

PROSPECTS FOR RUBBER

By OUR CITY EDITOR

IT is customary to find markets rather subdued during Derby Week.

A great deal of business is not expected during this week, which is the last for the current account. The position may, however, be relieved by renewed activity in gold mining issues.

Much depends upon European politics and other factors which have recently tended to keep Stock Exchange business in check.

COMMODITY WEAKNESS A DISTURBING FACTOR

Continued weakness in metal and commodity prices naturally causes much disappointment. Evidence of renewed disturbances on Wall Street is another development of a disturbing character for markets.

There appears to be very little chance of permanent improvement in American trade for some time to come. Consequently there is little prospect of decided recovery in commodity prices.

These are factors which tend to keep Stock Exchange business temporarily in check.

RUBBER STOCKS STEADILY RISING

A meeting of the Rubber Regulation Committee will be held to-morrow.

The outcome of the meeting is awaited with exceptional interest by all those interested in rubber. Stocks of the commodity have been rising largely as a result of poor American trade. The price for the commodity has been steadily falling.

The Regulation Committee was actually formed to ensure a fair and equitable price for rubber for producers as well as consumers.

CUT IN OUTPUT IS NECESSARY

Spot rubber at the moment is 5 9-16d. per lb. Few companies can operate profitably on restricted output with the commodity selling at this level. The price should be at least 9d. per lb.

At the moment output of rubber is restricted to 60 per cent. of standard. That is the regulation output up to the end of June.

A further drastic cut in output is expected as a result of to-morrow's meeting. Even American consumers agree that a heavy cut is necessary to check growing stocks until consumption improves.

SPECULATIVE BUYING OF RAW RUBBER

I understand that certain operators on the Stock Exchange have turned their attention to rubber rather than the share market. They have made forward purchases of rubber.

The theory is that the price of rubber must stage a good recovery before there is any decided improvement in the share market.

Prices for rubber shares are particularly low. Supplies available at ruling prices are very small. Buyers, however, are holding back until there is improvement in the industry. This, I believe, will come later in the year. Rubber shares should not be sold at present prices.

LARGE INTEREST IN WESTERN HOLDINGS

As I mentioned the other day, activity in South African Townships 10s. shares is due to the company's interest in Western Holdings. It actually provided initial working capital for Western Holdings.

Townships 10s. shares are now about 14s. I regard them as a safer gamble than the Holdings shares. Townships has substantial interests in many other Rand gold companies.

It paid a 15 per cent. dividend on a capital of £1,600,000 for 1936. Dividend last year, however, was 7 1/2 per cent., but on a capital of £2,400,000.

COLVILLE ORDINARY APPEAR ATTRACTIVE

The market for iron and steel shares has fallen on rather evil times. Prices are steadily falling as a result of a little selling and an absence of buying support.

Several shares in this section have now reached levels at which they should prove attractive to new buyers. Colvilles £1 ordinary, for instance, at a price of 20s. 9d. should make a sound purchase.

The last report was a splendid document. The 8 per cent. dividend paid was particularly conservative. It is known that the company is still working successfully and prospects are good.

PROMISING PURCHASE IN OIL SECTION

I still regard Trinidad Petroleum Development £1 shares as a particularly attractive purchase in the oil section. Production is steadily rising.

Trinidad shares have been rather out of favour of late owing to labour disturbances. It is understood, however, that the situation is improving.

The company paid 7 per cent. for the year to July 31 last. The shares are now standing around 33s. 6d., at which the yield is about 24 1/2 per cent., but an increased dividend is probable for the current year.

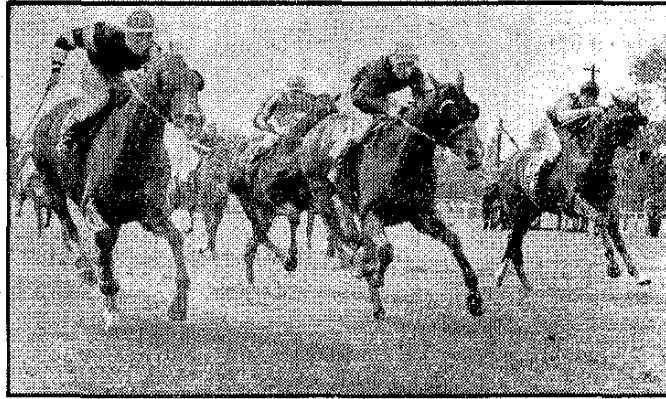
A SOUND PREFERENCE SHARE

As an attractive investment I suggest the 5 1/2 per cent. cumulative redeemable £1 preference shares of Red and White United Transport Limited. They can be bought around 22s. 7 1/2d.

Earnings of the company last year covered preference dividend requirements more than four times. There are four transport companies in the group.

They operate omnibus and coach services and tours in many different parts of the country, including in particular, London, the West of England and Wales. LOMBARD.

City Office: Section 2, 65, London Wall, E.C.2. Advice is given only on the understanding that no legal or other liability is incurred.



Three Hoods in the Lead

Three horses wearing hoods in the lead a furlong from home in the Round Tower Handicap at Windsor on Saturday. They are (left to right) High Rank, the winner, Slip In and Silversill.

BOUVERIE SAYS

FLYON MOST POPULAR DERBY LONG SHOT

DERBY horses had their last serious gallops on Saturday. A quiet Sunday followed. To-day preparations will be made for the trek to Epsom... to-morrow it will be "off" to the greatest week in the racing year.

While Gordon Richards was still in a nursing home, Pasch had his "final" at Bechampton. I am told that he went in irreproachable style.

Pound Foolish and Cave Man were both galloped at Manton, so Lord Astor may still have two strings to his bow if there is sufficient rain to really soften the Derby course by Wednesday.

A change in the going would certainly bring about a reshuffle in the betting. Portmarnock, for one, would be favoured. So would Flyon, a proved stayer who, more than any, has caught popular imagination as a "good long shot."

E. Smith, who rode Flyon a good seven-furlong gallop before going to Windsor on Saturday, is now on the crest of the wave. During the week he rode no fewer than eight winners, and the public are never slow to fasten on to a jockey in luck.

Flyon is one of the five horses in the race that have won over the Derby distance. The others are Pound Foolish, Cave Man, Faroe and Blandstair, but none of them scored over such a severe course as the mile and a half at Newmarket, where Flyon gave Licence 10lb. and "lost" him.

A son of Flamingo, who finished second to Felstead at Epsom in 1928, Flyon ran only

once as a two-year-old, when he was unplaced at Newmarket in the autumn.

On his first appearance this season he shaped well in a big field at Newbury, and then prefaced his Newmarket win with a clever victory at Sandown.

Hyperion, Windsor Lad, April the Fifth and Mid-day Sun were all winners over a mile and a half before they won the Derby, but against that little lot stand Fred Darling's four previous winners and the Aga Khan's pair, Bahram and Mahmoud, who took their first chance to prove that they stayed when they went to Epsom.

There is nothing to suggest that Pasch does not possess stamina at least equal to any of these. As a son of Blandford—the champion Derby sire—he is certainly bred to stay, and the extra distance did not look like troubling him when he went up that final hill in the Guineas.

More rain would give Scottish Union a better chance of getting his revenge than continued hard ground, but every shower will dim the prospects of Mirza II.

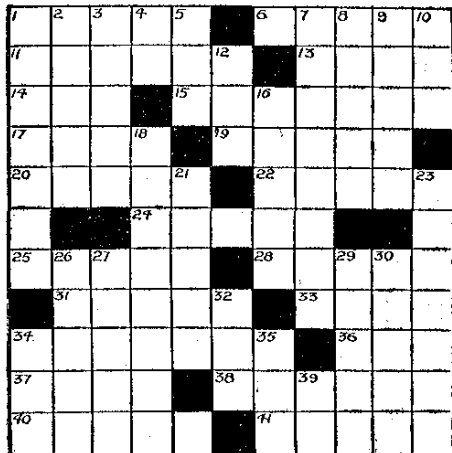
Incidentally, Tahir, wearing blinkers, showed up better on Saturday than he had done in many previous spins, so perhaps what rain would take away from Mirza II would be given to the Aga Khan's other runner.

To-day's call-over should be the most interesting of them all.

DERBY PROBABLES

- 001 BLANDSTAIR (Duller) Sprague
 - 1 BOIS ROUSSEL (F. Darling) ... Elliott
 - 040 CAERLOPOTIC (Cottrill) Lane
 - 001 CAVE MAN (Lawson) Brennan
 - 014 CHATSWORTH (T. Leader) Lowrey
 - 221 FAROE (C. Leader) Perryman
 - 011 FLYON (J. Jarvis) E. Smith
 - 321 GOLDEN SOVEREIGN (Cottrill) Weston
 - 003 HALCYON GIFT (Metcalfe) C. Richards
 - 020 LICENCE (W. Jarvis) Crouch
 - 023 MALABAR (E. Dawson) Marshall
 - 010 MANORITE (P. Thrane) P. Maher
 - 213 MIRZA II (Frank Butters) H. Wragg
 - 11 PASCH (F. Darling) G. Richards
 - 140 PORTMARNOCK (Boyd-Rochfort) P. Beasley
 - 001 POUND FOOLISH (Lawson) K. A. Jones
 - 112 SCOTISH UNION (Cannon) ... Castlake
 - 000 SEVENTH WONDER (Carr) ... Nevitt
 - 022 SLIP ON (Earl) Rickaby
 - 230 TAHIR (Frank Butters) Smirke
 - 314 TROON (F. Darling) Beary
 - 300 UNBREAKABLE (Boyd-Rochfort) Sirett
 - 032 VALERIAN III (Boyd-Rochfort) J. Taylor
 - 200 WHAT A LAD (Duller) D. Butchers
- (Each to carry 9st.)

CROSS-WORD No. 1429

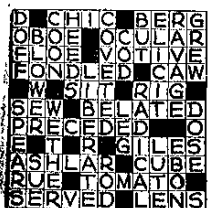


CLUES ACROSS

- 1 Brushwood
- 6 Strong company
- 11 Drive forward
- 13 Wind instrument
- 14 Side of fireplace
- 15 Usual
- 17 Girl's name
- 19 Ventured
- 20 Revivify
- 22 Europeans
- 24 Ship's crane
- 25 Small spar
- 28 Tomboys
- 31 Shoe cords
- 33 Retreat
- 34 Cafe show
- 36 Remain
- 37 Individual thing
- 38 Boy's name
- 40 Cover with drops
- 41 Popular flowers

DOWN

- 1 Globes
- 2 Hag
- 3 Small bird
- 4 Erect
- 5 Entreat
- 7 Worker
- 8 Hooter
- 9 Gardening tool
- 10 Fish
- 12 Conducted
- 16 Lowest point
- 18 Inscribe book
- 21 Liquid compound
- 23 Nurses
- 26 Paring-tool
- 27 Unreasoning
- 29 Defensive ditches
- 30 Pulped food
- 32 Stitch
- 34 Young animal
- 35 Preservative
- 39 Behold



Here is the solution of Saturday's puzzle. No prizes are offered for solving these puzzles, which are for amusement only.

DON DUCK HAS AN INNINGS

WHO said "drought"? You could have gone punting on some first-class cricket grounds on Saturday. Matches could not be started at five grounds—Lord's (where Australians play Middlesex), Chesterfield, Hull, Nottingham and Cambridge (v. the Army).

But there were ducks at Chesterfield all the same—the ones with feathers on. A couple waddled sedately from a nearby pond and splashed about gaily on the flooded pitch.

Donald Duck himself never quacked so fiercely as those two relatives of his did when groundsmen reduced the size of their playground with buckets.

Hammond's Last Chance

Rain's a costly business. It's cost Yorkshire about £1,000 this season.

And it put a "damper" on the Nottingham celebrations. Larwood and Voce are down with knee trouble, and their places in the Notts team are being taken by Watkin and Woodhead. Gunn returns in place of Winrow.

Walter Hammond, captain of England in the Test trial, has one more chance to become the first batsman to score 1,000 runs twice in the month of May.

His bid at Bristol on Saturday to complete the feat fell short by 49 runs. He could never get going against the Warwickshire bowlers, Hollies and Paine, and was out for 57.

As there was no play at Lord's, young Edrich

again was robbed of a chance to get 100 for his 1,000-before-the-end-of-May. He may have his opportunity to-day or to-morrow.

Nelson played a captain's innings for Northants at Frome. Got 76 out of 132, and smashed four 6's—one off fast bowler Wellard and the others off Hazell. Lee and M. D. Lyon did well for Somerset, but bowlers had the best of it.

Perks, of Worcester, did some good bowling against Surrey at Kidderminster. Took first three wickets with 28 on the board. Then "got" Barling later.

HOW THEY RESUME

WORCESTER v. SURREY—At Kidderminster. SURREY—First Innings: 192 (Gregory 25, Squires 34, E. R. T. Holmes 43, King 22, Brooks 22, Perks 4 for 47, Jackson 4 for 39).

WORCESTER—First Innings: 103 for 6 (Martin 42 not out, Hon. C. J. Lytleton 28).

GLOUCESTER v. WARWICK—At Bristol. GLOUCESTER—First Innings: 324 for 5 (B. O. Allen 50, Barnett 57, W. R. Hammond 57, Crapp 116 not out).

GLAMORGAN v. ESSEX—At Swansea. GLAMORGAN—First Innings: 100 (Farnes 4 for 28, Smith (P.) 5 for 34).

SOMERSET v. NORTHAMPTON—At Frome. NORTHAMTS.—First Innings: 166 (R. P. Nelson 76 Grimshaw 34, Wellard 5 for 52, Buse 5 for 56).

SOMERSET—First Innings: 184 for 5 (Lee (P.) 50, Andrews 21, M. D. Lyon 49 not out).

LANCASHIRE v. LEICESTER—At Manchester. LANCASHIRE.—First Innings: 174 for 5 (Oldfield 74, Preece 26, Nutter 24 not out).

BOUVERIE'S SELECTIONS

- 2.15—SLENDERLINE
- 2.45—DIVORCED
- 3.15—SAETORIUS
- 3.45—FOXGLOVE II
- 4.15—BELL-ANS
- 4.45—CORENA

DOUBLE EVENT FOR TO-DAY

*SLENDERLINE C and BELL-ANS

WINDSOR RETURNS

- 2.0.—SWEET GEYLONISE (11-4, M. Beary). 1: Manchester (10-0, H. Wragg). 2: Curtain Call (11-4, P. Beasley). 3: 24 ran.
- 2.30.—RESPONDENTIA (11-4, H. Wragg). 1: Fleet Street (10-7, W. Griggs). 2: My Sandwich (7-2, W. Ed-dowes). 3: 10 ran.
- 3.0.—HIGH RANK (10-1, P. Maher). 1: Slip In (5-1, S. Middleton). 2: Royal Banner (3-1, W. Sibbritt). 3: 10 ran.
- 3.30.—SCOTCH ANNIE (evens, E. Smith). 1: Gringo (7-4, M. Beary). 2: Devil (10-1, C. Richards). 3: 7 ran.
- 4.0.—ANGEL BREAD (7-2, C. Smirke). 1: Scotch Duke (6-1, J. Hine). 2: Rusky (5-2, E. Smith). 3: 7 ran.
- 4.30.—MOHALEBBI (8-1, P. Beasley). 1: Clos Du Roi (9-4, D. Butchers). 2: Solgo (3-1, P. Maher). 3: 10 ran.

DONCASTER RESULTS

- 3.0.—BROTHER OFFICER (7-1, D. Smith). 1: Mansour (9-4, J. Sirett). 2: Plagiarist (2-1, A. Richardson). 3: 14 ran.
- 3.30.—YONNE (6-1, W. Rickaby). 1: Chatford c (6-1, P. Evans). 2: Flying Quail (4-9, D. Smith). 3: 7 ran.
- 4.0.—ATTACHMENT (6-1, A. Richardson). 1: Green-room (10-8, R. Perryman). 2: Calf Love (10-8, G. Wells). 3: 13 ran.
- 4.30.—SILKSTONE (10-1, S. Wragg). 1: Fern-J-Del (10-6, K. Guthrie). 2: Pophar (8-1, T. Weston). 3: 12 ran.
- 5.0.—AQUAVIT (1-3, Perryman). 1: Talent (25-1, Simpson). 2: Starwise (10-8, D. Smith). 3: 11 ran.
- 5.30.—SHELTON (11-4, D. Smith). 1: Panshurst (13-1, J. Crouch). 2: John Peel (8-1, Perryman). 3: 10 ran.