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ST. LEGER.

Thousands pack Doncaster race-course, for the St. Leger, the last of the season's classics. An overnight shuffle down among the boys with the books has deposed By Thunder as favourite, and Never Say Die, has taken over.

Sixteen runners this year, and each one capable of pulling off the big prize. Now a quick glance at some of them in the paddock; and here's a good possible, Arabian Night, Eph Smith's mount. Winner of the Derby, Never Say Die (number 7) will have Charlie Smirke, up.

Johnny Longden, the American champ, takes Blue Sail out to join the parade towards the tapes. Brightest hope for Marcel Boussac is Estremadur with Manny Mercer in the saddle. Now for another check-up on the favourite. Smirke, who's won this classic three times, seems pretty confident, as well he might. And here's By Thunder again. I wonder if the going will suit this fine colt. We'll soon see - only a few moments to go.

Back among the bookies, Never Say Die is still favourite. At the tapes, Blue Sail, gives Johnny Longden a bit of trouble, but all seems under control now.

And they're off, with just over a mile and six furlongs to go. Last away is Never Say Die, but up he goes to join the field. Double Bore, By Thunder, Blue Prince the Second, and Alperhorn lead them away.

It's still Double Bore and By Thunder. Arenys, M. Boussac's second hope, has moved up. Blue Prince the Second, and Alperhorn are there. Now Estremadur makes a move. Elopement, Never Say Die and Blue Sail are content to keep out of the limelight for the moment.

Rounding the bend that leads into the home straight, By Thunder takes the lead from Double Bore. By Thunder, winner of the Ebor Handicap, has Willy Smith in the saddle.

The order's By Thunder, Blue Prince the Second, and Double Bore. And now right on the inside, Smirke begins his run. A typical, beautiful judged challenge that's got By Thunder worried. Smith calls for an extra effort, but Never Say Die's passing him!

Never Say Die's got it all his own way now. Double Bore and By Thunder have faded, and the nearest challengers now are Elopement and Estremadur. It's quite a battle for second place, but just to prove his Derby win wasn't a fluke, Never Say Die pulls further away. It's going to be a shattering victory for the American-foaled colt.

And Charlie Smirke wins literally pulling up as they pass the post twelve lengths in front. Smirke glances back to see Elopement take second place from Estremadur.

over/-



Never Say Die, trained at Newmarket by Joe Lawson, wins for his owner Robert S. Clark about thirteen and a half thousand pounds. By scoring a great double victory in the Derby, the Leger, Never Say Die wins for himself the title "Racehorse of the Year"

