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Season's Greetings

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Looking Ahead

BY "SPORTSMAN"

LOCAL trainers are taking advantage of the lull before Yuletide, readying their charges for the more important races over the Holidays. The Moor at Middleham has been a hive of activity since the show made possible a renewal of work, and Neville Crump in particular has been giving his formidable string plenty of healthy exercise. From this quarter I would draw attention to a horse or two, calculated to assist in the holiday expenses, and I recommend that they be followed in their immediate engagements. First on my list I place **BALLY-MACAN**, who had the misfortune to fall lame on the eve of a recent challenge at Sandown Park. The Harrogate-owned hurdler is fully recovered from that mishap, and is likely to be seen out in Christmas week. No animal moves better over the Moor, and I fancy he will continue the winning way at the next time of asking. Stable-companion **SHINING GOLD** is another to take the eye, and he is certain to be thereabouts in the event selected for him. A natural weight-carrier, there are few safer fences in the North, and connections will find an opportunity for him at two miles. **WOT NO SUN** crops up at Wetherby on Boxing Day, a track that suits him to a nicety, and he has only to maintain his present progress to be a danger to the best. Capt. T. D. Wilson's bold jumper stays forever, but is probably at his best round about three miles. Before reviewing the modest programme laid down for decision this week, I would add a comment regarding **STARLIT BAY**. The property of Lady Grimthorpe and trained for her Ladyship by Lord Grimthorpe, the eight-year-old reveals marked ability in work at home, and his recent exhibition at Doncaster is evidence of well-being. The ex-hunter looks all set for a second triumph before the advent of the New Year.

AT WINCANTON AND HURST PARK.

THURSDAY, Wincanton.

A small field in order orders for the Red Maru Steeplechase, in which event Tantiy is out to repeat his victory of last year. He has gone up in the weights, however, and at a difference of sixteen pounds I doubt whether the ten-year-old will cope with **SIGNAL PRINCE**. I am advised to leave an interest in **KILGULLEN BRIDGE**, a probable starter for the Calve Novices Chase. The fence put up a promising display behind Irish Lizard at Newbury, and on that showing is just preferred to Le Moussaoui. The Cerne Abbas Handicap I leave to **CALALOU**, who finished strongly when narrowly beaten at Birmingham last month. Maybe Olympion will give him most to do.

FRIDAY, Hurst Park.

GRAND REFRAIN keeps finding one or two too fast for him, but one of these days the eight-year-old will get his head in front. I like his prospects in the Riverside Handicap, and only in his absence would I turn to **Boy Becked** like a certainty when runner-up to The Mili. **SAMS SON** may have been unlucky and I think this one deserves another chance. Under orders for Pall Mall Hurdle I take him to account for Masterpiece. **RED OXIDE** is doubly entered at the meeting, but in all probability goes for the Westminster Chase. Here is one for which I hold a watching brief and I shall expect him to win from Leke George.

SATURDAY, Hurst Park.

Kenpton victor **OSBERSTOWN** attempts a similar endeavour in the Wimbledon Long-Distance Handicap, and I do not put the task beyond him. Both course and distance will suit the horse, who may have most to fear from Panama. **RED OXIDE**, reappears in the Henry VIII. Chase, and if held in reserve to challenge here would be my choice. Of the remainder I have some regard for **Crudwell**. Well backed at Newbury, **POMPOUS** might have got up but for one mistake. The six-year-old is reasonably certain to recompense, and the December Handicap provides the opportunity. I stand him to beat Pimpernel.

The National Union of Mineworkers has rejected a wage offer by the Coal Board of 160,000 lowest paid miners of it is reported, 6s. a week.

FOOTBALL

Middleton Celtic resumed their Wearhead and District League programme on Saturday when the Wearhead eleven visited Middleton-in-Teesdale. It was originally expected that Westgate would provide the opposition but the team higher in the date took over the fixture at short notice. The Celtic took the field with a team including Owen Raine, who has recently completed his National Service training. The teams crossed over on even terms, J. Collinson, for the Wanderers, equalising an early score by the Wearhead boys. In the second half the visitors took the lead soon after the interval and until the last ten minutes everything pointed to the game being decided by a very narrow margin. Close to the final whistle, the visitors took command and quickly netted four more goals without reply from the Celtic, who have not won a home game now for several weeks. **EGZESTONE** at centre half, was outstanding for the Celtic and Raine, the newcomer, also had a good game.

Auckland and District League, Division 1.

LEWOLIN UNITED V. MIDDLETON WANDERERS.

On Saturday Middleton visited West Auckland to play the factory team, Lewolin champions of the league last season, and were again below strength through the unfitness of both Bailey and Richardson, while Sanders was not available. Hammond moved up from centre half to inside right to let in Albert Vickers, and Kelly and Dobson formed the left wing. Lewolin were the first to attack but were soon beaten back by Beecham and Clark to set their forwards away. After ten minutes play, Middleton took the lead when Wilkinson received a pass from Hunt and placed the ball well out of Towers' reach in the home goal. Middleton were having most of the play but were unable to press home their advantage, mainly through faulty passing and bad shooting. Twenty minutes after the start Lewolin drew level when Hathaway worked his way up the middle and scored with a hard shot from the edge of the penalty area. Middleton were still having more of the play than their hosts but again were unable to break through the strong Lewolin defence, in which W. Patterson was a tower of strength. After 35 minutes Lewolin went ahead when Horner slammed in a shot from 15 yards. Middleton fought back grimly to draw level but their shooting left much to be desired, both Kelly and Hammond shooting wide when well placed.

For the second half Hunt and Kelly exchanged positions and play was fairly even at the outset with both sides attacking in turn. After about 20 minutes play Middleton applied pressure and penned Lewolin into their own half but again the forwards wasted several chances. The Middleton defence was well on top of its work now with Beecham, Clark, Vickers and Strophaire outstanding. Once Clark brought the ball up into the visitors' penalty area only to have his shot headed out by W. Patterson with Flowers beaten. Ten minutes from the end Clark moved up to outside right and in his first attempt to break through he was stopped by W. Patterson again. This set the hostesters away on a lone raid but Shepherd saved. In Middleton's next raid Clark flashed across a centre for Paddy Hunt to head in. From the centre, Lewolin attacked but Albert Vickers, who had had an outstanding game, intercepted and sent Strophaire away for the latter to work his way up to the edge of the penalty area before letting drive a hard shot, which by the post for a corner.

Friendly Match.

BARNARD CASTLE AMATEURS

2nd BN. THE GREEN HOWARDS
Owing to their league match with Faverdale Reserves being cancelled, the Amateurs played a friendly match with the 2nd Bn. The Green Howards. The game was played in a very sporting manner. The Howards asked if they could try out two new goalkeepers, one in each half. This was agreed to by the Amateurs. Playing in the soldiers' team were several first team men. The Amateurs were the first to make attacks and after 10 minutes Gordon Metcalfe scored for the Amateurs. The Howards made several hot attacks but could not score, Moore being in good form in goal for the Amateurs. Johnnie Nixon and Bernard Lee, too, were in good form. At half-time the score was: Amateurs 1, Green Howards 0. After the resumption, the soldiers got on top and after 10 minutes had scored two goals. The Amateurs fought back hard and both teams were enjoying the sporting game. The Howards went further ahead and soon afterwards the Amateurs reduced the lead through Metcalfe again. Just before full-time the soldiers scored number four, making the score: Green Howards 4, Amateurs 2. The game was well refereed by Mr. Roy Plevins.

Next Saturday Faverdale Works visit the Ten Fields in a Darlington League fixture.

Darts

COCKFIELD AND DISTRICT DART LEAGUE.

League challengers, Diamond Inn, Butterknowle, made a consolidation journey across Cockfield Fell to improve their position in the Cockfield and District Dart League at the expense of the Greyhound Inn. Starting like prospective champions, the visitors piled up a four-leg advantage, but the Greyhound tail end waggled vigorously and successfully to stave off the slaughter and the honours and points went to the Gaules Valley Northerners by the lone leg in the end. Details: Greyhound Inn—R. Close, 381; F. Davidson, 499; E. Dent, 499; J. Tallentire, 489; P. Orton, 501; H. Buttle, 501; N. Heavside, 501; total, 3.

Diamond Inn—G. Woodward, 501; J. Collinson, 501; J. Wright, 501; G. Blackett, 501; L. Tallentire, 437; P. Cummins, 496; R. Moses, 441; total, 4.

The Edge Hotel, Woodland, visiting the Queen's Head Inn, Cockfield, got off to a flying start and gained a four leg lead and with the points safely in the bag their remaining players failed to maintain the high standard set by their predecessors with the result that the home side scored the last three legs to suffer yet a further reverse and indicated that the opponents' draw being better balanced, a more exciting encounter would have been witnessed. Details: Queen's Head—T. W. Clarke, 499 (100); W. Dowson, 455; J. Shaw, 461; W. Nendick, 397; J. Hodgson, 501; W. Hunter, 601; R. Dwyer, 501; total, 3.

Edge Hotel—F. Readman, 501; H. Thompson, 501; W. Stephenson, 501 (140); G. Mott, 501; A. Hurst, 473; W. Tarn, 466; G. Rose, 461; total, 4.

Only Rupert Leonard and Harry Dowson succeeded in winning when the Workmen's Club and Institute entertained the formidable Bay Horse (Evenwood) in a league fixture. Jim Hodgson was an unlucky loser for the home side, who were well below the standard of the visitors, who centred to a 5-2 victory. Details: Workmen's Club and Institute—R. Leonard, 501; J. Hodgson, 499; A. Makepeace, 459; H. Dowson, 501; C. Alderson, 431; D. Woodward, 441; G. W. Clarke, 482; total, 2.

Bay Horse—G. McCutcheon, 343; F. Heavside, 501; V. Brown, 501 (115); J. Lamb, 497 (123); E. Bentley, 501 (136); T. Slater, 501 (120); A. Tallentire, 501; total, 5.

RESULTS OF MATCHES.

Turk's Head 64, Red Lion 4. Boves Club 2, D.L.I. "A" 5. Golden Lion "B" 1, Raby 6. Bridge (B.C.) 3, Commercial 4. Three Horse Shoes 2, Red Well 5. Bridge (Whorlton) 5, Club "A" 2. D.L.I. "B" 9, Lion "A" 5. Club "B" 3, Oddfellows 4. Highest scores of week: W. Brewes finished game on 157-56, 60 and tops. Some mish? G. Hall (Red Well), 140; twice; W. Palmer (Raby), 140; F. Hunter (Raby), 133; E. Dolan (D.L.I. Ass.), 118; F. Scrafton (Boves Club), 120.

League Table to December 12th.

Club	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Esidge, Whorl.	11	8	2	1	51	26	51
Commercial	11	9	2	0	51	26	50
Boves Club	11	8	2	1	49	27	49
Red Well	11	6	4	1	45	32	45
D.L.I.	11	7	3	1	44	32	44
Bridge, B.C.	11	6	5	0	43	34	43
Oddfellows	11	6	5	0	41	35	41
Turk's Head	11	5	6	0	40	36	40
Three Horse Shoes	11	5	6	0	35	42	35
Club A.	11	3	8	0	41	45	31
Lion B.	11	3	8	0	29	47	29
D.L.I. B.	11	3	8	0	28	48	29
Club B.	11	1	10	0	25	51	25
Red Lion	11	2	9	0	21	56	21

Barnard Castle Cyclists' Meet

The first meeting of the newly formed management committee for 1937 was held in the King's Head Hotel on 1st December. The chairman, Mr. E. Anderson, welcomed the new members. It was agreed that a vice-chairman be appointed, and Mr. S. Tombe was elected to this position. The meeting then formulated its sub-committees as under: Gymkhana sub-committee, Messrs. Lawson, Chatt, Thisthwaite, Lawson, Workman, Birbeck, Allison, Manning, Simpson, Carter, Chessborough, Sever. Publicity sub-committee, Messrs. Aschough, Wood Robinson, Beckwith. Procession and entertainments sub-committee, Messrs. Shannon, Tombe, Bonnett, Plevins, Willis, Parkin, Davis, Mesdames Jones, Carter, Jackson, Mitton, Raine. It was unanimously agreed to invite local sports organisations to organise events for Whit week-end, and the hon. secretary (Mr. T. Beckwith) was instructed to write the Barnard Castle Archery Club, Barnard Castle Golf Club, Barnard Castle Cricket Club, and the Glaxo Sports and Social Club on these lines.

The chairman reported on the condition of the Domeneas, and it was agreed that £200 be allotted to the gymkhana sub-committee for improvements during the year 1937.

Keep out the COLD WITH HOT

Bridge Club

Match pointed pairs, December 12th: North: 1. Mr and Mrs Birkbeck, 80. South: 2. Mr Christie and Mr Wilmors, 71 1/2. East: 1. Mr and Mrs Snodgrass, 84. West: 2. Mrs Pirie and Mr Lowes, 78 1/2.

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Drunk and Disorderly.

Charles Stephenson (25), serving with the 1st Battalion The Green Howards at Humbledon, and Mergson Carter (21), stationed with the 55th Medium Regiment at Barforth Camp, were both fined 40 shillings for being drunk and disorderly in Barnard Castle. Prosecuting for the police, Supt. Vickers said that Stephenson, who pleaded guilty, was taken into custody by P.C. Harcourt after he was ejected from an hotel on December 3rd. Carter, who also pleaded guilty, was alleged to have caused a disturbance in Horse Market by being abusive after being ejected from the Witham Hall. He was taken into custody by P.C. Kerr, who was called to the dance hall.

William Brook (37), of Vulcan Street, Darlington, pleaded guilty by letter to a similar charge resulting from an incident on The Bank on November 23rd. Evidence by P.C. Kerr revealed that there was a fracas between defendant and some soldiers. Brook struck one of the soldiers, who fell to the ground, and accused, who was later arrested, became very abusive. He was fined 40 shillings.

Woodland Farmer did not Read Instructions.

"He is a farmer and should know all about the regulations," commented Supt. W. B. Vickers, who prosecuted, when John N. Binks (24), of West Hinedon Farm, Woodland, pleaded guilty to a contravention of the Swine (Movement) Order by failing to isolate six pigs during the specified period of detention. Binks pleaded guilty. Supt. Vickers told the magistrates that defendant purchased six pigs on November 17th at Darlington Auction Mart and was issued with the required licence for their removal to his farm. The following day, Sgt. McDonald, on calling at West Hinedon Farm, that the pigs purchased on the previous day were running with a further seven animals. Supt. Vickers stressed the necessity for pigs to be isolated after being moved as a precaution against swine fever, and said the instructions were printed on the rear of the movement licence.

Withdrew Money on Stolen Savings Book.

Alfred Dawson, a 19-year-old soldier serving with the 58 Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery at Barford Camp, was fined £5 and ordered to repay £3 which he had withdrawn from the Post Office Savings account of another soldier by means of a forged certificate of withdrawal. Outlining the case, Mr. J. R. Waite, prosecuting for the Post Master General, said that Dawson, who pleaded guilty to the charge, was alleged to have taken the Savings Book from the pocket of a blouse which was property of another soldier. When the loss was discovered, the matter was reported to the police and military authorities. In the meantime, Dawson had presented the stolen book at Barnard Castle Post Office and after filling in the withdrawal form, signed it in the name of the soldier from whom it was stolen. After the loss of the book was discovered, further enquiries resulted in defendant being interviewed at Barford Camp. Dawson completed further three forms which all clearly resembled the one used to withdraw the sum of £5.

In a statement, Dawson said that he took the book from the pocket of a blouse while the owner was on duty, and gave as his reason a desire to help his mother, a widow, by sending her more money. "At the time I did it I had no money. I am very sorry and I'm willing to take my punishment."

Dawson was stated, received £2 5s. army pay, from which he sent 10s. 6d. to his mother each week.

MECHANICS' WHIST.

The prizewinners at the weekly whist drive held in the Mechanics' Institute, Middleton-in-Teesdale, were: Ladies—1. Mrs. Allinson; 2. Mrs. Icton; consolation, Mrs. Baum. Gentlemen—1. Mr. N. Raine; 2. Mr. M. Lee; consolation, Mr. K. Thompson.

Billiards

TEESDALE AND DISTRICT BILLIARD LEAGUE.

Results for December 10th. Darlington. Wanderers B. 160 T. A. Jackson, Hienkingsopp 84. 150 J. T. N. Raine, J. Allinson 142. 124 H. Stoddart, J. Garbutt 150. 150 W. T. Tarn, N. Allinson 97. 674 50 owe 473 624 398

Wanderers A. 150 W. Dawson. 150 P. Hoyle. 133 M. Anderson. 150 E. Anderson. 583 135 owe 450 448 450

Coppy. 150 W. Kipling, J. R. Peacock 74. 150 E. Pickthall, W. Richmond 67. 150 G. Kidd, W. Clarkson 114. 150 L. Kipling, J. Walton 104. 600 75 owe 359 523 387

Mechanics A. 111 J. R. Watson, A. Tarn 150. 150 E. Kipling, M. Lee 74. 150 T. Colman, J. H. Redfearn 104. 150 G. Bradwell, H. Redfearn 95. 561 423 100 owe 75 461 348

Highest break to date: T. A. Jackson, 63.

League Table to Date.

Club	P	W	D	L	Pts.
Coppy	9	7	0	1	16
Mickleton	9	7	0	2	14
Ex-Service Club	8	6	0	2	12
Larlington	9	6	0	3	12
Mechanics A.	9	4	0	5	8
Woodland	9	4	0	5	8
Ronaldkirk	9	3	0	6	6
Wanderers A.	9	3	0	6	6
Wanderers B.	9	2	0	7	4
Mechanics B.	8	1	0	7	2

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BARNARD CASTLE

Mon. Wed. Thur. & Sat. (Except 25th Dec.)
Mickleton 11-49 3-24 1/3
Middleton 11-45 3-20 1/6
Return at 6-12 or 9-20pm

DARLINGTON

Mon. Wed. Thur. & Sat. (Except 25th Dec.)
Bd. Castle 12-18 5-15 2/0
Br'n law 12-24 3-51 5-31 2/6
Winstan 12-30 3-57 5-37 2/6
Custone 11-59am 3-34pm 2/3
Mickleton 11-49am 3-24pm 3/0
Middleton 11-45am 3-20pm 4/6
Rid'kirk 11-54am 3-29pm 3/0
Return at 5-32 8-40pm to all stations. (Also 4-10 & 10-30 pm stations to Barnard Castle only.)

MIDDLESBROUGH

Mon. Wed. Thur. & Sat. (Except 25th Dec.)
Bd. Castle 12-18pm 5/0
Broomfield 12-24pm 4/6
Cotherstone 11-59am 5/6
Mickleton 11-49am 5/6
Middleton 11-45am 6/6
Ronaldkirk 11-54am 5/6
Winstan 12-30pm 5/6
Return at 4-31 or 7-35pm to all stations. (also 9-45pm stations to Barnard Castle only.)

YULE TRAVEL BY RAIL

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