

considered what the expense would be, all clubs would have to pay for the same way as they do now. It would probably cost them more than at present. Would they receive equal, or fewer, or greater benefits? It is difficult to see that our racing machinery would be thrown considerably out of gear by having a number of official publications. It would be interesting to see the delegates from the various clubs throughout the colony view the question. New Rule 71A, proposed by the Wanganui Jockey Club, deals with a question that should be settled. An owner's name or that of a horse may appear in the forfeit list in the official Calendar. Before publication of the next one, the money may have been paid, but too late to withdraw the name or names from the list that week. The proposal is that the name or names shall be deemed to have ceased to be in the forfeit list from the actual time the forfeit money is paid to the Registrar of Jockey Club, i.e., the office of the Jockey Club. It is likely that the Wanganui Jockey Club's proposal will be given effect to. The Greyhound Jockey Club would like to see the rule struck out, and section 1 of rule 103, bearing on the same subject, also. They would prefer to see six judges annually appointed by the Conference of Clubs, one from each of the metropolitan districts to decide appeals, three to form a quorum. The present arrangement will, I think, be found to work the best. The same club propose, "That the consistency of the ruling as to whether inconsistent running is a question of fact." The answer to this will probably be that the running of racehorses depends so much upon numerous and varying conditions, that racing must necessarily appear more or less inconsistent. An inconsistency in running might be very pronounced, but the same thing is reasonably accounted for. It might, on the other hand, be unaccountable to the stewards, to the owner, and to the rider. There might be very strong grounds for suspicion that the inconsistency was the result of connivance on the part of the jockey, or jockey and owner, or jockey and someone else, but unless it could be established that something of this sort had taken place, it could not be considered to allow of an inconsistent performance being treated as a question of fact, and so removed from review by a higher than a club tribunal. The running of horses cannot be reduced to a mathematical result. If it were not that horses do run inconsistently, there would soon be no speculation, since everyone would back winners. It is a very difficult thing to run, and the probabilities that speculators conjure up, that causes most of them to invest. The new rule proposed by the Wellington Racing Club, if necessary, a rigid one, and it is to be proposed in these columns to the proposed amendments from other clubs.

TURT TALK FROM THE SOUTH.

CHRISTCHURCH, Saturday.

The absurd rush to back Siege Gun for the New Zealand Cup having abated, the son of Hotchkiss has retired to a less excited position in the betting market than the one he occupied for the first three weeks after his arrival in the country. He is now second in demand, and Nonette heads the quotations.

A rumour has been circulated to the effect that Grand Rapids will be the hope of Yaldhurst for the New Zealand Cup, but I am not sure that there is any justification for the report, but the weights will be due on Monday, and it will be early enough then to discuss the prospects of the various candidates. The weather has been very warm during the past few days, and very little work of importance has been done at Riccarton.

G. Mathews, Mr J. B. Reid's private trainer, has started at work on a three-year-old filly by Gipsy Grand from Royal Salute, named after the daughter of the youngster is rather too closely inbred, with too coarse strains to please my fancy, but it is to be hoped for her owner's sake that she will turn out well. Mr Reid has each day to be seen.

Mr Ben Curtis, well known in Dunedin racing circles, is about to leave on a visit to Australia.

A. Pringle, a Southern trotting trainer and rider, meditates a descent upon Australia with the stallion Brooklyn, the son of Blackwood, who has been advertised by that trotting enthusiast, Mr H. Marsden, of Christchurch, and has a record of 2m 2 3/4 for the mile, and 4m 5 1/2 for the two miles.

E. McComb, the Dunedin horseman, contracted to be here while the thing at the Dunedin Jockey Club's May meetings, and was laid up for some weeks. He is about again, but is still some distance removed from robust health.

CHRISTCHURCH, Tuesday.

The weights for the New Zealand Cup made their appearance in yesterday morning's paper without arousing much interest here. The public has other things on its mind just now, and, moreover, the weather has been so atrociously bad that the bare thought of racing, with its attendant early rising and loitering in the open air, is calculated to bring on an attack of the shivers. I have ranked them and run down the weights. Although I must confess my examination has been hurried, the first thing that struck me, and I fancy it will strike most

people, is the difference separating Nonette from Cruciform. Mares are little credit as the spring, and often deteriorate after they are the year-old. Nonette is, I understand, a sturdy, strong-constituted, contented colt, who may be trusted to improve with age; but daughters of St. Leger do not as a rule go off, and there are numerous instances of them showing considerable improvement at four and five years of age. Under these circumstances I think Mr Henrys may be said to have treated Cruciform leniently and Nonette a little harshly in asking them to meet at weight for sex, but there is very little in it either way, and I am quite prepared to find that Nonette, owing to his being a proved stayer and a sound, good-constituted colt, will receive more support than the filly. As a past winner that good and consistent mare Tortulla is not overweighted, and if St. Michael were certain to stand a preparation he would be sure to have a strong following. Renown has been fired, and the operation is said to have had a beneficial effect upon his legs, but it is not clear how long it will last. The day of the race. Both Pampero and Dundas will be troubled by the distance, and a similar remark applies to Cattle Chiel, and I am inclined to add, Beddington. The task of going through the list categorically may be left to your own sporting contributors, and among the rest I propose simply to touch on the few who strike me as standing out prominently. First and foremost of these I should place Melwood, whom I should select if I were compelled to undertake the impossible task of picking the winner. As a horse which has been backed for more money perhaps than any candidate, Siege Gun is not badly treated; and Lady Lillian has a good outside chance. Of Mr Prosser's three-year-olds, Ghoorka, and Cairns, are the best, but the former is their better performed stable companion; and of the other three-year-olds I like Imperator and Grand Rapids best. If the race is going to be a lightly-weighted old horse, it may fall to Sirius, Kelpy, and Triumph; but at present I fancy the winner may come from Nonette, Cruciform, Siege Gun, Melwood, and Mr Prosser's selected, and the Hon. J. D. Ormond's selected.

The following are the local betting quotations on the New Zealand Cup:—1 to 1 against Cruciform; 16 to 1 Glenaladale, 10 to 1 Nonette; 10 to 1 Achilles, Beddington, Canteen, Exmore, Halberder, Portrua, Pampero, Siege Gun, Tortulla, and Weibick; 25 to 1 Convoys, Fakir, Ghoorka, Ideal, Imperator, Kiwi, Lady Lillian, Ostiak, Renown, Sirius, and Vladimir; 25 to 1 Cattle Chiel, Dundas, and Triumph; 40 to 1 Ben, Cairns, G. man, and St. Michael; 40 to 1 E. man, Gladisla, La Valerie, Laureate, Motor, Northumberland, Olngo, and Sensation; 50 to 1 Bombarde, Calibre, Comfort, Clanburn, Grey Seaton, Kelburn, Kahawai, Meruara, Puhama, Tereclet, Triumph, Tradewind, Terrapia, and Waipawa; 60 to 1 La Valette and Ora; 100 to 1 Huku, Legion of Honour, Lolah, Magnificent, Ontario, Sarcodon, and Secret Service; 200 to 1 Romany Queen, Stepdancer, and Sparkbrook.

Ben Farley, the doubtfully bred son of Burlington or Ben Trovato, and Psyche, has changed hands, and is to be sent to the stud in the Kalkoura district during the coming season.

The weather cleared on Sunday afternoon, and for a few hours looked like remaining fine. It is now cold and cheerless, but the sun is out for a few hours. Very little work has been done at Riccarton during the week, and still less schooling.

Dundas and Calibre have both been lame during the past few days. The former was suffering from an abscess in the front of the cause, and, after being recovered as soon as the gathering was lanced; but the cause of the latter's infirmity has not been eradicated, and may give further trouble.

Huku is being kept up to the collar in view of the Wellington meeting.

A similar remark applies to Nell Perkins, Windwhistle, and Pip.

With these exceptions the locally trained animals have been taking it easy.

The South Canterbury Jockey Club has appointed Mr C. O'Connor starter for the approaching season.

HAWKE'S BAY JOCKEY CLUB WINTER MEETING.

Blue weather favoured the Jockey Club for the opening day of the Winter Meeting to-day. The attendance was large, owing to many country people having come in for the Coronation festivities. There is no telegraph wire on to the course. The course is heavy. Results:—

Trial Steeplechase Handicap of 50sovs; about 2 miles.—Phantom, 10 1/2; Eucharis, 10 1/2; Tukurangi, 1 1/2. Scratched: Awahuri, Won easily. Great Scott and Magnificent fell. Time 4 1/2. Dividends: Straight out, £14 17/; on the 1, 2 machines, 45 17/; and on Eucharis, £3 12/.

Winter Handicap of 100sovs; once round.—Dexterity, 1 1/2; Loch Erin, 5 1/2; Olngo, 1 1/2. All started. Won by a length.

Time 1:58. Dividends—Straight out £18 2/; first, 29 9/; second £1 10/.

Ladies' Bracelet of 25sovs, 2 miles.—Scratched—Valiant. Won easily. Time 4 1/2. Dividend £1 1/2.

Hack Hurdles—Vathek 1, Ogie & Cronje & Won easily.

HAWKE'S BAY HURDLES of 20sovs.

Two miles. Mr V. H. Collier's The Hemptle, aged, by Nator—Romp, 145 (Land 1) Mr J. Beckett's eh g Rufus, 145 (McGregor) 3 Mr G. P. Donnelly's b m Kahawai, 103 (M. Naylor) 3

Also started: Mofra, 127; Gimble, 145; Plain Bill, 103; Dr. Bill, 97; Mofra, 145; Willauau, 103; Sylvania, 103.

Dr. Bill took charge of affairs, and led for a mile and a quarter, when The Hemptle made a forward move, and passing Dr. Bill two furlongs from home, led into the straight, where both Rufus and Kahawai made their efforts, but the sturdy little daughter, The Nator, and Romp kept them at bay, winning by a length from Rufus, who was the same distance in advance of Kahawai. Time, 4m 4 1/2. Dividends: Straight out, £2 4/; first and second, £5 1/2 and £1 7/.

HUNT CLUB STEEPLCHASE of 40 sovs. Two miles and a half.

Mr P. Wootton's Jack-o-Lantern, 5yrs, by Wonderland—Incense, 123 (Mr A. Mitchell) 1 Mr F. M. Nelson's Chance, 119 (Mr G. Hirt) 2 Mr C. Gordon's Garnet, 110 (Mr C. Gordon) 3

Also started: Billy, 113; Peter Osbeck, 113; Hokowhitu, 117; Mazzini, 110. Peter Osbeck and Hokowhitu led in close company until half a mile from home, when both ran off, and Jack-o-Lantern won rather easily by a length. Time, 5m 50. Dividends: Straight out, £1 13/; first and second, £1 13/ and £2 1/2.

CORINTHIAN STAKES of 50sovs. One mile and a quarter.

Mr A. Mitchell's br g Convoys, 5yrs, by Vanguard—Squib, 127 (Mr A. Mitchell) 1 Mr Oliver Evans' A.B.N., 102 (Mr R. Griffin) 2 Mr C. Gordon's Ogie (Mr C. Gordon) 3

Also started: Daphne, 113; Daredevil, 111; Legion of Honour, 113; Lady's Link, 113; Pearl Shot, 109; Aroha, 107; Tukurangi, 102; Ballistite, 100; Helleponi, 100; French Maid, 100; Shackle, 100.

Convoys led all the way, and won easily. Dividends: Straight out, £5; first and second, £5 1/2 and £4 7/.

SECOND DAY.

LADIES' NECKLACE of 30sovs. About 1 1/2 miles.

Mrs F. Rhodes' A.B.N., 119 (Mr R. Griffin) 1 Defoe, 112 (Mr C. Gordon) 2 Borax, 110 (Mr R. Neagle) 3

Also started: Ballistite, 107; Athos, 107; French Maid, 100.

A.B.N. led almost from the start, and won easily. Time, 3m 15. Dividends: Straight-out, £2 1/2; first and second, £1 18/ and 17/.

HANDICAP HURDLES of 125sovs. About 1 1/2 miles.

Mr J. Cotter's Great Scott by Exchange—Armadillo, 90 (Galbraith) 1 Kahawai, 102 (Naylor) 2 The Hemptle, 115 (Lynn) 3

Also started: Trea, 119; Derrincoote, 115; Eucharis, 95; Balance, 90; Missrae, 90; Sylvania, 90; Wilson, 90.

The race was a magnificent one from start to finish, five of the starters keeping together and taking the jumps almost in line. Approaching the straight first one and then another had a trifling advantage, but after getting over the last jump the battle commenced in earnest. Great Scott, Kahawai, and The Hemptle fighting out every inch of the way, and it was only in the last stride that Great Scott got his head in front, and won by the barest of margins, while The Hemptle was less than a neck away in third place. Time, 3m 41. Dividends: Straight out, £19 16/; first and second, £13 18/ and 19/.

HACK AND HUNTERS' STEEPLCHASE of 50sovs. About 2 1/2 miles.

Mrs J. B. Rhodes' The Phantom, 127 (Mr C. Mitchell) 1 Cattle 112 (Mr G. Hirt) 2 Jack-o-Lantern, 117 (Mr A. Mitchell) 3

Also started: Peter Osbeck, 102; Clovis, 102; Hokowhitu, 100; Master Model, 97; Garnet, 97; To Rehunga, 97.

The Phantom was always in a forward position, and won by six lengths. Time, 5m 57s. Dividends: Straight out, £4 6/; first and second, £2 13/ and £1 15/.

FINAL HANDICAP of 50sovs. Six furlongs.

Mr W. Rathbone's Assayer, 103 (O'Brien) 1 Brilliantine, 93 2 Rain, 90 3

Also started: Terror, 103; Daredevil, 91; Mongonui, 91; Katrina, 91; Armadillo, 90; Shackle, 90; Helleponi, 90; French Maid, 90.

Assayer led for half a mile, when he was momentarily displaced by Terror and Daredevil, but at the distance Assayer came again, and wearing down the leaders won by a length from Brilliantine, who was just in front of Rain. Time, 1m 28. Dividends: Straight out, £5 17/; first and second, £4 18/ and £1 17/.

NAPIER PARK RACING CLUB'S WINTER MEETING.

The following handicaps were declared for the first day of the Napier Park Racing Club's Winter Meeting:—

Hack Handicap Hurdles of 50sovs, one mile and three-quarters.—Vathek 10 1/2, Levan 10 1/2, Medallion 10 1/2, Cronje 10 1/2, Reliance 10 1/2, Ogie 10 1/2, Ogie & Cronje 10 1/2, Monument 10 1/2, North Star 10 1/2, Rocket 10 1/2, Clovis 10 1/2, Master Model 10 1/2, Taha 10 1/2.

Stewards' Stakes Handicap of 100sovs, one mile and a quarter.—Convoys 11 1/2, ideal 11 1/2, Bortery 10 1/2, With-the-Wisp 10 1/2, Materoa 10 1/2, Hinstaura 10 1/2, Muraro 9 1/2, Inspan 9 1/2, Rubin 9 1/2, Daphne 9 1/2, Lady's Link 9 1/2, Ontario 9 1/2, Daredevil 9 1/2, Facion Fruit 9 1/2, Legion of Honour 9 1/2, Comfort 9 1/2, Cave 9 1/2, Brilliantine 9 1/2, Andrew 9 1/2, Modesty 9 1/2, The Pony 9 1/2.

Napier Steeplechase of 50sovs, three miles.—The Guard 12 1/2, Mofra 12 1/2, once 11 1/2, Scallywag 11 1/2, Locande 10 1/2, Princess of Thule 10 1/2, Rufus 10 1/2, The Phantom 10 1/2, Great Scott 10 1/2, Tira 9 1/2, Derrincoote 9 1/2, Dr. Bill 9 1/2, Sudden 9 1/2, Cronje 9 1/2, Vathek 9 1/2, Bergeldi 9 1/2, Awahuri 9 1/2, Master Model 9 1/2, Sir Alhol 9 1/2, M. Jam 9 1/2.

Ladies' Bracelet Handicap of 25sovs, one mile and a quarter.—Kelpy 12 1/2, Murale 12 1/2, Borax 12 1/2, Aroha 12 1/2, Valiant 12 1/2, Shackle 10 1/2, Andrew 10 1/2, Spark 10 1/2, Brook 10 1/2, Crown Prince 10 1/2, Paced 10 1/2, Aureole 10 1/2, French Maid 10 1/2, Modesty 10 1/2.

Hunters' Steeplechase of 50sovs, two miles.—The Phantom 14 1/2, Jack-o-Lantern 11 1/2, Clovis 11 1/2, Peter Osbeck 11 1/2, Chance 11 1/2, Hokowhitu 11 1/2, Billy 11 1/2, Once Gryphon 11 1/2, Gasbet 11 1/2, Mazzini 11 1/2, To Rehunga 11 1/2.

Handicap Hurdle Race of 100sovs, one mile and three-quarters.—The Guard 12 1/2, The Hemptle 11 1/2, Sabreur 11 1/2, Trea 11 1/2, Kahawai 11 1/2, Ogie 11 1/2, Once 10 1/2, Rufus 10 1/2, Great Scott 10 1/2, Strathnairn 10 1/2, Penrose 9 1/2, Reliance 9 1/2, Dr. Bill 9 1/2, Tukurangi 9 1/2, Missrae 9 1/2, Sylvania 9 1/2, Wilson 9 1/2, Ogie 9 1/2, Medallion 9 1/2.

Settlers' Hack Handicap of 50sovs, six furlongs.—Muraro 11 1/2, B.N. 11 1/2, Kohanui 10 1/2, Katrina 10 1/2, Armadillo 10 1/2, Ogie 10 1/2, Triumph 10 1/2, Culcita 9 1/2, Aroha 9 1/2, Cobra 9 1/2, Valiant 9 1/2, Rain 9 1/2, Helleponi 9 1/2, Ballistite 9 1/2, Hawaii 9 1/2, Helleponi 9 1/2, French Maid 9 1/2, Dretus 9 1/2, Inamorata 9 1/2.

THE NEW ZEALAND CUP.

CHRISTCHURCH, Saturday.

Mr Henrys has declared the following handicap for

THE NEW ZEALAND CUP of 1500sovs. Two miles.

at lb	at lb
Nonette 9 9	Bowman 6 10
Cruciform 9 4	Exmore 6 10
Tortulla 9 3	Kahawai 6 9
St. Michael 8 11	Ogie 6 9
Renown 8 11	Glen 6 9
Pampero 8 8	Sensation 6 9
Dundas 7 12	Tereclet 6 9
Beddington 7 12	Grand Rapids 6 9
Cattle Chiel 7 11	Triumph 6 8
Halberder 7 11	Kiwi 6 8
Ideal 7 10	Sirius 6 8
Ostiak 7 10	Tradewind 6 8
Achilles 7 10	Convoys 6 8
Siege Gun 7 9	Kelpy 6 8
Canterbury 7 9	Magnificent 6 8
Melwood 7 9	Huku 6 7
Porrua 7 9	Leg'n of Honour 6 7
Glenaladale 7 4	Sparkbrook 6 7
Motor 7 0	Laureate 6 7
Golden Vein 7 0	Clanburn 6 7
North'mbr'land 7 0	Comfort 6 7
Ghoorka 6 13	Convoys 6 7
Vladimir 6 13	Sarcodon 6 7
Imperator 6 12	Bombarde 6 7
Grey Seaton 6 12	Waipawa 6 7
Weibek 6 12	Ringman 6 7
Lavalette 6 12	Secret Society 6 7
Calibre 6 11	La Valerie 6 7
Lady Lillian 6 11	Stepdancer 6 7
Fakir 6 10	Lolah 6 7
Menura 6 10	Ora 6 7
Terrapin 6 10	Romany Queen 6 7

V.R.C. GRAND NATIONAL HURDLE RACE.

MELBOURNE, June 1.

Holkar continues favourite for the V.R.C. Grand National Hurdle Race, 3 to 1 being the best offer against him. Battlease has been supported to win a few hundred, 5 to 10's and 10's to 1, being mostly New Zealand money.

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