare up—with judicious fanning—into a raging controversy occupying column after column of space, with reporters madly dashing here and there to secure the opinions, pro and con, of anybody ever even faintly connected with ice, from Hans Brinker to the Sixth Vice President of the Hot Shot Refrigerator Company.

* * *

But, alackaday, nobody seemed to give a hoot either way, and the whole thing was just allowed to drop. Now can it be that our sports editors no longer realize the supreme importance of hockey as a national assett, builder of character, and safeguard against the inroads of Communism? Don't they know this is no way to treat the pearls which drip from the lips of the master-minds? Or did the press agents—like the football promoters already referred to—just make a mistake in their timing?

* * *

A friend of ours recently attended a harness horse meet in Toronto—a meet at which the attendance, incidentally, would have been considered a poor one in several Ontario villages we know. Asked his opinion of the sport, to which he was a stranger, his answer was rather interesting. "It's good fun," he said, "but it's too darned honest—the favorites come down in front almost every time."

There, in a nutshell, he came close to hitting the real reason why so few people like both the Standard Bred and Thoroughbred brands of racing. Your running-horse addict, nine times out of ten, goes to the track with visions of sudden wealth, and considers any price of less than two or three to one as extremely stingy. Trotting-horse fans, on the other hand, attend primarily for the fun of the sport, and if they bet at all, are satisfied with smaller profits and more certain returns. Personally, we like both types about equally—and can go broke at either with about equal celerity.

* * *

..Reading the speeches made at the various peace parleys, one can hardly help being struck by the fact that, though the world is admittedly in a terrible condition, the spokesman invariably lays the blame on any country other than his own. They put us in mind of the old lady up in Bruce County who remarked to a neighbor, "What do you think Father Finnigan said to me at confession today? He told me that I confess the sins of every person in the parish but myself!"

TEEN-TOWN TOPICS

By BARRY MURKAR

Well, it's just about over for another year. We are referring of course to the Canadian National Exhibition that re-opened after five long years. It has been a wonderful two weeks and thousands of you out there are probably bathing your poor, aching little tootsies while you are reading this.

We won't go into detail on the "Ex." as it is all history now; but in passing we would like to suggest that many of you drop a thanks to Kate Aitken, Women's Director of the "Ex." for the swell job she did on Teen-Town, that held capacity crowds every day. The fashion shows, the radio broadcasts, the record bar and the dozen and one things they had at Teen-Town for our enjoyment all adds up to—it was the best exhibition yet.

Let's Face It

Back to school again for another year. To many it will mean another year before university; to others it will mean no more nights on the girl friend's veranda; while to others it will be the usual big, fat headache. However school time is here, no matter how it affects you. Longer dresses are again the current style and pop will be feeling the pinch as daughter insists that she must be up-to-date. Junior, however, can still slop along in last year's togs and feel right at home. As far as we know, boy's and men's clothing has changed very little. We like to think about the first day of the new school term. Maybe because the scene depicted in our home is the same as in countless others. Mom gets down the lunch-pail and dusts it off while the kids sort out the year's text books and hand them down to someone else. Usually there is a mad scramble at the last minute and mom is near physical exhaustion by the time she finds the last pair of braces under the bed or the hair decorations tucked away in a drawer—that were purchased in July for this gala occasion. Of course there is always one consolation in the first day of school—and that is getting out early. Tuck a pear in your pocket, an apple in your hand and away you go.

Thrills

They tell us that newspaper people get tired of hearing, "you meet such interesting people." Honestly though, it's the truth. We agree the people newspaper writers meet are not always interesting but occasionally they provide a thrill. For instance, last week we had the chance to try our hand at reporting police court news for the local weekly. There were two young fellows up for armed bank robbery and only recently they had made the headlines of the dailies. We hitch-hiked a ride to court with two police officers. On the way they pulled up at the county jail. They went in for a few minutes and presently came out with the robbers who were naturally handcuffed. Never-the-less it was somewhat of a thrill to ride to court with the two men who we were going to write about. Then, too, we had the pleasure a few weeks ago of hearing the famous war-correspondent, Ross Munroe speak on Russia. He doesn't believe there will be a war in our time. Following his speech, which of course was broadcast over the local airwaves, we had the pleasure of meeting him. As we shook hands, the man introducing us said to Mr. Munroe: "This young man is quite a student on foreign affairs," to which Munroe replied, "that's fine, I sure wish I had more time to study the situation." Oh brother—and all the time we were wondering where Moscow is. But that's life. Only yesterday we had a phone call from the talking-reporter, Jim Hunter. Frankly we think we'll take to this newspaper work seriously. We are beginning to find out—that you meet such interesting people.

Another Teen-Town Topics

It was interesting to learn a few days ago that there was another Teen-Town Topics column. This one we refer to, appears in one of the large dailies of Chicago and is written by a teen-age girl. She made a big hit recently, when she was the only reporter to get an interview with President Harry Truman. Why the heck couldn't we get an exclusive like that? This other Teen-Town Topics is devoted wholly to interviews with celebrities. We mentioned doing something of a similar nature in the fall.

Foreign Correspondents

You, you or you may soon receive the appointment of being official correspondent of your town for this column. You will be asked to send in news of your teen club, its members and any teen-age news of interest that hits your town. We want to fill this column with news of the various clubs, and we are appealing to you for help. When you get the appointment, will you take your pen in hand and send along the news regularly? Thanks a million.

Dogs and Cats Shun This Nicotine Spray

Ornamental plants on front porches, flowers and shrubs in the front garden, and the corner posts of porches may be protected from damage by dogs and cats by the simple use of dilute nicotine spray. The spray is harmless but its smell is very offensive to cats and dogs, even when applied so thinly that persons are unaware of its presence.

The name of the material is nicotine sulphate and may be bought at any seed or drug store. The spray is prepared by mixing one-half teaspoon of the nicotine sulphate with one gallon of water. The spray evaporates and should be renewed after rain, otherwise in good weather spraying every two weeks is sufficient. Once they have sniffed the spray, the dogs will patronize the other side of the road in their favourite rambles round the town. Sprayed on small pieces of wood, the nicotine will prevent cats from making their nightly boudoirs among the rows of the prettiest flowers in the back-garden plots.

There are three kinds of people—those who make good, those who make trouble and those who make excuses.

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ISSUE 36—1947

Classified Advertising

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HAVE YOU anything needs dyeing or cleaning? Write to us for information. We are glad to answer your questions. Department H, Parker's Dye Works Limited, 791 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario.

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150 ACRES seven miles from Orillia. Hydro water system, Barn 54 x 80, driving shed, pig and hen pen, brick house, ninety five hundren, three thousand down, balance at 3 per cent. Wm. Elliott, R.R. No. 4, Orillia.

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COLLIE puppies light lassie. The VERY best—with character intelligence and outstanding beauty. Reasonable price. Alandale Collies, 104 Arundel Ave., Toronto.

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FOR SALE, 3-8 Heavy Duty Hanson Shovel with back-hoe attachment and traile. No good offer refused. Apply Ray Leffler, 197 Pelham Rd., St. Catharines, Ont. Evenings dial 4-4108.

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MALCOLM McGregor, Polled Hereford breeder, Brandon, Manitoba, will hold a sale of approximately fifty head of registered cattle on Monday, October 20 at 1:00 P.M.

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FOR SALE

PLANING Mill, storage shed and apartment in Georgian Bay town. Sawmill and bush lot. Sell all or any part reasonable. W. A. Cornell, Thornbury, Ont.

FOR SALE

THE ESTATE of the late James Turner, Carrol, Manitoba, twenty miles south of Brandon, will, on Saturday, October 25, at 1:00 P.M. standard time, disperse the registered head of pure bred Aberdeen Angus cattle comprising about fifty head. These cattle are all the descendents of the famous Karama 2nd of Glencarnock.

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