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CHRISTCHURCH - QUEEN AT THE RACES.

In dassing sunshine, a record crowd of 35,000 waits for the trotting races to begin at Addington, a suburb of Christchurch. Keenly interested in racing, the Queen asked that she might be present, for in 1927 her father visited the track and started the Duke of York Handicap, named in his honour. The Duke of Edinburgh too, lends his name to one of the races, and, to the delight of the racegoers, takes over the job of starter. Race of the day is the Royal Metropolitan Gold Cup. Horse racing is the New Zealander's favourite sport, and many thousands of pounds have been invested in breeding thoroughbreds as fine as any in the world.

The Duke joins the Queen as the field races up the last stretch. Number thirteen, Van Dieman, leads them home. Last year 35 million pounds were laid in bets in New Zealand, even though bookies are banned from all race-tracks. Her Majesty comes into the paddock or "birdcage" as its known in Addington - for a closer look at the winner. From the Queen, Van Dieman's owner and jockey, Mr. C. Devine, receives the coveted Gold Cup.