

A HORSE DEALER'S AFFAIRS.

At the Burton Bankruptcy Court on Wednesday afternoon, before the Deputy-Registrar (Mr. T. E. Auden), Harry Saddington, horse dealer, of Side Hollows Farm, Appleby Magna, came up for public examination. Debtor's statement revealed a deficiency of £591 16s. 3d. —Replying to the Official Receiver the debtor said he started business as a horse and cattle dealer thirteen years ago with a capital of £200 given to him by his father. He did very well at first, and lived in one of his father's houses, and paid no rent, whilst his father also paid the rates. The house he lived in was worth about £20 per annum. Replying to further questions he said he bought several acres of land from Mr. German and paid £2,500. In order to pay the money £1,500 was borrowed or mortgaged through Messrs. Fisher, Jesson and Wilkins, from a Mrs. Stapleford. There were also other mortgages on the property. Eight out of the nine of his creditors would be paid in full.—The Official Receiver: Why not the ninth. Who is he? Witness: I would rather not say unless I am compelled to.—The Official Receiver: Oh no, you are not bound to. Debtor: I can get £1,000 when I want it.—The Official Receiver: Why don't you then; don't you think it would be honest? Debtor: I shall, and pay all but the one within six months.—The Official Receiver: Do you consider you had reasonable prospects a month ago? Yes, I do.—The Official Receiver: I suppose Mr. — is rather sore about his money? Debtor: Had he acted straight he would have been all right.—The Official Receiver: But he did what is right. Debtor: Well why did not he pay his half share instead of dropping the whole on my toes? At the sale of his furniture recently held £500 worth of stock was sold for £900. Much was bought in by his brother, and he now had the use of it.—The Official Receiver: Did you find any money for the purchase?—I did not, sir.—He had not rendered any betting account, because he had done very little.—Did you not say at your first examination that you lost £3,000 or £4,000 on betting during the last five years?—That is not correct.—On the request of the Official Receiver, the Registrar thereupon ordered the debtor to make out a statement of his betting transactions for the past twelve months. He admitted having borrowed from money-lenders, and at present he owed one such firm money. He did not keep any books and could give no idea of his annual turnover. His income had been £400 or £500 a year. It only lately occurred to him that he could not pay 20s. in the £. At the time the receiving order was made he thought he owed his father £1,400, and his sister £300, but both had declined to enter any claim. He lost four horses, and two of these were together worth £217. The examination was adjourned until November 11.

Tamworth Herald - Saturday 17 October 1908

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