

NOTICE TO MAKE RETURNS OF LAND UNDER THE LAND AND INCOME ASSESSMENT ACT, 1902.

Land and Income Tax Department, Wellington, 20th March, 1903. Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of the above Act, and the regulations made thereunder, every person and Company within the meaning of the said Act, being owner of Land in New Zealand, or being the holder or owner of any mortgage or mortgages of Land in New Zealand, is hereby required to make and furnish to me in the prescribed form, returns of such land and mortgages as at twelve o'clock noon on the 31st day of March instant.

And, further, notice is hereby given that such returns shall in all cases be delivered at or forwarded to the Office of the Commissioner of Taxes, in the Government Buildings at Wellington, on or before the last day of May, 1903.

JOHN MCGOWAN, Commissioner of Taxes.

NOTE - Form of Return may be obtained at any Postal Money Order Office.



TURF FIXTURES.

April 11 and 12—Wairarapa R.C. Autumn
April 11, 12, and 14—Auckland R.C. Autumn
April 13 and 14—C.F.C. Autumn
April 25th and 26th—Auckland Jockey Club

TURF NOTES.

Blairharrig is again in work at Ellerslie, but it is questionable whether he will stand.

Watfiki continues favourite for the Easter Handicap.

Guardsvan II. has changed hands, and report says goes into a stable at Ellerslie.

Miami, engaged in pony races at the Auckland Racing Club's Autumn Meeting, is by St. Jack.

The hunting season in Auckland is expected to commence the last week in the present month or the first week in May.

Nominations for the minor races of the Auckland Jockey Club's autumn meeting must be accounted for very good.

St. Kilda, in his time one of the most useful sires in this part of the colony, is being used as a back in the Humpy distict.

Annexed, who is now little better than the best pony in the land, twelve months ago was racing with little over the minimum weight.

A new fence has been erected between the lawn at Ellerslie and the bog, corner. It will be completed in a few days, and will be found more convenient than the old one.

Acceptances for the Tradesman's Plate, Handicap Hurdles, Eden Handicap, Oshlow Stakes, Pony Handicap, and Railway Handicap, to be decided at the Auckland Racing Club's summer meeting, close on Friday.

The steeplechaseur Manifesto has contested in seven Liverpool Grand Nationals, and yet they say English horses are not just long.

A.B.N., who has been winning races in the Hawke's Bay and Poverty Bay districts for two seasons past, claims an older brother, who has been used for some time at Humpy as a butcher's back. He may be tried over hurdles shortly.

Mr. T. Quinlivan and R. Macnamara both sent letters to the committee of the Auckland Racing Club in reference to their disqualification over the Turf at the summer meetings. The letters have been referred to the stewards.

Ropa, by St. Leger-Brown's Albee, has finished in front of Strathaven in several gallops of late, in consequence of which Strathaven is in less favour than he was for the Easter Handicap, while Ropa is being fancied more for his engagements.

Surely the name of Maiden Plate is misapplied to a race when it will permit of the entry of Green and Gold, who has won seven out of eight races on end within the past three months. Quite a number of small race winners are engaged in the Avondale Maiden Plate.

There is an aged half-sister by Flibbick to Honeys at Pukerangi, in the Wairarapa. She has never been raced, and is only this season being bred from. Some record of such members of good families that cannot be included in the New Zealand Stud Book should be kept.

The acceptances received by the Auckland Racing Club for their autumn meeting are such as should have attracted interest, such as the majority of those that have been paid up for sand their ground. There are thirteen in the Tradesman's Handicap, eleven in the Eden Handicap, ten in the Oshlow Stakes, fourteen in the Pony Handicap, and a dozen in the Railway Handicap.

Westward was withdrawn from the Auckland R.C. Easter Handicap, as was quickly expected during the past few days. She has not yet been asked to race over a mile course, but has invariably run out her shorter-distance engagements well, and this made many back her for the Easter, in which she was treated well enough, in consequence early backers to suppose she would be given a run.

The Wairarapa Racing Club received in nominations for fourteen races for their coming meeting an average of just on thirty horses per race, the chief event, the Thompson Handicap, having no fewer than forty-five entered in the respective handicaps, there are twenty-four and twenty-five horses entered. The name of Achilles is missing from the handicaps on the first day, but he is engaged in the Autumn Handicap on the second day, and also in the seven-furlong event.

A model of a scratching board, worked by electricity, which has been devised by Mr. M. Day, of Ballarat, was on view at the Ballarat Minors' racecourse on March 17th, says an exchange, Hitherto, where appliances of this kind have been tried, the difficulty, owing to the extreme sensitiveness of the armature to vibration, has been to keep the shutters upon which the numbers are painted in a standing position. This has been overcome by having the armature worked from the centre, instead of from the ends. An automatic plunger is used for restoring the shutters.

Several of the horses that competed at the Manuka races started three times, while no fewer than four races during the afternoon. This is country sport! Commenting on the fact, a calous follower of the game remarked, "It would never do to treat a racehorse like that, but these grass-feds, you know, can't go fast enough to hurt themselves." Perhaps not, but the mare that was saddled up four times, and secured a place in each of her engagements, would be glad when the afternoon's entertainment to which she contributed so largely was over.

A peculiar lawsuit was engaging attention at San Francisco when the last mail left. Veterinary-surgeon E. P. Roberge brought an action for 100,000 dollars against the executors of the estate of the late Robert E. Bonner for his services for a period of 27 years. Mr. Roberge stated that from 1876 to 1882 he had received no remuneration for his services, and that he had also furnished the medicine when the animals were sick. He claims that Mr. Bonner promised him that he would make a will in his will giving him 700,000 dollars, and says that when the will was produced that no provision had been made for him. He says when he made this claim it was ignored, hence the suit.—Exchange.

The New York "Spirit of the Times" has the following par. about the American jockey O'Connor, recently engaged to go to France:—"Winnie O'Connor was sailed for France, and the waters in the bay did not show any rise owing to the salt tears shed by bewailing punters of his native benth. O'Connor was a genuine, cool, earnest, and, if the truth must be told, was always an over-rated jockey, anyhow. He was honest, but so are lots of more or less incapable people, and in almost every walk of life an excessively stout espagnole is calculated to produce honesty, especially if a good salary is also forthcoming.

At a race meeting on the West Coast of the North Island some little time ago, a close finish resulted between a couple of visiting hacks. A Maori had been watching that finish with breathless excitement, for such a horse carried his last \$1. Some one yelled "dead heat," whereupon the copper-coloured one jerked out: "My horse he dead heat he lose." This reminds me of an incident at one of the Otago meetings, where all the members and officials of the club are natives. The judge had evidently made a mistake in picking the winner, whereupon the timekeeper appeared on the scene and challenged the ruling of the man in the box pointing to the horse he thought was the winner. The judge said, "Well, he said, 'I take the time by that horse.'"

Steps are being taken to put racing in Canada on a thoroughly satisfactory basis (says an exchange). This can easily be done, for the Canadian Jockey Club has a charter from the government that confers on its members almost powers. In fact, they are in a better position than those of any similar organisation in the world, with the exception of the French Societe d'Encouragement, as they are specially deputed by the Government to run the turf, so no opposing body can exist if they choose to exercise their functions. This for several years the club failed to do, as its members almost never met since 1893 until a few weeks ago.

A writer in the "Argus," commenting on the services of the sales of horses by auction in Melbourne, said that for Mr. Andrew Yullo to get bids at the yardling sales in Melbourne was like trying to "get butter out of a dog's mouth," which is a proverbial bad job. The catalogue comprised 100 lots, but of these only twenty-five were of Mr. James Wilson, sen., were withdrawn.

Mr. J. V. Smith was disgusted with the sale, and stated he would breed no more yearlings. The highest price realised was 370gs., given by the public for a chestnut colt by Phippin's Progress from Lady Belle, by Sir Berya. A filly by Wallace from La Tosca was knocked down to Mr. E. Austin at 350gs., and goes into Scoble's stable.

Some racegoers make it a practice of following grey horses and supporting them in their races. At the coming meeting of the Auckland Racing Club they will not have a very wide selection, the victor, Queen's Guard, and the locally-trained Queen—Vivandere gelding with the suggestive name Bacchus (dark us), being the only pair engaged. Followers of Queen's Guard have had little to complain of, but Bacchus has been amongst the best successful of the grey family to which he belongs. I once heard a racegoer say that he always gave a £1 chance on a grey horse because he could see the one he had backed without trouble, and really did not know one horse from another of the same colour. It was a consistent supporter of old Voltiger, the 'chaser, who left him well on the right side of the ledger.

The Avondale Jockey Club's Autumn Meeting is set down to commence on Saturday, April 25th. The second day was fixed for Wednesday, April 26th, but on that day the Auckland City elections are on, and the committee were desirous of altering the date to the following Saturday, seeing that there will be a heavy demand for cabs on Sunday, May 2nd, owing to the meeting of the Auckland Trotting Club's Meeting. The Auckland Trotting Club would willingly have extended their day of meeting, but seeing that the Alexandra Park is required for the following Saturday, this could not well be arranged. At a committee meeting yesterday it was decided by the Avondale Jockey Club to hold the dates for which their meeting was first fixed, viz., April 25th and 26th.

The Manuka races did not attract many visitors, nor were settlers from the immediate district in force. There were seven events. Mulwah, 10; beat Black, 10; Major, 12; and The Archer, 12.4, in the hurdle race. Sailor Boy, Walpiti, and Gabelle filled the places in the Maiden Plate, there being four other starters. Certain, 0.7, beat Winnie, 0.7; Major, 12; Archer, 11.10; Mick, 8.0; and Cupel, 8.0, in the Cup. Fida, who carried in the respective races 8.7 and 9.12, was not in the Pony and Publicans' Handicap, in which he was beaten by Certain, 0.7; Winnie, 0.7; Koteo, 8.7; Lady Bird, 10; and Ping Pong, 8.0, behind her, and in the last-named event Winnie, 10.0; Certain, 10.0; Major, 12.7; The Archer, 12.4; Cupel, 8.0; Broker, 8.7; and The Skipper, 8.0. The consolation for the Maid, Winnie, Ping Pong, and Major being the other runners. The Trot was won by Sultan, who beat Ida, Darkie, and Laury.

Horses that have been racing at country meetings during the past two months that are sure to give a good account of themselves if they are well on the opening day of the Auckland meeting, allowing that the going is good, are given as follows:—Miss Lottie and Numa. The sister to Watfiki has certainly been fortunate in meeting horses of little account in most of her races, and in recent weeks with her treatment in her past racing she has become decidedly under-rated, for there is no question that she is a most useful mare. Miss Lottie was thought so little of a short time ago that she attempted to put her to the stud, but she bids fair to be a good one. She is a worthy daughter of a good mare. The union of the Auckland Cup winners St. Hippo and Lottie is one from which much was expected. Now that Miss Lottie is maturing she may make amends for all previous disappointments. I look for her to come out a good mare next season, for she can gallop fast, and when I saw her run last looked like staying on, and in fact she has been able to beat Numa in several races, and she is a good one. It is useful over short distances to represent about the best country form of visiting horses.

There was a deal of interest centred in the Autumn Stakes, at weight-for-age race, at Rosehill on the 21st of the month, owing to the fact that Great Scot was one of the starters. In recording the fact the "Sydney Morning Herald" says that backers did not hesitate to lay odds on him, and he jumped off in front and made the running, as it is understood he likes to. Grable kept in his wake, and turning into the straight drew up to him. There was a good fight up to the distance, and it was doubtful which of them would prevail. Richardson had to duck the whip of Great Scot, and he seemed to shrink from it. Cyanide answering the call gamely, forged ahead and won easily. Here was a downfall for the hero of the N.Z.C. Autumn Meeting. No excuse can be offered for his error, says the writer, but it must be admitted that Cyanide looked in the pluck of condition, and on that fact many judges supported her in the betting, for she is a good mare. Patronage was an indifferent third.

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