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### THE LINCOLN SHIRE HANDICAP

Lincoln (adding the beauty of a spring day to the thrill of 1948's first big race) invites the crowd to its Carholm course. Pathe News (invited by the Stewards Committee to film the official record of the Lincoln Handicap) catches the season's first glimpse of the little men who make big race news.

Gerden Richards (by now a British institution as champion jockey) tips the scales his usual weight. 57 other jockeys weigh in too for a record field which gives punters and tipsters the chance to catch the bookies at long odds.

The long string of thoroughbreds heads for the starting gate, with the French bred horse "Clarion the Third" carrying the weight of the crowd's money.

Now they're at the starting gate. 58 horses with jockeys stirrup to stirrup across the course but a nice steady line. First horse to clear stands the best chance in the flying mile. They'll get away now I think, yes they're racing. This is the scene (recorded by Pathe's mobile cameraman from the Lincoln roadway) as the field thunders away on its eight furlong course. In the lead is "Clever Lad," followed by "Saludin," "Glen Sheilister" and "Dees Gorse."

With half a mile to go, it's still anybody's race. But breaking from the pack is "Commissar" a 33 to 1 shot ridden by Bill Rickaby. Yes, "Commissar" is ahead, beating back a challenge from the French favorite "Clarion III." The winning post's in sight and it's "Commissar's" race. So for the first time, an eight year old wins the season's first Classic.