

2031

Rain-soaked Ascot on Hunt Cup Day - the summer ~~refused to attend~~ ^{had declined to attend} the meeting. So the rain brings its problems - while the Lady wonders if she 's got the right thing on - her escort ~~wonders~~ ^{wonders} if he's on the right thing-for the Hunt Cup.

The Royal Drive up the course was cancelled by the weather, then suddenly, ~~the~~ gloom was forgotten, as the Queen cheers home her colt, Choir Boy, in the Royal Hunt Cup.

~~It was~~ A day for Royal congratulations - as Her Majesty goes down to the unsaddling enclosure. Choir Boy had won by two lengths - the first Royal victory in the race for thirty years.

~~But the fair~~ ^{Fashions} were favoured by fine weather on Gold Cup Day - the traditional Ladies Day. So that new Ascot creation made its appearance - looking as fresh and lovely as the lush-green course after the rain.

And picture hats, too, crowned this social occasion - an added attraction to a day of fine racing.

Eager faces, too, lined the Berkshire lanes, as the Queen, accompanied by the Duke - made ~~the~~ ^{her} way to the course - a course that owes its origin to ~~another~~ another Royal Lady, Queen Anne, so many years ago...

The drive down the course - a picture that never fails to delight us all.

A young Queen - looking forward to a day of sport ~~and her subjects~~

Moments of relaxation after the recent ^{heavy} round of ~~heavy~~ duties.

Before the race for the Gold Cup, the Royal Party made their way to the Paddock to see the ten ~~at~~ runners - soon to race for over eleven thousand pounds in prize money. And, the more coveted title of "Champion Stayer of Europe."

Back in the Royal Box - with the Trophy. ^{Several} ~~Many~~ times since the war it has gone to France. ~~Aquino won it last year.~~ Can one of the five British hopes keep it in Britain - as the field gets away, on the gruelling 2½ mile journey?

Royal eyes follow the ten stayers round the back stretch - and Aram, the Boussac pace-maker is still doing his job well. ~~Behind him come Le Flamand and Talma - the Boussac first-string.~~

Head on now - and round the bend into the straight. It's No. 6 (Le Flamand) (on the rails), ^{with} Aram, Talma and Feu d'Enfer - all for France - leading the field.

Gold Cup Day

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LE FLAMAND

Only three furlongs to go and Talma ^{is} finished - No. 4 (Aram) goes ~~forward~~
~~forward~~ - after making all the running - to carry the Boussac standard.
Behind him comes Le ^{Bourgeois.} ~~Flamand~~ - it looks like victory for France
But here comes Souepi ^(1st) for Britain - on the outside - with Charlie Elliott
up...

~~The battle is on.~~
~~It's a battle~~ - Aram for France and ~~Souepi~~ Souepi for Britain - as they
close together - and Le Bourgeois has lost his chance...

~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxPost~~ - Souepi gains ground, inch by inch - and, at the Post
it's Souepi who wins the photo-finish verdict by a short head, ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~
~~in front again - two strides past the post, a xxxxx wonderful finish that~~
thrills the Royal onlookers.

So The Gold Cup stays in Britain. ^{thanks to} ~~excitedly~~
~~George Digby/leads in his third Gold~~
~~winner~~ - Souepi - a worthy British champion.