

LADIES' DAY

Epsom looks a bit different on Oaks Day. Princess Elizabeth finds plenty of room as she watches the jockeys mount. There's a field of 16 for the fillies' blue riband and the ladies are there to see what makes the favourite Belle of All. "Men call this Ladies Day because they usually lose their shirts on the Derby and have nothing to wear, my dear." But the ladies make up for it.

Being lady horses, they act a little hard to manage, of course, but they only need a little coaxing and - they're off! From an uneven start locally-trained JUST WIN leads from GIBBETTE, CODE MILITAIRS, BELLE OF ALL and QUEEN OF SHEBA, with CHINESE CRACKER and NEASHAM BELLE well placed.

Along the top towards Tattenham Corner JUST WIN is still in front; CODE MILITAIRS and the favourite, second and third; then comes Gordon on SEA PARROT.

Round the corner, No. 9, NEASHAM BELLE, is making a move. Clayton is bringing her through like a streak. She's in front now and really getting a move on. It's the Derby all over. They'll never catch her.

As they come up the hill to the finish it's a procession. NEASHAM BELLE in the lead, CHINESE CRACKER second; the favourite third and the rest far better off at home ... and at the post it's 33 to 1 NEASHAM BELLE first by four lengths.

If there were any servicemen, they must have cleaned up a packet, on Major Holliday's game filly. By the way, did you notice? We've won both the big classics this year! It must be that Festival spirit!