

Sports and Pastimes.

TURF FIXTURES.

NEW ZEALAND.

February 7 and 8—Taranaki J.C. Autumn
 Feb. 10 and 12—Te Aroha J.C. Annual
 February 14 and 15—Egmont R.C. Summer
 February 14—Kaukapaka Racing Club
 February 17—Waitekaukapa Hacking Club
 February 17, 21, 24—Otahuhu Trotting Club Summer
 February 22 and 23—Poverty Bay Turf Club Annual
 February 22 and 24—Canterbury J.C. Summer
 March 1—Bay of Plenty J.C. Annual
 March 3—Napier Hacking Meeting
 March 3—Waikiki J.C. Meeting
 March 7—Rotorua J.C. Annual
 March 8 and 9—Wanganui J.C. Autumn
 March 10—South Auckland Racing Club
 March 17, 19—Hawke's Bay Jockey Club
 March 17 and 19—Ohinemuri J.C. Annual
 March 21, 23, and 25—Dunedin J.C. Autumn
 March 27, 29—Napier Park Racing Club
 April 4 and 5—Manawatu R.C. Autumn
 April 16 and 17—Canterbury J.C. Autumn
 April 16, 17, 21—Auckland Racing Club Autumn
 April 26 and 27—South Canterbury J.C. Autumn
 May 2 and 3—Avondale Jockey Club Autumn
 May 2 and 4—Wellington R.C. Autumn
 May 24 and 25—Takapuna J.C. Winter
 May 24 and 25—Dunedin J.C. Winter
 June 3, 11—C.J.C. Hacking Club Winter
 June 20, 22—Hawke's Bay Jockey Club
 June 26, 27—Gisborne Park Racing Club
 June 27, 28—Napier Park Racing Club
 July 18 and 20—Wellington R.C. Winter

DATES OF COMING EVENTS.

NEW ZEALAND.

February 7—Taranaki Cup
 March 3—V.R.C. St. Leger
 March 6—Australian Cup
 March 6—V.R.C. Champion Stakes
 March 6—Wanganui Cup
 March 21—Dunedin Cup
 March 17—Hawke's Bay Cup
 March 19—Hawke's Bay Stakes
 March 27—Napier Park Cup
 April 16—A.R.C. Easter Handicap
 April 16—A.R.C. Champagne Stakes
 April 17—A.R.C. Century Stakes
 April 16—C.J.C. Hacking Club
 April 16—C.J.C. Great Easter Handicap
 April 17—C.J.C. Great Autumn Handicap

NOTES BY MONITOR.

The Takapuna Jockey Club's Summer Meeting is now a thing of the past, and the Club takes every reason to congratulate themselves. Favoured with excellent weather the attendance on each day was large, which accounted for the increase of the total returns of £3,769 over their corresponding meeting last year.

The Taranaki Jockey Club commence their two days' autumn meeting to-day (Wednesday), and will be concluded to-morrow. The fields listed to compete in the majority of instances are small, but some interesting finishes should eventuate. In the Taranaki Cup there is a field of seven engaged, and of these I like Coronet's chance best. For the Stewards' Handicap of seven furlongs, Crusoe reads well, and in the First Handicap Hurdle Race, Light, 9.12, should run prominently.

Jim Keane, who was thought to possess a chance second to none in the Welter Handicap on Saturday last, failed to run into a place, although he showed great dash and gameness at the finish. The son of Seaton Delevall and Lottie has furnished a lot lately. Thorpe has him looking very well at present, and he should well repay watching in the future.

Nor-West showed us at the late Takapuna meeting that he is a champion over country. The big son of Sou'Wester, although carrying the crusher of 13.5, had the race won at any part of the journey. I hear it is his owner's intention to take him over to Australia before long, and he should be quite capable of winning many an important jumping event on the other side.

The racehorses Hastings, Rosella, and Biddington returned to Auckland in charge of Joe Gallagher on Sunday last. They look none the worse for their recent racing in the South.

The Australian bred gelding Tornado, showed winning form at a recent meeting held at Gatwick (England), when he accounted for the Maiden Hurdle Race. Tornado is owned by Mr J. C. Brewer, who has also the Grafter and Battalion under his care. The latter horses are being educated to race over obstacles and should do well when thoroughly seasoned.

Everyone was glad to see Red Lancer's owner score a win at Takapuna. The son of St. Clair won the Summer Handicap in good style, and was looked upon as the best of good things for the Devonport Handicap. The gelding, although made a strong favourite on the machine, failed to run prominently in any part of the race, and appeared to me to be very sore after it was over.

The gelding Tiki, which annexed the Hack Handicap on the second day of the recent meeting, showed fair form in the Welter Handicap on the concluding day, in which event he was at the head of affairs for the greater part of the journey. Tiki was bred privately by the Messrs Allison Bros. at Motokorea, and is a four-year-old by Regal from Pearl. He should do well when raced over sticks, as I am told he knows how to jump and is just about the right stamp for the illegitimate game.

The unruly Hohoro was the unlucky horse at the Takapuna meeting. The son of Tasman started in three of the sprint events, and on each occasion had to be content with second position. That this gelding is a speedy customer there is not a doubt, and he was well looked after by the handicapper during the meeting.

Crusoe ran a right down good race in the First Steeplechase, acting as runner-up to his stable mate Nor-West. On the concluding day the Steeplechase was looked upon in the light of a moral for the black horse, but weight told its tale, and he could only gain third position to Voltigeur II. and Stockman.

The speedy Telephone showed us last week that he has lost none of his dash in sprinting. Getting well away the cobby little chestnut made every post a winning one, finally getting home in front of the well-bred Tolstoi by a length. Telephone went amiss a little time back, but his new owner managed to patch him up for the recent meeting.

Australian and New Zealand bred horses are strongly in evidence in some of the big coming events to be decided in the Old Country this season. In the Lincolnshire Handicap of 1 mile, run for on March 27th, the New Zealander Gold Medalist is among the acceptors with 8.12 opposite his name, while Oban 8.11, Survivor 8.3, and Syerla 7.13 have also accepted. In the Liverpool Grand National Steeplechase, run for on March 30th, the ex-Auckland Levanter has 9.8 to carry, which weight should not trouble Captivator's son, who has also accepted for the Lancaster Steeplechase, in which race he has 11b. less to carry. In the Great Northamptonshire Stakes of 1 1/2 miles, run on April 3rd, Maluma, 9.3, is down to compete, and in the Great Metropolitan Handicap of 2 1/2 miles, run for on May 9th, Battalion, 7.10, has accepted. In the Chester Cup The Grafter is given 8.10, while in the Kempton Park Jubilee Stakes Gozo's son has 8lbs. less to carry. For the City and Suburban Handicap the ex-New Zealander Multiform, 8.11, is among the list of acceptors, as is also The Grafter, 8.10, Maluma, 8.11, Survivor, 8.2, and Syerla, 7.6.

The pony Athel, which annexed the Pony Handicap on the concluding day, showed great speed and ran the five furlongs in good time, never leaving the issue in doubt from the rise of the barrier. Athel is a three-year-old bay mare by Muskapeer, and is in John Booth's stable.

Mr St. Coombes' Favona was in great form at the Shore last week. The big chestnut won all three hurdle races in a tradesmanlike manner, and although raised 23lbs. on the concluding day he romped home in front of the light weight Korowai by a couple of lengths.

Mr Alex. Phillips had bad luck at the Takapuna meeting in losing his chestnut gelding Opan. The son of Emu Bay was going in great style when he made a faulty jump at the post and fell twice on top of the hill and came to grief. On the horse getting up it was found he was severely injured, and on examination it was seen he had broken his shoulder, and a friendly bullet had to be brought into requisition to end his sufferings.

TAKAPUNA JOCKEY CLUB'S SUMMER MEETING.

SECOND DAY.

The Takapuna Jockey Club's Summer Meeting was continued on Wednesday afternoon last, the weather being again gloriously fine and the attendance fairly large considering it was not a public holiday. The arrangements were in every way thoroughly up-to-date, and everything passed off without a hitch under the careful direction of Mr Robert Wynyard, the popular secretary. Mr F. Lawry, M.H.R., was in the judge's box, and his decisions gave general satisfaction in every case. The starting was as usual in the hands of Mr Geo. Cutta, who got his fields away in fairly good order. During the afternoon the sum of £7,821 was passed through the totalisators, under the management of Mr W. Bloomfield.

Proceedings were opened with the Suburban Handicap, for which the dozen figuring on the card went to the post. Minerva II. was the popular pick, while of the others Hohoro and St. Elmo were not without friends. The field were let go to an even start, Telephone's colours being the first to show out prominently, and after he had made the running for about three and a-half furlongs, the favourite closed up and a ding dong race resulted up the straight ending in a win for the ex-Sydney mare by a nose.

In the Second Handicap Hurdle Race the field was small, only four runners lining up behind the barrier. The Napier owned Barbarossa was a slightly better favourite than Favona. Immediately the barrier rose Favona's colours showed in front, and the big son of Regal jumping in faultless style throughout, practically was in front all the way, winning by two lengths from Korowai.

The Pony Race followed, and of the six starters The Slave was made favourite. The little daughter of The Workman fully justified the confidence placed in her by romping home two lengths in front of Lena.

In the Takapuna Jockey Club Handicap four of the five listed to compete went to the post. The Doctor on his running in the big event on the first day was made favourite, while the top weight, St. Ursula, was also in request. Immediately the barrier flew up St. Ona showed out and made the running across the back; but when the top stretch was reached the favourite went to the front and for a time flattered the hopes of his backers. The big son of Chivassier held his own until rounding the turn for home, when St. Ona put in her claim, being hotly pursued by St. Ursula, who seemed to have been kept too far from her field throughout the race, and had to be content with second place to Mr Laycock's chestnut mare, who won by half a length.

The Hobson Handicap attracted a field of half a dozen runners. Alger on her previous performance was made favourite, while St. Elyn and Lady Avon also received a fair share of support. The race resulted in somewhat of a surprise, as the lightly thought of chestnut filly Kissmary, who got all the worst of the start, fairly romped home by nearly three lengths in front of St. Elyn.

The First Handicap Steeplechase followed and was contested for by a field of five, the top weight Nor-West being the popular pick. And that the public were right in their judgment was fully demonstrated by the way Sou'Wester's son won. Crusoe was responsible for all the running until the water jump was reached the last time. Here Nor-West, who had been laying bandy throughout, shot to the front, and coming away in great style won by fully three lengths from his

stable mate. During the race Opan had the bad luck to fall and break his shoulder. He was finally put out of his misery by the aid of a friendly bullet.

There were no withdrawals from the Hack Handicap. Perseverance was made favourite, while the local horse Tiki was next in demand. When the barrier went up Delia Rose was the first to show out, and she led for the greater part of the journey. When once in the straight Tiki put in his claim, and, running with great gameness, won by three parts of a length from Mr McEie's mare.

The day's racing closed with the Anniversary Handicap, for which a large field went to the post. Cavalier was a slightly better favourite than Knight of Athol and Red Lancer. Immediately the barrier rose Cavalier was seen in the front, closely followed by Knight of Athol and Picklock. When once in the straight Knight of Athol came very fast and won comfortably from Lillie by fully a length and a-half.

THIRD DAY.

The meeting was brought to a conclusion on Saturday last, under very favourable circumstances. Again the weather was perfect and a large number of people were conveyed across the harbour by the Devonport Ferry Company to witness the final day's sport.

The good sum of £4255 was passed through the totalisators under the management of Mr W. Bloomfield, making the total returns for the three days £26,169, as against £22,400 for the corresponding meeting last year, an increase of £3769.

The ball was opened with the Maiden Hurdles, for which Korowai was installed a warm favourite in a field of eight runners. The daughter of Hotchkiss got well away and led over the first obstacle, closely followed by St. Lemon. Holding her own for the rest of the journey Korowai won rather easily by four lengths from La Belle.

In the Borough Handicap Telephone was made a strong favourite, while of the others Kettle drum, Tolstoi and Blairina were all well backed. The race itself calls for little description, for the speedy Telephone, who got well away, made the running throughout and won by half a length from Tolstoi.

The Summer Handicap followed, and for this a field of nine lined up behind the barrier. Waikorongai was made favourite, while Knight of Athol also had an army of followers. Porangi Potae and St. Ona were the first to show into prominence, and they made the running for the first part of the journey, when Red Lancer was taken to the front, closely followed by Lillie, and although the latter made a bold bid to get on terms with the leader she had to put up with a two lengths' defeat by St. Clair's son.

For the Third Handicap Hurdle Race six went to the post, the Napier-owned Barbarossa being made favourite, while Favona also was well backed. Voltigeur made the running for the first part, the favourite laying bandy. On running round the second time Favona was in front, closely followed by Korowai, and this order was maintained for the rest of the distance, the big son of Regal finally winning by a couple of lengths from the brown daughter of Hotchkiss.

The Pony Handicap drew out a field of seven runners, Clansman being made favourite. This race calls for little description, for Athel, who jumped away at the start, made every post a winning one, eventually getting home by three lengths from the local-owned Trooper.

Then came the Devonport Handicap, for which a field of nine lined up behind the barrier. On his running in the Summer Handicap Red Lancer was sorted out as the best of good things, but never once did St. Clair's son look dangerous. Kettle drum and Lady Dash made the running for the greater part of the journey. When once the straight was reached St. Elmo came with a great run and never left the issue in doubt, winning by two lengths from Hohoro, while the grey horse, Daytree, filled third position.

The Second Handicap Steeplechase followed, and of the four competitors

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