

thoughts. Everybody wants to know what he is going to do in the matter. Is he going to take the billet or is he not? And people are quite short in the temper because he won't tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. If he were a more private person he could tell people to mind their own business, but publicity and popularity ever did carry with them certain pains and penalties. Personally, I also must confess to some pardonable curiosity as to "the King's" future movements, but would not like to press it to the point reached by some people, who use bad language because he declines to let them into the debatings of his mind. It isn't a matter of state, after all, is it? Judging from my experience of Mr Seddon, the explanation of the situation is clear. He will hold on to the Premiership of New Zealand as long as he can. The Prime Minister in a colony of some 800,000 people in these days of Empire and "hands all round" among the British looms up very large indeed alongside the highest "Commissioner" who was ever hoisted to position. Mr Seddon's health is the only disturbing factor in the case. If that break down he will have to eschew the strenuous life of the politician, and the High Commissionship would presumably be the most honourable retreat for the old war-horse. A man like Mr Seddon would naturally shrink from telling his hopes and fears to the crowd—in fact, if he did he would not be the great man he is—and this phase of the question reminds us of the awful isolation of the man in high authority. Do you remember Kipling's pathetic tale of the loneliness of the Admiral in "A Meet in Being"? It is very true, and to the ordinary confiding mortal this impossibility of indulging in the luxury of a confidant or two would make life intolerable.

**A Good Story.**

Hospital nurses occasionally have very amusing experiences when they exchange the hospital for private work. The first private case that fell to a nurse lately was in one of the western suburbs, and despite the fact that her patient, a little girl, was very ill, the "kudos" obtained from the presence of a trained nurse, the frequent visits of a doctor in his carriage, and the general air of importance seemed to quite compensate the parents. "Nurse," said the mother, "would you go for a pound of candies for me?" The nurse demurred, but finally gave in, considerably amused, for the reason she was sent the message was that the grocer and his wife should be impressed. She bought the candies, and had them entered to Mrs Black, as had been desired, and was conscious on her way backwards and forwards of slanted window blinds and faces behind curtains. "If they carry her out," said the mother, referring to the patient, "I'm not sure that I wouldn't like the coffin all white, with her name on it in silver tacks." "She's not going to die," said the nurse sharply. "No, pray heaven, no, but one must be prepared for the worst. Mrs Black'll send flowers, we sent a wreath when her baby died; and I think it'd be up to Mrs Dash to send a wreath, too, we've done that regular. However, we must hope for the best."

**"Creditors Generally."**

The law assumes now and then a sportive mood, and then its grave professors foot a measure with the bravest of gallants. Beneath the fell sweep of technicalities, legions whole of meritorious facts lie done to an unworthy death, and the cap and bells of the law make jocular revel on the corpse of the slain! But your legal humorist is fickle (writes "Lex" in the "Australasian"). Anon the mood changes, and their let technicality beware, whilst sound common sense and fair justice have their way. Thus in years past it was solemnly decreed that "creditors generally" in a deed of assignment of a debtor's goods means all his creditors. Now with that conclusion few would wish to wage war. But suppose the deed was expressed to be for the benefit of all such persons as the trustee shall adjudge on evidence to be creditors. Did that include all creditors? Why, no, quoth the law, for it may be that the trustee would improperly exclude some creditor, and so the disposition is not necessarily for the

benefit of the creditors generally. Whence it followed that the signing by the debtor of the deed of assignment was not an act of insolvency within the meaning of the Insolvency Statute, and so the debtor could not be made insolvent on the basis of the assignment of all his property, but had the chance of putting the petitioning creditor to the expense of proving some other ground for obtaining a sequestration. Lately, however, the Court (for a majority of its members) has come to the conclusion that there has been too much legal refinement and too little reasonable reading of the phrase "creditors generally." So it is held that where a debtor assigned his assets to a trustee in favour of such persons as by reasonable efforts should establish their right to be included as creditors, the deed should be treated as one for the benefit of creditors generally, and a sound basis for a petition for the sequestration of the estate of the debtor at hands of a creditor who had not come in under the assignment.

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**TURF FIXTURES.**

- December 7 and 8—Woodville J.C. Summer
- December 10 and 16—Christchurch R.C. Summer
- December 16—Alexandra J.C. Annual
- December 26 and 27—Invercargill J.C. Midsummer
- December 26, 29, January 2 and 3—Auckland R.C. Summer
- December 28 and 27—Taranaki J.C. Christmas
- December 26 and 27—Thames J.C. Summer
- December 26 and 27—Manawatu R.C. Summer
- December 26 and 27—Northern Waikato R.C. Summer
- December 26 and 27—Dunedin J.C. Summer
- December 31 and January 2—Greytown J.C. Annual
- December 28—Ashburton-Pohangina R.C. Annual
- January 2—Wynndham R.C. Annual
- January 2 and 3—Raungitikei R.C. Summer
- January 2 and 3—Hawke's Bay J.C. Summer
- January 2 and 3—Vincent J.C. Annual
- January 2 and 3—Wairarapa R.C. Summer

**ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.**

Small Investor, Paeroa.—Wairiki was not scratched for the Auckland Cup. It was taken for granted that his owner would not require him to be handicapped. Year bet us to the weight he would receive is off.  
"Subscriber." Huntly.—Geordie won the Trent Handicap and Cheltenham Handicap on the first day of the T.J.C. Spring Meeting last year. He also won the Spring Handicap the second day, Romeo running second to him. Romeo also ran second to Cavalry in the Weller Handicap on the same day.

**TURF NOTES.**

Mr C. O'Connor has been appointed starter for the Otago Jockey Club.  
Nominations for all events at the A.R.C. Summer Meeting close next Friday, the 23rd inst., at 9 p.m.  
Only two horses have succeeded in winning both the Auckland and New Zealand Cups—Lochiel and St. Hippo.  
Nominations for all events at the Auckland Trotting Club's Summer Meeting close next Friday, the 23rd inst., at 9 p.m.  
Mr W. Knight's handicaps for the second day of the Takapuna meeting were not up to that gentleman's best form.  
The pony Whetstone was brought from Gisborne last Sunday, and has gone into P. Stenning's stable. Whetstone is a full sister to Chile Iris.  
J. McIlhugh, the trainer of Wairiki, returned from Melbourne last Sunday. It will probably be five or six weeks before Wairiki will be able to return.  
Mr W. Walters on Monday informed me that at Glenora Park there are 25 mares running, including his own and other owners', which have at foot foals by Sault.

Three boxes have been engaged at C. Warren's, Ellerslie, on behalf of P. Holmes, who is expected here shortly with three of Mr Fieldlander's horses.  
Accommodation for three horses has been engaged at the Harp of Erin Hotel for Mr E. J. West, whose team will probably consist of Melodeon, Sturston, and King Billy.  
Dolores is to be put to the illegitimate game, and it is almost a certainty we will see her under the name of the hustlers to be decided at the A.R.C. Summer Meeting.  
John Rae has procured in addition to his team in the shape of a three-year-old by Cullinver Repulse (by Gator—Abba), who was recently purchased by a patron of his stable from Mr J. Muir.  
Frank McAnanda is handling a fine big unstanding three-year-old filly by St. Celsius—Zip. This filly is owned by Mrs E. Davies, and the name of Bud New is being claimed for her.

Geordie and Black and Gold have both incurred penalties for the Railway Handicap. Geordie has earned 7/6, bringing his weight up to 8st, and Black and Gold 5/6, making his weight 8st 10lb.  
Neryine, by Phobus Apollo—Eve, who has been turned out for about twelve months, has been taken in hand again by W. Moberley. Neryine has been gelded during his retirement.  
The Whatawhata Racing Club are making great preparations for their forthcoming meeting. The course has been ploughed down, and a number of improvements have been made, and the committee are looking forward to a successful gathering.

Beyond a few small lines business over the Auckland City and Railway Handicaps is virtually at a standstill. Backers are evidently holding off until after the acceptances are declared on Friday, 23rd inst.  
The barabosses Malanta, Native Rose, Sol, and Luerator were offered for sale at Messrs A. Buckland and Sons' yards last Friday, but in each case the reserve was higher than the amount offered, and they were passed in.

Return d visitors who were present at the Wairara Meeting last Thursday, have a good word to say for Manuhua, by Scott—Fisher, who won the Maiden Plate (hats). Manuhua is spoken of as likely to win further distinction before long.  
The following country programmes have been passed by the Auckland Racing Club:—Newmarket, December 26; Coromandel Hack, December 26; Te Puke, January 2; Ohau, January 18; Waikato, February 17; Clontarf, March 17 and 18; and Manuka, February 23.

Maluhouga has not been asked to over-accept his place at the arrival at Ellerslie. He is looking big and well, and from his appearance one would not think that he had gone through the amount of racing that he has of late.

Fergus ran a good race in the Trent Handicap at Takapuna on the opening day, and his display was in marked contrast to that he gave at Te Aroha, where he was well supported by his owner, last Saturday, the owner's commission was under a round.

At the usual monthly meeting of the committee of the A.R.C. the following changes were granted:—Fathers, N. Cunningham and A. J. McKenzie, Jockeys; W. Wilson, P. Walsh, A. Berry, A. Blakford, J. W. Hoops, W. Gosnell, and J. Grayney.

In the Weller Handicap run at Takapuna last Wednesday Nima was made a very warm favourite, but once again he disappointed his backers, and at the finish of the race was well set up. Nima must have been a pretty costly purchase for George Wright.

At the Takapuna Spring Meeting a man was caught lying foul-mouthed. The committee held a meeting, and after hearing the statements of the parties concerned, decided to warn him on the course for life. The A.R.C. will be asked to endorse the disqualification.

Chaple West is getting quite a large team together. During the week his stable was increased by the addition of a four-year-old mare by Leontias—King Quail mare, and a half brother to Loch Erae, by Praterite—Nightingale. Both are good looking sorts, and should turn out useful.

Hoga, who is trained in private by W. A. Scott, at Manurewa, showed a great dash of pace in the Campbell Handicap at Takapuna. After the field had gone a climb, there was only one in it, and that was the winner. Hoga would have returned a dividend of about fifty six pounds had he not been bracketed with Luresome, the favourite, who ran second.

Mr F. L. Armidge, who recently went home, arrived there in time to attend the second October meeting at Newmarket, and saw Bachelor's Button win the Champagne Stakes, and Coburn's son Wagstaffe win the Glenowrie. The weather, he said, was peculiarly outside of London, but in the city took with fog. Mr Armidge will be pleased at the success of his filly Lyla at Takapuna on Saturday when he receives the news.

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