

DERBY DAY WAS NO 'CAR-LESS' RAPTURE!

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Several thousand found the time - and the petrol - to go to the wartime Derby at Newmarket. All roads led to Epsom in peacetime, and though Headquarters didn't draw a crowd on that scale, a good many managed to forget all about the war as they made their way to the Heath. Presumably all the petrol for these cars (about 100,000 gallons) was brought to Britain in ships that ran the gauntlet of bomb and submarine. Still, if the authorities grant it to motorists they can't logically object to people driving to the races, IF they only use the basic allowance.

All car numbers were taken, to check up on anybody that used supplementary rations.

Now for the race! No Tattenham Corner, no tricky Epsom gradients. For the mile-and-half, twenty 3-year-olds got away to a good start, and your bob was the bookie's uncle.

All round the bend Selim Hassan made the running, Michael Beary up. Harry Wragg, on Morogoro was closing in. Somewhere in the bunch Owen Tudor was saving himself for the effort that surprised the whole world of racing.

The finish! Owen Tudor led by a length-and-a-half; Morogoro second; 100-1 Firoze Din third. Owen Tudor won. Now let us win the war.