

# WOMEN RUN RACING STABLE FOR 'PIN-MONEY' AS RESULT OF WAGER WITH HUSBANDS—AND WIN

**Mrs. R. Penn Smith, Jr., and Mrs. F. Ambrose Clark, Noted Horsewomen, Keep Enterprise Secret a Year Before Revealing Success to Doubting Friends**

**BUY INEXPENSIVE STEEDS AND TRAIN THEM TO BEAT COSTLY THOROUGHBREDS**

**Amaze Followers of Turf by Taking Three First Places in Single Season With Stable of \$500 Yearlings Pitted Against Best in Land**

MILLIONS of wagers have been laid on horses; men and women have raced for fame, fortune and love. Fortunes have been made and lost; joy has changed to despair—all as the result of one unfortunate bet.

But the unique distinction of betting to uphold a theory and having a year's experience with a racing stable for "pin money" belongs to Mrs. R. Penn Smith, Jr., and Mrs. F. Ambrose Clark.

Mrs. Smith, who was Carol Harriman, favorite daughter of the railroad king, E. H. Harriman, was brought up on her father's motto, "Hang the expense, but make a good job of it."

The good job included teaching her everything there was to know about horses, and with unlimited means to indulge her fondness for matters equine Mrs. Smith became an expert horsewoman.

Her husband comes of a line of ardent horse-lovers, his father, R. Penn Smith, of Stratford, being one of the best judges of horseflesh in this country and England.

Mrs. Clark, who is the wife of the multi-millionaire sportsman, is also an expert horsewoman.

The two undertook their venture, which is commanding the attention of the racing world, as the result of a statement they made half jokingly, half in earnest. Their friends laughed at them. So did their husbands.

"How funny!" they said when told of the pin-money plan. "Where did you ever get such an idea?"

That was too much, of course. The fire of the sportswomen being aroused, they promptly offered to back up their ideas.

"We'll show you," they promised. And they began to "show them" last year at Saratoga, where the conversation that started it all took place. Both Mr. Smith and Mr. Clark had been buying horses and paying about \$2000 each for them.

"It is ridiculous to pay that much for a horse when you could get cheaper horses—and race them successfully, too," said their wives.

And right there was when the laughter sounded and where the women made their compact. They agreed to pool a certain amount of money with which they were to purchase yearlings, develop and train them, race them and then sell them before the yearly stock sale on August 1.

They bought them—eight horses for about \$5000. They secured J. Simon Healy to train them. And they raced them to first place three times and won several seconds and thirds.

The only part of the bargain which they have yet to fulfill is to sell them, and this will take place at the Empire City track on July 27, the last day on which they can be sold in New York before the yearling sale.

**Kept Venture Secret for More Than a Year**

Only their husbands, their trainer and a few members of the Piping Rock and Meadowbrook Hunt Club coterie have known of the venture which resulted from Mrs. Smith's and Mrs. Clark's agreement last year. That the Syndicate Stables belonged to two society women who, by running them, disproved the old belief that the moneyed aristocrats of America go in for racing "just to throw their money away" was kept a secret.

But after a year the owners of the Syndicate were discovered to be two of the most prominent women in the social and racing worlds. And next year the Syndicate intends to pool the money it has made with what was left from the original fund last year, and buy more horses for the next season.

"All the horses in the Syndicate Stables have names beginning with 'S,'" said Mrs. Smith.

"Let me see. What are all their names?" she inquired. "There is Susanna, a chestnut filly, and Sybil, a bay filly; and 'Smelter,' a brown filly. Then there is Suspicion, another brown filly; Sentimental Tommy, a chestnut gelding; Sarsaparilla, a black colt; Scarce Crow, a bay gelding; and Sister Sue, a bay filly. I think Sister Sue is my favorite, but she can't race now."

There is a chance that her condition may improve next year, but now, even though she can't race, Mrs. Smith insists she likes her best.

Mrs. Smith was sitting in the living room near East William, L. I., and there was a little racing atmosphere in



Mrs. F. Ambrose Clark, one of the partners in the "Syndicate Stables" enterprise

when they became "ill." But she soon discarded dolls for horses, and her parents decided to make her a thorough horsewoman.

When she was ten years old she was given a Kentucky saddle horse and she was put under the charge of a professional trainer. She learned to know a horse, to handle vicious as well as gentle animals, and she learned what breeds are best for hunting, racing and showing. She read books on the breeding and training of horses; she watched them in the stables. And she became an expert at cross-country riding as ever her father could wish.

When she was fifteen she went south to school, taking her favorite riding horse along. For two years she studied other things besides horses. Then she returned home and with her debut began her social career, which was just as successful as her attempts at sports had been.

She danced as well as she rode; she attended parties with the same enthusiasm with which she had once played with her dolls. She excelled in the social life of the junior set as she did in the saddle. She became one of the leading actresses and dancers in the league entertainments.

**Housekeeping and Horses Combined in Education**

And she also learned every necessary detail of housekeeping. To test her skill her father once told her to run the house for a week, to entertain a certain number of guests and spend only a certain sum of money in so doing. Here also she came through with flying colors.

"Efficiency" was Harriman's maxim, and the standard to which his daughter Carol measured up. It was this standard of his which enabled him to take advantage of his opportunity, which came in the financial panic of 1893. Through his skillful stock manipulation he bought up railroads cheap, and by craft, combat and every means secured the power which his soul loved.

It was once said of him: "When the Harriman mind is once made up, that settles it. Panics may follow, boards of directors may be disrupted, officers may resign, financial powers at large may band against him, law may deny him, the money forces of the world may say him nay—but nothing matters. Isolated, regardless, persistent, defiant and courageous, he goes upon his way, caring neither for method, law, nor man, so it may be that at the end he winds the prize at which he aims."

It was this mind which enabled him to rise in ten years from obscurity to the control of railways extending from ocean to ocean and to the ownership of vessels which sailed the seven seas. He was called the world's first Transcontinental Railroad King.

This mind Carol inherited. His standard she followed—a standard which taught her not only how to do needlework, cook a splendid meal and entertain with her musical gifts, but also to ride, skate, ski and swim with the same success.

**Love of Horses a Bond Between Father and Daughter**

The love of horses was a strong bond between Carol and her father. He gave her an unlimited allowance for her race-



Mrs. R. Penn Smith, Jr., daughter of E. H. Harriman, the railroad king, and well-known horsewoman, who joined with Mrs. Clark to prove their theories about horses by actual test

out because there isn't room for it any more."

"I haven't ever earned a dime at anything else but training horses," said Mr. Healy with a grin. "I have trained for twenty years, and I have been around horses all my life. My father wasn't interested in them, but my grandfather was, and I guess I took after him."

"The first I ever learned about horses," he continued, "was in Ireland at the Currah of Kildare. When I was about fourteen years old I came to this country and all I have done over here is train horses. I was the only person that ever trained for Eddie Cassett—I trained for him for fourteen

years. I am training for Chesterbrook Farm now. That is E. R. Cassett and Elsie Cassett Stewart, Colonel Cassett's sister. They are going to race under their own names next year, instead of

the name Chesterbrook Farm."

"Tomorrow is work day at the track, and I have to get up at four o'clock and be there early to get them started. There are three work days a week, and on

these days the horses are run. You have to train every horse in a different manner. It depends on his temperament. They're just like persons; some have to be handled one way and some another.

ing \$10 on the horses to win, and \$25 to show. She and Mrs. Clark agreed to spend no more than \$1000 on any horse, but next year this figure may be raised to \$1500.

**Economy the Motive Behind Novel Venture**

DESPITE the fact that both are immensely wealthy, it was the consideration of economy that impelled Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Clark to undertake their venture.

"Why," they inquired of their husbands, "should you continue to spend \$5000 for a horse, when you can buy one for \$500 and get just as good results?"

Whereupon the husbands—the wretches!—laughed gently, but none the less wholeheartedly. "Absurd!" they said.

That was too much. Without discussing the matter further the ladies entered into an agreement to pool their resources and practice what they preached, with an eye to proving the soundness of their theories.

The success which attended their efforts is attested by the fact that the humble yearlings which they purchased and trained won three firsts, several seconds and thirds, and widespread renown within the short space of one racing season.

They have to have special food and special treatment.

"This is the first time I ever trained for women," he said, grinning again. "But I haven't ever had better horses. They leave things to me, but they know all there is to know about horses and you don't have to explain things to them." His expression showed clearly his opinion of any one who did not "know about horses."

**Rain Holds No Terrors for Fair Horse Owners**

"Mrs. Smith is a horsewoman from the word 'go,'" he said, "and so is Mrs. Clark. Both of them. Lots of mornings at Saratoga when the weather was so bad that even the men would not come out to the stables I have seen Mrs. Smith in a rubber coat and rubber boots out looking around."

It is not only from her father that Mrs. Smith inherits her love of horses. Her mother is also an enthusiastic horsewoman, and among her many interests she always has kept in touch with racing events. She it was who, with the death of her husband in 1910, inherited \$100,000,000 by the remarkable ninety-eight-word will of Harriman, in which he left his estate "to my wife, Mary W. Harriman, to be hers absolutely and forever."

And the widow of the financier, who had always been a "home woman," became a "business woman," much as she abhors the word. She not only capably managed a street railway, a lighting plant, and a hotel in Georgia, but an iron mine, a dairy farm, a bank and a road building company in New York, together with a blast furnace in Pennsylvania and a gold mine in South Dakota. She gave final judgment on financial transactions in Wall Street and at the same time did not neglect the business of being an old-fashioned mother to her five children.

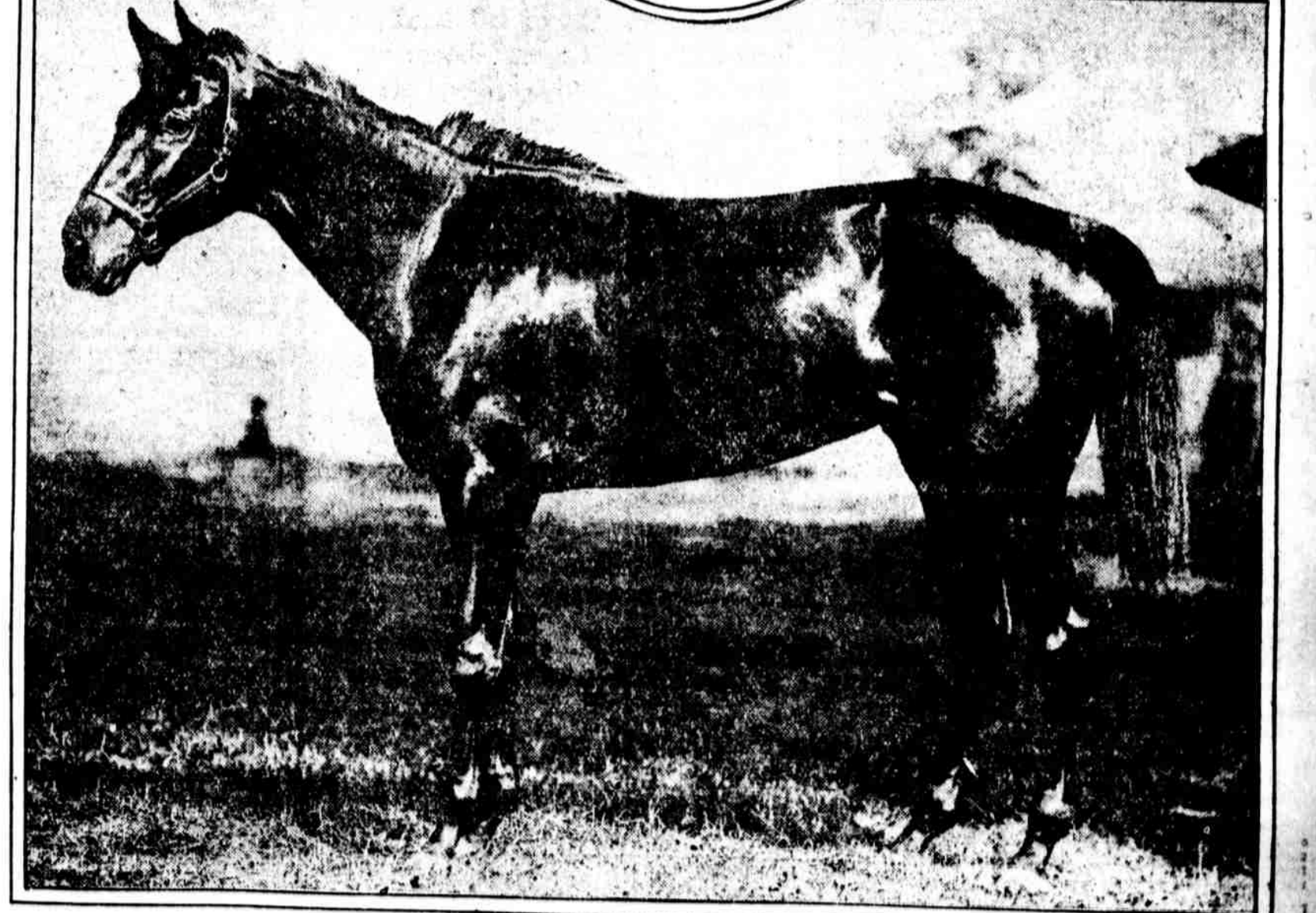
Now, more than sixty years old, she shares her daughter's interest in horses. There is a story told of how she comes to the stables, leaning on her cane she will walk around and then sit down to discuss the condition of the various horses.

"Don't bother to get a chair for me," she will order brusquely. "I will sit right here," and going over to a feed box she will sit down, saying, "Now this horse here—" and give advice and make comments to which seasoned horsemen listen with respect.

The Syndicate stable yearling purchases this year are expected to be more pretentious than those last year and the new racing establishment may assume a much higher rating on the turf. The highest bet this year was 10-10-20. Next year Mrs. Smith is consider-



J. Simon Healy, veteran trainer



Suspicion, one of the cull yearlings which have astonished the racing world with their performance