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NATIONAL FANCIES.

Aintree Race Course is made ready once again for the Grand National. Mrs. Topham sees for herself that all is in order for the great day. Since 1839 the steeplechase chassie has excited race-fans all over the world, and this year's no exception. The mighty fences which, every time, take a heavy toll, of punters' hopes are prepared for March 27th.

Ireland again provides a stiff challenge. At the Kinnersley Stables, "Ordnance" is paraded with a National rival, "Quite Naturally".

Trainer J. O'Brien has Coneyburrew under his wing. This mount's recent showing has made him joint favourite with Irish Lizard. On to the place - its-a-long-way to. No, he's not aiming for Aintree honours, he's just the local milkman.

Ballydoyle, in Co. Tipperary provides a fine string of hopefuls. Their trainer, Vincent O'Brien casts an expert eye on Knock-Hard, which has since been scratched from the race. Last year's National winner, was trained by Mr. O'Brien who has high hopes of outsider Alberoni.

This is Churchtown, owned by Mrs. O'Brien herself. Much fancied by these-in-the-know is Royal Tam. But whichever horse wins the National crown, Pathe's team of ace cameramen will be at Aintree to film the race in full.