

MELOS TAKES THE FEATURE

An unusually large mid-April crowd turned out on Wednesday last to witness the running of a high-class card arranged by the Jockey Club and was well rewarded for its attendance as all of the races were marked by good fields and close finishes.

The feature event was the steeplechase race over the full 10-jump course and was won in rather handy style by G. Nibbs' faithful old timber-topper, Melos. Only three horses took the issue in this event. Kate Glenn was second after Ray O' Light came to grief at the eighth jump where he stumbled and unseated jockey Norman. The boy was badly shaken up but escaped without serious injury. Nibbs made it a double when his Lady Betty came home ahead of Jo Jo and High Olympus in the six furlong event. Lady Betty's time of 1:14 1-5 was remarkably good.

The other flat race of the day went to Machere after a hard stretch drive with Wasseon and Joe Milner, who finished in the order named.

Love's Wager took the Class A trot in successive heats and won first money and the club trophy from Miss Peter Toddington and Mike Kelly. First and second money in the Class B pace was divided between Tom H and Bingen Gentry as a result of each finishing first and second in the two heats run. Jones Gentry was third.

The usual weekly meetings will be run every Wednesday throughout the month.

The summary:

CLASS A. TROT	
Love's Wager (Wickert)	1 1 1
Miss Peter Toddington (Jones)	2 2 3
Mike Kelly (Balland)	3 3 2

CLASS B. PACE	
Tom H. (Grey)	2 1
Bingen Gentry (Jones)	1 3
Jones Gentry (Hayes)	2 1

5 FURLONG FLAT	
Machere (Lasses)	won
Wasseon (Snyder)	second
Joe Milner (Wright)	third
Time: 1:01 1-5	

6 FURLONG FLAT	
Lady Betty (Snyder)	won
Jo Jo (Lasses)	second
High Olympus (Wright)	third
Time: 1:14 1-5.	

STEEPLECHASE (Full Course)	
Melos (Wright)	won
Kate Glenn (Snyder)	second
Ray O' Light (Norman)	fell

A WORD ON THE SANDHILLS PEACH LANDS

Ben Dixon MacNeill, in Sunday's Raleigh News and Observer, has a lot to say on the wonders of the Sand Hills peach lands, which we quote in part:

"The Sandhill folks have a fashion of going ahead and doing things, and if there is any talking to be done, they let somebody else attend to that business.

They have let Pinehurst grow up right there in the middle of a desert without saying anything about it, and now it appears that they have planted more peaches than any people in the world, get more money for them, and very few folks know much about it.

Few know, for instance, that right now there is a swarm of buyers down in the Sandhill country begging for the privilege of buying all the peaches of that region when they get ripe, and paying for them right on the spot.

Few know that there will be a thousand carloads of peaches ripening on the trees down there in August, and somebody would be glad to pay \$1,500 for one carload of them and pay the freight besides.

Few know, pursuing the instance further, that in the midst of the prevalent more or less ineffective cry for growers' associations and producers' organizations that the Sandhill peach raisers have an organization, built up from the bottom rather than from the top down, that is air-tight, water-tight, fool and bomb-proof, that buys everything the grower needs at the very lowest price possible and sells everything that he raises at the very highest prices. All the growers groan when they pay their income tax.

More perhaps know that lands down in that country that used to go begging on the market for 25 cents an acre now command prices anywhere from \$25 an acre up.

* * *

It is twenty years now since J. Van Lindley went down into that country and planted some peach trees, mostly as an experiment in conjunction with his nurseries in Greensboro. He tried out all sorts of peaches, examined tree pests and such things, until he had demonstrated to himself that the Sandhills would raise peaches. He didn't make any money out of it directly, but the experiment has made, is making, and will make millions, and he has a share in some of it now. He sells the rest of them peach trees.

And then there arrived a Yankee from Massachusetts, H. R. Clark, who settled down over at Candor, beyond Pinehurst on the railroad then owned by the Pages. He planted some trees, raised some peaches and sold them. He organized a company called the Candor Fruit Company.

* * *

From the modest 80 acres of its beginnings, it has expanded to more than 1,000 acres of peach trees. Round about other people, newcomers to the sandhills and citizens whose progenitors took root there even before the days of the Piney Bottom Massacre, have seen the vision that he saw and there are vast reaches of peach orchards that stretch mile on mile, extending into the country round about. The sandhills are coming into their own, and it is not surprising.

* * *

From all over the United States men have come and invested their money in peach lands.

Lots of good things come to those who wait and do not get involved in pessimism while they are waiting. Be an optomist.



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