

ASCOT GOLD CUP:

Not a cloud in the Ascot sky for Gold Cup day - and many exotic fashions blossom in the midsummer heat. It's very nearly time for the big race - there's Madame Susy Valterra, who's entered Harry Carr, who's riding the Queen's colt Atlas, trained by Captain Boyd-Rochfort.

Once again, Carr faces French challengers including Mr. Strassburger's Cambremer, the second favourite, starting price 4-1 compared with Atlas 10-1. Favourite is the Italian Tissot.

Stablemate to Atlas is the 6-year-old Zarathustra, with Lester Piggott up. Carr could have ridden him, but preferred the Queen's entry.

Nine runners, coming into line....

And they're off!

Harry Carr takes Atlas into the lead, followed by Donald, Cambremer, and Zarathustra.

And as they pass the stands for the first time it's still the same order, with Atlas setting a good pace on the very firm going.

Atlas holds his lead as they go into the country - but Donald's dropping back, and Tissot's moved up to third place. Rounding the final turn, and Cambremer challenging Atlas! Yes, it's Atlas, Cambremer, Zarathustra, Hornbeam - with Zarathustra passing Cambremer!

Now Zarathustra starts his real challenge, gaining on Atlas yard by yard - it's a three-way battle between Zarathustra, Atlas, and Cambremer, Atlas is losing ground, and the favourite Tissot is making a big effort on the rails! Not much time left now!

Zarathustra's holding off Cambremer - Atlas is right out of it now - Tissot's moved up to third - and as they come up to the post it's Zarathustra clear ahead of Cambremer and Tissot! A fine victory for Lester Piggott - and for Zarathustra, now retiring to stud, a fine end to a great career.