

value of her policy. There being no appearance for defendants, judgment was given for the amount claimed, with costs. Another company, which appears to be reaping a somewhat attenuated harvest of threepences, and sixpences under its industrial tables, makes a bold bid for public favour by declaring: "We pay all claims in gold" personally I should have no objection to notes, and trust the offices will not object to mine. How true is the wise saying of Rochefoucauld: "We promise according to our hopes," we perform according to our fears." Another Frenchman is said to have painted a picture of the Children of Israel crossing the Red Sea, attired in chimney-pot hats (amongst other things) and carrying muskets. Were I not afraid of committing an almost as glaring, anachronism, I should dearly like to inquire in what office Rochefoucauld held a terminating policy.

By the way, the Dunedin company referred to has in its policy a clause which reads: "If any fraud has (sic) been practised upon the said company, either by or on behalf of and either with or without the consent or privity of the said Proposer or Assured in effecting the Assurance hereby made, this Policy shall be void, and all moneys paid thereunder shall be forfeited to the said Company." I have read of the Employers' Liability Act, but never have I encountered any law under which an employer can penalise a customer for the default or dishonesty of the employee, and while discussing these matters I would like to suggest that something be done to bring the unfortunate canvassers under the shops and factories legislation. It is disgraceful that men of education are allowed to be engaged upon most trying work, meeting fierce competition from opponents and very unflattering receptions from many to whom they endeavour to introduce assurance, at a wage of nothing a week, while a restaurant proprietor, is compelled to pay a statutory salary for strictly defined hours of work to his most menial employee.

PROFIT AND LOSS.

The canvasser crept through the marble halls
And into the sacred sanctuaries,
Where his manager sat with a clouded brow,
For this was Friday, and up till now
Not one case in, and it meant a row;
So this was the matter before them.

"Now, Mr. Pusher, this cannot go on;
You'll have to get out and bustle.
The end of the week, save just one day,
And how in the world can we make pay
For directors and managers? What do you say?"
Expenses? Oh, nonsense, man! Hastle!
When Saturday came, our poor friend P.—
A pattern of tact and docility,
Was shown with remarkable firmness the
door;
And—"No, Mr. Pusher, you've nothing to
draw—
No assets, and, as I have told you before,
You also have no liability."

Invariably when I have been subjected to a trial in the balances and have emerged from the ordeal decidedly and excessively "light weight," instead of comforting myself with flacons, I ruminate over the particular disaster, and then endeavour to put into verse the good advice to which I have refused to give heed myself. "Experience is like the stern light of a ship—which serves only to illumine her wake," still it is possible that some may derive profit from the experience of others. In that hope:

My son! If a woman assail thee,
And tearfully bid thee to lead,
Hed not, and if sense do not fall thee,
Pass her on to a wealthier friend.

The circumstances responsible for the above would never have occurred but for a failing of mine which, upon the principle that no news is good news, consists in the neglect to open private letters until the last possible moment. Hence these fears:

My son! Never open a letter
Until thou hast broken thy fast;
For good news with keeping grows better,
While bad news is best left till last.

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TURF FIXTURES.

Nov. 23 and 24—South Canterbury J.C. Spring.
Nov. 25 and 29—Takapuna Spring.

TURF NOTES.

Comfort was withdrawn from the Auckland Steeplechase at 1.30 o'clock on Monday.

Weights for the Auckland Cup and Railway Handicap are due on Friday next, the 17th inst.

Trunkton, the half brother to Kingswood, by Leolantis is now an inmate of W. Moberley's stable.

The Waterloo Jockey Club will race on March 9th, and will have a programme similar to their last.

Inspratlon has changed hands, being purchased by a patron of N. Cunningham's stable, and she is now in that trainer's charge.

J. Galustord has tired of Lady Rose, and she has been returned to her owner, Mr W. Walters, who will probably put her to the stud.

The Australian-bred stallion Patron was sold for 60 guineas to go to France at the bloodstock sales at Newmarket recently.

The tenders received by the Takapuna Jockey Club for their privileges during the forthcoming season were practically the same as last year.

The death is reported of the brood mare Victoria, by Feve—Memento. Victoria had reached the good old age of 24 years at the time of her death.

A private letter, received from Fiji, states that Landlet, who was taken down to the Islands to win the Governor's Cup, a feat he duly accomplished, died there recently.

Mr Chadwick has been appointed handicapper to the Takapuna Jockey Club during Mr Evelt's illness. Mr Chadwick will also act for the Auckland Racing Club at their Summer Meeting.

The trotter Red Leaf was sold at auction on Friday by the N.Z. Loan and Mercantile Co., for 20gs., Mr Ito being the purchaser. Red Wilkes was passed in at 42gs.

At a recent meeting of the Auckland Trotting Club, W. May, the owner of Macquarie, was fined £10, and disqualified for twelve months for misconduct during the last A.R.C. spring meeting.

Mr S. Bradley's colt Puhupuh, by South-Lady Musket, seems to have gone off completely, and his displays at the A.R.C. Spring Meeting must have been sadly disappointing to his owner.

The Takapuna Jockey Club considered the feasibility of bookmakers to bet on their course during the forthcoming season at a meeting held on Monday afternoon, and after discussion decided to license them as formerly.

Returned victors from Christchurch state that Ghoorka was badly kicked prior to the start for the New Zealand Cup. This would probably account for his bad showing in the race, in which he ran a bad last.

Before the start of the Ouelunga Steeplechase last Saturday, a wager of 2 to 1 was taken that at least two of the starters would either run off or fall. The contrary was, however, the case, as the winner of the starters got round in safety.

The Penrose Hurdle Race, run at Ellerslie last Saturday, was a regular finish. G. Anglem and H. Hall had two apiece, Loch Eyne and Vexation fell, and Imagination broke down, leaving Hakaria to counter home nearly a couple of furlongs ahead.

The Takapuna Jockey Club has decided to open the double footballer at their spring meeting, and the machine will be worked on the following events: First day, St. Andrew's Handicap and Cheltenham Handicap; and second day, Stanley Handicap and Spring Handicap.

The Jubilee Cup, run at the C.J.C. spring meeting, has been competed for on six occasions, and on each it has been won by either a representative of the Ashburton or Porirua stables. No other trainer outside Mason and Prosser has succeeded in yet turning out the winner of the event.

Stanton Delaval and South were the most successful sires at the A.R.C. spring meet-

ing, each horse claiming five winners; Cyrenus and Leolantis had two each; and Menschikoff, Linstock, Reynard, Grafton, South-wester, St. Paul, Muskapeer, Saracra, Flatlock, and Tasman one each.

In winning the Musket Stakes on the second day of the A.R.C. Spring Meeting, Cambriau fully bore out the good opinions formed of him after his showing in the Welcome Stakes on the opening day. Provided he goes on the right way between now and Christmas, he should prove a hard nut for the best of them to crack.

After paying a visit to Glenora Park and inspecting the yearlings there, T. Quinlivan, Jr., private trainer to Mr E. J. Watt, the Hawke's Bay sportsman, made an offer of 5000gs for the yearling colt by Sonne Rogg and White, full brother to Waikiki. The offer, however, was not entertained.

C. Plummer, who has had the charge of Paldene, the most successful filly in Hungary, has broken the record established by Iyer, the American trainer, when he won £21,240 in his year. Plummer has already won over £34,000, and has a chance of adding a couple more valuable races to the stable account.

The displays given by Mr E. J. Watt's two colts, King Billy and Boomerang, on the first days of the A.R.C. Spring Meeting were disappointing, but the colts were withdrawn from their engagements on the concluding day of the gathering, and the pair were taken back to Napier last week by the Manuka, in charge of their trainer, T. Quinlivan, Jr.

The V.R.C. starter has a very off-hand way of treating horses that do not promptly stand up to the barrier. Sometimes he leaves them wherever they are, and, of course, the owners concerned do not like it. It is, of course, a fine point how long a bad actor at the start should be waited for, and entirely a subject for the exercise of well-balanced discretion.

The Japanese Government has sent two stud officials from Tokio to visit Europe for the purpose of selecting a certain number of brood mares for the formation of a Government stud on European lines. These gentlemen have visited Austria and Hungary, and appear to have a preference for small and compact mares. They hope, in time, to import their bloodstock exclusively from Europe.

Many of the jockeys riding in France have already discovered their service for next year. George Stern will continue as leading jockey for M. Edmond Blanc's stable, Hansch has renewed his contract with Mr W. K. Vanderluff, and J. Hoff has given first claim to M. Chiffault, while George Bartholomew, who has come quickly to the front, gets a good engagement with Comte de Fels, for whom his father trains, Bellhouse, who has completely recovered from the accident which spotted a usually good average, remains with M. J. Prat.

The list of winning trainers at the recent A.R.C. meeting is headed by F. Mac-Manenham with three successes, C. Coleman, G. Anglem, and H. Hall had two apiece, and K. Henton, J. B. Williamson, F. Moran, P. Jones, D. Morgan, H. French, T. Clark, J. Chaise, J. W. Smith, J. Twodill, C. West, R. Hannon, Mr Selby, Mr Brown, and Mr Morgan, one each. R. Dealey was the most successful horseman, with five winning rides; H. Sparkes, M.

Rynn, J. Soars, and B. Towers had two each; and Brown, W. Wilson, Kemp, P. H. Jones, L. White, Crews, Marston, M. Selby, Mr Tonks, and Mr Wells one each.

A petition is in circulation by members of the Auckland Racing Club to be presented to the Committee to the carriage paddock. When the Committee decided to remove the paddock from its former position, and so enlarge the saddling paddock, it was generally thought it was a wise move, but evidently members do not think so, and hold the paddock entitled to have their carriages alongside the course proper, so as if desired they could view the races without going on the stand. Were this practicable no doubt the Committee would not hesitate to do the matter, but under the circumstances it is hard to see what the Committee can do further than what they have already done.

Mr Weinberg, the German sportsman, was present at the last day of the International gathering at Mahone-Laffie on Friday. He possesses the best three year old in Germany with Feather, a son of Ayrshire, and with Fels, by Haudouil, admittedly the best two year old, he will see his colours carried well in the Austrian and German Derbies. Unfortunately, Mr Weinberg has not entered Fels in the International Criterion, to be decided on Saturday. If he could not enter, he said that he hoped with Fels fit and well to show his colours next year in the Prix du Conseil Municipal. Mr Weinberg has secured the services of O'Connor, the American jockey, for next season.

At a meeting of the Derby Town Council recently, Councillor Blount complained that people interested in betting news crowded round the newspapers at the Free Library, to the exclusion of general readers.

He suggested that betting news should be obliterated.

Alderman Ann, the chairman of the Free Library committee, said the committee were mainly of the opinion that it would be a very narrow minded proceeding to take the course suggested. He was not a betting man himself, but he should certainly oppose the proposal. If they could not leave the papers intact they had better dispense with them altogether.

The Thames Jockey Club has no reason to be disgraced, with the response made by owners for their summer meeting on December 26th and 27th, and the total received are probably the largest the club have yet had. Since last season the club have greatly improved their course, having enclosed a piece of ground at the northern end. This piece, which was formerly held by the natives, the club have been endeavouring to secure for some time, and at last their efforts have been successful. Its addition goes away with the sharp bend going out of the straight, and makes a full mile course. Several other improvements are also being effected, and altogether the forthcoming meeting promises to be one of the most successful in the history of the club.

The following is a list of winning payments over the recent A.R.C. spring meeting:—Mr P. W. Arnold, £295; Mr D. O'Brien, £285; Mr A. Lennan, £200; Mr Jas. Muir, £200; Mr R. Armitage, £180; Mr Walter Davis, £180; Mrs W. Davies, £170; Mr R. Hannon, £140; Messrs Will-Hamson and Currie, £90; Mr C. Selby, £190; Mr C. W. Coleman, £190; Mr J. Johnston, £90; Mr W. A. Scott, £90; Mr W. Posa, £100; Mr L. Coleman, £90; Mr E. J. Watt, £85; Mr Wm-Brown, £60; Mr Jas. Twodill, £90; Mr A. Teffer, £20; Mr W. Kavabugh, £90; Mr W. Morgan, £40; Mr W. J. Thomson, £35; Mr George Marshall, £50; Mr P. Jones, £85; Mr H. Bussey, £15; Mr J. J. McVickers, £10; Mr H. Cummings, £10; Mr S. Schmidt, £20; Mr E. W. Alison, £20; Mr B. T. Hawkins, £15; Mr C. Wool, £10; Mr Harold Gutter, £10; Mr S. Tooman, £5; Mr J. McVickers, £20; Mr H. Barr, £10. Total, £3520.

Perry Woodland, who has been for so long the idol of the French sporting public, has expressed the desirability of the racing world attracted to the different races by the open-air lottery. He received such a hostile demonstration on his return to weigh in after winning the Prix de la Turbie at Saint-Omer that the stewards called on him and on the trainer of Chelipere for

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