

"The HIGHLANDER"

Vol. 1. No. 12.

AT SEA

FRIDAY, April 13 1945.

ONE REMAINING RIVER BARRIER BETWEEN ALLIES AND BERLIN

More than a dozen armoured columns of the American 9th, 1st and 3rd Armies are sweeping to the Elbe, the last river barrier before Berlin.

In one day some of their tanks made a more than 50 mile dash, and infantry are reported to be following closely. Air observers report that the German resistance is in confusion with traffic choking the roads in all directions. In one instance panzers which were urgently needed were stopped on the road through lack of petrol.

The vanguard of the tank thrust has been reported at Madgeburg, an hour-and-a-half's motor run from Berlin. In Brunswick fighting is going on in the centre of the city. 7th Army forces are at Nuremburg, 1st Army forces are in the Black Forest area, and glider landings are reported at Weimar. In the Ruhr pocket 43,000 prisoners have already been taken.

The British 2nd Army has crossed the river barrier before Bremen at several points and the outer defence line has been breached. German reports state that General Dempsey has launched a full-scale assault on the port.

Some observers say the Germans may pull back to a line running from Bremen to Emden

and try to hold it in the hope of preventing a sweep into the North German plain.

8ths rapid progress

The rapidity with which the 8th Army exploited its break-through over the Senio river has taken the Germans by surprise. Two towns on the Bologna side of the river have fallen and our forces also crossed the next river barrier, the Sanderno.

New Zealanders took a leading part in opening the operations. BBC observer, Michael Reynolds, says the Kiwis advanced six miles against formidable opposition.

It is now revealed that special training was undergone by NZ engineers for the crossing of the Senio and other water obstacles. For several weeks, selected sections trained with special modern craft at the mouth of the river Tiber, hundreds of miles from the 8th Army front, and the quick transfer of NZ columns across the Senio was a big factor in cracking the enemy's strong defensive line.

N.Z. NEWS

Miss Shirley Peake, of Stratford, won first prize in the latest National Art Union, in which over a million half-crown tickets were sold.

N.Z. wage rates have been raised 2½d. an hour. Skilled labourers now get 3/0½., semi-skilled 2/8½., and unskilled 2/7½ an hour.

Negotiations are proceeding in London for a N.Z. loan of £24,000,000 at three-and-half per cent.

There has been an eruption in the Tongariro lake, in the centre of which an island has formed. Steam rose to a great height and boulders and debris were tossed thousands of feet into the air.

The farming season has been the best in years, enabling 13,000 extra tons of beef to be shipped to Britain. Crop yields have been 5 bushels better than in previous years.

OBITUARY

Franklin D. Roosevelt
President U.S.A.

Lectures

(AGRICULTURE)

FRIDAY: 2.30 "Grassland in India."--W.O. I. Walford.

SATURDAY: Textiles,
Cottons. W.O. II Marlow.

RACING

SEA SEASON ENDS AND PUNTERS

Point to Home Possibilities

(By our Racing Writer)

The racing season has ended, and the final meeting was the most successful of the series conducted by the Tongariro Racing Club.



INEBRIATION

even his jockey prayed that he would straighten up

A GAIN, crowds flocked to the course at an early hour (straight after *munga* time) and the wagering facilities were unable to cope with the support accorded the racing contestants, with the result that the totalisator was only able to operate on four of the five races, but despite this the record amount of £171 was handled. The double tote paid 30 to 1.

Although much of the work in connection with these ship-board race meetings was ably accomplished by a strong committee and aband of enthusiastic stewards, their success could be chiefly attributed to the organising and administrating ability of Secretary Rex Jones.

The chief event on the final day was the "Grand National Steeplechase," which was won by Mr. Gain (by Canteen, out of Lemonade), who has been a very consistent winner. Despite this, though probably on account of the unknown quality of his dam, his success was at odds of 9 to 1, indica-

ting that he was strongly out of favour with the troops. Night Parade (by Soldata, out of Sorts) was not in good 'chasing mood, but he came very fast to finish second. Jumping Jehosaphat failed to live up to his reputation. Prickly Heat perspired freely and Irritation annoyed his supporters.

Springtime showed his freshness by winning the hack race. Gross Figure failed to show winning form, Gay Blonde was off colour, and Resolution (by Mourning, out of Purple Death) had not fully recovered from his last bout.

Rude Awakening was out early and led all the way to win the opening event. That's All, who carried top weight, was a slow beginner, and a sustained run in the middle stages found him out of breath when challenged by the China-bred Happy Thought (by Ration Store,

JUMPING JEHOSEPHAT
who caught many who bit

FLAT FEET

the filly that fooled the stewards

out of Rice), who finished second under his lady rider, a well known Canterbury horse-woman. Happy Night raced as if he had had one. Italian Mission went the wrong way, and Inebriation got lost in a fog.

The 5 to 1 fancy, Comin' Aft, cleared the decks of all challenges in the "Westport Cup." with Hard Shot second in a very close finish. Breakaway, as was expected, established an early lead, and was unlucky in that his jockey got off for a rest with only a furlong to go. Battledress, whose gentleman rider, Hon Thistlewaite, proved to be an artist, had a close tussle with Neck and Neck (by Locker, out of Moonlight) early but both faded out as a result of considerable overwork. Flat Feet failed to handle the going.

The Bottler showed himself a real corker in winning the open sprint. Lightning struck too late and could only dead-heat with Are Sober (by Mac's fall, out of Stairs), who was suffering from soreness. The judge could find no place for Farmer's Boy (by Two Pips, out of The Army), Slippery Sam was non-suited when the crowd called, and Imitation (by Chai, out of Galley) gave such a weak display that his retirement would never be missed.