

Van's Sport Thrills

WILLIAM TUNIS VAN KIRK

"BLACK DYNAMITE"

The bugle sounded as I took my seat in the stand for the big race of the day, one of 35,000 people at Hawthorne racetrack for the first running of the Chicago Derby in 1934. The horses came out one by one from the paddock, walked in a line past the grandstand, then turned and moved to the starting line at the head of the stretch.

That beautiful chestnut was Ladkin, the New York horse who had beaten everything in the East. Then there was Giblon, the cold from Kentucky; Senator Norris, and Cannon Shot.

"Say," I asked the man who sat next to me, "That little black horse, that's not—?"

He took the words out of my mouth.

"Yes, that's Black Gold. He won the Kentucky Derby, but I wouldn't bet anything on his chances of beating Ladkin with Sande up!"

The field of five were at the starting line now, and I leveled my glasses to watch the getaway. There seemed to be trouble down there—bucking and prancing, and at intervals one of the horses would break through the barrier. Black Gold, on the outside, was the calmest of the lot.

"They're off!" The start was a good one, and Ladkin, the favorite, was immediately rushed into the lead. As they thundered past the grandstand, Sande had him well out in front. Senator Norris was second, then Giblon and Cannon Shot. Black Gold was running in the rear.

As they swept around the first turn Ladkin still had a good lead, hugging the rail. The other three horses were bunched behind him, and Mooney still trailed with Black Gold. Down the back stretch they came and watching the field through my glasses, I knew they were covering the slow track in surprisingly fast time.

At the stretch turn I saw Mrs. R. M. Hoots' colors, Old Rose and White, on Mooney's shirt, flash to the outside, and hold this position until the horses rounded the turn and came into the stretch.

The crowd was electrified at the sight they saw in the last breath of that race. The toy horse from Oklahoma began to move up. I saw him pass Cannon Shot, Ahead with the tiring Ladkin. He had given his all in the first three quarters of the race, and could not meet the challenge. Black Gold? Better to have named that horse Black Dynamite! Now only Giblon and Senator Norris were ahead. Seeming to grow fresher as he ran, Black Gold passed them and rushed into the lead. He won with ease, and appeared capable of running another mile and a quarter if necessary.

A few minutes later Mrs. Hoots, owner of Black Gold, made her way to the judges' stand to be presented

with a silver cup. She had reason to smile as she accepted it. Black Gold had increased his winnings for the year to almost \$100,000.

Duck Hunting Season In Illinois Opens Oct. 22 Until Dec. 5

Illinois' duck and goose hunting season will open October 22 and extend to December 5, Secretary Ickes announced in Washington this week.

This is one week later than last year's season, which was from October 15 to November 30, and is welcomed by Illinois sportsmen who have maintained that the middle of October is too early for the season to open in this state.

The daily bag limit remains at ten in the aggregate and the possession limit at twenty in the aggregate.

A separate season for northern Illinois for coots opening October 1 and closing December 5 is provided. This exception, permitted as the result of a determined fight by Director Thomas J. Lynch of the Department of Conservation with the backing of most upstate sportsmen's clubs, includes Cook, Lake, Rock Island, Whiteside, Lee, DeKalb, Kane, DuPage counties and all counties north of these.

Coots already are flying into the lakes of northern Illinois.

The daily bag limit on geese and brants of the kinds permitted to be killed is four in the aggregate of all kinds and the possession limit is eight in the aggregate. Last year the limits stood at five and ten respectively.

The daily bag limit on coots remains at 25.

Ducks, geese, brants and coots may be hunted only from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The regulations, approved by President Roosevelt in accordance with the federal migratory bird treaty with Canada and Mexico, forbid taking waterfowl by means of bait or use of live duck and goose decoys and continues the three-shell limit on repeating shotguns, either hand operated or auto-loaded.

Hunters may use shotguns not larger than 10 gauge, or bow and arrow. The latter weapon, Secretary Ickes stated, was added because of interest that has developed in recent years in archery.

Open season for mourning doves in Illinois is from September 1 to September 30.

Inklings from Neighboring Towns

A burglar who made himself at home at the residence of Mrs. Harry LeMieux, 931 Walnut street, Waukegan, was the object of a hunt by detectives from the Waukegan police department Saturday.

Mrs. LeMieux told police that she returned home Friday after an absence of several days to find her house ransacked. She said that a baking powder can filled with dimes had been stolen from a pantry and a toy bank containing about \$12 had been taken from another room.

The burglar had eaten peanut butter sandwiches in the kitchen, she said, and had braced himself for the work with a bottle of liquor.

Winnetka park board at its August meeting made an appropriation for the construction of a regulation ice hockey rink at Indian Hill park, on which work is to be started in September, it is announced.

The rink, located at the north end of the park, will be enclosed by side boards, constructed so they may be easily removed when the entire park area is required for skating, and at the close of the winter season.

Ice hockey has grown to be a popular winter sport, particularly at the Indian Hill rink, where it has been conducted for the past several winters, and these added facilities, it is felt, will still further encourage the sport.

Since January 1 of 1939, there have been 34 cases of dog bites in Lake Forest. Fortunately, none of these cases have developed serious complications, but city authorities are concerned about the situation.

Lake Forest residents have spent almost \$100 each month because of carelessness on their part or on the part of dog-owners.

At present, conservative estimates place the number of dogs in

Lake Forest at about 870, and police authorities believe that nearly all of these dogs are licensed. However, many dogs do not receive proper care and become a nuisance to residents of the community.

If dog-owners do not take proper care of their pets and the number of dog bites reported to city authorities continue to increase, it is possible that the city council will be forced to pass laws controlling the ownership of dogs.

Benefits of municipal government were extended to No Man's Land this week when Wilmette officially assumed authority over the triangular tract along Lake Michigan between that village and Kenilworth. Police and fire protections were granted early this week.

Bids on the general contract for the construction of the new Crow Island school at Glendale avenue and Willow road, Winnetka, will be received at the office of the board of education at Skokie school Wednesday evening, September 6, at 8:00 o'clock, it was announced recently.

It was estimated that about 10 days would elapse before the board would announce the formal award.

Instead of a government grant, as was originally planned, the board of education will use cash now on hand. This money includes a sum set aside some years ago for a school in the northwest section of the village. With the enrollment of the schools virtually stationary during the past decade, the necessity for a north west school will not be urgent for some years.

It is estimated that the Crow Island school—officially designated as the Southwest school—will cost about \$282,000. The new building will replace the Horace Mann school at Elm and Chestnut streets, and that site will be turned over in parcels to the federal government for a new post office, and to the village and the park district.

Construction is scheduled to begin as soon as possible after the contract is let and to be finished in September, 1940.

Mrs. Wm. Stratford Dies Thursday At Local Hospital

Mrs. Bertie Stratford, aged 39, passed away Thursday, shortly after noon at the Highland Park hospital. She had been in ill health for the past year.

She was born in West Pullman, Chicago, March 10, 1900, and received her early education in that vicinity, later moving to the north side in Chicago where she was graduated from Nicholas Senn high school. She then went to business college, later being employed by an insurance company.

On September 4, 1921, she was married to Mr. William Stratford, also of Chicago. In 1932 she and her husband and family moved to Highland Park.

Mrs. Stratford had a very jovial, cheerful disposition, and maintained this cheerful manner in spite of adversity or sorrow. Although she suffered a great deal in the last year, she maintained a radiant confidence that she would recover and be able

to take care of her family.

She was deeply interested in the work of the church and particularly in the activities of the Sunday school. She was an active member of the Philathea class of Bethany Evangelical church.

Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon at one-thirty o'clock in Kelley's chapel. Rev. H. F. Siemsen officiated. Interment took place at Mt. Hope cemetery at West Pullman.

Survivors beside her husband are, a daughter Jeanne, and a son, Allen.

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