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NOTICES IN THE

NEWS

In the World of Sport

SEES DAY FOR 1.40 TROTTERS

Secretary of Grand Circuit Talks on

Future of Harness Horses

A mile in 1.40 is the prediction of

George Deitrich, secretary of the

Grand Circuit. "Some will say I am

crazy to make such a prediction," said

Deitrich, "but I firmly believe that

ultimately a harness horse will trot

a mile in 1.40.

"Horsemen have felt each new

world's record would stand forever.

The first horse to beat 2.30 was Lady

Suffolk, 2.29 1/2, in 1856. Horsemen

of that day said the feat would never

be accomplished again. Within twenty

years Dexter cut down the mark to

2.17 1/2, and six years later Gold-

smith Maid went in 2.14. Two years

after Rarus set the mark of 2.13 1/2,

which was lowered to 2.11 1/2 by St. Jul-

ian before another two years had passed.

All of these miles were driven in

a highwheel sulky.

"Then came the bike sulky, and

through various stages down through

Sunol, Nancy Hanks, Alx, Lou Dillon

and Uhlman the record has been

reduced to 1.58 1/2 in the open. Lou

Dillon's mark of 1.58 1/2 was made with

the aid of a wind shield.

"Ten years ago there was a spirited

controversy as to whether a horse

could ever reach the two-minute

mark. It would be as foolish now for

a man to say that 1.58 1/2 will never be

beaten as it was in 1867, when Robert

Bonner said Dexter's record of

2.17 1/2 would stand as a world's record

for all time. Budd Dobe, who drove

Dexter that mile, predicted the two

minute trotter and was ridiculed.

"Of course, there is certain to be a

limit as we now look at the speed

of horses but that limit has not been

reached by far. Uhlman trotted a half-

mile last year in 66 1/2. That means,

under favorable conditions, he can trot

a mile in 1.56 or a shade better, and

Uhlman is now no more the acme of

perfection in the trotting horse than

Dexter was years ago.

"Of course, the more the record is

reduced the harder it will be to clip

it a quarter of a second, but it will

be done. I have known harness hor-

ses to pull a sulky as fast for an

eighth of a mile as the best runner

can run, which is close to 1.25.

Therefore, with improvement in

breeding and greater intelligence in

training, I cannot see why a horse,

trotting to a sulky, should not ulti-

mately reach a mile in 1.40."

OLD COURSE SOLD

The Scene of Many a Conflict Long

Ago Passes Further into History

The old Newmarket Race Course,

northeast of Toronto, has been sold for

\$130,000. Half a century ago it was

the race course of this part of the

world, but just as other properties

devoted to the horse sprung up prior

to its creation, so in turn came Car-

lton and the Woodbine to eclipse New-

market. Only one Queen's Plate was

ever run over the Newmarket track

and that was forty-four years ago

when the race was won by James

White's Nettle, by Kennett, who al-

ready another winner in "Reddy"

Pringle's Mignonette, but the old

course was the scene of much good

sport, mainly of the steeplechase and

hunt order. Nettle, by the way

was trained and ridden by Archie

Fisher, who was both prominent and

popular in those days. When Car-

lton now West Toronto, became the

venue of the Newmarket race track

and from 1870 on the sport at the

track was of a decidedly spasmodic

order. Some rattling good hunt races

were held there from twenty to forty

years ago, the most enjoyable being

when members of the hunt found their

own prizes, and John Halligan took

up a silver or paper collection in his

huntsman's cap. One of the most

notable of these races took place some

thirty-two or thirty-three years ago,

and was won by M. A. (Gus) Thomas,

on his lively old hunter Liberty.

Those who saw that chase will never

forget the masterly finish Mr. Thomas

put up. The old course will soon be

a thing of the past, and the hungry

all-absorbing man of bricks and mor-

BASEBALL STORIES

A Couple of the Best Going About

Tim Hurst

Almost every day stories about Tim

Hurst, in the days when that Irish

celebrity was handling the indicator

and smothering "fresh" players, come

to the front. Billy Evans of the

American League staff, recently re-

lated the following:

"I met Tom on Broadway last sum-

mer, and enjoyed a chat with him.

"Long Tom" Hughes, the Washington

pitcher, joined us, and we talked shop,

with Tim doing most of the chattering.

When he left Hughes related a story

of him. I tell it in Hughes' words:

"You remember the old Washing-

ton grounds, with the hospital just

outside the left-field fence? One day

I was pitching against Cleveland and

was getting an awful lacing, which

was strange, as I usually had some-

thing on the Naps. But Lajoie, Brad-

ley and Hickman were threatening the

lives of the patients in the hospital

with their drives that day.

"Hurst was umpiring and natu-

rally I was sore at the mauling I was

getting. I made the mistake of try-

ing to take revenge on Hurst. I

might have had a chance to discour-

age his puns, but not with Timothy. I

commented upon his umpiring and he

came back sarcastically about my

pitching. Finally I turned and asked:

"Who's pitching this game, any-

how?"

"Well," he drawled, "judging from

the score, I should say one of those

old fellows from the incurable ward

over there, at the same time jerking

his thumb toward the hospital. I was

there for the rest of that game, be-

lieve me."

Tom Hughes is responsible for an-

other of the many good stories told

about Tim. It seems that a brash

young pitcher joined the Washington

Club, bringing from his small league