

IRON CURTAIN STEEPLECHASE:

There's a record field of 24 starters for the 68th Renewal of Czechoslovakia's Grand Pardubic steeplechase, the most famous of all Iron Curtain turf events. Toughest of the 30 obstacles is the Taxis Ditch, which weeds them out even faster than Decher's.

Tornado, a Czech entry, leads the Russian horse Epigraf in the open country, but Tornado drops back as they come up to the Hadi Ditch.

The reluctant mount is Unkes - but his jockey doesn't believe in giving up

He said "No", and he means "No"!

This is the kind of race where bookies could safely go on taking bets right up to the last jump. Till they're over the water, it's still anybody's guess. But out of the males, Epigraf battles ahead and in the home straight, he's built up a comfortable lead.

Winner - Epigraf. Jockey - Fedin. Trainer - must be the chap who invented Sputnik!