

Steady Ellie T. rushes home unopposed in the 1:58 3/8 second heat of the \$18,000 Hayes Memorial 2-year-old filly pace. Handled by Richard Farrington for owner John R. Colvin, the daughter of Steady Beau-Ellie T. was tied in the summary with the first heat winner Leather Jacket, who gained the trophy with the faster mile, 1:58%.

Christopher T., a fine 3-year-old who displayed moments of speed and potential earlier in the season, almost missed his moment of truth at Du Quoin following a dismal performance at Indianapolis. Even though heartened slightly after a strong workout following the seventh place finish in the Horseman Futurity, trainer-driver Billy Haughton's inclination was not to start the Ayres colt at Du Quoin, but he left the final decision to owner John Thro. The Mankato, Minn. druggist decided that since they had gone that far, they might as well go on to Du Quoin.

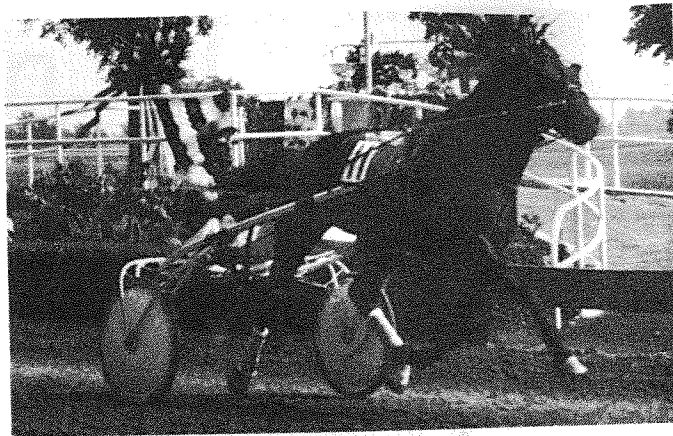
Christopher T. and his full brother Timothy T., the 1970 winner, are only the second set of full brothers to win the event in the first half-century of the Hambletonian. The initial pair was Speedy Scot (Speedster-Scotch Love), the 1963 victor and his full brother Speedy Streak, winner in 1967.

Prior to the modern era of the race, the immortal Peter the Great mare, Elizabeth, produced two Hambletonian winners, the incomparable Greyhound (by Guy Abbey), winner of 1935, and his half-sister Yankee Maid (by Volomite), the winner nearly a decade later in 1944.

Ironically, Gov. Dan Walker arrived at the Du Quoin State Fairgrounds some two hours before the deluge Wednesday to sign a bill which provides \$290,000 for the construction of an all-weather track and the replacement of the barn which was destroyed by fire several years ago.

This brings to nearly \$500,000 the money provided for by the Illinois State Legislature in the state's effort to keep the race at Du Quoin. An earlier measure set guidelines for the acquisition of \$200,000 by directing to the Hambletonian the proceeds from the pari-mutuel wagering on the third race each Saturday at each pari-mutuel harness racing plant in the state.

Included also is money to wire the grandstand for pari-



Smokey Oaks, easy winner of Egyptian 2-year-old trot. The son of Filter-Dorothy Oaks was driven by Jack Friedley, the colt's owner, breeder and trainer.

mutuel wagering. Legalization of betting at Du Quoin and the Illinois State Fair will pave the way toward the presentation of the Hambletonian on a Saturday next year with live television coverage.

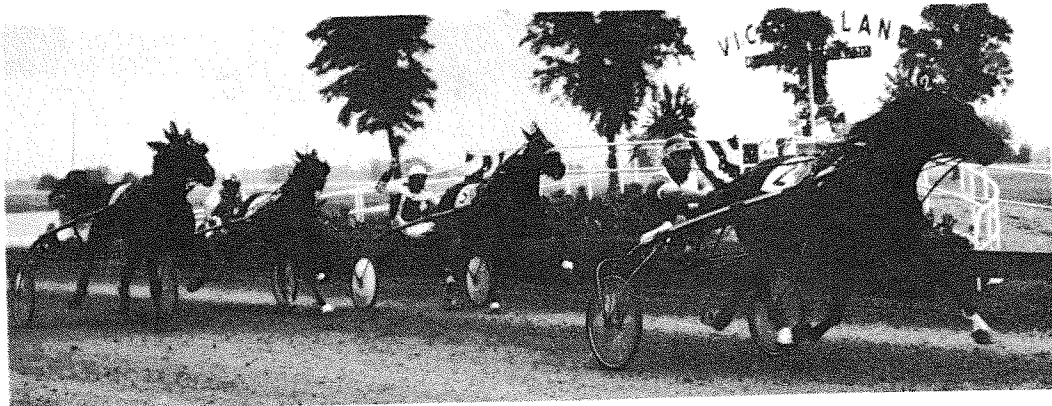
Christopher T. is named for a son of the owner, who being a teen-ager was too busy socially to attend the race. His older brother Timothy, for whom Timothy T. was named, was on hand. Tim, however, was not present when his namesake won, but Chris was at that race.

With her arch rival Noble Florie battling the boys in the Hambletonian, Castleton Farm's Berna Hanover easily disposed of 5 distaff rivals in straight heats of 2:04 and back in 2:03 3/8 in the \$34,865 Hambletonian Filly Stake.

The bay daughter of Hickory Smoke-Bertie Hanover dogged Laura F. Griffin's pacesetter Laurel's Tytan, a Hickory Smoke miss also, to the final bend of the first mile. Trotting alongside the leader through the turn, Berna Hanover moved on to the front entering the stretch and confidently repulsed a late stretch bid by Clarence F. Gaines's Fluff Hanover by three-quarters to a length at the end. Laurel's Tytan hung on for third.

E. T. Zweifel's Sutton Sue, a bay daughter of Sutton Place (by Speedster) was the early leader in the second fracas, but succumbed in the final turn after a bold performance on the front end. Fluff Hanover, Laurel's Tytan and Berna Hanover all swept around the tiring leader in the top of the stretch with the last named pulling away to a one and one-half length tally over K. D. Owen's late-closing Noble Image at the wire. Fluff Hanover was third this time.

Next year's prospects for the Hambletonian Filly clashed in the \$16,400 Castleton Farm Filly 2-year-old trot. Elizabeth Ervin's Noble Victory miss San Juan had the early foot each mile for Jim Wingard, but wound up third and fourth as Stoner Creek Stud's Brilliance charged up on the outside to take the first mile by a half-length in 2:05 3/8, and Del Miller and Hugh Grant's Meadow Bright, a lithe daughter



Berna Hanover, straight heat winner in 2:04 and 2:03 3/8 of the \$34,865 Hambletonian Filly 3-year-old trot. The daughter of Hickory Smoke-Bertie Hanover, was driven by Glen Garnsey for the winning owners, Castleton Farm.