

# THE WORLD OF SPORT

BANK HOLIDAY—THE WELSHER—ASCOT—NON-STARTERS.

THERE are three meetings only to be held on Bank Holiday under Jockey Club rules. They are Hurst Park, Redcar, and Dunstall Park. Arrangements are being made at Hurst Park for the reception of a record crowd, and if the weather be propitious Mr. Joe Davis can be sure of a bumper, as the "tubes" and electric trams are telling feeders of this meeting. The shilling gate is a big draw at holiday times, and those Londoners who believe in cheap pleasure will gladly patronise in their thousands a race-meeting at the price. I hope every effort will be made to stop welshing and taking place on the course, and it should be a very easy matter to detect the wrong 'uns before they have robbed the public of their money. In these days of playing up to the gallery it is imperative on clerks of courses to see that fair play is meted out to the poorer classes in this matter. The ring-dwellers can be left to look after themselves, but the outsiders have little or no redress in the case of welshing, unless it be a resort to the thick stick

or the duckpond. A favourite form of welshing, and one that prevails at little hunt meetings, is to alter the name of the horse backed by customers. When an innocent punter goes up to draw his alleged winnings he is met with bold assertions that he backed something else, and is often accused by the bookie into the bargain of trying to obtain money by false pretences. This could be easily got over by insisting on the bookie writing every transaction on the backer's card. It is the only wrinkle occurring to me right off that would stop this sort of welshing.

two-year-old events and the weight-for-age races, such as the Gold Cup and the Gold Vase, will yield well. It may not be generally known that one of the biggest bookmakers in the ring at the present time first began business at an Ascot meeting not very many years back. A friend started him in Tattersall's Ring with £2 in cash, and a spicy second-hand suit of ducks. Luck soon came his way, as one unknown punter wanted £500 to £100 about a certain animal, and the new bookie took half the bet, which a brother professed as being too much in one hand. The horse was beaten, and the "new" bookie has never looked back from that day to this.



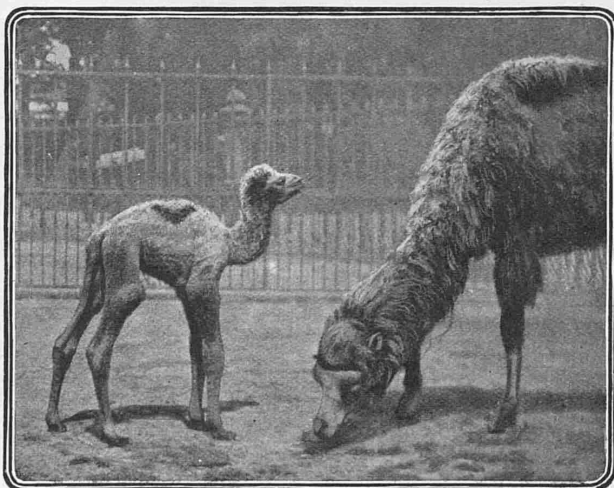
A YOUNG RHINOCEROS: AN UNGAINLY ORPHAN.

BABY BEASTS  
IN AFRICA,  
AMERICA,  
AND FRANCE.



A WEEK-OLD MOOSE, BORN IN CAPTIVITY.

I noticed the other day that Lord Rosebery had Rocketter sent to Newmarket, but the horse was not started, and the self-same thing happened to Polar Star, the property of Colonel Hall Walker. On behalf of the public, I respectfully protest against this sort of thing. How do we know that many little punters did not pay the big railway fare to go to the course and back one or other of the good things named? Another little matter in the same connection is one that requires serious consideration. Several bookmakers, in the cheap rings especially, open double-event books, and the public are offered tempting odds to back the playful double—that is, to pick out the winners of two races named on the card. The innocent backers naturally fancy, because the horses are on the spot and are doing work, that they will run as a matter of course, and it is more than an education to watch the faces of the poor backers when they find that their presumed certainties are not on the field. Many racing critics contend that these are minor matters that do not concern big owners, but I think differently. I firmly believe that if proper representations were made to the big patrons of the Turf they would at least give the public a run for their money. The Stewards of the Jockey Club have recently made a very big bid for the cheap-ring public at Newmarket, and no stone should be left unturned to give them value for money. In little matters the two-and-sixpenny people are the best critics, and it is a safe rule to admit, generally speaking, that the reforms for which they agitate are at least worth considering; and if stars are billed to appear, they should appear on the racecourse as they do on the theatre boards. CAPTAIN COE.



A FOUR-DAYS-OLD CAMEL.

The meeting on the Royal Heath opens on June 18, and it is predicted that the function this year will be one of the best experienced for many seasons. There will be a large party at Windsor Castle, and all the best houses in the near neighbourhood of the Heath have been taken for the week. Thanks to the introduction of the motor-car, it is no longer necessary to stay the night at Ascot, and now we find parties coming fifty miles each morning without the least inconvenience. Mr. Clement has been working hard all the winter to get the race-track into good condition, and the course will be found to be capital going. It is well covered with herbage just now, and looks as green in places as a water-meadow. The racing will, if anything, be above the average, and the Ascot Stakes, Royal Hunt Cup, and Wokingham Stakes will be big plums in the handicap line, while the

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Captain Coe's "Monday Tips" will be found on our "City Notes" page.