By Thunder! has best St. Leger chance

Umberto may be best outsider

Thunder is not included in a dull weather forecast for today but although there seems likely to be plenty more rain it is a happy omen for the chances of By Thunder! in the St. Leger at Doncaster. Rain began to fall fairly heavily before racing yesterday which caused a few people to back By Thunder! in anticipation of Mr. J. S. Gerber's colt being installed favourite at last night's call-over.

To gain a few points over the bookmakers is the object of most backers and the few who took the risk on By Thunder! yesterday were laughing up their sleeves when he was made a 7 to 2 favourite at the call-over. Never say Die, who had regained favour as the ground drier in recent days, drifted out to 9 to 2 mainly because it is supposed that he will not go as well on the holding going which may prevail this afternoon.

Mr. Gerber, who lives at Bradford, expressed the view at York that his horse would "skate home" in the St. Leger. The owner of By Thunder! was then delighted by the Classic victory of his colt in the Ebor Handicap and although the statement may seem an exaggeration there are strong grounds for supporting his confidence. Since then By Thunder! has been given easy work at Newmarket and has continued to praise everything.

Jockey's confidence

What about Never Say Die? The colt missed the Voltigeur Stakes at York because the going was said to be heavy. Charlie Smirke, Never Say Die's jockey, has been confident for some time that he might win another St. Leger and he, better than any other jockey riding today, knows just what is required of a horse to win the last of the season's Classics. The rain has not dampened the stable's enthusiasm.

Apart from his striking triumph at Epsom in the Derby, Never Say Die would probably have been given little chance here. As the Derby winner he is entitled to the greatest of respect but on his achievements the other races his record is unimpressive. The Newmarket Stakes which he won races do not read like the performance of a good Classic horse and his last race at Royal Ascot is probably best forgotten.

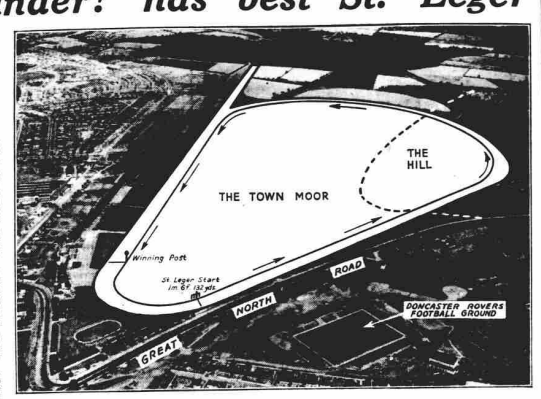
The Ascot race cost Lester Piggott a suspension by the Stewards of the Jockey Club which has not been rescinded) and the colt in no way showed the ability of the Derby winner. The one and a half miles of the Derby saw Never Say Die running over a distance to his liking. He ran on well from the dip but so did Arabian Night, who finished two lengths behind in second place.

A game colt

Arabian Night also ran in Never Say Die's race at Ascot. Arabian Night, however, resisted the urge to be bumping and never had a chance. Since Ascot Arabian Night has been quietly prepared and has shown improving with every gallop and gained the favour. Arabian Night should be a very hopeful supporters despite the presence in the Classic trials of By Thunder! and Never Say Die.

Other horses for whom I have regard are Blue Sail, Umberto, and Double Bore.

Gameness counts a lot in such a gruelling race and on that score Umberto must be top of the list. Mr. P. Thrale, the Epsom trainer, has had to give the colt deep-my treatment to keep arthritis in a shoulder at bay.



A Yorkshire Post photo-plan of the Doncaster Racecourse and environs. As the horses in the St. Leger approach the first bend they are almost out of sight, hidden by the hill, from watchers on the rails. For some distance even the caps of jockeys are not visible, but they come into view as the runners sweep towards the final bend and then thunder down the straight.

Yet Umberto has still won three races out of four. Umberto is a strong-looking stayer who has run Darius out of the first three places in the country) to a short head and also has won over 13 furlongs.

Double Bore entered into the St. Leger argument by finishing second to Pilion in a hard-head finish to the Shakespeare Stakes at Birmingham (Hall) on an earlier journey over 13 furlongs at Sandown Park. Double Bore, who is trained and owned by Mr. J. Tree, is another colt understood to like easy conditions, so he can be expected to give a good account of himself.

The French horses, Arenys and Edelweiss, provide the question marks in the race. How good they are is not known by French form alone. Most of the other probables have shown in-and-out form this year and my choice is:

By Thunder!

who has a good stride and looks to match his unquestioned staying powers with Umberto possibly the best outsider.

Vilmoray, who is trained by Mr. B. Bullock at Ripon, put a magnificent race to win the Portland Handicap at Doncaster yesterday ridden by the apprentice A. Shrive. Under 9st. Vilmoray made all the running to win by one and a half lengths from Set Fair, the top weight, with Libator third. At York Vilmoray found the going far too heavy for him but by the time the Portland Handicap was run yesterday the rain had not really penetrated the ground.

It was Vilmoray's fifth victory of the year and he may be rested until next season. Young Shrive, who won the Goodwood Stewards' Cup on Ashurst Wonder, gave Vilmoray the necessary good start from the gate and the four-year-old was always going too well for the field.

Today's selections

DONCASTER.—2.0 (C), Lime Dust; 2.30, Dressed; 3.15 (D), By Thunder! (Aga); 3.50, Tip the Bottle; 4.20 (B), Morn; 4.50, Jekyll.

ALEXANDRA PARK.—2.0, Ember; 2.30, Jokay; 3.0, The Butts; 3.30, Corie'jar; 4.0, Merry-Go-Round; 4.30, Kris Kringle.

DOUBLE—By Thunder! and Morn.

The Duke

Other Doncaster races and betting

Tote Double—3.15 and 4.20

2. 0—DANUM 2-Y-O (S) STAKES, with 500 sovs. added (T.F.)

0 Knappy Sam (Hardisty)—9-0 +R. Thompson
040 Spring Time (R. Barnes)—9-0 W. Rickaby
110 Pamphilia (R. Thrale)—8-9 K. Gethin
040 Rosie the Tanse (Hastings-Bass)—8-9 J. Lindley

221 Bay Comet (W. Easterby)—9-0 ..... D. Smith
310 Lake View (W. Nightingall)—9-0 ..... E. Mercer
300 Historic Feet (Hammond)—9-0 ..... L. Jones
000 Comack (E. Carr)—9-0 ..... G. Littlewood
001 Lime Dust (H. Jelliss)—9-0 ..... F. Barlow
101 Queen's March (K. Cundell)—8-9 ..... W. Elliott
430 Fairstock (P. Yarey)—8-9 ..... C. Spares
402 Rosebarth (Hartley)—8-9 ..... W. McCarthy
133 Nursmaid (Hartley)—8-9 ..... D. Smith
200 Blackpool Lights (A. Balding)—8-9 ..... J. Mitchell
000 Dorcs Mor (P. Yarey)—8-6 ..... P. Peyton
210 Applaw Whatlet (Hall)—8-6 ..... W. Bill

Also engaged: Gay Tor, Pit, Happy Glow, Fairy Prince, Go Royal, Chrysalis, Lucky Lad, Fireman, Hadrians View, Fulmite, Rosie, Yvonne, Rose O'Lema, Turnip Top, Ambrosia.

Forecast: 7-2 Burke the Traitor, 4 Queen's March, 5 Pamphilia, 6 Lime Dust, 8 Historic Feet, 10 Comack, 12 Spring Time, 14 Lake View.

2.30—DONCASTER 2-Y-O PRODUCE STAKES, with 500 sovs. added (T.F.)

111 Precast (H. Peacock)—9-4 ..... W. Nevett
011 Star Jasmine (Hartley)—9-0 ..... E. Mercer
010 Naval Patrol (Wragg)—9-0 ..... F. Barlow
111 Pirate (Hartley)—9-0 ..... C. Spares
213 Malcolmia (T. A. Wall)—9-0 ..... R. Hurley
311 Cash Boy (J. Jarvis)—9-0 ..... W. Rickaby
330 Nicodemus (Dutton)—8-9 ..... R. J. Grenfell
303 Northern Rest (Hartley)—8-9 ..... D. Smith
000 Infatuate (Templeman)—8-9 ..... W. Bill
230 Sequence (Hartley)—8-9 ..... J. Mitchell
000 Carnicole (Perrigman)—8-9 ..... D. Poincke
010 One Carrie (Hartley)—8-9 ..... C. Spares
000 Weather Permitting (V. Smyth)—8-9 ..... R. Smith
043 Ardree (Hastings-Bass)—8-9 ..... A. Breasley
000 Christmas Charter (K. Cundell)—8-9 ..... W. Elliott

Also engaged: Luke Caulder, Jenny Wren, Nonstarter, Rockingham, Bonnie Braids, Lucky Lad, Lucky Penny, Soft Lights, Marseilles, Rose Rebellion, Lucky Penny.

Forecast: 4 Precast, 11-2 Rolling Star, 6 Cash Boy, 7 Northern Rest, 8 Pirate, 10 Carnicole, 12 Naval Patrol, 14 Malcolmia.

3.50—YORK MOOR HCP, with 500 sovs. added (T.F.)

417 Tip the Bottle (Lawson)—5-9-7 W. H. Carr
223 Comrist (R. Hall)—5-9-4 ..... W. Rickaby
003 Sister Frieda (Jardine)—4-8-5 ..... J. Smith
203 Fastnet Bull (T. Dawson)—4-8-5 ..... D. Smith
000 Fortuna (Mercer)—4-8-5 ..... W. Elliott
424 Ardmoor (Carey)—4-8-5 ..... R. Hurley
402 Edradour (Carey)—4-8-5 ..... A. Breasley
142 Frivolite (Hartley)—4-8-5 ..... C. Spares
220 Pahlka Pomm (Wragg)—4-8-5 ..... F. Robinson
000 The Mantilla (Hartley)—4-8-5 ..... D. Smith
020 Brother Pete (Wragg)—4-8-5 ..... D. Greenall
400 Gallant Lady (Hartley)—4-8-5 ..... D. Smith
000 Melody Bridge (W. Carr)—4-8-5 ..... D. Poincke
000 Isabella (W. Peat)—4-7-0 ..... D. W. Morris
000 Prince Gallop (R. Hall)—4-7-0 ..... W. Bill

Also engaged: Polynesian, Military Court, Venetian Girl, Brother, Pharis Girl, Big Bess, Ocean Orb, Jo Jo, Silver Mist.

Forecast: 7-2 Tip the Bottle, 6-2 Dynamere, 6 Just Royal, 7 Fastnet Bull, 8 Fortuna, 10 Comrist, 1000-7 Pikkin Pomm, Holiday Lane, Brother Pete, Melody Bridge, Lucky Penny.

4.20—PRINCE OF WALES'S 2-Y-O NURSERY HCP, with 1,000 sovs. added (10f.)

211 Tony Lightner (H. Peacock)—9-3 ..... W. Nevett
144 Lark (J. Jarvis)—9-1 ..... W. Rickaby
020 Wicket (P. Armstrong)—8-12 ..... W. Elliott
211 Naval Honour (W. Nightingall)—8-10 ..... E. Mercer
021 Maltsman (C. Pratt)—8-6 ..... D. Force
000 Red Fusilier (Hartley)—8-6 ..... C. Spares
031 Neophyte (Cuthbert)—8-6 ..... F. Barlow
000 Red Flame (Hartley)—8-5 ..... D. Smith
433 Morn (G. Colling)—8-5 ..... D. Smith
000 Dominion (Hartley)—8-4 ..... J. H. J. Carr
030 The Force (Hastings-Bass)—8-3 ..... T. King
000 Sandra (Hartley)—8-3 ..... D. Smith
030 String Hand (Hardy)—8-0 ..... K. Gethin
000 Kaiser (Hartley)—8-0 ..... R. Hurley
303 Natasha (W. Smyth)—7-12 ..... G. Lewis
220 Nonsense (Hartley)—7-12 ..... D. Smith
000 Knight of Killarney (T. E. Leader)—7-10 ..... R. Smith

000 Spinster's Folly (Lawson)—7-8-10 ..... R. Hurley
000 Sparkling Spring (Mrs. Hastings-Bass)—7-8-10 ..... D. Smith
020 Gold Fury (Mercer)—7-7-7 ..... W. Bill

Also engaged: Sandy Dance, Dainty, Whirly, Benjamin, Black Light, Ambassador's Court, Fringe.

Forecast: 7-2 Tip the Bottle, 6-2 Dynamere, 6 Just Royal, 7 Fastnet Bull, 8 Fortuna, 10 Comrist, 1000-7 Pikkin Pomm, Holiday Lane, Brother Pete, Melody Bridge, Lucky Penny.

4.20—PRINCE OF WALES'S 2-Y-O NURSERY HCP, with 1,000 sovs. added (10f.)

211 Tony Lightner (H. Peacock)—9-3 ..... W. Nevett
144 Lark (J. Jarvis)—9-1 ..... W. Rickaby
020 Wicket (P. Armstrong)—8-12 ..... W. Elliott
211 Naval Honour (W. Nightingall)—8-10 ..... E. Mercer
021 Maltsman (C. Pratt)—8-6 ..... D. Force
000 Red Fusilier (Hartley)—8-6 ..... C. Spares
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220 Nonsense (Hartley)—7-12 ..... D. Smith
000 Knight of Killarney (T. E. Leader)—7-10 ..... R. Smith

000 Spinster's Folly (Lawson)—7-8-10 ..... R. Hurley
000 Sparkling Spring (Mrs. Hastings-Bass)—7-8-10 ..... D. Smith
020 Gold Fury (Mercer)—7-7-7 ..... W. Bill

Also engaged: Sandy Dance, Dainty, Whirly, Benjamin, Black Light, Ambassador's Court, Fringe.

Forecast: 7-2 Gaskell-a, 9-2 Little Cloud, 5 Sail, 100-9 Arenys, Arabian Night, 100-8 Double Bore, Umberto, 100-6 Estremadur, 20 Elopement, 22 Rashleigh, 28 Ambler II, 66 Entente Cordiale, Alpenhorn, 40 Phenomenal, Blue Prince II, 66 Nicholas Nickleby, 100 Icarian.

Alexandra Park card

Tote Double—3.0 and 4.0

2. 0—APPRENTICES' HCP, with 200 sovs. added (Last Win 1926—10f.)

302 Marsham Court (H. Smith)—5-0-4 ..... M. Marshall
210 Hotspur's Star (V. Smyth)—4-8-0 ..... J. McDonald
002 Ben Tinlin (C. Mitchell)—5-8-1 ..... M. Mayne
102 Miss Farina (Goldie)—5-8-1 ..... J. Lindley
000 Ravensdowne (Private)—5-7-7 ..... D. Keith
041 Buckie (Mrs. Hastings-Bass)—5-7-7 ..... J. Dixon
413 Epidote (R. A. Thrale)—5-7-7 ..... R. Wilson

Also engaged: Avara, Frame Lily, Ardbeg.

Forecast: 15-8 Marsham Court, 11-4 Hotspur's Star, 4 Buckie, 11-2 Epidote, 6 Ben Tinlin.

2.30—ALEXANDRA 2-Y-O (S) PLATE, of 300 sovs. (5f.)

313 Over Moor (W. Stephenson)—9-0 ..... R. Swallow
000 Headwig (R. Jarvis)—9-0 ..... B. Gosden
000 Parpoint (Hartley)—9-0 ..... C. Spares
000 Imperial Flight (Jardine)—9-0 ..... D. Smith
033 Fast Bull (T. Dawson)—9-0 ..... D. Poincke
303 Greenhast (Goulden)—8-11 ..... R. Hurley
000 Jay Jay (Mercer)—8-11 ..... W. Bill
402 Edradour (Carey)—8-11 ..... A. Breasley
142 Frivolite (Hartley)—8-11 ..... C. Spares
000 Pahlka Pomm (Wragg)—8-11 ..... F. Robinson
000 The Mantilla (Hartley)—8-11 ..... D. Smith
020 Brother Pete (Wragg)—8-11 ..... D. Greenall
400 Gallant Lady (Hartley)—8-11 ..... D. Smith
000 Melody Bridge (W. Carr)—8-11 ..... D. Poincke
000 Isabella (W. Peat)—8-11 ..... D. W. Morris
000 Prince Gallop (R. Hall)—8-11 ..... W. Bill

Also engaged: Final Command, Heron's Lad, Song Cycle, Gowser, Hawley's Bequest, Polynesian, Military Court.

Vilmoray wins the Portland Handicap

GOING YIELDING

2.0—CORPORATION (S) HCP (£721); 6f. 132yds.

1 PLYMOUTH FAIR (H. M. James) 6-9-4 ..... 2 to 1
2 Good View (W. Johnstone) 6-7-12 ..... 100 to 7
3 Rainyhamlet (A. Mercer) 3-8-2 ..... 3 to 1

Also ran and SP.—10 Tim Rickards (W. Stephenson), Bouquet (R. Carson) 6th, Gondolier (A. Breasley), Bonnie Braids (W. Elliott), Gerchoi, Happy Chieftain (D. L. Jones), Bush Hill (P. Yarey), River Rose (W. Bill), Golden Fraternity (W. Swinburn) 4th, Arrival (D. Keith), Silver Mist (W. Nightingall), Lucky Lad (H. Parrish) 3rd, Kilmarnock, Starbaker (R. Irving), Tramore Express (D. Smith), Tramore Flight (D. W. Morris), Ah Ha (W. Rickaby), Gaelic Prince (D. Greenall), Crimson (J. Jarvis), Rosebarth (W. McCarthy), Trained Indoors, owned Mr. Mayhew, Jr., 4-1 fav. Time 1m. 28.4s. (4s. 4d., 9s. 6d., 9s. 6d.).

2.30—ROSS (T.O) STAKES (£961 4s.); 5f.

1 CLEAR RIVER (J. Eyre) 2-8 ..... 100 to 9
2 Cerise (T. Gosling) 2-8 ..... 5 to 1
3 Reraha (C. Smirke) 2-8 ..... 5 to 1

Also ran and SP.—9-4 Margarine (A. Breasley), 5th, 5 General Hates (W. H. Carr), Mother's Pride (W. Swinburn), Lime Spring (W. Stephenson), 9 Live Spring (F. Barlow), Cromer (J. Mercer), Sweet Gale (F. Dutton), 4th, Grunter (D. Gault), Mrs. Michaelson (W. Johnstone), Tarry Flower (W. Bill), Gt. Littlewood (J. Jarvis), Trained by Bullock, owned Mr. Whitehead, 5-1 fav. Time 1m. 0.4s. (2.4s., 3.4s., 4.4s., 5.4s., 6.4s., 7.4s., 8.4s., 9.4s., 10.4s.).

3.5—PORTLAND HCP (£2,694); 5f. 152yds.

1 VILMORAY (A. Shrive) 4-9-0 ..... 100 to 7
2 Set Fair (A. Breasley) 5-9-4 ..... 20 to 1
3 Libator (F. Barlow) 4-8-6 ..... 5 to 1

Also and SP.—6 (Ian) Jacmorin (W. Swinburn), 9 Live Spring (F. Barlow), Cromer (J. Mercer), Mr. Mayhew, Jr. (W. Johnstone), Dan McGrath (R. Carson), 5th, Mrs. Michaelson (W. Stephenson), 10 Spades (C. Gethin), 6th, Mrs. Cowdy (W. Swinburn), Pillowcity Girl (W. Stephenson), Gondolier (R. Irving), Bonnie Braids (W. Elliott), 4th, Knight (E. Smith), Norman Park (A. Mercer), Runnett (W. Bill), Blackberry (W. Carr), 3rd, Pit (W. Rickaby), Dusty Dan (W. Nevett), Powell's V.C. (R. Hughes), Lucky Penny (W. Nicholls), 8th, Fairy Fast (J. Mercer), Lucky Ambassador (D. W. Morris), Young Vigilante (Castle Irwin) (P. J. Wilson), Young Vigilante (A. C. Hawkins), Spaghetti (R. Carson), Wicked Rickie (owned Mr. C. Mayhew), 12th, Tote Win £1, 8s. 2d., Place 4s. 6d., 4s. 6d. (Dead heat).

3.40—ALEXANDRA HCP (£802 4s.); 7½m.

1 LODGE (W. Swinburn) 4-8-13 ..... 8 to 1
2 Rocky Road (R. Irving) 7-7-12 ..... 100 to 7
3 Tintinnabulation (J. Lindley) 5-8-0 ..... 100 to 8

Also ran and SP.—Pandofell (W. H. Carr), 5th, Blue Legs (W. Mackey), Ben Tinlin (C. Mitchell), Ben Nevis (W. Elliott), Ardbeg (A. Breasley), 4th, Tramore Express (D. W. Morris), Tudthunder (F. Hunter), Jack Snipe (W. Swinburn), Tramore Flight (D. W. Morris), Ah Ha (W. Rickaby), Golden Fraternity (W. Swinburn) 4th, Arrival (D. Keith), Silver Mist (W. Nightingall), Lucky Lad (H. Parrish) 3rd, Kilmarnock, Starbaker (R. Irving), Tramore Express (D. W. Morris), Ah Ha (W. Rickaby), Gaelic Prince (D. Greenall), Crimson (J. Jarvis), Rosebarth (W. McCarthy), Trained Indoors, owned Mr. Mayhew, Jr., 4-1 fav. Time 1m. 28.4s. (4s. 4d., 9s. 6d., 9s. 6d.).

4.10—PRINCESS MARY NURSERY HCP (£1,260); 5f.

1 Quick Jet (J. Eyre) 8-12 ..... 9 to 1
2 Gardener's Orders (J. Mercer) 8-9 ..... 100 to 6
3 Hillsdale (A. Breasley) 7-13 ..... 9 to 1

Also and SP.—5 (Ian) Miss Mink (R. Carson), Mighty Mo, 6 Jacmorin (W. Swinburn), 9 Mighty Mo, 4 Jacmorin (W. Swinburn), 9 Live Spring (F. Barlow), Cromer (J. Mercer), Mr. Mayhew, Jr. (W. Johnstone), Dan McGrath (R. Carson), 5th, Mrs. Michaelson (W. Stephenson), 10 Spades (C. Gethin), 6th, Mrs. Cowdy (W. Swinburn), Pillowcity Girl (W. Stephenson), Gondolier (R. Irving), Bonnie Braids (W. Elliott), 4th, Knight (E. Smith), Norman Park (A. Mercer), Runnett (W. Bill), Blackberry (W. Carr), 3rd, Pit (W. Rickaby), Dusty Dan (W. Nevett), Powell's V.C. (R. Hughes), Lucky Penny (W. Nicholls), 8th, Fairy Fast (J. Mercer), Lucky Ambassador (D. W. Morris), Young Vigilante (Castle Irwin) (P. J. Wilson), Young Vigilante (A. C. Hawkins), Spaghetti (R. Carson), Wicked Rickie (owned Mr. C. Mayhew), 12th, Tote Win £1, 8s. 2d., Place 4s. 6d., 4s. 6d. (Dead heat).

4.40—SCARBROUGH STAKES (£1,448 5s.); 1m.

1 MARCH PAST (W. Rickaby) 4-9-7 ..... 5 to 2
2 Sir Gaylord (W. Swinburn) 3-8-2 (Inc.) ..... 5 to 2
3 Jupiter (W. Nevett) 4-9-11 ..... 11 to 2

Also and SP.—8 Super Bar (W. H. Carr), 6 Mighty Mo, 4 Jacmorin (W. Swinburn), 9 Live Spring (F. Barlow), Cromer (J. Mercer), Mr. Mayhew, Jr. (W. Johnstone), Dan McGrath (R. Carson), 5th, Mrs. Michaelson (W. Stephenson), 10 Spades (C. Gethin), 6th, Mrs. Cowdy (W. Swinburn), Pillowcity Girl (W. Stephenson), Gondolier (R. Irving), Bonnie Braids (W. Elliott), 4th, Knight (E. Smith), Norman Park (A. Mercer), Runnett (W. Bill), Blackberry (W. Carr), 3rd, Pit (W. Rickaby), Dusty Dan (W. Nevett), Powell's V.C. (R. Hughes), Lucky Penny (W. Nicholls), 8th, Fairy Fast (J. Mercer), Lucky Ambassador (D. W. Morris), Young Vigilante (Castle Irwin) (P. J. Wilson), Young Vigilante (A. C. Hawkins), Spaghetti (R. Carson), Wicked Rickie (owned Mr. C. Mayhew), 12th, Tote Win £1, 8s. 2d., Place 4s. 6d., 4s. 6d. (Dead heat).

TOTE DOUBLE 4.30-5.0

13,500 gns. top price

From our Doncaster staff

The Doncaster yearling sales ended yesterday with a total of 50,000gns. of the record set up in 1947. The aggregate was 553,350gns. for 308 lots—an average of 1,096gns. This was more than 100,000gns. up on last year and compared favourably with the record year when there were 19 more yearlings sold in the total of 597,726gns.

Yesterday brought the highest price of the week when the Anglo-Irish Bloodstock Agency paid 13,500gns. for D'Abernon, a grey colt by Abernant out of Sea Diva, by Nearco out of Quetpot. The colt, which was foaled in France, was offered by the Kildangan Stud, whose seven yearlings fetched a total of 42,300gns. for a record average for the sales of 6,043gns.

D'Abernon, according to Mr. P. J. Prendergast, was outbid Mr. Noel Murless for the grey, said the yearling had been bought by the Anglo-Irish Agency on behalf of the Canadian, Mr. Frank McMahon, who is part owner of Prendergast's St. Leger entry, Blue Sail. The yearling will go to Mr. Prendergast's stables in County Kildare.

Alpenhorn's half brother

Mr. P. Nelson paid the second highest price of the week on behalf of an undisclosed buyer—10,300 guineas for the Knockanny stud's Supreme Court—Coose colt, a half brother to the St. Leger horse Apenhorn.

Mr. J. Dudin, Gerber, the owner of By Thunder! paid 9,200gns. to get a Fair Trial—Respite bay colt, and the London bloodstock agent Mr. Jack Barich paid 7,000gns. for a colt by the Derby Winner. Arctic Prince, out of Sea Idol, which is destined for the United States. Irish trainer, Mr. G. A. Hughes, paid 8,000gns. to secure a colt by Golden Cloud out of Broema on behalf of Mr. Jack Dudgeon, the Anglo-Irish owner who races in Ireland.

The yearlings were outstanding in the end. Mr. James Ryan, the American trainer, finished up with six yearlings costing 20,000gns. and after his spending would have been heavier but he was forced to buy from high priced colts. Agents for the Jockey Club of Peru also spent heavily in buying 18 yearlings for South American courses.

Never Say Die is preferred

From our resident correspondent

NEWMARKET, Friday.—In the St. Leger tomorrow, Newmarket will be well represented although there does not look a champion among them and as the three-year-old form has been so erratic, I shall rely upon Mr. J. Barich's Never Say Die. This week's good Doncaster performance of Lepidoptic, who has been Never Say Die's galloping companion during his preparations, gives me more confidence.

One that may win tomorrow is Mr. T. E. Leader's Knight of Killarney (Prince of Wales Nursery). This colt has been doing some useful work with an older companion, Bandon, over the distance and is nicely handicapped. Selections:—

DONCASTER.—2.0, Lime Dust; 2.30, Caracciolo; 3.15, Never Say Die; 3.50, Tip the Bottle (Nap); 4.20, Knight of Killarney; 4.50, Little Cloud.

ALEXANDRA PARK.—2.30, Dodo; 3.0, Russian Gold; 3.30, Corie'jar; 4.0, Pearl Fisher.

DOUBLE—Tip the Bottle and Dodo.

Ray Cross in Hartlepool side at Cross Green

By LYNDON ARMITAGE

Ray Cross has worn many club jerseys on the Otley Rugby Union ground, and his latest will be the white of Hartlepool Rovers, who has played many fine games for Yorkshire at Cross Green, is in the Hartlepool Rovers' back row against Otley today.

Whether he will be available for Yorkshire this season is not known, but his speedy wing forward play is sure to catch the eye this afternoon. Cross first played for the county when he was with Middlesbrough in 1948. Since then he has played with Headingley and the Leeds University side and, of course, Yorkshire.

Hartlepool Rovers are bringing a strong side which will be captained by H. J. Walker, the Durham county player. Though getting off to a bad start last week, when they were beaten at home by Darlington GSOB, they are hoping for a different result today.

Otley Greyhound Stadium Rugby full-back, formerly with Selby, will play his first game with the club against Halifax at Kirkstall. Keith Bennett, from Bramley, also has signed. He played at Northampton last week.

Welsh club's visit

Halifax have arranged for attractive visitors from Wales in Swansea and Cardiff. On February 5 Swansea come to Ovenden Park, and Cardiff will play there on April 4. The following week Halifax have a home fixture with the Barbarians selected, as many years since these Welsh clubs visited Yorkshire.

Ian Clay, Hartlepool, Yorkshire and England full-back, F. D. Sykes (Huddersfield), Jackie Stephenson, Yorkshire and G. Mitchell, the Halifax Yorkshire and England stand-off wing forward, have accepted invitations to play in a side chosen by Mr. H. C. Catcheside, the England selector against Northern at McCracken Park, a few miles from Rawdon, on Saturday. The side will include 10 internationals.

Before the game Mr. W. C. Ramsay (Middlesex), President of the Rugby Union, will officially open two new pitches at the ground.

Hann in doubles final but out of singles

Michael Hann, the Leeds Grammar School boy, lost in the semi-final round of the Junior Open Championship at Wimbledon yesterday but, partnered by R. Bennett, he reached the final of the boys' doubles.

Players had to contend with a strong wind throughout the day and it was not until the start of the second set that Hann began to reach the passing shots of his Devon opponent, G. Mudge, who dropped only one of the eight games he lost set. Hann, however, won the second set with the loss of six games, but Mudge regained his advantage in the final set, which he won with the loss of only three games.

In the final he meets R. D. Bennett, of Sussex, who defeated C. J. Day, of Kent, in two sets with the loss of only six games.

BOYS' SINGLES.—Semi-finals.—G. Mudge (Devon) bt. Hann (Yorks), 6-2, 6-4; R. D. Bennett (Sussex) bt. Day (Kent), 6-3, 6-3.

GIRLS' SINGLES.—Semi-finals.—S. Armstrong (Cambs) beat C. E. Phillips (Lancs), 6-4, 6-2; A. Buxton (Kent) beat P. Hyde (Kent), 6-3, 6-3.

BOYS' DOUBLES.—Quarter-final.—C. Day and Mudge (Kent and Devon) bt. Paskin, 6-0, 6-3; R. Bennett and M. Hann (Sussex and Yorks) bt. Bulmer and Hall, 6-3, 6-2. **Semi-finals.**—Day and Mudge bt. Hann and Paskin, 6-0, 6-3; R. Bennett and M. Hann bt. Bulmer and Hall, 6-3, 6-2.

GIRLS' DOUBLES.—Quarter-finals.—S. Armstrong and A. Pyne (Cambs) bt. Hyde and Whitehead, 6-4, 6-4; Wheeler and Rose (Kent) bt. Rose, 6-0.

MIXED DOUBLES.—Quarter-finals.—Hann and G. Wiseman beat E. J. Paulen and J. A. Pollock, 6-3, 6-3.

Semi-finals.—Hann and M. Bond bt. Mudge and P. Pollock, 6-0, 6-2.

WILLIAMS INJURED IN CUP WIN

By ALFRED DREWRY

HUNSLET 17, BATLEY 10

Hunslet satisfaction at reaching the second round of the Yorkshire Rugby League Cup at Parkside last night was tempered by an injury to their newly appointed captain, Dicky Williams, which may leave the club with a stand-off half problem.

Williams, playing for the first time since his return from the Australian tour, suffered a recurrence of an injury to his right knee which troubled him in New Zealand. There it was diagnosed as probable ligament damage. The advice of a Leeds specialist is to be taken before Williams plays again.

Knee trouble has been a nuisance to Williams. He had a long spell out of the game during his Leeds days after having the cartilage removed from his left knee.

Another Hunslet stand-off half, Brian Gabbitas, broke an ankle in a Rugby Union match earlier this week.

Hunslet owed their Cup victory largely to a purple patch midway through the first half which yielded 13 points in three minutes. It was the most dangerous attacking forward on the field, Logan beginning and ending a movine 25 which yielded a try to Les Williams after Carroll and Lee had handled and Waite had sold a dummy to Field.

On the other foot

Three minutes later Snowden followed up an attacking kick by Logan and, simultaneously with Batley's appeals, touched and robbed Batley full-back Walshaw of the ball, and chased it over the line for another try. Williams must have got a bit of satisfaction from this incident, for it had been his misfortune to let Graham get away early in the first half-an-hour, but Batley scored the first try. Hunslet equalised in the last minute of the period when Hunslet, leading 12-7, were awarded a penalty against Batley's Pickersgill, in the Batley forwards, and Cox, in the Hunslet backs, had problems which had to be solved very hastily indeed.

But Hunslet despite their inability of Al Burnell and Dicky Williams to make a 2 to 1 scrummaging pitch into a really dominating factor, were slightly the faster side in a game which had many bright features.

Waite (Hunslet) and Field (Batley) were the other two centres to cut their hands four goals for Hunslet and Jones two for Batley. Attendance 5,600. £498.

Hunslet—Backhouse; Snowden, L. Williams, Waite, Williamson; Logan, Cox; Lee, Carroll, Gabbitas; Dickinson, W. Burnell, Gunney, Shaw.

Batley—Walshaw; Harrison, Kitty, McDonald, Field; Cox, Graham; Pickersgill, Fryer, Jones, Hanson, Woodburn.

Referee—Hamblett. **Touch Judges**—Hanwell, Dawson, Smith (G.), Smith (B.), Robinson, Rees.

Hunslet Rovers will still be without four of their regular players in the cup-tie at Wakefield today when they play in the Lancashire Cup against St. Helens. Tommy Gilfedder, a Maori prop forward, Tipuna Smith, has been placed on the transfer list at £500.

FRANK EDWARDS (England) yesterday at Sydney beat Wes Mitchell 21-19 to 1,633 in their heat of the World Amateur Billiards Championship, reports Reuter.

Late try gives Bramley a second chance

BRAMLEY 12, DONCASTER 12

Yorkshire Rugby League Cup shocks started early with Doncaster forcing a surprise draw at the Barley Mow. They nearly won too, with only 12 men all through the second half after losing Gunn with rib injuries.

Twice they led, but Bramley took the lead in the period, and it was only two minutes from time that Bramley drew level through a try by Nepia after a break through by Burnell.

After such a spirited fight Doncaster fully earned the right to replay next Thursday. Bramley failed to recapture the form they had shown against Huddersfield. By keeping the ball tight they played into the hands of Doncaster's cover defence.

Two former Castleford players, Barraclough and Guest, were outstanding for Doncaster, and there was much good work by the ex-Hunslet forwards, Doyle and Davies.

Doncaster went ahead through a Tynan try, but Barraclough soon improved. Then came three goals by Huggins for Bramley. Another Barraclough effort regained the lead for Doncaster. Humphries made it 9-6 for Bramley with a try, and Doncaster got in front again through Guest (try) and Barraclough (goal). Attendance 2,000. £200.

Bramley—Shaw, Warrior, Nepia, Kelly, Humphries, Dailey; Burnell, Banfield, Bailey, Hiscocks, Baldwin, Tomlinson, Guy.

Doncaster—Barraclough, Tynan, Badger, Atkins, Pritchard, Gunn; Tynan, Foreman; Doyle, Davies, Bates, Pacey, Guest.

Allen beaten in title fight

MILAN, Friday. — Nazzareno Giannelli, Italian champion, won the European middleweight title here tonight when he outpointed Terry Allen (London), former world champion, over 15 rounds.

There were some furious exchanges in the second and third rounds. The Italian was back-pedalling, but Allen, the taller, managed to get inside the Italian's guard and score to the body with short lefts and rights.

The Italian's most dangerous weapon was a flickering left at Allen's head. Allen's manager, Johnny Sharpe, was beaming when Allen returned to his corner at the end of the fourth round.

The Italian landed his first effective blows to Allen's face in the fifth, using a snaking left. The British champion was more on the offensive towards the end of the round and again scored with rapid punches.

The referee warned both men in the eighth round for not breaking out of clinches quickly enough. Giannelli showed more inclination to mix it with Allen and he relied on a fast right. Late in the round a cut was landed near Allen's left eye.

The cut troubled Allen considerably in the next round, especially as the Italian kept on pounding it with his right. Giannelli took the 11th round, and near the end he put in a well-timed right to Allen's face.

The furious pace of the first 11 rounds had slowed considerably by the 12th, and Allen, spurred by the cheers of the 5,000 Italian fans, for the first time took the initiative.—Reuter.

Francis to play for Hull

Hull Rugby League Club directors made a surprise decision last night to play Roy Francis, their player-coach, against Featherstone Rovers in the Yorkshire Cup-tie at Craven Park this afternoon.

Francis has not played so far this season owing to injury, and he was not in the Cup team announced earlier this week.

York will not know until noon today whether or not Hull will be able to play against Halifax. His injured hand is responding to treatment and he will have a final fitness test with Coach Dai Prosser. Team forms:—

Hull—Hamblett, Hassell, Dawson, Smith (G.), Smith (B.), Robinson, Rees; Handley, Blanchflower; Watts, Walker, Taylor, Dosler, Owen.

Hull Kingston Rovers will still be without four of their regular players in the cup-tie at Wakefield today when they play in the Lancashire Cup against St. Helens. Tommy Gilfedder, a Maori prop forward, Tipuna Smith, has been placed on the transfer list at £500.

YORKSHIRE LOSE TITLE BUT SLATER'S GOLF IMPRESSES

By W. IAN GUILD

Despite a valiant 71—the lowest score of the day—by Alan Slater (Wakefield), Yorkshire yesterday failed to retain the English Counties team golf championship, run in conjunction with the Brabazon Trophy, at Woodhall Spa. Lincs., finishing fourth, seven strokes behind Cheshire, who won with a 36-hole total of 465. Northumberland were second, after a tense