MASS ATTACK ON CHANNEL

Last year's winners Abd el Behim and Eileen Fenton of Dewnbury grease up at Cap Gris Nes with Jenny James of Pentypridd and 17 others for the "Baily Mail" cross-channel race to England. It's been postpened twice but today it's on. The 20 swimmers are ready ... it's just about time ... there goes the signal ... but where's the rush? That's van Hemsbergen of Holland, but the cameramen are doing best so far.

Third last year, March Hassan means business this year.

At last they're all under may. Second last year, Reger le Mervan is fated to fill that place again. El Rebim, who beat him then, is doing well; and Yorkskire's beges soured high too - Eileen Fenton was going like the little champion she is, till a blackout forced her to give up when in sight of Dover.

Though nearly 40, Carpie of Peru is swimming strongly; They're past half-way now ... and just shead of March Hassan are the cliffs of Dover. Two stone heavier than last year, March Hassan is tiring but news that a few miles away the Frenchman can beat him, spurs him to a final effort, as the tide carries him towards Shakespeare cliff.

Pinishing fourth, Brenda Fisher of Grimsby wins the women's thousand-pound prise. Meantime, the crowd on the beach surjes forward to welcome the first swimmer agrees, March Hassan Hamad of Egypt. "I have done this for my King," said the Egyptian soldier. "He ordered us to retain the title."

Exhausted March Hassan makes for a boat bound for Dover. So Egypt has won the race again. But if our men can't win the race, our girls can ... Eileen Fenton last year, and this year, Brenda Fisher of Grimsby.