



BY "WHALEBONE."

TURF NOTES.

Answers to Correspondents.

L.J.—Yes; Franklin raced at several meetings in and around the Waikato last season.

J. North.—Otahuhu programmes can always be bought in the town on the morning of the races.

Franklin won the first and last races at the Takapuna Spring Meeting.

The Swbimmer was limping after his fall in the steeplechase last Wednesday.

P. Jones returned to Ngaruawahia with Bromide and Franklin last Friday morning.

Martie King, Pohlida, and Rosepot were shipped to Gisborne by the Tararua on Saturday.

Hoboro has incurred a 8lb penalty in the Railway Handicap, which brings his weight up to 9 lb.

Armitage has incurred the maximum penalty for the Auckland Cup, and will now be required to carry 7 lb.

The leader of Mr O. S. Craig, £800, has been accepted for the position of a grandstand for the Ohmumu Jockey Club.

Sol is the first of Soull's progeny to win either over hurdles or big country. Sol is not engaged in the A.R.C. Steeplechase.

It. McAllen has taken in hand a three year old Billy by St. Hippo, half sister to Leouator.

F. Macmenamin has put the unnamed gelding by Sou'wester from a half sister to Spiluter's dam in work again at Ellerslie.

A Perth paper has it that Rae, who went to W.A. with Mr T. Fenton's horses some months ago, is going to relinquish training there.

F. Speakman, who was badly hurt when Port fell with him on the second day of the Takapuna Spring Meeting, has sufficiently recovered to leave the hospital.

Stepmar was badly kicked when at the post for the Vauxhall Handicap, and the services of a veterinary had to be called in.

Gwendal was lame in front when she returned to the paddock after winning the Stanley Handicap at Takapuna last Wednesday.

Sol has competed in six races this season without suffering defeat. He has accounted for four hurdle races and two steeplechases.

The Auckland Racing Club have secured one of the City Council's old water carts for watering the tracks at Ellerslie during the summer months.

King Paul, who ran second in the Weller Handicap, on the concluding day of the Takapuna Spring Meeting, held the same position in that race last year.

Geordie, who accounted for the St. Andrew's Handicap on the opening day of the Takapuna Spring Meeting, and Gwendal, who annexed the Stanley Handicap on the second day, both won the same races last year.

Six boxes have been engaged at J. Galinford's, Green Lane, for Mr Geo. Clifford's horses, and they are expected to arrive here from the South on Sunday, the 10th inst.

J. Twichell took Lady Clare and Hooky back to the Thames on Friday. There is a probability of his fetching Princess of Thule to Auckland next week to finish her preparation for the A.R.C. Summer Meeting.

Royal Shell knocked himself about a lot when he fell at the last fence in the Muldon Hurdles on the opening day of the Takapuna Spring Meeting. He injured his round bone, while he also had one of his knees badly cut.

Nominations for the Drury Racing Club's annual meeting close on next Friday, the 8th inst., at 9 p.m., either with the secretary, Mr J. Kuent, or Mr E. B. Massey, High street, Auckland.

The Ngaruawahia Club held their annual meeting on the 10th inst. at Ngaruawahia. A special excursion train has been arranged for and the club can confidently expect a large attendance.

Owing to numerous complaints from investors that they were unable to get their money on the outside machines at Ellerslie, the club have decided to enlarge the toll-taker house, thus giving greater facilities to those who desire to invest.

Lovellink's presence in the Cheltenham Handicap last Saturday was due to the fact that the owners, Messrs. Williamson and Currie, were laid the sum of £200 to nothing by a sport who held the only ticket in the double machine on the combination Geordie and Lovellink.

At a meeting of the Greyouth Trotting Club, held on Tuesday, it was decided that no bookmakers be allowed on the club's property during the summer meeting. The services of two detectives were to be employed to enforce the matter. The other clubs on the coast are taking similar action.

Leolantis was the most successful sire at the recent Takapuna meeting, with three winning representatives about Seator, Devalah, and Ismanah had two each, and Cyrenian, Insomnia, Catesby, Medallion, Ben Geoffrey, Brigadier, and Explosion one each.

When the field jumped off in the Vauxhall Handicap at Takapuna, last Wednesday, one of the competitors chopped right across the field, nearly bringing several of them down. It was lucky that at least two of the runners were not thrown over the rails.

The N.Z. Loan and Mercantile are holding a sale of racehorses at the Barn of the Auckland Jockey Club, on the following highly-bred horses in training will be offered: Sweet Alice, Austerlitz, Sonoma, Kilderin, Forth, Lady Farrington, and Apologia. Further entries are solicited.

When the field were despatched in the Cambria Handicap last Saturday, Dunt soon put a break between himself and the rest of the competitors, and it was thought that Mr McLean's colours would at last be borne to victory, but when the first turn was reached, he cleared right out to the sand track, and was never afterwards in the hunt.

The list of winning trainers at the recent Takapuna meeting is headed by R. Hannan with four wins, P. Jones had three, C. Weal two, and P. Conway, W. Olive, B. Hall, F. Macmenamin, F. Ross, A. Mitchell, and H. Thorpe one each. Deel was the most successful horseman, with four winning rides; Etreon had three, Marchant and Cress two, and Julian, Jenkins, Cotton, McIntosh, and Ryan one each.

Mr B. Armitage, owner of Lady Annie, informs me that his mare met with a slight accident last Thursday and has been unable to start in the Railway Handicap. Mr Armitage was expecting the vet's report before accepting with the mare, but as he was unable to get it before the acceptances fell due he accepted on the off-chance. Mr Armitage wishes this fact to be made public, as there is a big probability of the mare being a non-starter in the Railway Handicap.

One of the most phenomenal runs seen on a course for some time was that put in by Sol in the Maiden Hurdle Race. After they had gone about a mile he seemed hopelessly out of it, but laying down to his work in great style, he cut down the leader in a couple of furlongs, and galloped on to victory. A short time ago Sol was in the market, and could have been purchased at a very small figure; but after his recent displays it is doubtful if five times the amount he was then offered for would secure him now.

Leggite was looked upon as almost a moral by his connections for the Melbourne race last Saturday. He was a very knowing one, was nicely backing the son of St. Leger. Getting away with his elder after doing his preliminary, he did two or three circuits of the course on his own account. When pulled up, he was in such a state that the steward allowed him to be withdrawn, and luckily for his supporters, the money invested upon him in the machine was returned.

In the Champion Stakes, 1 1/2 mile, at Newmarket, on the 17th of last month, that great mare Pretty Polly simply made a back of Hackler's Pride, for whom Mrs D. Sykes recently gave £6000. She was seen Pretty Polly out at 2 to 1 on, and she never gave them any anxiety. Hackler's Pride must have been in good form, too, as on the following day she beat Nabot and Evergreen as she liked in a mile weight race. In the very day that Pretty Polly disposed of Hackler's Pride, the former's sister Adula was sent out at 11 to 10 on for the Newmarket Oaks, in which she was

in receipt of 5lb from Cherry Lass. The distance, 1 1/2 mile, was supposed to be somewhat against the latter, as in the St. Leger she had not shown like a genuine stayer. However, she stayed too well for Adula, whom she beat in a canter, and it is now reckoned that she must have been off colour when Challacomb and Polymelus downed her in the Leger.

The longest flat race of the season in France was run at Paris last month. This was the Prix Gladiateur, 3 miles 7 furlongs, at weight for age. There were only four runners, M. Edmond Blac being represented by Gouvernant and Chamaun, and M. J. de Bremond by Maximus and Toust. Odds of 100 to 30 were laid on M. Edmond Blac's stable, but backers went down as Maximus fairly outstaying Gouvernant, beat him home by eight lengths in 7:40 3/5, the other two finishing a long way back. The prize money was 1200 sovs, added to a work of art of the value of 400 sovs.

I have often wondered what had become of old St. Kilda, who in his day was more than a number of people who have for some time contended that he has been fished for this particular race. Course watchers generally, however, have been under the opinion that his trainer, F. Macmenamin, would have at his work run out to get him ready by Christmas, and evidently he himself has arrived at the conclusion that it would knock the horse about unnecessarily to attempt to do so. In allowing Scotty to drop out at the first acceptance his owner has shown a consideration for the betting public for which he is to be commended.

The defection of Scotty from the Auckland Cup will come as a bit of a surprise to those who have for some time contended that he has been fished for this particular race. Course watchers generally, however, have been under the opinion that his trainer, F. Macmenamin, would have at his work run out to get him ready by Christmas, and evidently he himself has arrived at the conclusion that it would knock the horse about unnecessarily to attempt to do so. In allowing Scotty to drop out at the first acceptance his owner has shown a consideration for the betting public for which he is to be commended.

The death of Suugod will be a serious loss to Mr Stoddart, and was generally looked upon as being very little inferior to his stable companion, Nocturnum, who holds an unbroken certificate as a three-year-old. As a two-year-old Suugod won the Avenir Plate at the C.J.C. Spring Meeting and the Great Northern Foal Stakes at the A.R.C. Summer Meeting, while he was only one out of a place in his other four engagements. As a three-year-old he ran second to Nocturnum in the A.J.C. Derby, run in record time, and won the New Stakes and Gynthurm Stakes, his only two other successes at the meeting. Suugod's death leaves Mr Stoddart with Cuneiform, Porcelain, and Muncie as his representatives in the Great Northern Derby. Isolt is not engaged either in the Derby or Royal Stakes.

With the big fields that are usually associated with racing at Takapuna it is a wonder that there are not more accidents than there are. The course is only a six-furlong one, and at the present time the committee are unable to make satisfactory arrangements to secure sufficient ground in order to make it as large as they wish. There is one matter, though, that they might give attention to in the present state of affairs, which in the opinion of experts would greatly minimise the risk of accidents, and that is to bank the turns as has been recently done at Ellerslie. The onus, if an credible informed, would not amount to more than about £600, and as this is only a trifling amount where danger to life and limb are at stake I venture to suggest that the powers that be give the question their earnest attention.

Dardanus, who fell during the running of the Cheltenham Handicap at Takapuna last Saturday, was badly hurt, and it was with difficulty that he was got home to Great Isaac. With so many demands upon the finances of the racing clubs, one hardly likes to suggest anything to increase these demands, but it seems a great pity that considering how we put ourselves on the line up to date in racing matters that no provision has been made for a horse ambulance. A few weeks ago I was shown an illustrated book of the New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and amongst the illustrations was a splendid one of horse ambulance, which was fitted up with every convenience. Were racing clubs to consider the advisability of getting a vehicle of the sort mentioned, Mr A. J. the local inspector of the S.P.C.A., has book giving particulars of the way things are managed in America.

Setting over the Auckland Cup and Railway Handicap double and conveys to Mr Air Adams reports the following business:—800 to 6 Scotty and Hoboro, 200 to 2 Scotty and King Billy, 200 to 4 Scotty and Landlock, 400 to 1 Scotty and Dardanus, 200 to 4 Scotty and Waltai, 200 to 6 Scotty and General Average, 400 to 2 Mahutonga and Dardanus, 300 to 3 Mahutonga and King Billy, 250 to 2 Mahutonga and St. Bill, 200 to 1 Mahutonga and Certainty, 200 to 1 Mahutonga and General Average, 400 to 1 Mahutonga and Pomscoot, 300 to 3 Paritutu and Hoboro, 400 to 2 Paritutu and Certainty, 300 to 6 Paritutu and Lady Annie, 800 to 2 Paritutu and Dardanus, 400 to 8 Paritutu and Lady Annie, 150 to 1 Paritutu and Austerlitz, 500 to 4 Paritutu and General Average, 300 to 3 Quarryman and Waltai, 250 to 5 Quarryman and Lady Annie, 600 to 2 Gladstone and Certainty, 150 to 1 Gladstone and To-morrow, 200 to 4 Gladstone and Hoboro, 500 to 3 Gladstone and Dardanus, 500 to 2 Gladstone and General Average, 300 to 2 Zuluka and Glenowlet, 200 to 1 Zuluka and Certainty, 250 to 1 Puffy and Carl Rosa, 200 to 1 Puffy and Landlock, 350 to 1 Puffy and Dardanus, 350 to 1 Puffy and Gladstone, 1000 to 3 Heroism and Landlock, 1000 to 3 Heroism and Glenowlet.

The acceptances for the principal events at the Auckland Racing Club's Summer Meeting, which fell due on Friday, must, on the whole be considered highly satisfactory. Thirteen have paid up for the Cup, sixteen for the Railway Handicap, and seven for the Auckland Steeplechase. In the Cup Mahutonga is left at the head of affairs and provided he reaches the post in the same condition as when he accounted for the event last year will stand in need of a lot of backing. Backers will, however, be well advised to wait further information re his track work before supporting him. Quarryman still keeps his position in the betting market and provided he keeps on all right will probably start favourite. Paritutu has not been heard of since he competed at the Canterbury Jockey Club's Spring Meeting, but from private information received he can be regarded as almost a certain starter. Gladstone has been left in both the Cup and the Railway, and probably his party's intentions will be made public shortly. Puffy is well enough treated on the score of weight and may prove the best of the local horses, although he might not be class enough to win right out. Mr Watt has paid up for Meidoun, but such an unreliable customer can only be given a rough chance. Armitage by his victories at Felling has earned a seven pound penalty, which only brings her weight up to 7 st. and some keen judges are found favouring her chance. She should defeat all below her. In the Railway Handicap all the fancied ones have stood their ground, and the issue at present looks decidedly open.

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