

A pony named Hearts, by the jumper Kilmine, has joined Lewis' team.

Ayrdale has quite got over the effects of his fall while schooling a week or two ago.

The swimmer—Tot-toi ally in Tuggart's stable, who has been named Grasshopper, has been broken in.

Catts has received additions to his stable in the yearling fillies Tessera, by Claranaid—Teredina, and Chryseis, by Claranaid—Golden Crest, and the Phoebeus Apollo—Harriet Bly.

The North Island horse Iria has been purchased by the owner of Narcissus, and has arrived at Riccarton.

HUNTING.

The opening of the hunting season in Auckland was celebrated on Saturday at Waimarama, the home of the Master, Mr E. Dennis O'Rorke, of Brighton and Arney roads, Remuera, where the members of the Pakuranga Hunt Club, farmers whose property the hounds have hunted over for many seasons, and visitors from far and near were present by special invitation from Mr and Mrs O'Rorke, who numbered amongst their guests His Excellency the Governor, Lord Ranfurly, Lady Constance Knox, Mrs Hilbert, an English lady visiting at Government House; Lord Northland, A.D.C.; the Hon. H. C. Butler, Hon. A.D.C., Wellington; the Hon. C. Hill Trevor, A.D.C.; Colonel and Mrs Dawson, Colonel and Miss Shepherd, Major Helgate, Mr C. and Mrs Overton, from Christchurch; Mrs Adenbrook, from Wanganui, Mr and Mrs Thornton, Mrs and Miss Worsp, Mr and Mrs T. Schnackenburg, Mr and Mrs C. Taylor, Mr and Mrs T. J. and Miss Morrison, and Mrs E. O. Nolan, Mrs and Miss Smallie, Mrs Ralph, Mr and Mrs and Miss Board, Miss George, Mrs Buckland (2) and Ewen, Misses Kae and Harvey, Mr W. Dibble and party, Dr. Reid, Mr Wylie, and many others who were driving. Amongst others present were Messieurs H. Moody, on Mike; Kelly, on Steeltrap; Misses Buckland (2), on Comet and Popgun; B. Gerrie, on Jimmy; E. Abbott, on Te Kanu; Messrs Collock-Wether, ex-Master of the Waikato Hounds, on Blot; W. R. Bloomfield, on M'Lisa; C. Purchas, on Neck or Nothing; P. Norgrove, on Polo; Langley Shaw, on a grey colt; W. A. Carmena, on Economist; B. Lewis, on Tip; C. Motion, on Warrior; J. Walker, on Lady; Ian McKillop, on Sally; Cotto, on Dandy; T. M. Cuckser, on Larry; Gray, on Sula-water; M. McLachlan (ex-Master), on Dad; R. Burns, on Jack Squire; Crawford, on Dum-dum; Bent, on Linda; Linberg, on Black Watch; Heath, on Neptune; Gerrie, on Starlight; H. Moody, on Freewill; W. Burgess, on Bianche; Ben Myers, on Melva; Waller, on Cragsman; A. Kidd, on Aka Aka; F. Kidd, on Leonora; H. Windsor, on Pukekohe; Duvell, on Exmore; E. Muir, on Lady Athol; Parker, on Muiwah; Mrs A. Bell, on chestnut; T. W. Nolan, on Kapai; W. Foubly, on Kaiser; L. Taylor, on Dandy Dick; E. G. Elliott, on a colt; H. P. Kinloch, on Specs; D. Nell, on Stiltie; and J. H. Dalton, V. Taylor, W. Henton, McCosh, Mack Kelly, and many others riding a splendid luncheon (the catering being entrusted to Mr T. King, of Ponsonby) was partaken of by from 150 to 200 of the visitors, who were heartily welcomed by the host and hostess, and accompanied for a very interesting number of horses; in fact, the day was a red letter one at Waimarama, the gathering being altogether a brilliant one, the weather being excellent, though it was feared not too good for the business to follow later on. After the photographing of groups of the visitors, hounds, master and huntsman, the order was given "to horse," the master huntsman and whip, the two last mentioned in scarlet, the former in the green jacket, the ivory helmet, the Pakuranga Hunt Club, with sixteen couples of hounds, an evra lot, in the pink of condition, the smartest pack in the colony, hedding the oldest hunt club in New Zealand, trotted forth, leaving Waimarama behind with most pleasurable recollections, the already large party on horseback and on wheels, reinforced by late arrivals from the city and suburbs, and from country districts, were soon bowling along the pretty Hema-road in the direction of St. John's College, a ball being made opposite Mason's gardens, where hounds were laid on, and finding a hare had a short run towards Meadow Bank, where they rest. After some time was spent in a fruitless search, they were trotted away to Mr Massey's, at West Tanuki, with all speed, and soon finding in the deeply grass-swathed paddocks there, ran a strong hare, and killed in a swamp, and a second one was run twice round the mountain, quite eighty followers, including some ten or more ladies, taking the lead, the Master (Mr O'Rorke) on Matarawa, Mrs O'Rorke, on Domine, the huntsman (Mr Selby) on Defamer, and the whip (Mr F. Sweeney) on Boxer, being prominent throughout. The home returning commenced as the shades of evening were coming on, all present being satisfied with their afternoon's outing.



GOLF NOTES.

By Stoney Dead.

The present fortnight is the busiest time of the Auckland Ladies' Golf Club. The greatest event of all is the singles championship of the club. The present position is that the final is to be played between Miss Gillies and Miss Lewis on Thursday morning. A close match is to be expected. Both players are playing well at present, and whoever is on the top of her game on the day will win. Miss Gillies has the advantage of greater experience over her opponent. To have come through successfully a match-play competition like the New Zealand ladies championship must necessarily give one a great deal of confidence, which is almost a synonymous term with "nerve," and nerve is a quality that is of inestimable value in a close finish. Many is the important match won by an inferior player against a superior by his ability to put forth his best endeavour in good shots at the crucial time in a game. Nerve is a quality that varies immensely in different players, probably accountable to each players' different temperament. Let it be understood that one does not speak of nerve as meaning nervousness. If I were asked for a short definition of nervousness, in reference to games, I should summarise it as "want of nerve." For instance, a player who in an important match promptly tops his ball for 3 or 4 holes when such topping is not referable to stiffness, is what one would call "nervous," but perhaps that same player later on in the match may play with astonishing "nerve," holding every reasonable put under "nervy" conditions, as, for instance, when he has a 2 or 3 yard put on a good green, to win or save the match. He is then wound up, and is capable of beating a much superior opponent who has not got good nerve. Then, again, another player will start off and play magnificent golf (according to his standard of play), and will continue to do so till the end is in sight, and then, heigh-ho! a fuzzle, a topped approach, a half-hit put, and he is hors de combat by want of "nerve." Some players are credited with nerve merely from their inability to get excited, and by their power of concentration. In some cases, more notably some of the Scotch professionals, they haven't got the amount of intellect necessary to become excited, and play exactly the same game whether playing a championship or giving a stroke a hole. I consider it wrong to call such players of good nerve, just as a man should not be called a brave man who does what would be described as a brave act in another man, when he does his act without the slightest sensation of fear, let alone a total inability to reckon up quickly or slowly what the odds are against him. A brave man must know what fear is, and a golf player of good nerve must know what nervousness is.

However, if I let my pen run on the subject of "nerve," the "Graphic" will have to publish a "nerve" supplement.

Returning to the ladies' championship, and the final between Miss Gillies and Miss Lewis, I have already said that the former has the advantage of experience, which necessarily cultivates nerve. The latter, by her extremely good performance at the same championship, has shown that she is a player of good nerve, and that while she is a nervous player, her nervousness will probably disappear with greater experience, and that when she is wound up she will do herself justice. Oh, that we could make our minds a total blank when playing, and only keep our eye on that wee white ball which lies so prettily on the grass in front of us.

The first match played in the championship was between Miss Lewis and Miss Morrison. The former proved too

strong for her left-handed opponent, and beat her by a good margin.

The same afternoon Miss J. Draper beat Miss Buckland by 5 and 4 to play. A much closer game was expected. Miss Buckland is a young player, with a nice clean style, and good swing. It is her first championship, and so probably she did not do herself justice.

On Wednesday Miss Lewis won her tie in the second round, beating Miss M. Richmond by 6 and 4 to play. Through the green the players were fairly level, but Miss Lewis was much superior on the green.

The same afternoon Miss Torrance, who is playing a strong game, put out Miss J. Richmond. Mrs W. Bloomfield beat Miss J. Draper. The former is playing well at present, but is rather uncertain, playing some holes in real good style, and then playing a real bad shot. Miss Gillies beat Miss G. Gorrie after a very hard tussle at the 17th hole. Miss Gorrie is to be congratulated on making such an extremely good fight with her doughty opponent.

The most important match of the tournament played so far took place on Friday, when Miss Gillies beat Mrs W. Bloomfield by 3 up and 2 to play. Miss Gillies was suffering from a bad cold, which one would have expected to have put her off her game. Her medal round shows that it did not have any such unwelcome effect. Miss Gillies holed the 18 holes in 97, as against Mrs Bloomfield's 98. 97 is the present match record of the ladies' course held as well by Miss Lewis. Miss Gillies had an unfortunate hole at the 18th hole which cost her 7 as against an easy 4. The first three holes cost Mrs Bloomfield the match, as Miss Gillies won all three. Subsequently this lead was pulled down to 1, but never to all square. 3 up and 15 to play is an enormous handicap between level players.

The semi-final between Miss Lewis and Miss Torrance resulted in a fairly easy win for Miss Lewis.

A foursome handicap match play tournament is also taking place. The semi-finals are to be played on Monday, when Miss Shuttleworth and Miss J. Draper play Mrs Bloomfield and Miss Lewis. The former pair receive 7 strokes, and a very close match will probably take place. The same afternoon Mrs O'Rorke and Miss Gillies play Mrs E. Pierce and Miss Torrance. With the aid of 10 strokes I expect the latter pair to win. As I have already remarked, Miss Torrance in playing a strong game, while Miss E. Pierce is one of the most promising of the lady members.

The final between the winners of the semi-finals takes place on Wednesday, and I expect to find the long handicap pair, Miss Torrance and Miss E. Pierce, to have still an unbeaten record.

In the earlier rounds of this competition the following matches took place:—Miss D. Stevenson and Miss M. Cotter, receiving 5 strokes, beat Miss Morrison and Miss C. Draper by 4 and 3; Mrs Bloomfield and Miss Lewis, giving 13 strokes, beat Mrs Reid and Miss Barstow, by 3 and 2; Miss E. Pierce and Miss Torrance, receiving 8 strokes, beat Miss J. Richmond and Miss M. Richmond, by 4 and 2; Miss Shuttleworth and Miss J. Draper, giving 12 strokes, beat Miss Pierce and Miss Fenton, by 6 and 5; Mrs Bloomfield and Miss Lewis, giving 16 strokes, beat Miss D. Stevenson and Miss M. Cotter, by 9 and 7; Miss E. Pierce and Miss Torrance, receiving 10 strokes, beat Mrs O'Rorke and Miss G. Gorrie, by 5 and 3; Mrs O'Rorke and Miss Gillies, giving 8 strokes, beat Mrs Colbeck and Mrs Russell, by 4 and 2.

On Tuesday a large field is expected for a handicap medal competition.

On Thursday morning the final of the championship between Miss Gillies and Miss Lewis, and in the afternoon the putting, approaching, and driving competitions take place.

For these competitions the committee

SALE OF BLOOD STOCK

PALMERSTON NORTH, Friday.

The second annual bloodstock sale on account of the Hon. J. D. Ormond and Messrs W. J. Douglas and G. P. Donnelly, was held to-day there being a large attendance of prominent breeders, owners and trainers, and bidding was kept for anything out of the ordinary. Seventy-one thoroughbreds were catalogued, principally by The Officer, The Possibile, Douglas, and Catesby. Yearlings sold on account of Mr Donnelly realised 15 guineas, 7 guineas, 6 guineas, 5 guineas, being paid by Captain Campbell for a gelding by Douglas—Karama. On account of Mr W. J. Douglas: Two-year-old filly by Torpedo—Primrose, Mr D. Fraser, 80 guineas; by Captain Taffers, Mr W. Davis, 50 guineas; bay gelding by The Possibile—Hinetope, Mr D. Newman, 64 guineas. Mr Ormond's yearlings sold at an average of 18 guineas.

EGMONT ACCEPTANCES

The following are the acceptances for the Egmont meeting:—

Railway Handicap.—Full Cry 8.10, Crusoe 8.9, Ancharite 8.3, Black Reynard 7.9, Black Wing 7.7, Impet 7.2, Kidbrook 7.0, Hawera Cup, 7.0, Tapanui 7.0, Tupara 7.1, Durable 7.6, Legion of Honor 7.5, Black Wink 7.4.

First Hack Hurdle.—Lady Bell 11.13, Hawera 10.12, Rags 10.5, Oracle 10.3, Cavalee 9.3, Highlow 9.2, The Hermit, Shooter 9.0.

Tawhiti Handicap.—Hackaria 8.10, Rustique 8.8, Watereka 8.2, Siandra 7.33, Kidbrook 7.12, Sandy 7.11, Recoll and Tambourina 7.8, Maureen 7.7, Stepson 7.3, Ngatoto, Hackamol, Rapidus, and Land-o-Cakes 7.0.

Waikato Handicap.—Stamped 9.7, Toledo 8.3, Pareora 8.1, Louie, Starlight, Gold Dust 11, and Moezropuku 8.7.

Mokola Handicap.—Rita 8.13, Tangra 8.6, Dick Turpin 8.7, Watereka and Inglewood 7.13, Sandy 7.7, Wince 7.4, Seaweed 7.3.

Telegraph Handicap.—Kidbrook, Lady Sout, Siandra 8.8, Silver Star 8.0, Royal Flush 8.5, Little Turk 8.5, Otara 8.2, Tambourina, Recoll and Ora 8.3, Noncen and Stepson 7.7, Rapids, Land-o-Cakes, Commonweath, Lord Clyde, Park Shot and Tangawai 7.0.

TAKAPUNA JOCKEY CLUB.

The following weights have been declared by Mr Knight for the above meeting:—

Royal Handicap of 1000svs; 5 furlongs.—Scotty 9.7, Numa 9.7, St. Olga 9.4, Green and Gold 9.2, Austerlitz 8.10, Cygnat 8.8, Formosa 8.4, Orange and Blue 8.2, Souleka 8.0, Paris 7.7, Baidon 7.5, Hakapuna 7.5, Hinetanipahi 7.4, Bloodstone 7.0, Croupier 7.0, Camille 6.12, Yulpine 6.12, Bugler 6.10, Mary Seaton 6.7, Blaircarrig 6.7.

Handicap Steeplechase of 2250svs; about 3/4 miles.—Nor-west 11.10, Princess of Thule 10.12, Tresham 10.10, Blugel 10.8, Tuni 10.5, Hinetanipahi 10.5, Ewerore 10.13, Birds 10.12, Hylas 9.8, Kowhai 9.7, Pullack 9.7, Puffing Billy 9.7, Gilbockie 9.7.

Empire Handicap of 2000svs; 1 1/4 mile.—Strathavon 8.12, Landlock 8.12, Formula 8.0, Puffy 8.0, Scotty 7.12, Jewellery 7.1, Durable 7.8, Paul Seaton 7.2, Matamatarakeke 7.2, Misho, Sout 7.0, Zulicka 6.12, Paris 6.9, Idas 6.7.

First Handicap Hurdles of 1500svs; 2 miles.—Tresham 11.8, Bellman 11.5, Batticeae 11.2, Royal Conqueror 11.2, Haydn 10.12, Princess of Thule 10.10, B. Gordon 9.8, Dayatree 8.9, Tenopet 8.7, Gilbockie 8.7, Stogger 8.7, Puffing Billy 8.7, Leona 8.7, Gaudre 8.7.

Handicap Maiden Hurdles of 700svs, one mile and a half and 100 yards.—May Day 10.8, Tuni 10.3, Tupara 10.3, Hector 10.3, Coma 10.2, Dolores 10.2, Sudden 10.0, Spalpeen 9.12, St. Rowan 8.10, St. Gordon 8.9, Dayatree 8.9, Tenopet 8.7, Gilbockie 8.7, Kothro 8.5, Stogger 8.2, Lhude 8.2, Pullack 8.0, Mount Zeeman 8.0, Little Wonder 8.0, Revealer 8.0, Gaudre 8.0.

Handicap Maiden Plate of 650svs, seven furlongs.—Cygnat 9.5, Sandy 8.7, Hinetanipahi 8.0, Repetitive 8.0, Boidon 8.0, Pullack 7.7, Hingulover 7.10, Macostland 7.7, Swagsman 7.5, Queen Ana 7.5, Southfash 7.5, Hurrab 7.4, Aurega 7.0, Sugar Cane 7.0, Corporal 7.0, Leo Delaval 7.0, Beatonis 6.12, Mount Zeeman 6.12, Frank Dodd 6.8, Laterece 6.8.

First Pony Handicap of 600svs, five furlongs.—Orange and Blue 10.2, Annoyed 9.8, Forth 9.7, Girton Girl 9.2, Miami 8.9, St. Louisa 8.5, Yulpine 7.12, Sentinel 7.11, Liza Rosa 7.8, Solitary 7.7, Pure Gold 7.7, Whitehal 7.6, Tenopet 7.0, Repeat 7.0, First Whipper 6.12, Culsine 6.12, Sandow 6.10, Irish Boy 6.0, Rapid 6.0, Sweet Marie 6.7.

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