

# Queen's Plate Only One of Memorable Wins for Dittfach

Hugo Dittfach, a little man who lives on the 8th Line, R. R. 2, south of town, is a big man in the horse racing world. Hugo, weighing in at 105 pounds is a well known jockey, who has won, at some time in the past 15 years, most of the big races all over Canada and United States.

He was winner of the Queen's Plate in 1961, beating the famous jockey Johnny Longden, and has won the Prince of Wales stakes five times.

**DO IT WELL**

Not too many jockeys work as hard at their trade as he does. He's down at the track by shortly after six every morning and has worked or galloped 10 horses before 10 o'clock. Many jockeys when they become well-known don't show up until race time.

"If you're going to do something, do it well," is his motto. He feels strongly that the desire to win has to be there no matter how many races he's been in. "Every time it's exciting and a challenge," he remarked. This is from a man who has ridden over 20,000 horses in his 15 years in the business.

**HURT IN ACCIDENT**

Right now he's riding at Greenwood, after a three month lay-off as a result of a car accident in Philadelphia, just before Christmas. This is also his first winter spent in Canada since he started racing, since he usually races all year round travelling all over Mexico, New York State, Colorado and Arizona.

He set a record for wins at Centennial Park, Colorado, and was leading rider in Caliente, Mexico and in Colorado. He is one of 33 riders all over North America with 2,500 wins to his credit.

**BIG NAMES**

Mixing with well-known figures is not new to him, he has

ridden horses owned by Betty Grable, Harry James, Fred Astaire, E. P. Taylor, Conn Smythe, some of the owners of the big hotels in Las Vegas, most of whom have stood beside him in the winner's circle.

Dittfach, who will be 34 in September, came from his native Germany in 1953, with his parents, who emigrated to Calgary. He was a busboy in a restaurant when someone suggested he was the right size for a jockey. "I didn't even know what it meant at the time," he reminisced, "but I wanted to do something where I felt I belonged, since I was so small."

**STALBE BOY**

He got a job at the track as a stable boy, and went on from there to ride his first winner May 24, 1956 at Victoria Park. He met his wife Kay, in 1958 in a dentist's office in Phoenix, Arizona and married her later that year. He feels it pays to keep these dental appointments.

They bought their present 10 acre farm on the 8th line just south of Georgetown three years ago, and sold their home in Phoenix to move here permanently. Both of the children Michelle and Hugo attend Pineview school. They like everything up here even the cold winters, but particularly the open space and "the greatest neighbours anyone could ask for."

**KEEPS WEIGHT DOWN**

It is a familiar sight on the hottest days, to see Hugo dressed in heavy clothing, with a rubber underwater suit underneath, working outside. It is his way of keeping his weight down to that 105 pounds he feels is necessary for him.

"It's the horse that wins, not the jockey," he contends. But many a better disagrees with him.

## Tells Church Women Of Sudan Mission Work

Mrs. Russell Revie, the former Susan Nixon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Nixon, has been honoured with several showers and presentations following her recent marriage.

Mrs. Harry Brown of Georgetown and Miss Penny Reynolds of Norval gave a miscellaneous shower at the home of Mrs. Brown in her honour.

Mrs. Gordon Moddershead of Inglewood was hostess at a miscellaneous shower.

The Halton & Peel Jersey club held a dance at the Master Feed Hall, R. R. 2, Georgetown and presented her with a table and chair bridge set.

Mrs. Sydney Smart of Toronto gave a miscellaneous shower at her home. The office staff of Carrier Air Conditioning, Brampton, where Susan is employed presented her with a crystal decanter set and a blender, and the U.C.W. of Norval United Church held a miscellaneous shower for her at the church.

Miss Marjorie Rumsey, a missionary from the Sudan interior mission in Africa and formerly in Egypt, was the guest speaker at Norval Presbyterian Church W.M.S. spring thank-offering meeting held in the church on Tuesday afternoon, March 23. She gave a very interesting talk on her work as a missionary.

A dessert luncheon was held prior to the meeting. Mrs. Sam McClure and Mrs. John M. McClure received the guests with about 60 attending. Mrs. H. Smith gave the blessing. The president, Mrs. Sam McClure presided for the meeting.

Mrs. H. Smith read the scripture lesson and Mrs. John H. McClure led in prayer. Rev. H. Smith sang a solo "The Stranger of Galilee" and also introduced the speaker Miss Marjorie Rumsey. Mrs. Harold Reed brought greetings from Brampton Presbyterian and Mrs. Tom McGee gave the courtesies. Rev. H. Smith closed the meeting with the benediction.

The employees along with their wives and husbands of the Texaco Service Station operated by Jack Keogh on No. 10 Highway surprised Mr. and Mrs. John Marshall with a party at their home recently on the occasion of John's retirement and presented him with a gift.

About 20 enjoyed a friendly evening of cards followed by a lovely lunch which included a decorated cake with the inscription "Take It Easy John."

Mr. and Mrs. John Dunlop and Mr. and Mrs. Bert Archer enjoyed the recent holidays at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. They report an enjoyable holiday but the weather was a little on the cool side.

— Mrs. Ed McLean

**Wine, Cheese Party For Nursery Parents**

Maple Nursery School parents held their annual wine and cheese party at the home of Terry and Fran Baines on Friday, March 19. About fifty past and present parents were there to enjoy the evening. There

was a wide selection of exotic cheeses to be sampled with a selection of Canadian wines. Each piece of cheese was identified by a small flag carrying its name.

The evening came to a close with a friendly gathering around the piano for an old-fashioned sing-song.

The co-operative nursery's next meeting will be held April 8 and a tour of Gallery House Sol is planned.

Registrations for next year's nursery school are now being accepted.

## HORNBY

A surprise baby shower was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Chase on Wednesday evening, March 31. The chair of honour was decorated with white streamers, and the guests sat in the darkness until the surprised mother, Mrs. Bertram Stewart arrived. She was told to come over and help Mrs. Chase pick out some drape material. Following the opening of beautiful pink and white baby gifts a contest of articles on a tray was played. The winners were Mrs. Elva Howden 1st, Judy Chase and Judy Gordon were tied. A delicious buffet lunch was enjoyed

by all. Mrs. Stewart extended her sincere thanks to all and the drape material was forgotten.

A good crowd attended the

afternoon tea and home baked goods, sale of ceramic articles and used paperback books which was held at St. Stephen's Anglican Church, Hornby, on Saturday afternoon, April 3. Tea and fancy cookies were enjoyed by all and some baked goods were being bought as quick as they were placed down on the counter.

— Mrs. Jim Hamilton.


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In the top picture that's Dittfach urging 'Flirting Reason' through on the inside to wip. Below, Hugo, aboard Flirting Reason, with his family, owner L. J. McGuinness and trainer E. Mann.

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