

# PACIFIC COAST JOCKEY CLUB MEETING.

## Inauguration of a New Era in Racing



The opening of the Pacific Coast Jockey Club meeting on Thanksgiving day at the new Ingleside track will inaugurate a new era in horseracing on this side of the continent.

For the first time in the history of the turf the horsemen, breeders and nearly all the representative men of the East who are associated either for pastime, pleasure or business with horses, have come to San Francisco. Many of them have come with magnificent strings of horses ready and anxious to cope, stable to stable, irrespective of East or West, in this, the only climate where winter racing is not a downright cruelty.

Edward Corrigan has brought thirty of his best, McNaughton & Muir five, J. Breneck five, A. G. Blakely three, D. A.

possible to get these men and their horses to come out here as it would have been to reach the moon. They liked the climate, and many of them wintered their horses in California, but as to racing them—never.

Careful business men—lovers of honest and true racing—depreciated this state of affairs, which relegated them to the background and compelled them year after year to the monotony of racing among themselves. No new blood was infused into the sport, and gradually it tapered off, becoming a thing almost only in memory. There were strong reasons for this, and it became necessary to study them out that they might be overcome. This is what a small coterie of gentlemen sports have done, with results that surpass the expectations of the most sanguine.

In the first place the old Bay District Track, run in the interest of speculators, gamblers and private individuals, became



HENRY J. CROCKER, DIRECTOR AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE PACIFIC COAST JOCKEY CLUB.  
*[From a photograph.]*

Honig twelve, Dr. Buckley six, Frank Phillips eight, G. B. Morris ten, George E. Smith nine, G. P. Sanders five, Louis Ezell eighteen, J. G. Brown & Co. eleven and Barney Schreiber thirty.

These men, outside of Phil Dwyer and Pierre Lorillard, who are both expected here within a short while, own the largest stables in the East, and it may be safely said that they have brought the greatest horses of the United States. The only ones of positive merit that were left to winter in the snow are Henry of Navarre, Clifford and Rey del Carrero.

Two of the best horses now here hold world's records—Libertine and Wernberg. Ten years ago it would have been as im-

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ADOLPH B. SPRECKELS, PRESIDENT OF THE PACIFIC COAST JOCKEY CLUB.  
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have their horses travel 2000 or 3000 miles to be badly stabled, and to run for purses that barely paid for their transportation and feed. In this they spoke correctly, as no track in the United States offered such poor accommodations for years as did the Bay District, and even after the Blood-horse Association spent thousands of dollars renovating the old stables they were hardly to compare with the third-class tracks of the East. As to the purses they barely tempted the local horse-owners.

ocean beach and along the latter to the Ocean House road. This is a great drive although the longer of the two. The shorter one is through the park to the turn just east of Flagstaff Valley. This leads to the Almshouse road. The prettiest part of the drive begins at the Almshouse when the tortuous road winds its way through groves of eucalyptus, cypress and fir trees, now and then passing fragrant nurseries.

A suitable location having been secured,

large as those hung up last season in the East and much larger than those being competed for there this winter. The plans of the proposed stables were submitted, and the assurance of such men as Corrigan and Spreckels that all facilities and accommodations would be given settled the Eastern men. They have nearly all come here, as already stated; they have seen and are satisfied; now it remains to be seen whether they will conquer. They are to be pitted against many and game horses belonging to Californian stables, among which may be mentioned Walter Hobart's, W. O. B. Macdonough's, Wm. Murry's, E. J. Baldwin's and A. B. Spreckels'. The Eastern contingent, therefore, will not have a walkover, but this is so much the better, as it is bound to make matters more interesting.

The racing is to be all high class. It could not be otherwise with the people who are interested in the venture and the class of sporting gentlemen they have brought to this coast. The public, too, will be given such treatment and comfort that they will be attracted and pleased beyond anything they have yet seen on this coast.

And this has been done in a remarkably short space of time, and on Thanksgiving day the crowds that will witness the great races between the best horses in the United States, from comfortable seats and elegant surroundings, will feel that the Pacific Coast Jockey Club and the gentlemen who placed it on foot have elevated the sport to the standing it justly deserves.

The breeders of horses in this state are doing their utmost to assist the Jockey Club to well-deserved success. They recognize that it is through its instrumen-

### THE GRAND STAND.

Magnificent Accommodations From Which the Public May View the Races.

The grand stand is a beautiful structure of steel, glass and wood. It is airy and bright, well fitted with comfortable seating accommodation for 5000 people. The aisles are wide and the incline not precipitous enough for uncomfortable walking, but still enough for an easy view over the heads of the people seated in the row in front.

It is reached through a covered promenade leading from the terminus of the electric car on one side and another promenade from the terminus of the steam cars. The spectators see nothing of the track until they have ascended about twenty steps of a wide stairway on either side of the main entrance leading to the stand. Then the whole course, with the twenty-two big stables on the other side of the backstretch, and the grand framework formed by the towering hills a mile or two away, bursts upon the spectator as a beautiful panorama. To the left a perfect view can be had from each and every seat of the stretch. To the right the view takes in

of protection but of having every comfort that they might desire. The dressing-room of the ladies is located away on the west end of the stand. It has been fitted up in the most luxurious style by Joseph Fredericks & Co. of this City. The ladies have also a private dining-room near their dressing-room. In this they may refresh themselves away from the male contingent. However, another dining-room close by is intended for ladies and their escorts. The two places are in charge of B. A. Johnson, a well-known caterer from Sacramento.

Immediately beneath the grand stand, but accessible from above, is the liquid-refreshment cafe, under the supervision of John F. Farley, whose knowledge of that line of business is unequalled in this country.

There are a score of other conveniences in the way of dainties calculated to tempt the visitors at the track, and all these people have been informed that they may be better recognized as they ply their respective callings. This insures better treatment for the attending people, as a derelict employe can be picked out more easily if it is desired to report him to his superiors.

The betting ring is immediately under the grand stand, but it extends so far to the rear that the shouts of the bookies and touts—the yelling and general bustle incidental to that place—cannot be heard from above. It is a vast place, in which twenty old books could easily be accommodated. It will be in this place that Joe Ullman, the good-natured and veteran bookmaker,



W. S. LEAKE, SECRETARY OF THE PACIFIC COAST JOCKEY CLUB  
*[From a photograph.]*

not only every foot of the first turn, but looking beyond may be seen with Pacific Ocean. It is an inspiring sight, especially late in the afternoon, about the time when the last race is run, to look off in the distance and watch the glorious sunset.

The infield is a perfect basin, which might be turned into a lake at any time, like the south end of Washington Park, Chicago. At this time, however, it is growing a young coating of green grass. As time progresses this field will be turned into a magnificent and gigantic garden.

The Jockey Club intends to make the grand stand so agreeable in every respect to the ladies that they will attend the races and feel secure in every way, not only

will make his bow to the San Francisco public.

Joe Ullman was first introduced into racing circles many years ago by Edward Corrigan, and he is regarded as the most honest man in his line of business.

The credit of building the elegant grand stand and the stables on the other side of the track is due to Campbell Bros.

### TWO PERFECT TRACKS.

The Magnificent Drainage System of Tiles and Pipes Beneath the Course.

To understand and appreciate the mag-



1—Tod Sloan, One of the Top-Notchers of the Lightweight Brigade. 2—Cash Sloan, a Veteran "Knight of the Pigskin." Who Can Ride With the Best of Them. 3—Harry Griffin, Premier Lightweight Jockey of America. 4—H. Hinrichs, the "St. Louis Garrison," Crack Lightweight Jockey.

A. B. Spreckels, Henry J. Crocker and a few other Californians had begun to acquire stables composed of the best stock this side of the Rockies. They chafed under the necessity of simply gazing upon their pretty forms and never seeing them in the heat of competition. They wanted a change, and when that grand old horseman from the East, Edward Corrigan, came to this coast on a visit two years ago, this coterie formulated a plan by which the East and West would come together in amicable and satisfactory contests on a Californian track.

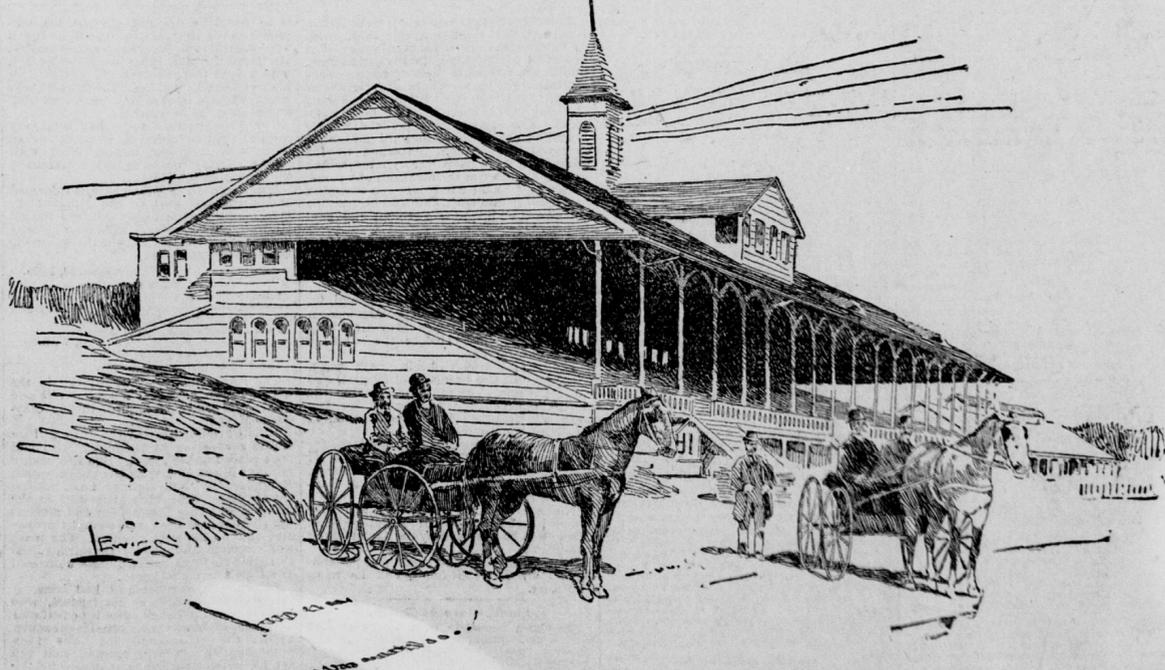
The old Bay District Track was fast going out of existence. In fact the residents in the neighborhood had been clamoring for years to have the City cut streets through it. Besides, the lease of the property would be up this coming spring. That would leave San Francisco entirely destitute of a racing course.

In view of these facts it was decided to organize and incorporate the Pacific Coast Jockey Club and then seek a good locality where a modern as well as a model race-course might be built. This was no easy matter, although there was no end of money and energy behind the enterprise as it was necessary to not only get a vast tract of land, but also to get one accessible to the people of the City. As it happened, the only suitable land available were in the localities that were not tapped by the streetcar service. But then all the difficulties were wiped out and today San Francisco has a racecourse as fine as any in the United States and in many respects much finer.

Mr. Spreckels and his associates picked out 150 acres of land at Ingleside, not more than four miles from the new City Hall and a rifle shot from the Pacific Ocean. It is snugly laid between high and thickly wooded hills at the beginning of what is often spoken of as the Mission warm belt. In order to level the track it was found necessary to build up the first turn even as far as the quarter pole, giving it the deceptive appearance of being on a high grade.

The promoters started their men at work last September, and at a cost of over \$300,000 they have given to the public as picturesque and model track, grand stand and stables as can be seen anywhere. They have secured the co-operation of the streetcar companies as well as the steamcar line, and passengers will be landed at the gates of the course.

There are at least two splendid roads leading to the place, one which calls for a drive through Golden Gate Park to the



VIEW OF THE GRAND STAND LOOKING EAST.  
*[Sketched by a "Call" artist.]*



JAMES A. MURPHY, Associate Judge. JOSEPH F. ULLMAN, CAPTAIN J. H. REES, Presiding Judge. A. M. ALLEN, Superintendent.