

BLACK TARQUIN WINS THE ST. LEGER

For the first time in history, a King and Queen go to Doncaster racecourse for the season's last classic - the 171st St. Leger - Britain's oldest and richest race. As the Royal car drives over Town Moor, a full-throated Yorkshire welcome drowns even the shouts of those philanthropic gentlemen - the bookies. It must be their kindness of heart that brings them here - for with only a mere 14 horses to carry the backers money, they are, as usual, bound to lose. In the paddock, the Queen accepts a spot of good professional advice - 10/- to win, "Black Tarquin," No. 12. If only we'd done the same!!

Champion jockey Gordon Richards is astride the Aga Khan's "Noor" (carrying the good wishes of the racing public).

Ahead of them is a mile-and-three-quarter race for the season's biggest prize. And they're away - all but Somali, who goes into reverse. "Usher," "Alyceiden" and "Julian" lead the field as they race off into the country.

"Alyceiden" now leads, closely followed by "Count Rerendered" and "Usher." Favourite "My Love" isn't in it. But it's still anybody's race, as they enter the last straight.

And now "Black Tarquin" - seemingly from nowhere - challenges for first place. Yes, "Black Tarquin" is in the lead. "Alyceiden" is hard after him, but can't make up ground. Magnificently ridden by Australian jockey Edgar Britt, "Black Tarquin," the most handsome horse in the race - romps home a clear winner, with Lord Derby's "Alyceiden" second, and after a long gap, "Solar Slipper" third. Trained in England by an Irishman, American owned "Black Tarquin" brings off odds of 15 to 2. What a sad day for the bookies, the public's greatest benefactors. They are paying out!! But they are cheerful about their losses. "Black Tarquin" left them something in the kitty.