

Yachting

By Halmaman.

Royal's Season Opened.

As usual, thanks to capable organization, the opening day ceremony of the Royal S.A. Yacht Squadron on the Port River last Saturday afternoon, was most successful. The only incident which in any way mitigated against such a result was an unfortunate collision at the saluting base between a cargo steamer and the *Paringa*, which was crowded with spectators, including a large number of ladies. Fortunately, the accident was not attended by injury to anybody, and the damage done was comparatively slight. The composition of every one aboard the *Paringa* was a most pleasing feature of the occasion. The day was ideal for the display, and a large number of yachts and motor launches participated, including several from the Port Adelaide Sailing Club. The customary saluting operations were carried out off the Osborne shipbuilding yards; afternoon tea was provided on the steamer; and a string band rendered delightful music. Those on board were permitted an excellent view of the manoeuvres of the yachts, which were performed without a hitch of any description. The Commodore of the Squadron (Mr. A. G. Rymill) directed operations and took the salute from his flagship, the well-known *Avocet*. In participating in the event, boats from the Port Adelaide Sailing Club repaid a graceful compliment shown them a few weeks previously on their opening day. The secretary of the squadron (Mr. C. S. Inkster) and other officials may be congratulated upon their splendid arrangements.

The following were the Royal Squadron's vessels, and owner who took part in the display:—Yachts.—*Noville* (Vice-Commodore T. M. Hardy), *Stormy Petrel* (Mr. N. K. Birks),

Alexa (Messrs. T. C. Angove, T. Crompton, and R. H. Martin), *Beverie* (Mr. R. Fisher), *Miranda* (Mr. F. Haselgrove), *Katie* (Messrs. L. G. Johnston and R. Quin), *Nanleya* (Mr. L. W. Walter), *Weeroopa* (Mr. J. E. Osborne), *Alawoona* (Mr. H. P. H. Brittain), *Islay* (Mr. G. Tamsie), *Wylo* (Mr. W. Burnie), *Seahawk* (Mr. F. N. Swan), *Una* (Mr. E. Bradwell), *Minerva* (Mr. J. C. Burford), *Tangari* (Mr. W. T. Harris), *Weetena* (Mr. F. H. Coles), *Fife* (Mr. L. T. Bennett), *Kilkie* (Mr. H. F. V. Sanderson), *St. George II.* (Mr. W. Powell), *Alma* (Messrs. C. A. Walton and M. F. Lewis), *Kiandra* (Mr. C. Ring), *Quel* (Mr. R. L. Jack). Motor Launches.—*Avocet* (Commodore A. G. Rymill and Mr. E. S. Rymill), *Helen* (Rear-Commodore E. A. Johnstone), *Wongalere* (Mr. L. W. Bakewell), *Daralie* (Mr. A. Waterhouse), *Acacia* (Mr. A. J. Jackman), *The Tub* (Mr. E. Tolley), *Prowler* (Mr. H. Gruse), *Ariadne* (Mr. W. H. Porter), *Minerva* (Mr. J. L. Stephens), *St. Albans* (Mr. H. W. Waterhouse), *Kunwar* (Mr. E. P. Knofel), *Ada* (Mr. R. O. Evans), *Stroller* (Mr. A. K. Nimmo), *Ripple* (Mr. E. H. McMichael), *Ada* (Mr. W. Fisher), *Quondong* (Mr. B. A. Moulden), *Stranger* (Mr. O. Pedler), *Erica* (Mr. E. M. Milne), *Aurora* (Mr. R. Sewell), *Britannia* (Mr. T. Boyce), *Malcolm* (Messrs. J. Londrigan and J. McKenzie), *Tringa* (Mr. J. H. Sawtell), *The Scamp* (Mr. J. L. Lewis), *Doris* (Mr. A. James), *Kona* (Mr. J. Thompson), *Tango* (Mr. F. A. Wise), *Sea Ray* (Mr. C. Krieger), *Roumar* (Mr. W. Playfair).

Grange Punt Club.

The above club, which was formed last year, is making rapid progress. There are eight boats on the register at present, and it is expected that there will be at least one more before the end of this season. The boats are:—*Vision*

that there will be at least one more before the end of this season. The boats are:—*Vision* (O'Grady and Giffen), *Kismet* (Haden Bros.), *Rip* (J. Stapleton), *Naomi* (P. Smith), *Majestic* (Junge Bros.), *John Nimmo* (W. Rymill), *Wiggle* (O. Gray), and *Wendell* (S. Harrison). Last season the club was at a great disadvantage in not having a shed in which to keep the boats, but that is now remedied, as a shed capable of holding all the boats has been erected. A race was held on November 11, the starters being:—*Ripple* (8 mins.), *Naomi* (7), *Majestic* (4), *John Nimmo* (3½), *Kismet* (2½), and *Vision* (scr.). The breeze was very light, but an interesting race resulted in *Vision*, the scratch boat winning from *Kismet* by 4 minutes. A race will be held every week-end, and the committee are hopeful of a most successful season.

Henley and Grange Sailing Club.

The Lawton Handicap was sailed last Saturday in a moderate southerly breeze. Mr. H. N. Lawton, Vice-President of the Club, donated the prizes for the race. He has come to the assistance of the club in many ways during the past few years. The entrants and handicaps were:—*Radiant* and *Alva*, scr.; *Steima*, 1m.; *XXX*, 3; *Tringa*, 3; *St. Kilda*, 5; *S.A.*, 6; and *Warrener*, 18. The *Kmit* boat, *Warrener*, got away to time and the crew had a little excitement when their swimmer halyard jammed, and a man had to go aloft to free it. The other boats also left promptly to time. At the end of the first round the times were:—*Warrener*, 4.12.20; *S.A.*, 4.14.0; *Tringa*, 4.16.10; *Radiant*, 4.18.10; *St. Kilda*, 4.22.30; *Alva*, 4.21.50; *Steima*, 4.22.10; and *XXX*, 4.30.45.

On rounding the westerly mark the second time, *Radiant* had sailed into first place, followed by *S.A.*, with *Tringa* 4th behind. *Alva* was fourth. She had done better since taking down her topsail. *St. Kilda* was about 20a. ahead of *Steima*. *Warrener* was running last as *XXX* had pulled out. *Radiant* crossed the finishing line first, and was followed 4m. 4s. later by *S.A.* *Tringa* made a strong attempt to catch her but fell short by 2-6s. With another five yards to go and *S.A.* would have had to be content with third place. *Alva* came fourth. *St. Kilda* was beaten on the post by *Steima* with 1-1a. to spare. *Warrener* followed later. Had *S.A.* carried a spinnaker, *Radiant* would have a job to beat her, but it was accidentally left ashore and its absence was discovered too late.

The officer of the day was Mr. W. G. Excell, with Pilot Hughes Jodge; D. F. P. Dinan, handicapper; and Mr. H. Scrymgeour, starter.

Sweepstake Race.

A sweepstake race has been arranged by boat owners in the Henley and Grange Club for next Saturday, as there is no official contest. The probable starters and handicaps are:—*Radiant*, scr.; *Alva*, 1m.; *Steima*, 3; *Tringa*, 4; *S.A.*, 5; *Warrener*, 25; and *XXX*, 10.

Port Adelaide Sailing Club.

The Port Adelaide Sailing Club will hold its next race on the Port River on November 25, and it will be open for 14-footers. The trophy is known as the Williams Cup, and the conditions are that points will be allotted to the three boats doing the course in the fastest time. The fastest boat to receive four points, next two points, and third one point. The owner receiving the most points in three consecutive racing seasons will receive the cup. Other prizes will be attached to cup for placed boats. The three inter-club representatives will no doubt be chosen after this race, as the first contest will be held at the Port River on Saturday, December 16. The likely starters are *St. George*, *St. George II.*, *St. Andrew*, *Erica*, *Alarm*, *Gwen*, *Celtic*, and *Winnininnie*.

Royals Postpone Races.

The Royal S.A. Yacht Squadron had arranged two races on the Port River on Saturday afternoon. The races were for the rating and length classes. In view of the fact that three rowing races are to take place on the river that afternoon, and that the yachting might interfere with the competitors, the "Royals" have decided to postpone their races.

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New Engine for Tortoise.

The Rymill brothers have commissioned John L. Hacker, the famous American yacht designer, who drew the plans for the Tortoise, to send out a new big engine for the Tortoise for the race for the Australasian championship on February 24 next. It is hoped to get much more speed from the Tortoise than last February.

A Commodore's Adventures.

From the time Mr. A. G. Rymill (present Commodore of the Royal S.A. Yacht Squadron) was quite a boy he has been interested in boats. His first craft of any size was a half-deck 16-footer, which he built himself in 1886. In that tiny craft, which he named the Sorcerer, he went away for a cruise up the gulf. He was accompanied by Mr. Frank Wyatt, a master at St. Peter's College. Mr. Rymill's next possession was the Corolla, a 20-foot half-decker, in which he had a partner in Mr. Harry Loughton. They did a good deal of racing in her. In 1889, Mr. Rymill purchased the Nyroca from the late Mr. Josiah Bousling, of Salpa Station. He sailed her out of the mouth of the Murray, and spent many enjoyable years cruising in her, poking into practically every nook and cranny around the South Australian coast. With Mr. A. R. Cox, now in the Lands Titles Office, Mr. Rymill took a trip to Melbourne in her in 1892. The boat measured 23 ft. on the water-line. They took 13 days to get to Melbourne.



MR. A. G. RYMILL,
Commodore of the Royal S.A. Yacht Squadron.

Mr. E. G. Rymill went with them as far as Kingston, and landed there. They were 12 days getting back from Melbourne. The Nyroca is still afloat at Birkenhead. In 1900 Mr. Rymill built a boat which he named the Geisha, a one-rater, 32 ft. long. He shipped her to Auckland, New Zealand, but was hopelessly beaten in the races there. On that occasion he was accompanied by his brother, Mr. E. S. Rymill, and his cousin, Mr. Sydney Rymill. The Rymill brothers then went in for motor boats. They began by putting an engine into the Valeria, and also the Geisha, which they used as a duck-shooting boat on the lakes. The Geisha is still there. Their fancy then turned to fast hydroplanes, and they became the owners of a number of small fast boats. One was called the Bulldozer, and the other Bulldozer II. They possessed a speed of 20 and 24 miles an hour respectively, which was considered pretty fast in those days. In 1908 they had the Avocet built. She is the present flagship of the Royal Yacht Squadron, is 35 ft. long, and beautifully fitted for cruising. Subsequently they commissioned Mr. John L. Hacker, of America, to design a fast motor boat. The craft was built by Mr. Weir, of Birkenhead, and was named the Tortoise. In 1916 the Tortoise won the Griffiths Cup in Melbourne for the championship of Australia. The maximum speed was 43 miles an hour. The Tortoise was later turned into a duck-shooting boat on the lakes. She remained there until the end of last year, when she was again fitted out to race. She then won the Australasian championship again. That time on the Port River, from the New South Wales challenger, Greyhound.

