

THE SOUTH BRITISH FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND.

An Interim Dividend of 2.6 per share for the Half year ended 28th February, 1903, is now payable. Shareholders can obtain Warrants on application at the Company's Office.

By order of the Board,

JAMES KIRKILL, General Manager.

Auckland, 7th April, 1903.



TURF FIXTURES.

- April 18—Okoroire R.C. Annual
April 22, 23—South Canterbury J.C.
April 23 and 25—Wellington R.C. Autumn
April 25—Waikarapa Hack Guineas (1904)
April 25 and 26—Avalonia J.C. Autumn
April 29 and 30—Manawatu R.C. Autumn
May 6 and 7—Leamont R.C. Winter
May 9—Christchurch R.C. Autumn
May 14 and 15—Ashburton County R.C.
May 16 and 20—Takapuna J.C. Winter
May 21 and 22—Wanganui J.C. Winter
June 3 and 6—Dunedin J.C. Winter
June 10 and 11—North Otago J.C. Winter

TURF NOTES.

Lady Rose is the name bestowed upon the two-year-old full sister to Waitiki. Matamua, the filly who has been confounded with Lady Rose, is the colt by Castor from Lady Peter, owned by Mr Lovett.

To carry 10.4 and win a mile race recently at Roskill in 1.43, Austella was voted to have put up a great performance. St. Paul carried 10.0 at Ellerslie on one occasion, and was credited with running the mile in 1.41. Novette won the Easter Handicap, carrying 9.11, in 1.42.

The polo pony Leyland, by Maskapeer, the Steppack pony Ekse, and the Exchange pony The Imp, have been purchased by Mr F. Butler, a visitor to Auckland from South Africa, who will probably take them to their destination next month. Leyland is a 13.3 pony, Ekse 14 hands, while The Imp stands under 14.2 in his shoes.

After discussing a return showing the result of the Zealandia Plate for three-year-olds and upwards, the committee of the Wellington Racing Club have decided to withdraw that race from the 1904 programme. The committee have also decided to come in with the directors of the Hutt Park Railway with a view to improving the railway communication to the course.

Although it was generally supposed that the champion gallopway mare Miberra was a 14.1 colt on one of her forelegs, she has put up well in her recent races, and Mr Stewart, the well known v.t., has passed her as being sound. That being so, says "Martindale," in the "Town and Country Journal," she should not go begging for a purchaser.

Whoever the Randwick tracks were closed against, trainers, they invariably took their horses over to Koningston, say in exchange. On the popular pony track they could always be sure of being allowed to gallop on payment of a special fee of 5s. Such, however, will not be the case in the future, as the Koningston proprietors have fixed the charge for a gallop now at 4l.

The "New York Herald" is responsible for the statement that Mrs Langtry will race on the American turf this year. She will take Sullax and three others of her English horses over. Rowe, who trains for Mr James H. Keene and Mr Foxall Keene, and Madder, who trains for W. C. White, w.t.c. It is stated, assist Mrs Langtry in opening her racing career in America.

I fancy that "hateful" training establishments have seen their day, says a writer in London "Truth," and that in the course of the next two years some other prominent owners will follow the Duke of Devonshire's example, and transfer their studs to the charge of private trainers. In some "fashionable" stables the trainer has twice as many horses under his care as any man can possibly do justice to.

It is singular that our crack three and four year olds should each have a dash of Nordenfeldt blood. Achilles is by Medallion, son of Nordenfeldt; Waitiki is from Ross and White, daughter of Nordenfeldt; Grief is by Steppack, son of Nordenfeldt; Cruciform and Novette are both from Nordenfeldt mares. King Log, one of our best two-year-olds, is also by a son of Nordenfeldt.

There is at present a boom in trotting circles in Melbourne, according to an Australian paper, and several important races are about to be decided. Lightfoot, by Oberly-Yanvrouer, is expected to meet the recently imported New Zealand stallion Ahnaut, by Rothschild-Puebla, owned by Mr L. Robertson, at Epson race-course, on Easter Saturday, April 18th, in a distance of two miles, for 20 mvs a-side, and a purse of 25 mvs. Both Ahnaut and Lightfoot are pacers, and will race in harness. Lightfoot is a true galloped trotter, and on these occasions will race under saddle.

his inland home at Dubbo, N.S. Wales, via Sydney, and he is a sportsman who does not look at expense. As for Mr Price, it was only a few months ago that he offered to bring his little champion to Auckland, and give exhibitions at Alexandra Park. Not only would a contest for a purse, or merely exhibitions of trotting and pacing form such as Felix and Ribbonwood respectively can show, be of the greatest interest, but would give a much needed lift to the sport in Auckland, where the highest class exponents of both gaita have never yet been seen.

The rich man who maintains a large up to date establishment in the country, always has some fast horses in his stable, but they are not of the heavy harness type nor are they used in heavy vehicles. If the owner is likely to miss his train in the morning, he orders out his light wagon and a trotter. If it rains, and he has time to go more leisurely in the depot wagon. It is roomy and pedant, heated. Besides being fitted with many things which may not be carried in a light buggy. Similarly with all kinds of phaetons. They are comfortable and handsome. They were never designed for speed. Why then make races for such harness in such rigs? There is no need for heavy harness that is really fit for driving such horses in the show ring up to a rate of speed that would be illegal in the street.

Now comes the proposal from the Atlantic Coast country to have "heavy harness races" this summer, says an American exchange. By this speed is meant to arrange races in heavy harness than three really fit for driving such horses in the show ring up to a rate of speed that would be illegal in the street.

Mr F. McGovern, of Hawera, and Mr Oulu of the same district, have purchased the Rukahia, the housestead of Williamson Bros, in the Waikato, and will shortly send a number of their thoroughbred horses through to their newly acquired estate. Mr McGovern has done some racing in the Taranaki district during about twenty years past, and will be sure to have a representative or two at the local meetings during next season. The Auckland Cup and Derby winner Nestor will likely be used there for stud purposes. Mr McGovern has a lot of youngsters by the son of St. Leger and Tamora, which give much promise of developing into useful animals.

It is a common complaint among trainers of ponies that the boys who ride at the successful in the saddle, at race meetings will not put in an appearance in the mornings to ride work, says a Sydney paper. To get over this difficulty the Kensington Club has passed a rule providing that jockeys must attend at least three mornings during the week, at the opening of the course, at either Kensington, Rosbery Park, Brighton, Canterbury Park, Roskill, or Moorefield, and be prepared to ride work, failing which they will be charged the usual entrance fee to the saddling paddock at the meetings of the club.

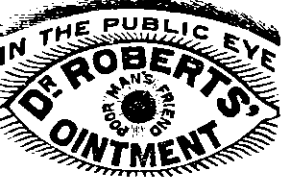
I was talking the other day to Kes Heaton at Green Lane, when he told me there was one member of his team that had never yet worn clothing. This is Vivandee, the big roan daughter of Senton Delaval and Vivandee, owned by Mr J. Lynch. She is a much overgrown one, but there is no doubt she can gallop fast over a few furlongs, and time will serve her. As it is Heaton's intention to follow on with the filly without clothing her, it will be interesting to note how she trails on. Many horses are by far too heavily clothed. Of this there is no doubt, and it is certain that too many are by far too closely confined in boxes that are not properly ventilated, which is the cause of more horse sickness than is generally supposed.

The decision given by Sir Robert Stout in the case, Wellington Racing Club versus Solomon Lewis, in which the latter was charged with trespassing on the club's course at the Hutt, will prevent bookmakers from doubling betting bags, whilst they are present on the course; but, says "Sentinel," in the "Otago Wings," the metallicians regard the expected so long as they do not occasionally ply their pencils, so that it is extremely doubtful if the Club will gain much besides the glory of the victory. It will give straight out betting a set back at a time when punters are commencing to get educated up to the value of betting, and encourage the tote betting, which has been the real cause of all the warfare in this colony between the racing clubs and the metallicians.

That the greatest possible interest was evoked in the big trotting match between Fritz, the Australian champion trotter, and the New Zealand champion pacer Ribbonwood, will be gathered from the fact that a number of Taranaki enthusiasts went all the way South expressly to witness the event. It would be a revelation to North Island lovers of the trotting horse if Mr Buckland and Mr D. Price, the respective owners of these fine horses, could be prevailed upon to bring them to Auckland to give exhibitions during the progress of the Auckland Trotting Club's autumn meeting. It would pay the club well to hang up a purse for these two horses to compete for. It would be convenient no doubt for Mr Buckland, who comes to New Zealand from

his inland home at Dubbo, N.S. Wales, via Sydney, and he is a sportsman who does not look at expense. As for Mr Price, it was only a few months ago that he offered to bring his little champion to Auckland, and give exhibitions at Alexandra Park. Not only would a contest for a purse, or merely exhibitions of trotting and pacing form such as Felix and Ribbonwood respectively can show, be of the greatest interest, but would give a much needed lift to the sport in Auckland, where the highest class exponents of both gaita have never yet been seen.

In an article headed "Jockeys and Their Masters," the "Australasian" has the following comment: "The question who was at the bottom of the rush on Chantress for the New Zealand Handicap is a matter that only affects the owner and the persons in his employ who were insufficiently reticent. The rules of racing do not aim at enforcing silence on the part of the employee as to the chance of his master's horse, still the jockey who can give the tip, or who takes a good position much longer than one who is found too willing to talk. There are plenty of jockeys riding who are not gifted with reticence. We know of a first class horseman, still at his best, who elaps about from stable to stable simply because he cannot keep stable secrets. No owners, as far as we know, have ever suspected this jockey of



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