

"SMITHY" HAS 'GONE INTO SMOKE'

The Metrop. Minus Spring Frocks

WAIKARE IN THE WET

By BETTY RIDDELL

WET grass, wet feet, wet book-makers' bags, wet glasses, wet tickets all wet.

Then out of the murk in a blaze of glory flashed the sun and Waikare together and the Metropolitan was over for another year.

Then the wind rose and whined round the corners of the stands, and the punters' noses turned blue, and wet paper bags and the half pieces of meat pie thrown down by urgent lunchers shifted in the gutter.

A Spring Flop

One woman said to the other woman: "Isn't it terrible. I just came out in anything I could find."

You knew they had waited until the last moment of departure before making up their minds to leave their spring suits in the cupboard and put on the winter coat and hat.

For most of them, the glory of the Metropolitan was laid away with organdie and chiffon in a bottom drawer.

And when the race was over, the arguments started. "Wai-care wins" was answered by, "It's not Why-care, it's 'Why-carry.'" "K-a-r-e is care" "It's Carry Maori, see?"

Unconvinced

But he wouldn't see. He said he had lost ten bob on Topical, and he'd pronounce it Care until he died. The sun stayed out, but it wasn't warm.

The long sad faces of the horses looked over their stalls, and the strap-pers shivered and chewed straws.

Waikare's big moment was over, and a punter supplied the last word as he tore up a ticket on Oro:—"Well, good on the big bay 'orse."

DID NOT TRAIN

McGRATH FOLLOWED DR.'s ADVICE ABROAD

MELBOURNE, Monday.—One of the most popular passengers on board the Mooltan, which arrived to-day, was Vivian McGrath.

He is still suffering from boils, but hopes to be fit by the end of the month, in time for the start of the international season.

Mr. Harley Malcolm, former secretary of the L.T.A.A., said that McGrath did not train abroad, because he was advised by doctors not to do so.

"People forget the lad is only 18," added Mr. Malcolm.

DEATH OF TRAM SMASH VICTIM

Mark Rosenberg, 65, of Cremorne Road, Cremorne, who was injured when two trams collided at the corner of Elizabeth Street and St. James Road, City, on Saturday, died yesterday in Sydney Hospital.



"SMITHY"

TOWN WITH NO PARSON OR POLICE

LAUNCESTON, Sunday. —

There has been discovered to the world a township in Tasmania, which is surely the strangest in Australia.

It has no hotel, there is no church, no weddings have been held there, there is no policeman, there is no clergyman, and the town is under the control of a vigilance committee.

To all intents and purposes it might be one of those raw Kentucky settlements made so real by American novelists. The township is that of Adamsfield, less than 70 miles as the crow flies from Hobart, and only 24 miles from the railhead at Fitzgerald.

From the railhead, however, the only means of communication is by horse.

Some of the residents have not "been out end"—that is, made the journey out to civilisation—for years, and it is possible for the stray visitor who finds his way in to guess the years in which the womenfolk last did so, by the fashions they are following.

OCCASIONAL COP

The vigilance committee is a real power in the district, and has come into being because of the rare visits of a policeman on a tour of inspection.

It is said to be a hard-working community at Adamsfield, and the vigilance committee finds in the main that public opinion is the most effective weapon it wields.

Recently a fine area of agricultural land was taken up 15 miles "in" from Adamsfield, and every item of supplies had to be taken in on men's shoulders.

FELL INTO FIRE

OLD MAN IN CRITICAL CONDITION

MELBOURNE, Monday.—G. J. Mackenzie, an elderly man, was left by his daughter-in-law seated in his dining-room with his back to the fire.

CUTTING IT FINE FOR £10,000

Air Race Line-up On October 14

UNTIL he is ready to hop off again for a record dash to England, Sir Charles Kingsford Smith will remain in "smoke."

His address at the moment is "somewhere in Sydney." If all goes well he will re-appear at Mascot at 6 a.m. on Wednesday for his fresh take-off to England.

While the cowling of the Lady Southern Cross is being made and fitted to the plane, "Smithy" will rest.

PINCHED FACE

A pinched face when he arrived back from Cloncurry yesterday showed that he needed it.

The anxiety brought on by the uncertainty of his position in the air race has naturally been a strain.

Time is gradually gaining the upper hand on "Smithy."

Both himself and his machine will have to be fully extended to keep abreast with things.

FLAT OUT

Granting that he leaves on Wednesday morning as planned, the Australian flying ace practically will be

The Centenary air race starts on October 20, and, commencing to-morrow, "The Telegraph" will publish daily personal details of the competitors and descriptions of their planes.

forced to fly his machine flat out to be ready in London on October 14, the day on which all Centenary air machines must be handed over for inspection.

It is now questionable whether time will permit the Lockheed expert in London to take down the 550 h.p. engine, as originally planned.

"Smithy" may have to be satisfied with an ordinary tuning up job.

Which means that the super-charged engine will not be thoroughly overhauled again until it arrives back in Melbourne.

By then it will have covered 24,000 miles.

NEW RECORD

The Lady Southern Cross, which carries at 200 odd miles an hour (the "odd," in this case, is known only to "Smithy" and Captain Taylor), should easily break the new Melrose record of 8 days 9 hours from Darwin to London.

In any case "Smithy" almost will be compelled to break it, if he is to have his machine ready in London in time for the race.

The new cowling (of iron) will be finished by daybreak this morning. It will be assembled to the plane this afternoon.