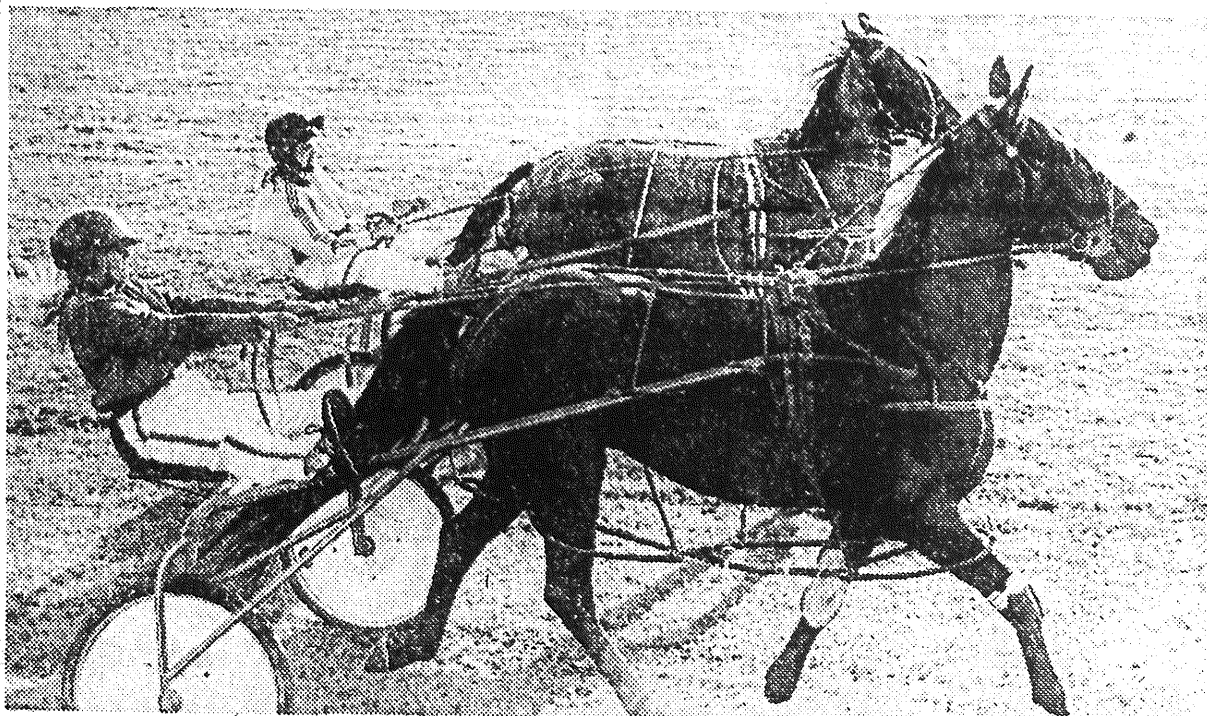


Cardiff's Ely Racecourse as it looked in the 'Thirties.

# Racing set to return to Cardiff



Two pacing rigs battling for position - a taste of things to come at the racecourse later this year.

**HORSE RACING** is coming back to Ely Racecourse in the summer — almost half a century after the last race finished.

But this time round the horses won't be under the saddle they will be speeding along pulling two-wheeled sulkies.

The one-day racing revival at Ely Racecourse, now Trelai Park, is being set up by the Cardiff Harness Racing Club who hope the event on July 4 will attract a crowd of thousands and give a boost to one of the more unusual equestrian sports.

Organis Liz Rees said while similar race meetings are held all over the country, none had yet been held in South Wales.

"It's a bit of a shot in the dark because nothing like this has ever been tried before but we are con-

By Jim Clarke

vinced the day will be a great success," she said.

At the moment Liz is busily raising the £3,000 in sponsorship money to back the races.

## Punters

Cash prizes will be given to the winners of all the heats and the winning driver on the day will pick up a £1,000 top prize.

Liz hopes the punters will be looked after as well and she is hoping to attract local bookmakers to the event.

"Harness racing fans have a reputation for being

big gamblers so we're hoping the bookies will turn up in numbers," she said.

As well as the regular harness racing fans Liz hopes a curious public will turn up to take a closer look at harness racing.

In harness racing the horses "pace" rather than gallop or trot pulling the lightweight sulky behind.

It is a specialised movement and horses have to be carefully trained.

"It's a fast, exciting and different sport and I think there will be a lot of interest," she said.

"There will be something for everyone to enjoy on the day — we want to make the meeting a really big event in Cardiff.