

Easter Monday and Tuesday. In his absence Mr Stead will probably fall back on Jones.

I hear that McComb will ride St. Dennis in the Easter Handicap, and that the King intends to accept an offer to ride Shearwater's horses at the Auckland meeting; while I understand that the local supply of trustworthy horsemen will fall short of the demand.

The hurdle racehorse Long Tom is now an inmate of W. Clarke's stable.

By the boat which arrived in Wellington on Tuesday Mr H. D. Buchanan, a Canterbury hunting man, imported a thoroughly-bred two-year-old Thoroughbred. The horse, which was bred in Ireland, will be used by Mr Buchanan as a mount when he is old enough. Mr Buchanan is a brother to the owner of Secret Society and Whirling.

CHRISTCHURCH, Tuesday.

The weather has again been a source of trouble to local trainers. Rain fell heavily throughout Saturday afternoon and the following night, and although the weather cleared for a few hours on Sunday, a driving mist set in in the evening, and lasted until yesterday afternoon. The weather cleared, and the sun shone brightly, but there is an uncomfortable apprehension that it is not settled, if, however, it should remain fine over the Easter races, the going at Riccarton on Easter Sunday and Tuesday will probably be superb. I shall have an opportunity later on in the week of giving my final selections for the meeting. In the meantime, local candidates for the Great Easter Handicap are doing well. The one exception is Cora Linn, who is sore again. Lady Lillian is probably the best of the Riccarton trained lot, although Secret Society must be overrated. Still, I scarcely think that any of the Riccarton division will beat Orioff, and he, in turn, may go down before one of the Southerners.

Welbeck's leg finally gave out on Saturday, and the son of Perkin Warbeck was sent for the Great Easter Handicap yesterday. His withdrawal still leaves in a fairly powerful local contingent, of which Orioff and Cannie Chiel are probably the best. Sirius, I suppose, will not come up, now that he is ailing.

Machine Gun quite captivated the touts last week, when he paid a visit to Riccarton, and it is difficult to see how he is going to lose the Champagne Stakes. Treadmill, however, has improved a good deal lately, and may extend Mr Stead's beautiful coil.

The riders in the Great Easter Handicap may be—Orioff, F. Jones, Pallas, H. Donovau, C. Jenkins, Vladimir, L. G. King, Petrovna, A. Godfrey, Red Gauntlet, W. Holmes, Blazer, T. O'Brien, Windwhistle, J. Pine, Lady Lillian, D. Morraghan, Cora Linn, R. Deputy, Golden Vein, J. MacCluskey, Motor, G. Price, Secret Society, T. Pine.

The following are some of the prospective riders in the Great Autumn Handicap:—Orioff, F. Jones; Pallas, H. Donovau; Cannie Chiel, J. MacCluskey; Terrapin, R. King; Lady Lillian, D. Morraghan; Cora Linn, R. Deputy; Golden Vein, J. MacCluskey; Motor, G. Price; Secret Society, T. Pine.

The following business has been done locally on the Great Easter and Great Autumn Handicaps:—1200 to 12 against Blazer and Cannie Chiel, 600 to 4 for Lady Lillian, 400 to 2 for Golden Vein and Lady Lillian, 500 to 24 Orioff and General Symons, 800 to 4 Cora Linn and Fleks, 700 to 10 Secret Society and Lady Lillian, 800 to 7 Orioff and Orioff, 600 to 4 Orioff and Lady Lillian, 400 to 15 Orioff and Orioff, 400 to 8 Pampero and Pallas, 400 to 12 Red Gauntlet and Orioff, 400 to 10 Vladimir and Cannie Chiel, 400 to 2 Vladimir and Stepdancer, 400 to 4 Pallas and Terrapin, 400 to 10 St. Dennis and Cannie Chiel.

In addition to the Hewitt, W. Brown will be in the starter from riding next week. The latter is laid up with a bad attack of rheumatic gout.

Although Ayrdale fell while being schooled yesterday morning, he is not doing at all badly in his lessons over hurdles.

Mascovite has gone amiss, and will not be a starter at the coming meeting.

Calibre and Cyclamen, though still on the active list, are both giving their trainer a great deal of trouble.

It is stated here that Gallagher was offered the mount on Petrovna in the Great Easter Handicap.

Interest in the match between Fritz and Richmond grows in proportion to the approach of the contest. The connections of both horses profess to be quite confident, and they declare that their representatives are thoroughly well. This being the case, an outsider may well offer making a choice until the very last moment.

AVONDALE JOCKEY CLUB'S AUTUMN MEETING.

The following entries have been received for the above meeting, which takes place on April 25 and 26:—

FIRST DAY.

Maiden Plate.—Nereld, Leo Delaval, Hill-flo, Lavadel, Seaton, Queen Anne, Bastion, Muskedale, Swagsman, Roles, Irish, Milie, Green and Gold, Hinetapuri, Croupler, Glasgow, Aurega, Frank Dodd, Bloodstone, 1s.

Handicap.—Hippowal, Inchcape, Evermore, Lingard, Royal Conqueror, Haydn, Mokomoko, The Rhoter, Tashel, Sudden. Juvenile Handicap.—Lady Rose, Merry

Soul, Stibbington, Alba Rose, Idasa, Deademon, Matamu, Atrapas, Ropa, Walpura, Bonheur, Te Aroha, Delania, Lady Annie, Lady Bobs, Simple Simon, Datedoll, The Squincher, The Middy.

First Pony Handicap.—Sweet Marie, Annoyed, Inspiration, First Whisper, Sentinel, Ronica, Vulpine, Culmine, The Dodger, Sandow, Girton, Girdy, Gladys Rose, Forth, Miami, Irish Boy, Rapid, Report.

First Hack Handicap.—Kilkenny, Pukaki, Lavadel, Carmonier, Queen Anne, Bastion, Apparition, Bobs, Irish, Le Beau, Rapid, Ian.

Auction Stakes.—Nereld, 11; Little Jim, £50; Telephone, £50; Lavadel, £40; Seaton, £30; Bacchus, £30; Mary Seaton, £30; Maro; Paris, 11; Kohla, £40.

SECOND DAY.

Malden Hurdles.—Sirdar, Kotiro, Revealer (late Confessor), Lady Dash, Walman, Linden, St. Gordon, Guntre, The Rhoter, Meteor, Glimockie, St. Rowan.

Flying Handicap.—Coma, Austerlitz, Little Jim, Orange and Blue, Leo Delaval, Sonica, Telephone, Hillflower, Vulpine, Camille, Cygnat, Maro, Numa, Milite, Hinetapuri, Paris, Croupler, Kohla, Glasgow, Governess, Anchorite, Bloodstone.

Second Pony Handicap.—Avalanche, Sweet Marie, Annoyed, Inspiration, First Whisper, Sentinel, Sonica, Vulpine, Culmine, The Dodger, Sandow, Girton, Girdy, Gladys Rose, Forth, Whawhai, Miami, Irish Boy, Rapid, Bloodstone, Report.

Nursery Handicap.—Lady Rose, Merry Soul, Idasa, Deademon, Matamu, Atrapas, Ropa, Bonheur, Te Aroha, Delania, Lady Annie, Le Beau, Simple Simon, The Squincher, The Middy.

Second Hack Handicap.—Kilkenny, Pukaki, Lavadel, Lingard, Carmonier, Queen Anne, Bastion, Apparition, Sandow, Bobs, Irish, The Beau, Rapid, Ian.

Waltaker Handicap.—Coma, Austerlitz, Mrs. Kelly, Dolores, Orange and Blue, Leo Delaval, St. Gordon, Maro, Numa, Gold, Idsa, Camille, Landcock, Southsea, Seatonia, Takapuna, Scotty, Formala, Muskedale, Swagsman, Mary Seaton, Cygnat, Jean, Hinetapuri, Paris, Croupler, Golden Rose, Governess, Anchorite, Grey Seaton, Frank Dodd, Miss Lottie.

CANTERBURY JOCKEY CLUB'S AUTUMN MEETING.

CHRISTCHURCH, Wednesday.

The following handicaps have been declared by Mr Henrys for events to be run at the C.J.C. Autumn Meeting:—

Kilidge Hurdles.—Victor II, 10.13, Long Tom, 10.8, Scotford, 10.8, Beller, 10.8, Nance O'Neill, 9.12, Cianbun, 9.7, Slow Tom, 9.3, Ayrdale, 9.2, Umalopogaa, 9.0.

Epsom Welter Handicap.—Ostak 11.6, Windwhistle 10.5, Moscovite 9.13, Ardnaff 9.12, Lady Roslyn 9.8, Hypnotist 9.3, Ragbarah 9.3, Lavalette 9.2, 10.9, Lamberton 8.8, Kelburn 8.8, Kopu 8.0, Sattler 8.0, Antigone 8.0, Lady Babbie 8.0, Natalie 8.0.

Seckburn Handicap.—Motor, 8.18, Scylla 8.3, Fleks 8.8, Ardnaff 8.8, Golden Vein 8.8, Lady Roslyn 8.2, Romanay Queen 7.10, Sirius 7.9, Lavalette 7.8, Bell 7.8, Loish 7.8, Narissus 7.6, Scottish Minister 7.5, Zealons 7.2, King Stork 7.0, Stepdancer 6.10, Skobelet 6.7, Ordance 6.7, Antigone 6.7, Natalie 6.7.

Russley Plate.—Quarryman 8.5, Seaton Brown 8.0, Brae 7.5, Crown Hat 7.5, Walterer 7.5, Leopard 7.2, Crown Imperial 7.2, Roscomman 7.0.

NEW ZEALAND TROTTING ASSOCIATION.

CHRISTCHURCH, Thursday.

At a meeting of the Trotting Association the Kingwood case, an appeal from the decision of the stewards of the Waikato Jockey Club, was further considered, when the previous motion was rescinded, and the appeal of Mr Hunter, the owner of Kingwood, upheld. It was also decided to write to the club pointing out that it had failed to carry out the rules in conducting the case. An appeal was received from the owner of Typewriter against the decision of the Otago Trotting Club stewards in a protest against Durbar for crossing. A letter was also read from one of the patrol stewards. It was decided to forward a copy of the letter to the club. Correspondence was read regarding the conduct of the Otago Trotting Club's meeting. It was decided to forward a copy of the letter to the club for explanation.

ENGLISH RACING.

LONDON, April 4.

The Royal Castle Handicap at Windsor resulted as follows:— Grey Tick, ch. b. by Father Confessor—Special Virg. 6 yrs. 1 Australian Star, blk. b. by Australian Peer—Colours, 6 yrs. 2 Annet II, b. f. by Soudan—Aster, 6 yrs. 8

SALE OF A FAMOUS MARE.

LONDON, April 1.

Mr Stevier has sold the famous racing mare Scipira to Captain Bess. It is believed that the price was 20,000 guineas.

Every dog will have his day, And life its ups and downs, The face may wear a smile to-day, To-morrow perhaps a frown; When things run smooth we little guess What we may yet endure, As coughs and colds, 'tis then we bless Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.



The Russian navy has ordered 110,000 tons of Northumberland steam coal.

Mr. Chamberlain characterises it as a most important expedition and admirably executed.

Floods on the Mississippi have caused five millions sterling of damage to the cotton plantations.

It is officially announced that the King and Queen will visit Ireland in the course of July or August.

Owing to cheapness of carriage, German troops are being sent to China over the Siberian railway.

The Finns have purchased 300,000 acres in Michigan, where they will settle as immigrants.

The "Daily Express" states that the King has entered a horse for the £10,000 at St. Louis World's Fair.

The "Times" Marconigram messages from New York have been sanctioned in order to enable the Postmaster-General to test the system.

Count von Bulow, the German Chancellor, had a long interview with Count Prenetti, Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs, at Rome.

It is proposed by the friends and admirers of the late Bishop Abrahams to create a scholarship to his memory at Selwyn College, Cambridge.

The Australian and New Zealand Mortgage Company for last year shows a debit balance of £29,607, which is brought forward.

A severe earthquake occurred on March 30 in Jerusalem, and though the damage done was slight, the inhabitants were panic stricken.

Owing to the magistrates continuing their refusal to enforce the conscription regulations the Taar has removed the Mayors of 11 Finnish towns.

The Standard Oil and other companies' storage tanks at Calcutta have been burned, involving damage to the value of four thousand lakhs of rupees.

The Financial Secretary to the Treasury states that the deficit to be met by the signatories of the Pacific cable agreement during the coming year is estimated at £95,000.

The Canadian House of Commons, by a majority of 61, adopted the resolution moved by Mr Costigan, expressing a hope that the Irish land question would be permanently settled.

The War Office is inviting tenders for 100,000lb of compressed corned mutton in 2lb, and 100,000lb in 1lb tins. Tenders are returnable on July 29, in order to enable colonials to compete.

Sir Thomas Lipton is greatly pleased at the trial of Shamrock III. on the Clyde. The yacht proved herself exceedingly smart in stays and outstayed Shamrock I.

A balloon was being inflated at Budepeeth when it broke away, carrying with it three aeronauts, who fell to the ground. Two were killed and one seriously injured.

Speaking in the House of Lords, Lord Lansdowne officially confirmed the statement that the Sultan had intimated that the Turkish troops had been withdrawn from the Aden Hinterland.

The Trusean Copper Company is suing the Bewick Moring Company mining engineers for libel alleged to be contained in a report on the property. The claim is for half a million in damages.

Count Zborowski, a well-known sportsman, was killed while motor-racing at Nice.

Zborowski's mechanic was also killed. The motor ran full tilt against a rock, going at the rate of sixty miles an hour.

Sir William Hart Dyke is to introduce a bill in the House of Commons to restrict the discretion of justices in cancelling publicans' licenses pending the

arrangement of a scheme of compensation.

In the House of Commons Mr Brodrick, Secretary for War, stated that the Court of Inquiry into the circumstances of Lord Methuen's capture by the Boers entirely absolved Lord Methuen from responsibility.

Archbishop Walsh, addressing a meeting in Dublin, protested against describing the twelve million proposed to be advanced under the Irish Land Bill as an English gift to the Irish people, since Ireland provides the greater part of the money.

The Rev. W. Barr has taken a large party of immigrants to Canada. This is the first part of a scheme to settle sixty townships of Saskatchewan. The move has already resulted in the transferring of half a million sterling to the Canadian banks.

The New York correspondent of the "Times" reports that the labour situation in the United States is grave. Daily strikes are threatened at every port. The same organ states that the chief cause of this state of affairs is the employment of non-union men and boys.

Reuter's Agency states that Admiral Dewey, in the course of an interview in New York, declared that Americans ought to give Great Britain more credit for real friendship. Britain, he said, was America's best and safest friend and her largest customer.

Thirty-six magazines for the storage of corn have been erected throughout Germany at a cost of half-a-million sterling to render farmers independent of the fluctuations of the markets. The Government advances money against corn.

The House of Commons, by 187 to 80, approved of the Government's proposal for a joint Lords and Commons Committee to consider the need of legislative powers to regulate municipal trading. Mr John Burns led the opposition to the proposal.

After Marcel Prevost, the French novelist, had been elected president of the Societe des Belles Lettres, Madeleine Fourer, the prototype of the heroine of his "Lettres de Femme," shot at him twice in the street, to call attention to the fact that he abandoned her. The novelist declined to prosecute.

As an evident rejoinder to Admiral Dewey's assertions of American naval superiority over Germany, Count Kevonville has declared at Berlin that the American naval manoeuvres showed immaturity and bad shooting, while the moral personnel of the navy was very low.

Sir F. Lugard has cabled to Mr. Chamberlain that Sokoto was occupied on March 15 after a feeble resistance. The Sultan of Sokoto and his chiefs fled, but many of the latter returned. He adds that the expeditionary force is now disbanding.

Mr Pierpont Morgan's big Trust Company, officially known as the International Mercantile Marine Company, has filed at Trenton a proposed amendment to the original charter enabling it to sell or hire its vessels to America or to any other Government for any purpose.

Mr Akers Douglas, the Home Secretary, stated in the House of Commons that the new regulations for the examination of dead bodies prior to cremation were so searching that he believed there would be more likelihood of detecting crimes similar to the Klossowski poisoning cases than heretofore.

At the instance of Sir Robt. Finlay, the Attorney-General, and with a view to maturing a scheme for a great school in London where there shall be systematic teaching in all branches of law administration within the Empire, Mr Justice Farwell has suspended the application for £100,000 arising from the sale of New Inn and Clifford's Inn.