

TO-DAY'S 'WHAT-WILL-BE-SECOND' DERBY



Only Bad Luck Should Rob Colombo of His Crowning Triumph

DANGER—UMIDWAR

Medieval Knight May Prove the Best Outsider

Mr. W. Barnett.

A LOT of people are ready to say, "I told you so" to-day. Without much rhyme or a lot of reason, they do not believe that Colombo can win the Derby. Great horse at a mile, they say, but what about his temperament, and will he stay a mile and a half? Why not answer the latter question with another. Will any horse in the race find the speed Colombo will produce, and is there any guarantee that any of them will stay better?

As to his temperament, well, he has shown that before, and is still unbeaten.

To get down to hard fact, the majority of those who are looking for something to beat Colombo are doing so chiefly because the odds offered make no appeal. In the times of our ancestors Colombo would be a 3 to 4 "on" chance, as he would to-day if the race was an ordinary mile and a half affair and not the Derby. Boiled down still farther, should it not be what will be second to Colombo rather than what will win?

Hard Facts

Apart from Umidwar there is not a horse in to-day's race that was less than 8lb. behind Colombo last year. That difference represents at least two lengths, and that was the official estimate of Colombo's superiority to Medieval Knight, the second colt on the list. The gap between the rest widened considerably. Lo Zingaro was rated 14lb. behind the champion, Alishah 15lb., Windsor Lad and Valerius 18lb., Primero 25lb. and Tiberius as much as 26lb.

Horses often improve to a remarkable extent from two to three years of age, and no doubt such as Windsor Lad and Tiberius have done so. But a little arithmetic will prove that Windsor Lad will need to have "come on" at least 19lb. and Tiberius nearly 2st. to catch Colombo. Isn't that rather too much to expect in the face of proof that Colombo has certainly not gone back to meet them.

Won Over the Distance

Like Medieval Knight, they come into the Derby picture if only because they have won over a mile and a half, but that reason does not convince me that any of them should turn all previous form with Colombo upside down. Windsor Lad's owner may not fear the favourite, but they certainly do at Mantou while still thinking that Tiberius is very likely to finish in the first three.

Strictly on this year's form Easton should be the one Colombo has most to fear. In the Guineas he was second, beaten only by a length, which makes him 3lb. or so inferior to the champion. My reading of the first classic, however, was that if there was one horse Colombo did beat on merit and decisively it was Easton. Probably the fittest horse in the field, he had both the best side of the course and everything in his favour as the race was run. Colombo went away from him at the finish, so why should he not do so again to-day?

Easton's Progress

Easton has buoyed the Beckhampton people with considerable hope by the manner in which he has gone about his work during the last week or two, but their "good each way" suggests little confidence in beating a real Colombo. And I have more than a suspicion that all connected with Umidwar are basing their hopes on catching the champion on the wrong leg, so to speak.

FROM THE STABLES

NEWMARKET, Tuesday.

Our eight likely runners for the Derby have come through a preparation to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Frank Butters is in the happy position of being able to saddle three runners.

Umidwar has gone better with each gallop, and I feel confident he will prove the stable's best. Alishah and Badruddin are first-class animals.

Colombo has never failed to please. He can gallop on any kind of going, and there is no doubt he is a smashing good horse. I expect him to win, and Umidwar get a place.

FROM OTHER QUARTERS

Weyhill.—Ennis Bridge (1.30) and Sunny Palm (3.45) are fancied.

Beckhampton.—Easton is regarded as good each way in the Derby.

Mantou.—Tiberius may be placed in the Derby. Osborne.—Nevertheless (3.45) should finish in the first three.

Lambourn.—Windsor Lad is fancied each way in the Derby. Maid of Essex should win the Stewards' Handicap.

BEST FROM THE BOOK

On all form this year and last

COLOMBO

has only to give his true running to prove an easy winner of the Derby. PAGE BOY.

Still, Umidwar does remain as the one horse it is not easy to get a line upon. A late foal, he was so backward as a two-year-old that he ran only once. He won very cleverly. Still backward, he shaped well in the Guineas, and I must say that nothing in this race appealed to me more like a real Derby danger than the Aga Khan's colt. Then came a setback in the form of lameness, and strong work had to be held up for nearly a fortnight.

One for Each Way

Opinions are divided at Newmarket as to whether he has made up the lost ground, but those who should know most about him are satisfied on the point. That he is a good colt and, above all, bred to stay there is no doubt, but even at his best it has still to be taken on trust that he is as good as Colombo. But if you cannot believe in the favourite winning, as I do, back Umidwar each way.

Most of the others are not worth mentioning, although, as it has been thought good enough to send Admiral Drake from France, I suppose he must be considered. His form on the other side suggests that he has about the same chance as Easton, but I cannot overlook the fact that he was not good enough to win the French Guineas, and a second in Paris does not strike one as good enough for a first at Epsom. So finally let it be Colombo to win, Umidwar a place, with Medieval Knight the best outsider.

Primero's Companion

Mr. W. Barnett was the only Derby owner to get much encouragement from the first day's racing. He won the Rosebery Memorial Handicap with Harinero, whose elder brother, Trigo, has already won a Derby, and whose younger brother, Primero, attempts to do so to-day. Here may be yet another "danger to Colombo" if reports speak correctly of Primero's good gallops with Harinero, but his trainer has already told us that he has little hope of beating the favourite.

It was a great race between Harinero and Claran for the last two furlongs, and the honours, if not the prize, was to the second, who was carrying 10lb. penalty. Roi de Paris cut a disappointing figure. He has never really liked hard ground, and perhaps he also remembered his Chester fall. Towards the finish he was going with more confidence than he had shown in the early stages, but he had too much ground to make up from the corner.

R. C. Dawson and Ray scored a second success when Harinero's stable-companion, Bagman, outstayed the hot favourite Dispensation in the Woodcote Stakes. The objection that followed was hardly expected, since from the stand it appeared that Bagman was more sinned against than sinning when the pair came together in the last furlong. In the ring good odds were offered against Dispensation getting the race, and they were justified by the stewards' verdict overruling the complaint.

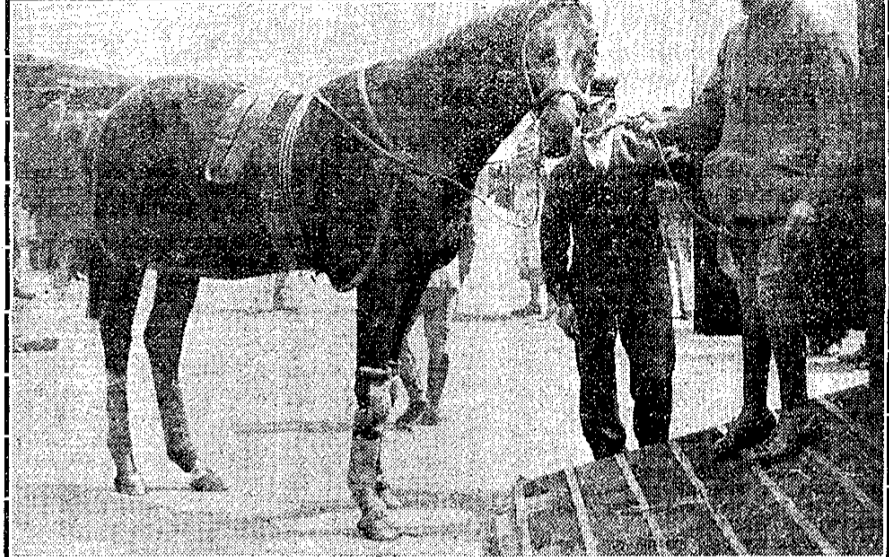
Another of many close finishes, and the best of them all, was the duel between Harry Wragg and little Terry Ryan in the Craven Plate. The South African youngster on the moderate Widden Hill was up against Pricket, a 2-to-1-on favourite, and one of the strongest jockeys riding, and his coolness in a close struggle was really remarkable. Wragg got home by a head in the end, but Terry will never ride a better race when he gets to the top of the tree, as he surely will one day.

RACING SELECTIONS BY OUR EXPERTS

Table with columns for race names (EPSOM, BOUVERIE, TOTE, HEATHMAN) and selections for various times (1.30, 2.5, 3.0, 3.45, 4.25, 5.0).

Bouverie's Double.—*Colombo and Millrock.

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Easton arriving at Epsom yesterday. He will be ridden in the Derby by G. Richards.

PERSONALITIES

Points About Owners, Trainers and Jockeys in the Derby

Who said racing was a young man's game? Steve Donoghue and Joe Childs share a century of years in equal parts.

Tommy Weston and F. Lane, who won the last two Derbys, will be looking on to-day.

Lord Woolavington waited a long time before his first winner came along. Coronach soon followed Captain Cuttle. Will Easton be No. 3?

Fred Darling (four times) and R. C. Dawson (twice) are the only trainers with horses in the race who know what it is to train a Derby winner.

Lord Glanely's first Derby winner, Grand Parade, cost him less than £500, and Colombo only slightly more.

In case you have forgotten, Donoghue has won the Derby four times at Epsom, and twice at Newmarket during the war-time period.

The Aga Khan, Mr. J. A. Dewar and Mr. W. Barnett are other owners besides Lord Woolavington and Lord Glanely, who have known the joy of leading in a Derby winner.

Harry Wragg won the Derby on Felstead and Blenheim. He was second on Hot Night and King Salmon and third on Sandwich and Miracle.

EPSOM WINNERS

2.0.—01 (Caldwell), 1; KENYA F (Nicoll), 2; BIRTH-LINE (Sirett), 3. Betting: 2 Oatmeal, 85-40 OJ, 3 Forty Winks, 100-8 Korra, 1, Birthing, 100-7 Lompet-Law, 6, 100-6 Ashfield, 50 Flipping Fanny. Tote: Win, 8s.; Places, 3s. 3d., 8s., 5s. One and a half; same. (V. Smyth.)

EPSOM CARD

1.30—RANMORE S. PLATE, £250; 14m. 021 ST. MARK (Wootton), 5-8-10 H. Wragg 210 ENNIS BRIDGE (P. Jarrigan), 8-0-10 J. Caldwell 004 BACH (Hammett), 6-8-10 J. Caldwell 000 JARRIGAN (Smyth), 6-8-10 J. Caldwell 141 RED HORIZON (Hogg), 5-8-7 Johnstone 240 PALLADIO (Hedges), 5-8-7 100 MELLIFORD (Wootton), 4-8-7 020 SPANLARD (Poule), 5-8-7 G. Richards 442 FALSE POINT (W. Nightingall), 4-8-6 Perryman 000 WATPIN (Barkards), 4-8-4 S. Donoghue 000 GAY GAL (J. Davis), 4-8-4 000 YEOMAN HESSAL (Hecheuer), 4-8-4 303 KENNETH THE SCOT (Blair), 3-7-1 F. Hunter 000 ROWLANDING (P. Stewart), 3-7-1 Other Entries.—Telescopo, Wistborough, Derring Do, Owing, Antiole, Vertagudin, Boleyal, Albourne, St. Kilda, Pipe of Peace, First Moon, Fel.

"SUNDAY PICTORIAL" NAP PANLUQQUD

3.0—DERBY STAKES (3-Y-O), £3,000; 14m. 3.45—STEWARDS' HIGH-WEIGHT HANDICAP, (3-Y-O), £500; 5f. 331 BAY MONK (P. Butters), 9-0 Perryman 0 CORINDON (Beatty), 8-15 H. Beasley 320 FAIRFAX GILES (Thrale), 8-11 P. Herbert 202 MAID OF ESSEX (O. Bell), 8-1 H. Wragg 000 HESPERIUS (Pesse), 7-13 S. Donoghue 001 SUNNY PALM (P. Harigan), 7-10 G. Richards 000 GREEK DANCE (H. Day), 7-9 W. Weston 000 VASILEU (G. Sadler), 7-9 W. Christie 403 CODY (Forl), 7-3 E. Smith 002 MOLLY MACREE (Walls), 7-3 Richardson 000 TIDDLES (Hogg), 7-3 Other Entries.—Diana Buttercup, The Doge, Nevertheless. Betting Forecast.—5-2 agst Maid of Essex, 3 Sunny Palm, 5 Bay Monk, 7 Molly Macree, 8 Farmer Giles, 10 Corindon, 100-8 Cody, 100-6 others.