By WHALEBONE.

### FIXTURES.

Nov. 5, 7, 9, and 12 — Canterbury J.C. Metropolitan
Nov. 5, 9, and 12 — Auckland R.C. Spring
Nov. 9 — Waverley-Waitotara R.C. Annual
Nov. 19, 23—Otahuhu T.C. Spring.
Nov. 26, 30 — Takapuna J.C. Spring.
Dec. 27, 31, Jan. 7—A.T.C. Summer.
Dec. 26, 29, and Jan. 2 and 3 — Auckland R.C. Summer
Dec. 31 and Jan. 2 — Greymouth J.C. Midsummer

### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Doughboy. — No; Bridge never raced in Auckland.

Mr J. Muir's brood mare Waiatarua has foaled a colt to Hierarch.

Mr T. Cunningham's brood mare Miss Shirley has foaled a colt to Spalpeen.

H. French arrived at Ellerslie to-day from Papakura with his team for the A.R.C. Spring Meeting.

Mr Theo Bowling's mare Caracole has foaled a filly to Gladstone, and is to be mated with the same horse again this season.

The southern horseman, R. Thompson, arrived in Auckland on Sunday, to fulfil riding engagements at the A.R.C. Spring Meeting.

The Southern horsemen, J. Morris and W. Price, have arrived in Auckland to fulfil riding engagements at the A.R.C. Spring Meeting.

The ex-Aucklander, Rauparaha, was seen out on both days of the Masterton meeting, but had to be content with second place in the big event on each day.

In accepting the certificate of identity for the New Zealand-bred mare Celebrity, a note was taken of the fact that there was some doubt as to the identity of the sire.

Auckland horsemen had a good time last week. At Gisborne, J. Buchanan had five winning rides and A. Whittaker four, while at Waihi, J. Conquest rode four winners.

Mr J. O'Driscoll, the New Plymouth owner, is again in Auckland, this time with Waitapu and Sinn Fein, which are to carry his colours at the A.R.C. Spring Meeting.

F. Wootton, the Australian jockey, who is competing with D. Maher for pride of position among the season's winning jockeys, now leads Maher by seven points.

Mr T. Cunningham is trying an experiment in breeding this season, and has mated a couple of light draught horses with Seaton Delaval, in the hopes of getting a jumper with a bit of substance.

The Auckland Racing Club are keeping abreast of the times, and have now installed an up-to-date weighing machine at Ellerslie, which will greatly facilitate the weighing in and out of horses.

D. Moraghan arrived back from Sydney by the Westralia, early on Monday, with Master Soult. The local champion is suffering from a jarred joint, and will probably have to be given a good rest.

Mr D. O'Brien, the well-known owner, has disposed of his business in Sydney, and is now on a visit to Christchurch. There is a possibility of his again taking up his residence in the southern city.

The "Winning Post" says that though Lemberg took the rosette for quality and bloodlike appearance in the Doncaster St. Leger field, it never remembers one of his make and shape that was a natural stayer.

A number of small southern racing clubs, who anticipate going out should the Gaming Bill become law, are already contemplating amalgamation, with a view to holding a joint unregistered meeting.

The Otahuhu Trotting Club have no cause for complaint at the response made by horseowners for the opening day of their Spring Meeting, and everything at present points to an interesting day's sport.

The Victorian Racing Club invited tenders for the right of taking moving pictures at the Melbourne Cup meeting. The committee finally decided not to accept any of those sent in.

There is every likelihood of the Wanganui trainer, A. Hall, staying in Auckland with his team till after the A.R.C. Summer Meeting. St. Bill has been nominated for the Takapuna J.C. Spring Meeting.

Light Blue, the half-brother to Antarctic, is now being trained at Ellerslie by his owner, Mr T. Bowling. Light Blue is a much better looking horse than Antarctic, but it is doubtful if he will ever be as good.

The nominations received for the Takapuna Jockey Club's Spring Meeting, which takes place on the 26th and 30th inst., are highly satisfactory, and are a good foundation for a successful gathering. The weights for the first day's racing are due on Monday, the 14th inst.

After a lot of disappointments, the San Fran gelding Rangikapua managed to get his name on the winning list, accounting for the Welter Hack Handicap at the recent Masterton meeting. Rangikapua was boomed for a time as a likely N.Z. Cup winner, but was wisely allowed to drop out of that event.

Son of Marsh, which won the Hotham Handicap of a mile and a quarter, is evidently partial to that distance, as he holds the Australasian record of 2min 5¾sec for the journey. This performance was established at Randwick last year, in the Final Handicap, run at the Australian Jockey Club's Spring Meeting.

I don't expect that much sorrow will be caused by the announcement that probably the last has been seen of Nora Soult on the track, for the mad-headed daughter of Soult has been mated with Monoform. The Otahuhu Trotting Club, I am informed, intended refusing her nomination, but it is stated that her owner did not put one in.

A Press Association wire from Wellington states that Mr. G. D. Greenwood, of Canterbury, the owner of Danube, the winner of the Champion Plate at Trentham last month, has been elected a life member of the Wellington Racing Club. He has presented the club with a cup valued at £100, to be given to the winner of the Champion Plate next year.

It has been reported that horses wearing dangerous plates are working at Riccarton, and the committee of the Canterbury Jockey Club has, therefore, drawn the attention of trainers and owners to the drastic rule which was passed at last Conference. The penalty, if the horse starts in a race with such plates, is disqualification, while the owner and trainer, and any person assisting in shoeing the horse, are to be fined not less than £25.

Nominations for the Feilding Jockey Club's Spring Meeting are good. Following are those for the St. Andrew's Handicap, one mile and a-half: Sir Prize, Husbandman, Taskmaster, Countermine, Merrivonia, Birkdale, Teotane, Strathmoira, Mendip, Sir Antrim, Kopu, Clemora, Mallet, John, The Lark, Roosevelt, Vi, Sandstream, Koran, Waitapu and Uhlando.

Carbine's stock have not been prominent in England this season, but at the Doncaster meeting a daughter of his named Zohara won the Prince of Wales' Nursery Handicap defeating 23 others over a mile, in 1.39 3-5; and a Carbine yearling filly made 1000gs at the sales. The "Special Commissioner" of the London Sportsman said the filly is the best-looking youngster ever sired by Carbine in England.

At Buenos Ayres racing takes place on the Palermo, Belgrano, and Lomas courses, five days out of the seven in every week, all the year round. Apparently the anti-gambling crusaders are unknown in the Argentine. During 1909, in Buenos Ayres, 751 races were run, 7206 horses took part therein, and the prize money exceeded £310,000, and the public attendance was 606,128. The amount spent in betting tickets (3/6 each) exceeded £5,000,000.

One of the finest-looking two-year-olds seen in Auckland for some time is Silverlyte, by Birkenhead from Dazzle, one of F. Loomb's team, which arrived from Gisborne on Sunday. Silverlyte, which is engaged in the Welcome Stakes, was given a run in the Maiden Scurry at the recent Gisborne meeting, but finished out of a place. The son of Birkenhead gives the impression that he will not be seen at his best until later in the season.

One of Auckland's leading penciliers will have cause to remember Comedy King's Melbourne Cup, for he experienced cruel luck in connection with the event. A particular friend of Mr. S. Green's, he was advised to back Comedy King for the Cup, which he did, securing a thousand about him. Shortly after he received further advice to get out of his money, which he also did, and then acting on information backed Flavinius and Trafalgar for the double Caulfield and Melbourne Cups, and the result is now a matter of history.

A tremendous lot of money has been spent by Argentine breeders in importing some of the very best English thoroughbred stock. Apparently this is bearing good fruit, for it is evident there are some particularly smart gallopers in the big South American Republic. Compare the following times with our best performances in the Dominion: Six furlongs in 1.11 3-5; one mile in 1.37; one mile and a quarter in 2.3 3-5; one mile and three furlongs in 2.16 3-5. We have nothing equal to doing anything like such good work, but, of course, their tracks are magnificent.

The Cambria Park sire Hierarch was not long in claiming a winner, and the second of his stock to race, Trize, succeeded in winning the Maiden Scurry at the recent Gisborne meeting. Trize, which is by Hierarch from Lute, evidently put up an attractive performance, for according to a Gisborne exchange, Santiago and Josie drew away in the straight, and the latter looked all over a winner till nearing the post, when Trize came with a marvellous run, and snatched a brilliant victory by a nose. Santiago was a neck away third. Trize's dash was meteoric, and quite electrified the crowd.

Writing from London to a friend in Perth, Mr A. McIntosh, the West Australian veterinary surgeon, says: — "I shall soon be back in 'God's Own Land,' where a body is allowed to breathe free air. I was down at Doncaster yesterday to see the St. Leger run. Left London at 8.40 a.m., arrived 12 p.m., distance 150 miles. The return fare was 28/; grand-stand 30/; dinner 5/; and racebook 6d. The St. Leger course, or rather Doncaster, is a fine place, and very pretty. I guess there was a crowd of over 230,000 people, and the only seats or conveniences are for the lords and their ladies. The public, well, all they do is to stand anywhere they can. I saw four men arrested for welshing before the start of the St. Leger. The St. Leger was a grand race. Swynford, the winner, is a fine horse, and F. Wootton, who rode him, a fine horseman. He rode a grand race. He made a pocket for Lemberg, who, according to all good judges, ought to have won."

The victory of Comedy King in the Melbourne Cup would not cause any surprise in Australia, for it was generally considered that were the English-bred horse to be in his best form, it would take something out of the ordinary to defeat him. Comedy King was bred in England, and is by Persimmon from Tragedy Queen. He was purchased in England when a foal, along with his dam, by Mr Sol Green, the well known Australian peculiar, and according to our time is rated as a four-year-old, although he will not be that age until next autumn. He first came into prominence in Australia by winning the Caulfield Futurity Stakes, with 6.7 in the saddle. At the recent A.J.C. Spring Meeting he won the Spring Stakes, with 8.7, beating Prince Foote, 9.0, and Pendil, 9.5, and if he had not run again at the meeting, would probably have gone out one of the hottest favourites on record for the race. However, he was given a run in the Craven Plate, finishing outside a place, and it was subsequently discovered that he was suffering from a bad cold, and he had to be eased in his work. Comedy King also suffers badly from rheumatism, but evidently he was all right yesterday, and it is safe to say that his win has greatly increased his owner's banking account, for he is one of the biggest betters in Australia. The honours of the race are with Trafalgar, and it was a fine performance to get within a neck of the winner, to which he was conceding 19lb. According to the cabled account of the race, Trafalgar only came on the scene in the concluding stages, and just failed to get up. Undoubtedly the unlucky horse of the season is Apple Pie, and it must be a bit galling to an owner to run third in the Epsom Handicap, second in the Caulfield Cup, and third in the Melbourne Cup.

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## A.R.C. SPRING MEETING.

### KING SOULT WINS THE GUINEAS.

The opening day's racing in connection with the A.R.C. Spring Meeting took place at Ellerslie on Saturday afternoon. The weather was fine, but the attendance did not strike one as being as large as usual, nor was the average of outside visitors up to former years. The course and surroundings were in splendid order, the beautiful lawns and flower beds being the subject of much favourable comment. The racing was interesting throughout, and the club's handicapper (Mr. Geo. Morse) had the satisfaction of getting a dead heart, and seeing several warm favourites defeated, notably Regain in the President's Handicap. Continuance in the Maiden Hurdles, and Maxwell in the Hobson Handicap. Mr. R. B. Lusk officiated as judge, Mr. J. K. Douglas, of Messrs. Kohn and Co., as timekeeper, and Mr. C. O'Connor as starter.

At headquarters one looks for things to be as near perfection as possible, and there was no disappointment on Saturday, everything passing off without a hitch, reflecting credit on the secretary (Mr. J. F. Harland) and his assistants. During the afternoon the Auckland City Band, under Bandmaster John West, rendered a choice musical programme, while Mrs. J. Gallagher supplied a first-class luncheon.

### THE STEWARDS.

The stewards met after the running of the Maiden Hurdle Race to consider a report by the look-out steward (Mr. G. Cutts) on the running of Continuance in that event. It is understood Mr. Cutts voiced his opinion in no uncertain manner, but the connections of the horse were able to satisfy the stewards that everything was as it should be, and the explanation was accepted as entirely satisfactory. During the afternoon there were two falls in flat races, Parable in the City Handicap and Maykoff in the Hobson Handicap coming down. In the former event there was a lot of crowding as the field left the straight, and Sea Elf was nearly over the rails, while about a furlong further on Parable fell. After the City Handicap the stewards inquired into the mishap which brought Parable down, and, after hearing evidence, during which it was stated that Parable had bumped Sea Elf, which C. Brown (the rider of Parable) said was due to his being knocked on to the mare by another horse, they came to the decision that Parable's falling, which occurred about a furlong further on than the mix-up with Sea Elf, was accidental, but deemed it necessary to administer a caution to Brown.

### THE TOTALISATORS.

Although the attendance did not look up to the mark, still those present must have been well supplied with "the root of all evil," for during the afternoon the staff of Messrs. H. H. Hayr and Co. handled the sum of £12,643, an increase of £2219 10/ for the corresponding day last year. In addition 23 bookmakers were licensed at a fee of £20 10/.

### THE RACING.

Racing commenced with the President's Handicap, for which the good field of sixteen came out. Regain was made the medium of a plunge, while First Wairiki also found plenty of supporters. The latter was quick to begin, and never gave the rest of the field a look-in, scoring his maiden victory as he liked from Flying Soult, which was one of the outsiders of the field. Regain was never prominent.

Of the ten carded for the Great Northern Guineas, Poletiers was the only withdrawal, a good looking field of nine going to the post. King Soult was made a very hot favourite, carrying just about half the investments on the machine, while Kapanga and Goldfinder were the only others to meet with anything like decent support. The favourite appeared to be a bit fretful in the paddock, but looked well, and, in the light of his Avondale running, it certainly looked picking up money to back him. They were not kept waiting long at the post, and, when they settled down, Antoinette was out filling the role of pacemaker, and a very merry pace she set. After they had gone four furlongs there were only three with anything of a chance —Antoinette, King Soult, and Solus, the others, even at this early stage, being well beaten. Antoinette was going nicely in front when they turned for home, and, with Brady riding King Soult with his hands and heels, it looked as if his task was not so easy as anticipated. As the distance he ranged alongside Antoinette, and for a few strides the mare appeared to hold him, but it was only momentary, for when asked to go on King Soult responded generously, and eventually won with a good bit in hand by a length. Solus, which stuck to his task well, was third, and Cheddar fourth, the big disappointments being Goldfinder and Kapanga, which were the last two to finish. That the pace set by Antoinette was solid the following times, kindly supplied by Mr Douglas, show:—One furlong, 13 3-5s; two furlongs, 24 2-5s; three furlongs, 36 1-5s; four furlongs, 49 1-5s; five furlongs, 1.1 2-5; mile, 1.41 2-5. Previous winners of the race are:—

| | Time. m. s. |
|---|---|
| 1888—Hilda, by Musket..... | 1 47¼ |
| 1889—Cissy, by Musket..... | 1 45¾ |
| 1890—Leolantis, by Leolinus..... | 1 47¼ |
| 1891—Brigand, by Brigadier..... | 1 47 |
| 1892—Tit, by Leolinus..... | 1 50 |
| 1893—St. Laura, by St. Leger.... | 1 45 |
| 1894—Forme, by Neenfeldt..... | 1 46 |
| 1895—Fabulist, by Fabulous..... | 1 47 |
| 1896—St. Paul, by St. Leger..... | 1 45 |
| 1897—St. Crispin, by St. Leger.. | 1 50 |
| 1898—Explosion, by Cuirassier... | 1 48 |
| 1899—La Gloria, by St. Leger.... | 1 50 |
| 1900—Beddington, by Sea. Delaval | 1 44 |
| 1901—Nonette, by Seaton Delaval | 1 43¾ |
| 1902—Wairiki, by Soult..... | 1 46 |
| 1903—Ropa, by St. Leger..... | 1 42¼ |
| 1904—Boris, by Stepniak..... | 1 47 1-5 |
| 1905—Annette, by Soult..... | 1 45 4-5 |
| 1906—Cambrian, by Cyrenian.... | 1 41 |
| 1907—Dunborve, by Bluejacket.. | 1 43 1-5 |
| 1908—Aborigine, by Merriwee.... | 1 40 |
| 1909—Maori King, by Merriwee .. | 1 41 1-5 |
| 1910—King Soult, by Soult ..... | 1 42 2-5 |

The Welcome Stakes, the "babies'" race, saw Miss Winsome a very strong odds on favourite in a field of nine, Ireland being the only other to meet with any support worth mentioning. The start was not a good one. Ireland, being quickest out, and making the pace across the top, looked to have a good winning chance, but when Miss Winsome put in her claim the race was all over, the unbeaten daughter of Soult winning as she liked from Ireland, with Tranquil third.

Thirteen made their toilets for the Maiden Hurdle Race, and of these Continuance was backed as if it was all over, the only others to get even moderate support being Black Northern. The latter was early in the lead, and won comfortably from Delegate, while the best the favourite could do was to struggle into third place.

The Shorts Handicap brought out a field of a dozen sprinters, with St. Bill first choice, while Miss Winnie, Blue Garment, Kakama, and Turbine were also backed. Backers were right on the spot, for after Miss Winnie had made the running to within a short distance of the post, St. Bill just got up to win by a neck.

Waiari and Iney dropped out of the City Handicap, which attracted a field of eleven, North-East being made a strong favourite, with Waimangu also well backed, and then, in order of favouritism, came Advocate, Sea Elf, Lochbuie, Parable, Coromandel, Uranium, Admiral Soult, Pulsano, and Waitapu. The field gave a lot of trouble at the post, and when they were let go Waimangu lost a lot of ground. Uranium was quickly into her stride, and, with Admiral Soult, Lochbuie, and North-East as her nearest attendants, made the pace solid. Turning for home the evergreen one was still forcing the pace, and, instead of coming back, as most people were expecting, she stayed it right out, and won by three lengths from Waimangu, which just caught Lochbuie on the post. The favourite was fourth. The times for the various stages were: One furlong, 14s; two furlongs, 26 2-5s; three furlongs, 43 2-5s; five furlongs, 1.4 3-5; six furlongs, 1.18; seven furlongs, 1.30; one mile and a-quarter, 2.9 4-5.