

443

? Heard Harnden

GRAND NATIONAL 1938.

A quarter of a million ~~enthusiastic~~ racegoers at Aintree --- while the flags of Britain, France and the United States fluttering in the breeze, pay ~~tribute~~ ^{tribute} to the horses entered from those countries for this international Grand National. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ There is beauty and fashion here to-day, as well as the mere horse-lover --- ~~but owing to the showery weather~~

but the fashion rather runs ^{and here's something new for the time.} to new lines in rainproofs. ~~Now let's~~

Let's take a look in the paddock, where the really important players in this great drama, await the rise of the curtain.

Those ~~were~~ ^{are} all famous names --- now here is one destined to be still more famous --- No. 5 is Battleship, and his jockey is 17-year-old Bruce Hobbs of Lambourn. No 2 is Airgead Sios --- ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ --- No. 8 is Dunhill Castle --- and so, to the parade.

out Now those thirty-six wonderful thoroughbreds are going to the start and the air is electric. Battleship is wandering about on his own while the starter, Mr L.L. Firth is trying to get them ready. There they are in line --- and watch them go!

Four miles and a half and thirty jumps ahead. Watch them charge the first one --- and watch Inversible fall.

IN The leaders now are Airgead Sios, Royal Daniele and Lough Cottage, but here Emancipator fell.

Coming up to Bechers' Brook, most dreaded jump of all. Airgead Sios leading from Royal Daniell and Rockquilla. All going nicely --- but see what happens to Takvor Pasha.

443

GRAND NATIONAL 927

left-handed

Now they're swinging ~~to~~ to the Canal, over the fence where the Duchess of Norfolk's Murdy Gurdy Man came down.

The Canal Turn --- the Canal put out Cabin Fire --- and last year's winner Royal Mail was pulled up.

Now they come to Valentine's Brook and we give you slow motion. Airgead Sios is leading from Royal Danieli, Lough Cottage and Red Knight II. No falls --- it's full marks here for horses, jockeys --- and the cameraman, a wonderful delayed action study.

Then at the next jump the leader went out --- Airgead Sios touched the top of the fence and came down with a crash. ~~Here~~ Stalbridge Park came down as well.

Now Delachance has taken over the lead, and up with him are Royal Danieli, Lough Cottage and Red Knight II.

Now for the Water Jump. The leaders take it in perfect style with comfortable grace, but poor Rock Lad said good-bye for ever to the green fields. ~~He broke his back.~~

On that grim note they left the last jump of the first circuit. Now they're going into the country for the second time round. No. 17 Lough Cottage has the lead ~~to~~ from Dunhill Castle and Rockquilla. Tapinois was pulled up here. Δ

Now to Becher's once again. Lough Cottage, Red Knight and Royal Danieli are thereabouts, but here Battleship comes into the picture. Battleships' jockey is in grey and silver so look out for him from now on. Royal Danieli's jock. is in dark silk with white sleeves and sash. ~~These two fight for the~~

Becher's bump two more down /
~~lead with~~

out

IN

OUT

~~These two fight for the lead with Lough Cottage and Delachance but at Barber's now there are two more casualties.~~

Now that Canal Turn again --- Royal Danieli, Battleship and ~~xxx~~ Lough Cottage all present --- and Workman with Jockey in spotted cap is beginning to show ~~at~~ among the leaders.

Slow motion/^{at} Valentine's again --- Battleship and Royal Danieli leading --- a loose horse third and then comes Workman ~~with jockey in spotted cap.~~

They're nearing the finish ~~now~~ --- and a wonderful finish it's going to be. Battleship has dropped behind ~~here~~ --- Royal Danieli and Workman are going like the wind together. Workman's jockey has lost his cap.

The last jump but one. Royal Danieli and Workman still together --- Battleship still there too. The last jump --- they're nearly home ~~and Battleship is closing up on Workman and Royal Danieli.~~

Into the straight --- there's a loose horse up with them, but it's going to be a neck and neck finish between Royal Danieli and Battleship --- Ireland v. America. It's all but a dead heat but Battleship, nearest the camera, is the winner.

, What a wonderful race --- and what a wonderful victory! Battleship is owned by Mrs Marion Scott, the wife of film star Randolph Scott. And Bruce Hobbs the jockey is seventeen years old --- the youngest jockey ever to ride in the Grand National --- and he won it. Well done!

out

EXTRA

IN