

Timelines In fifteen minutes Number 6 +

History in a Box

More show scenes from years past.

1923.

'A SMASH

ACCIDENT ON SHOW GROUND. Serious Collision.

An accident occurred in the fastest trotter (not pacer) in the ordinary sulky competition at the Murwillumbah show yesterday. W. Lawson and D. Blanchfield were the only competitors in the event. At the start of the race Blanchfield's horse cut across Lawson and forged ahead. Lawson overhauled him, but was unable to pass owing to Blanchfield's horse closing in on the rails. This performance was repeated several times, and when within 100 yards of the winning post the horses were running side by side. A close finish seemed certain, when Blanchfield's horse again swerved, jamming his opponent against the rails. The crash came almost immediately, and Lawson went hurtling through the air, and landed on his head. Both shafts of the sulky were broken, and Lawson's hands became entangled in the reins and he was dragged along the track for several yards. He was unconscious for some time.

The onlookers gathered round the ring jumped the rails and made a hostile demonstration against Blanchfield. The police prevented harm coming to him, although he was struck with umbrellas. The crowd, being unable to get at him, hooted vigorously, but the hoots were turned to cheers when the blue ribbon was placed on Lawson's horse.

It is understood that the stewards have decided to take certain action today.

[Tweed Daily, 29 November 1898, p. 2.]

1924.

'HOOPLA BARRED

DECISION OF T.R.A.S. Complaints Received from Public.

At next Tweed Show there are to be no hoop-la side-shows. The ground committee of the Tweed Agricultural Society met on the showground yesterday, and arrived at this decision.

These side-shows have been a source of trouble and complaints from the public at past shows, and these considerations influenced the committee in their decision. The committee intend to encourage all legitimate side-shows, and expect, in this way, to make up the small loss in ground rent from the hoop-la shows.

Tweed Agricultural Society' will be the first body affiliated with the North Coast Agricultural Societies' Association to take this stand.'

[Tweed Daily, 28 October 1924, p. 2.]

1926.

'The official dinner at country shows used to provide politicians and other talkative people with a good opportunity to make long-winded speeches about the "potentialities of this splendid district," etc., etc. The custom, has been discontinued by most show committees, and the Tweed Show authorities have now fallen into line. At a recent meeting of the Tweed Show Committee the president pointed out that there was no time for an official dinner, and the usual speeches. It was an expensive item to the society and was "a little bit out of date," as it did not serve the purpose for which it was intended.

[Don Dorrigo Gazette and Guy Fawkes Advocate, 3 December 1926, p. 1.]

Our Next Meeting

1:00 pm on Monday, 20 November 2023, at the Society's Tony Clarke Research Room at the Tweed Regional Museum.

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