

TURF TALK FROM THE SOUTH.

(By Telegraph—Special to "Graphic.")

CHRISTCHURCH, Saturday.

The Grass New Zealand Cup candidates are all going on in the right way. They do now work in a knee pad and move more freely than he did a week or two ago. Cauter, who is much more robust than he was this time last year, is coming on nicely. On Saturday morning he worked particularly well in a gallop over a mile and a quarter, and finished better than Pampero, who apparently covered a similar distance. On Tuesday each again covered 1 1/2 miles, when Pampero, whose time was 2.17, finished the more successful. Cauter took a second league. Pampero still keeps sound, but personally I have doubts about his staying two miles. As the two-year-old full-sister to Vladimir, in McGinness' stable, is unwell, and is not likely to find her spring engagements, Sydenham, the three-year-old of the stable, is, however, doing well.

There are no less than 50 horses in training at Waimate in addition to a detachment of Waimate. They include Strine, who is four years old, and Blazer, who, although still carrying the greater part of his winter coat, is moving freely in his work; and Digi, who has resumed work with a view of competing in the Auckland Steamer Steeplechase.

Vladimir's case is not so hopeless as was first supposed, and his summer engagements which have gone amiss, but a feckless point, and hopes are entertained that he will stand another preparation.

Ogden, the recently imported two-year-old by Lockie-Milnes, has been suffering from tooth troubles, but is nevertheless doing well.

The Hon. G. McLean met with a most disappointing bit of bad luck a few days ago, when Mistral, the dam of Pampero, broke one of her hind legs. The mare was then within a fortnight of foaling. An effort is being made to save her.

A man named Harold Hubert, who was charged on Tuesday with offences at Riccarton racecourse, admitted the offence, but claimed that he had stood on a box, which was not a "place" within the meaning of the Act. Mr. Hession remarked that the defendant, who had no money to pay a fine, was not in a position to interfere with bookmakers outside the enclosure, and received judgment for a week.

The committee of the Canterbury Jockey Club held its monthly meeting on Tuesday. A number of their reports were granted. Mr. W. H. Forster and W. Porter, Jockey's Bookies were granted to W. Gibson, W. Forster, W. Forster, and A. A. Porter. R. J. Williams and H. Stoddard's licences were also granted. The committee also entertained the Governor at luncheon during the spring meeting.

Mr. Stead suffered another piece of bad luck at Riccarton on Tuesday, when his yearling filly Golden Hour, by Mulford from a mare of his own, and had to be destroyed. The filly, who was a three-quarter sister to Aurora, was a promising filly, and her value for stud purposes was considerable.

Barley Bros, one of the mares recently purchased by Mr. Stead in Sydney, is to be mated with Vladimir.

It is likely that Lady Lilian will fall her fourth foal, and she may have a male or a bay weaner, and it is thought that another gallop in public will be her good.

That smart mare Dora Lynn is to be mated with Vladimir's foal.

The hurdle race Show Tow, has been showing signs of sickness lately.

Wanda is still taking a rest, rather easily, but her legs seem to be quite satisfied with her prospects. It has been considered probable to enter the son of South at the North Otago meeting in case he needs a gallop in public. To my mind the proposition is a very wise one.

Strathavon, the Cup representative from Auckland, arrived by the steamer on Wednesday, but the worse for his journey. White Rose is progressing satisfactorily.

CHRISTCHURCH, Tuesday.

The meeting of Freehold and Quarran at the 1 1/2 mile race meeting confirmed the opinion of those who have maintained that the former was likely to make the better two-year-old. Quarran's performance in the Wanganui Guineas is attributed to his possession of breeding, and to his ability to carry his weight. The son of the late Mr. J. G. Forster, who Quarran and Vladimir, Sir George Clifford holds an average, and is likely to be the most successful of the two. For some time the uncertainty has existed as to which of the two is better, but it is now clear that Quarran is the better, and the opinion of those who have maintained that Quarran is the better is likely to be confirmed. In some quarters it is thought, but from the evidence of the Wanganui Guineas, it is likely to be more at home in a half mile and light weights than under the classic mile. He is looking well, however, in spite of his second knock, the result of which was a severe injury to his leg, and his connections are said to be extremely confident that he will win a good race in the Cup, whatever he may do in the Derby. He arrived on Saturday, and is quoted at the present time at 10 to 1.

Wanda's first gallop did not take place until Wednesday morning, and the son of South blew very freely after striding work on a round. An opinion which expressed at Riccarton is that Vladimir could win the Cup if he was not so much out of the field. It is believed that he will be mated, if by the day.

Although Lorraine is reputed as a possible Cup winner, Hilda has her very well looked. Unfortunately for her owner, she

is not engaged in the Oaks.

The building operations at Riccarton are proceeding slowly. The new stand is nearly completed, and the totalisator house presents an almost finished appearance. One of the best features of the new scheme is the allowance of room in the saddling paddock, and the arrangement for afternoon tea. The tea-house is situated on a green lawn surrounded by an artificial lake, the whole embosomed in a cool and luxuriant plantation, the effect of which is brightened by beds of spring flowers and English shrubs. Visitors to Riccarton next month will hardly recognise the old course. The tracks at Riccarton are in excellent order, and as the weather for the past fortnight has been suggestive of summer rather than spring, trainers are enjoying an opportunity not usual at this time of the year.

Strathavon has not been slackened out since his arrival, but has done what little he has been expected to do in a satisfactory manner. He is quartered at the Talbot Hotel, Valhalla.

Lelah has been withdrawn from her engagement at the Wellington meeting. She was, who is still lame, is unlikely to fulfil his engagements.

Dallas, Kollera, Thunder, Grahame, Lavayette and Master Alex are, however, likely to go on.

Crichton was down at Riccarton last morning, but he is certainly not Maching Gun, Grand Rapids, and Begonia. She looks well.

It is practically certain that Wairiki will be given a run at the North Otago meeting, but I doubt if Lady Lilian will be seen out.

The following betting has been transacted locally during the week:—New Zealand Cup: 100 to 15 against Strine, 500 to 60 against Wairiki, 400 to 24 against Kollera, 300 to 15 against Strathavon, 200 to 14 against Count of Kollera. New Zealand Cup and Steeplechase Handicap: 500 to 100 against Cauter and Blazer, 400 to 2 against Blazer, Laura and Achilles, 200 to 4 against Lady Lilian and Achilles, 500 to 9 against Pampero and Machine Gun, 200 to 3 against Wairiki and Quarran.

The balance sheet presented at the annual meeting of the Christchurch Racing Club held on Saturday showed that the receipts for the year, including a balance brought forward of £123 5/8, were £1500 0/8. The principal items being totalisator, £756 3/4; Expansions and services, £288 1/2; and gates, £182 17/8. The expenditure amounted to £1358 8/8; stakes amounting for £124, and Government tax £117 0/0; and the year closed with a credit balance of £201 12/8.

Mr. J. B. Reid's mare Seashell, by Champion-Nautica, has foaled a colt to Saint Hario.

The Mistle Handicap, the principal event to be decided at the Dunedin Jockey Club's spring meeting to-morrow (Wednesday) has been reduced to that most interesting of all contests, a match, one Pampero and Cauter remaining in, and as the pair have not met for a year, and as their form has to be taken on trust, I may be forgiven for desiring the task of separating them.

If Sydenham starts in the Maiden Plate he will probably win, and Heller may account for the Hurdle Race. Of those engaged in the Hack Race, I like Juniper and Crown Imperial best; while I fancy St. Denis for the Electric Hare, Kneezacker for the Selling Race, and Gnom and Archibald for the October Welter Handicap.

VICTORIA AMATEUR TURF CLUB'S SPRING MEETING.

SWEET NELL WINS THE GUINEAS.

MELBOURNE, October 16.

The V.A.T.C. opened their spring meeting at Caulfield to-day. The weather was hot, but sunny. There was a large attendance, which included Sir George Clarke (Governor of Victoria) and the Commonwealth Judges.

The following are the details of the racing:—

Emu Hurdle Race of 2500svs, two miles and a half. Quo Vadis, 1; Victoria, 2; The Hustler, 3. Won easily by two lengths, the same distance between the second and third horses. Time, 4.47.

DEBUTANTE STAKES of 1200svs, for two-year-olds. Colts, 800; fillies and geldings, 750. Four furlongs. Mr. R. G. Grogan's Sylvanite, by Grafton—1. Bob Dast Hewitt, by Grafton—2. Hon. A. Wynne's Korran, by Grafton—3. Pleurost (Hickie), by Grafton—4. Mr. J. Wilson's Bobdill, by Bobdill—5. Time, 1.10.

Betting: 7 to 4 against Sylvanite, 5 to 2 Korpun, 9 to 10 Bob Dast, 10 to 3 Red Streak. Bobdill led to the distance, where Korpun outstayed him, and a great race ensued in the favourite winning a punishing race by a head. Bobdill a short neck away behind Red Streak and Red Streak following. Time, 5.05.

Caulfield Stakes of 4000svs, for three-year-olds and upwards, weight-for-age, one mile and a furlong. Abundance, 1; Postillon, 2; Enir, 3. A. J. Grogan started: Flagship, Red Streak, Wakeful. Betting: Even money on Wakeful, 5 to 2 against Ibez, 5 to 1 Abundance, 20 to 1 Postillon and Enir.

Ibez and Wakeful soon established a strong lead, and were in company till entering the straight, where Abundance shot up on the inside, with Enir on the outside. Then Postillon appeared on the scene, and shot up between Enir and Abundance, but the latter was able to easily stall off the challenge, and won by a length and a half, with Enir a length away third; then came Ibez and Wakeful

together. Time, 1.50. A protest lodged against Abundance for interference was dismissed.

THE CAULFIELD GUINEAS of 6000svs; the owner of the second horse to receive 1000svs and the owner of the third 500svs from the stake. For three-year-olds. Special weights, with penalties. One mile.

Sir Robert Clarke's Sweet Nell, by Haut Brion—Novellette II, 80 (Lewin) 1. Mr. W. Bailey's Hautier, by Haut Brion—Trieste, 8.8, including 2lb penalty (Richardson) 2. Mr. E. Fraser's Jacobite, by Lockie—Jona, 8.5 (Harden) 3. Mr. J. East's Ibez & Relah, by Haver—Wija, 8.12, including 7lb penalty (Smith) 4. Mr. J. Wilson's Ibez & Relah, by Matullo—Britomarte, 8.5 (Gibson) 0.

Betting: 5 to 4 on Sweet Nell, 7 to 2 against Relah, 5 to 1 Hautier, 8 to 1 Mal-

lard, 12 to 1 Jacobite.

Hautier led from Relah to the turn, where the latter was beaten. Then Sweet Nell challenged her stable companion, and after the semblance of a race the daughter of Haut Brion won by a neck. Jacobite was a bad third and Mallard last. Time, 1.43.

Tonrak Handicap of 6500svs, one mile.—F.J.A., 1; St. Molan, 2; Footbot, 3. St. Molan led for four furlongs from F.J.A., when the latter drew away, and at the distance the son of Wallace assumed absolute command, winning cleverly by a length; Footbot a head away third. Time, 1.43.

A real pick-me-up.—"Talk about champagne," said Byron, "there is nothing which cheers your spirits up like a dose of salts," but had he known Hunyadi János he would certainly have preferred this, the best and safest natural aperient.

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