

EASTER YACHTING.

"Royal's" Cruise to Black Point.

Description of the Racing.

With the passing of Easter, the official yachting season may be said to have finished.

The Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron wound up its programme with the customary race to Black Point. Those who took part unanimously hold that the fixture proved the most successful of the many holiday outings at that rendezvous. For the prize offered for sailing yachts, 11 faced the starter at 7 a.m. on Good Friday—Messrs. Angove, Crompton, and Martin's Stormy Petrel, on scratch; Mr. J. M. Irwin's Alexa, 10m.; Mr. R. Fisher's Reverie (Mr. H. Thompson in charge), 11; Mr. W. Birnie's Wylo (Mr. Roy Stephens at the tiller), 15; Vice-commodore T. M. Hardy's Norallie, 15; Mr. W. T. Harris's Boongalla, 30; Mr. R. L. Jack's Quei, 45; Mr. H. P. H. Brittain's Alawoona, 55; Dr. J. Stanley Vercoe's Solace, 55; Mr. Frank Hazelgrove's Manara, 55; Mr. Brewster's Maie, 60. At gunfire the fleet moved off in fairly close order, with Wylo slightly in the lead.

The Finish.

The wind was very light from the north-east, and the sea smooth. Weather conditions were tricky all day. The Wylo seemed to catch all the airs that were going, and steadily drew further ahead. Norallie then got a start, and opened a big gap between herself and the rest of the fleet, some of which lay becalmed for a couple of hours. This apparently exhausted the patience of the "auxiliaries," and the first to break down under the strain was the Solace, whose owner disqualified himself by resorting to his engine. His example was followed by Alawoona, then Alexa, and finally Stormy Petrel. Late in the afternoon Boongalla started to draw up on the Norallie. She brought the breeze to within a quarter of a mile of her opponent, and then faded from the picture. Reverie's turn came, and she overtook Norallie about 200 yards from the line, and then the wind petered out. Boongalla came next, followed at a long interval by Quei, and still later, Maie. First place went to Wylo, splendidly handled throughout. Norallie saved her time on Reverie by 1m. 55s., and Reverie cut Boongalla out of the third prize by 3m. 57s. The finishing and corrected times for the first four to complete the course were as under:—Wylo, 7.5.40, corrected to 6.50.40; Reverie, 8.14.0, corrected to 8.3.0; Norallie, 8.7.5, corrected to 8.2.5; Boongalla, 8.36.57, corrected to 8.6.57.

RACE AROUND THE BAY.

On Saturday a race was arranged over a triangular course in the bay. A conference of helmsmen was held on board Norallie, and the handicaps based on weather conditions, were mutually agreed upon as follows:—Wylo, scr.; Reverie, 5m.; Alexa, 7; Norallie, 7; Boongalla, 10; Quei, 15; Maie, 20; Solace, 25; Alawoona, 25. The wind was as light and variable as on the previous day. A pretty start was ef-

The wind was as light and variable as on the previous day. A pretty start was effected by Mr. T. H. Webb from Beth. For a while Norallie led, but was passed on the close haul to the outer mark by Wylo, and then Reverie. Alexa then ranged alongside, as did Boongalla, and these three formed a second contingent that kept together for some time. Reverie and Wylo forged steadily ahead, the former establishing a handy lead, and looking as though the race were hers. Reverie, well handled, was now a long way in front, Wylo second, Alexa out on her own, with Norallie and Boongalla sailing side by side. The others had tired of chasing catspaws. Wylo, getting the better of what breeze there was, overtook and passed Reverie. A great race home resulted in Reverie again taking the lead right on the post. Alexa finished well ahead of Norallie, which acted as whipper-in. The finishing and corrected times were:—Boongalla, 4.54.15, 4.44.15; Reverie, 4.50.20, 4.45.20; Wylo, 4.50.30, 4.50.30; Alexa, 5.10.8, 5.3.8; Norallie, 5.12.15, 5.5.15.

MOTOR BOATS COMPETE.

The committee this year put on a race for cruising motor boats. Only four were handicapped—Mr. T. H. Webb's Beth, scr.; Mr. K. Raphael's Clare, 6m. 7s.; Messrs. Brittain and Martin's Acacia, 17; and Mr. G. Hood's Phyllis Hood, 23.40. The race resolved itself into a procession, with Beth in the lead, followed at a very short interval by Clare. Phyllis Hood, however, travelling better than was expected, more than saved her time. The finishing and corrected times were:—Beth, 11.13.30, 11.13.30; Clare, 11.14.3, 11.7.58; Phyllis Hood, 11.25.15, 11.1.25; Acacia, 12.27.14, 12.10.14.

PORT VINCENT VISITED.

For Sunday a procession was arranged to Port Vincent. The boats started at intervals, with the idea of arriving in close order. The plan worked well, and the result made a pretty marine picture, 10 boats sailing in together, with Mr. Johnston's Chum working in and among the fleet.

At the impromptu dance and social which closed the day's proceedings, the vice-commodore announced that two local residents had been so much impressed by the excellent showing made this year that they had promised trophies for races next Easter; one for a race from Black Point to Port Vincent, the other for a race in the bay. Their kindness was much appreciated, and it was hoped that a still larger muster of yachts would be the result. At the instance of the vice-commodore a vote of thanks was accorded Mrs. McPharlin and Mr. Malcolm Milne, to whose efforts the success of the evening were very largely due.

On Monday the return to the moorings was made in light weather conditions. A smooth sea made the crossing enjoyable. It was agreed on all hands that with a little organization the annual pilgrimage to Black Point and Port Vincent could be made an important fixture, with the assistance of the boat owners. The example set by Mr. E. A. Johnstone (Chum) and Mr. Frank Perry (Isia) might well be followed by others. The scene this year, when 22 boats were anchored at Koolywartie, would convince any one that there is an awakened interest in yachting.