

Curious Polyglot Newspapers.

Three curious polyglot periodicals are now being published. One is the China "Times," which is regularly printed in seven languages. It is published in the capital of China, and the languages in which it appears are the English, French, German, Italian, Russian, Japanese, and Chinese.

Another polyglot paper is the Austrian semi-monthly entitled "Acta Comparationis Literarum Universarum." It has correspondents and subscribers all over the world, and the contributions of the former are invariably printed in the language of the countries from which they are

sent. As a result, it frequently happens that in one number of the paper there are articles in twenty-five or thirty languages.

The third polyglot paper is the "Pantolodion Magazine," which is published in St. Petersburg, and which contains critical essays regarding the new books published throughout the world. Each of these essays is printed in the language of the country where the new book of which the essays treats appeared. Thus a review of an American book is printed in English, a review of a French book is printed in French, and so on. One number of this periodical has contained articles in fifteen different languages, namely, German, French, English, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, Portuguese, Swedish, Danish, Hungarian, Roumanian, Russian, Servian, Bohemian, and Polish.

Spontaneous Combustion of Trees

Spontaneous combustion is a mysterious thing at all times, but as long as it confines its attention to inanimate objects there is nothing very uncanny about it. But when trees become subject to it there is no telling where it will stop.

The banks of the River Cam, in Cambridgeshire, England, have recently exhibited an unusual number of such cases, and young growing willows have been the victims in nearly every case. Cambridge used to pride itself upon its beautiful willows, and it was therefore with sorrow that the people discovered one morning the charred remains of what had once been a really beautiful specimen of the willow tree.

The fate of the tree naturally attracted attention to the phenomenon,

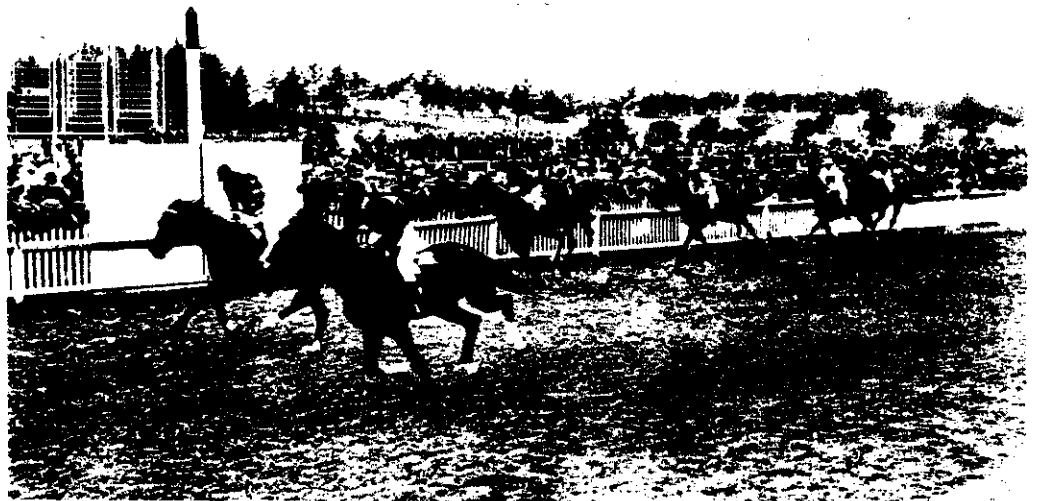
and thereafter but too much opportunity was afforded for the study of it. At one point, in the river in particular the process was seen. Green trees covered with rich masses of foliage suddenly burst forth into conflagration and burned to their very cores. Fine willows in full vigour poured forth clouds of smoke from their half-burned stems.

An examination of the charred remains of the trees revealed nothing in the way of explanation, but as the trees which met their fates were for the most part young there could hardly have been any putrescence or fermentation.

Just why the willows should meet such sudden ends is not apparent, but the peculiar formation of the tree, its pliant boughs, and the drooping of its leaves and flower may have had something to do with it.



L. H. HEWITT, THE NEW ZEALAND SLOAN. Role Seven Winners at the A.R.C. Summer Meeting.



NONETTE WINNING THE A.R.C. HANDICAP.



Vallie, photo.

VIEW OF THE LAWS.

Auckland Racing Club's Summer Meeting.