


SENSATIONAL GRAND NATIONALS.

Crowds at Aintree inspect the course on the Sunday before the big race --- hoping to find inspiration about the winner among those fearsome jumps. Aintree has been the course for the big steeplechase since 1839 --- it has been run here almost every year except during the Great War. ~~The foundation of the race is attributed to William Lynn, owner of a Liverpool hotel and one of the founders of the Waterloo Cup.~~ While we're here at Aintree it might be interesting to look back at some thrilling Grand Nationals of the past. 1923 --- that wonderful old chaser Sergeant Murphy was the winner. He ran eight times in the National --- the last time when he was 16 years old.

1928 --- this year there was a record field of 42 runners --- but only two finished ~~the course~~. Tiperrary Tim was the winner -- Billy Barton second.

1935 --- This was the year when Golden Miller started the hottest favourite in the history of the race. *But now look on the right of the picture.* ~~But he disappointed all his backers by falling.~~ You will see how he ~~appeared to jump straight at the take off but~~ slewed round and landed at an angle, giving his jockey no chance. That year Reynoldstown won --- ~~but before the finish there was another thrill. Davy Jones was leading but he~~ *swerved right off the course and finished among the spectators.*

1936 --- Reynoldstown won again --- the first time any horse had won the Grand National two years running since 1870. Watch

*1937 how the leaders collide on this jump*   
*Then near the finish - Davy Jones was leading - but he swerved right off the course and finished among the spectators.*

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1937 --- Coronation Year. The King was present --- and  
appropriately enough it was Royal Mail that won after leading for ~~kk~~  
the whole of the second time round. <sup>^</sup> Cooleen was second --- and both  
Cooleen and Royal Mail were entered in 1938. /