

At a meeting of the stewards of the Wairarapa Racing Club on Saturday last Mr W. E. Bidwill was elected chairman for the ensuing year. On the motion of Mr Wilkinson, a resolution was passed "congratulating the stewards and Wairarapa generally upon the election of Mr W. E. Bidwill to the position of steward of the Wellington Racing Club." Mr Wilkinson considered that he could do an immense amount of good for the country by being on the Metropolitan Club, and he would like to see Mr Bidwill appointed to act for the country clubs in the place of Mr Williams, who would, he understood, unfortunately be absent in Australia when the Conference next met. It was resolved that no reduction in training fees be made in future, and that no horse be allowed on the course until training fee is paid and permit issued. Several committees were appointed, and it was decided that the whole of the stewards should meet on the Tauherenikau racecourse on Saturday, 8th September, at 1 30 p.m., and see exactly what is required to be done before handing over the course to the sub-committee. A committee was appointed to see what work is required on the Moroa course to put it in order for training and for how much it could be maintained for the season, and report to the next meeting of stewards. Future meetings of stewards are to be held on Saturday afternoons at 2 o'clock. A special vote of thanks was awarded Mr W. E. Bidwill for the kindness he had shown to the stewards and for the great interest he had displayed in connection with the club.

[BY WIRE.]

September 11.

Sir R. Stout's Gaming Bill becomes operative on 1st January, with the exception of the clauses relating to the reduction of meetings and the proposed formation of a New Zealand Jockey Club, which do not come into force until the 31st of July.

The stewards of the Wellington Racing Club met yesterday, when a committee was appointed to draft programmes and fix the dates of the meetings, etc., for the ensuing season. The committee prepared a report, as a result of which the following dates were adopted:—Spring meeting, Thursday and Saturday, 22nd and 24th November; Summer meeting, Tuesday, 22nd January (Anniversary Day), and Thursday, 24th January; Autumn and Steeplechase meeting (combined), Wednesday and Friday, 1st and 3rd May. The added money for the meetings is £965, £1855, and £1215 respectively, which means an increase of £260 on the stakes paid during the past season. It will thus be seen that while other Metropolitan Clubs are reducing stakes the Wellington body is taking action in the opposite direction. The principal additions made to the season's programme are as follow:—On the first day of the Spring Meeting the Hack Hurdles of 30 sovs is struck out altogether and the Hack Flat Race increased in value from 30 sovs to 50 sovs, and in place of the event erased a Welter Handicap of 60 sovs has been inserted. On the second day the Hack Hurdles of 30 sovs has been struck out and the Hack Flat Race increased from 30 sovs to 40 sovs. A Trial Handicap of 40 sovs replaces the event excised; the November Handicap has been increased from 120 sovs to 125 sovs; and the Second Welter Handicap is reduced from 60 sovs to 50 sovs. The Hack Hurdles has also been struck out of both day's programmes at the Summer Meeting, and the two Hack Flat Handicaps increased from 30 sovs to 75 sovs and 60 sovs respectively on the first day. In place of the event struck out the Disposal Stakes of 50 sovs, five furlongs, has been inserted, and the Welter Handicap has been increased from 80 sovs to 100 sovs, and the Second Welter from 70 sovs to 80 sovs. At the end of the second day's programme a Farewell Handicap of 60 sovs, one mile and a distance, has been added. The programme for the Autumn and Steeplechase Meeting is practically the same as last year, with the exception of the Hack Hurdles on the first day, which has been increased in value from 30 sovs to 40 sovs, and the Hack Flat Race from 30 sovs to 40 sovs. The Hunter Steeplechase is reduced from 50 sovs to 40 sovs; the Autumn Handicap on the second day has been increased from 115 sovs to 125 sovs; and the Hack Welter has been improved in value from 30 sovs to 40 sovs.

As mentioned in my letter, a new feature with regard to the conditions for the Wellington Cup, the stake for which is the same as last year, has been introduced. Instead of owners being penalised by fixed weights the winner of any handicap

flat race after the declaration of weights may be re-handicapped and made to carry such additional weights as the handicapper may impose. Mr J. O. Evett has been reappointed handicapper for the club (including hack events), Mr R. Roake, clerk of the course, and Mr Andrew Young, sen., who acted as honorary starter for the club for the continuous period of fifteen years until five years back when a paid officer was appointed, has been given charge of the flag, and is expected to fulfil his duties creditably. Mr E. Pearce has been appointed as delegate to represent the club at the Conference to be held in Christchurch in November, and the committee have passed a special resolution expressing regret that Mr J. Saunders, who in the past has been of such service to the club in the capacity of steward, will no longer be a colleague. A committee was appointed to deal with the question as to what reduction should be made in the number of race meetings, consequent upon recent legislation, and after carefully considering the matter the committee resolved to recommend the discontinuance of the following meetings: Akura Maori Racing Club, United Hunt Club, Wairarapa Hunt Club, Porirua Jockey Club and Pahiatua Jockey Club or Lower Valley Jockey Club. The report will come up for confirmation by the stewards on the first Monday in October.

The Porirua Jockey Club has decided not to hold its annual meeting in November, owing to the lack of interest displayed by members; and as this institution is one of the clubs over which the shadow of extinction next season is hovering, the guarantors of the prize money wisely considered that the best policy would be not to hold the gathering, as if it resulted in a loss they would not have the chance of recouping themselves next year.

It is probable that the Marlborough Club will alter the date of its meeting (arranged for Boxing Day) to some time in November, as several local horses intend making a trip to the Manawatu district about Christmas time.

J. Murphy, of South Featherstone, lost Mischief's filly foal a few days ago. This was the first foal produced by Mischief (who is the dam of Rebellion, Revolution and Co.), and her owner naturally feels his loss keenly.

The double victory of Victim at the Dunedin Hunt Club Meeting was a very severe knock to local bookmakers. A recent arrival in Masterton from Dunedin profited to the extent of £500 by Victim's success.

The dispute between a Hutt jockey and a late owner of racehorses (concerning which I wired you last week), has been settled by the former accepting about a third of the amount claimed.

Lord John (by Hippocampus—Gipsy) has been purchased by a local sport, and goes into Fletcher's stable.

As Mr J. E. Henry was not able to accept the position of handicapper to the Wairarapa Trotting Club, Mr W. Shannon has been appointed to the office.

The betting market is very quiet locally. Mr Yuille reports that Royal Rose has been supported for a few hundreds at 100 to 4. The quotations wired you lately remain unchanged.

Owing to the severe imposts allotted to the two Wellington horses nominated for the A.R.C. Spring Meeting, neither will attend your gathering.

Stud News.

THE following foalings have been announced this week:—

Queen Cole, by King Cole—Rosalee, br c to Hotchkiss.
Necklace, by Musket—Lockett, br c to Castor.
Mystery, by The Painter—Fortuna, ch c to Regal.
Rose of Wellington, by St. Leger—Fleurette, b f to cuirasser.
Victoria, by Feve (imp.)—Memento, b f to Castor.
Sylph, by Javelin—Maid of the Mountain, filly to Chainshot.
Pikau, by Anteros—Amohia, ch c to Flintlock.

Mr Smith, the Gisborne sportsman, leaves for Gisborne to-morrow by the Talune, taking with him Renata, the black son of Albany—No Name, who was foaled in 1886. Renata has been purchased from Mr S. H. Gollan by Mr Smith for stud purposes, and will be at the service of owners in the Gisborne district during the present season. One cannot help admiring the build of this handsome son of the imported Albany, and I am confident his new owner will find plenty of work for the horse in his new home. Renata is the colt that went with Tirailleur to Australia, and had luck gone the right way his then owner would have had a say with him in the Newmarket Handicap of 1891 (Bungebah's year). The services of this finely bred and built stallion will be at the moderate fee of 4 gns., and Gisborne breeders may be advised to pay him some attention.

Turf Topics.

BY REVIEWER.

Entries close to-day for Napier Park.

Australian files report the death of Mr Miller, owner of C.B.

The ponies Direct and Frisco passed the A.R.C. 14.2 standard on Tuesday last.

Major Nelson George arrived by the Alameda yesterday.

Mr A. Kidd's Tasman—Rubina colt has been named Kingsman.

Tellus is coming into favour on the other side for the Caulfield Cup. The touts swear by him.

It is believed by Southerners that Mr Stead's Maxim—Sapphire colt, Mannlicher, will not be seen at his best until the Autumn.

Betting on the New Zealand Cup has been very limited locally. Royal Rose and Magazine have been supported to a fair extent.

The Wellington Park foaling returns up to date show that the matrons of the establishment have produced five colts and six fillies.

The Hawke's Bay Hunt Club sports are booked to come off on the Hawke's Bay Trotting Club's course at Hastings on the 19th inst.

Mentor was awarded first prize in the thoroughbred stallion class at the recent Royal Agricultural Society's Melbourne show. Knight of the Garter was runner-up.

Up to June 19 the produce of Sir Modred in America had won \$7,008 in stakes, the New Zealand horse being second to Onondoga, by Leamington, with £7,457. Darebin, who has a good two-year-old running for him, had won \$5,805.

I understand that the racing mare Balm, which Mr Glasson purchased on the Australian side, will not be raced but will be mated with either Newbold's son Megaphone or Harere, the son of Malua and Norna.

The English bred colt Mostyn, who has been giving some trouble in his training, has dropped out of the Caulfield Cup. He remains in the Melbourne Cup, in which his recent penalty brings his weight to 7.6.

The following lots were bought to the order of Australian buyers at the last Newmarket sales:—Yearling colt, by Salisbury—Impetuous (Mr Mackay); filly, by Prince Rudolph—The Lady; filly, by Hazchatch—Galleon; and a filly by Bendigo.

The Dancer was in flying order for the County Purse run at the Hawkesbury (Sydney) Meeting on the 16th inst., but had to be content with second place. He had 8.5 to carry over the six furlongs, and in the coming Epsom Handicap of a mile he is weighted at 7.8. His chance cannot be a very good one.

Last year's operations of the South Auckland Racing Club resulted in the small loss of £6 0s 2d. During the coming season the club will most likely only hold one day's racing (between Christmas and New Year), at which the stakes will probably be limited to £150.

Adam McMorran, who was disqualified for life for striking the rider of Jacob over the head while riding at the last W.R.C. Spring meeting, applied last week to the Wellington committee to have his disqualification removed. His application was very rightly refused.

The Spring Meeting of the Wellington Trotting Club will be held at Miramar Park on Oct. 10th. The seven events will carry 200 sovereigns in stake money, and the principal race will be the Wellington Trotting Club Handicap (saddle) of 50sovs, two miles and three-quarters. Nominations close on September 22nd.

The sale of privileges in connection with the First Spring Meeting of the Auckland Racing Club resulted as follows:—Grandstand bar, £20, Mr S. Tooman; lean-to bar, £20, Mr J. Hawkins; refreshment stalls, £2, Mrs McIntosh; cards, £36, Mr Neylon; stabling, £1, Mr J. Lindsay.

The truth of the subjoined paragraph (from the *Australasian*) is made clearer to us with the close of every race meeting:—"The book and the pencil can beat any system; but a man who follows form and limits his investments to what he can afford may get enough amusement out of backing horses to console him for playing a game which is invariably a losing one."

St. Leger's third serving this season was devoted to Bragela, dam of the N.Z. Cup colt Grenadier. With the help of Doncaster's son the mare should produce rattling good stock. There is at the present a male result of a similar mating developing on One Tree Hill, and on looks the colt is certainly a beauty.

Some friendly chaffing between Lottie's trainer and Dan McLeod resulted in Kean snapping up £40 to £10 re the mare's chance in the Spring Handicap. The trainer was agreeable to go on at the price quoted but the penciller was "not on." When one remembers the small field opposed to Lottie and the dividend she is likely to pay (provided she wins) one cannot wonder at the bookmaker declining any more money at four to one.

The Canterbury correspondent of the *Witness* states that Mr Gollan was within an ace of purchasing Liberator before he won the Grand National Hurdle Race. Butler remarked to him on the course one morning: "I hear you gave £500 for Norton; you can have Liberator for the same, and then you have a chance of winning the double." Mr Gollan refused to purchase, but he said to a friend at the time, "Were my leg all right I should have him."

At a meeting of the committee of the South Auckland R.C. the following appointments were made, viz.:—Isaac Coates, Esq., President; W. H. Herries, Esq., Vice-President; G. Edgecumbe, Treasurer. The question of appointing the starter and handicapper was held over till the next meeting. A committee was appointed to draft a programme to be submitted to a general committee meeting to be held on Monday, Sept. 17th. The secretary was instructed to write and ask the following gentlemen to act:—L. Cussen, Esq., as judge; A. Furze, Esq., clerk of the scales.

Paris's recent mile in 1min 47½sec at Raudwick shows he has his old dash left in him.

Gladstone, a one time brilliant performer (by Gang Forward—Irish Queen) goes to the stud in South Australia this season.

The A.J.C. Derby will be run on Tuesday next. That Bonnie Scotland may win will be a general wish throughout the island, and I gather that he stands a more than respectable chance of scoring.

The Idler (out of a St. Albans mare) showed a dash of speed when he recently defeated The Arab in a South Australian 5 furlong race cut out in 1min 2½sec. The Arab was considered the crack sprinter of S.A. prior to this race.

Mostyn's withdrawal from the Caulfield Cup is due to a suspicious looking near fore leg, which the colt's trainer is confident would not stand a winding up for the mile and a half race. He may be served by the longer time that lies before his Melbourne Cup engagement.

The list of principal winning Australian owners shows Mr J. D. Lewis, of Victoria, at the top of the tree with £7415, won in 5 races. Mr W. R. Wilson is second with £6122, for eleven wins, and Mr F. W. Purchas, the lucky owner of Portsea and Patron, is third, with £5165 for 14 wins.

The sale of Mr Lopez's trotting stallions can hardly be called a success, seeing that only one of the number, A. W. Auther, found a buyer at public auction. La Rue, the bay son of Campaign, was privately purchased by Mr Abbott, who certainly paid none too much for the horse at 400gs.

The Motu Korea studmasters report the foaling by Mystery of a handsome chestnut colt to Regal. Mated with a daughter of The Painter and Fortuna the Motu Korea sire has been given every opportunity of proving himself, and from the reports received of his initial effort I understand the youngster is a very likely one.

The three thoroughbred stallions, Kalo, Eros, and Blairgowrie were shown at Potter's Paddock on Saturday last prior to Mr Lopez's sale of trotters. The trio found many admirers, Blairgowrie coming in for many favourable expressions. I saw Mr Walter's stallion when he arrived from the other side, and although there may be a shade of fineness perceptible in him, there is no doubt he has wonderfully improved. He is to be limited to thirty mares this season, and the number booked to him up to date is twenty.

Mutiny and Couranto are amongst the nominations for the Hurdle Race of 2½miles, and First Steeplechase, to be run at the A.J.C. meeting to be held on September 15, 18, 20 and 22. Waterbury is in both the First and Second Steeplechases, and Three Star figures in the Spring Stakes 1½miles, Craven Plate 1½miles, Wycombe Stakes 1 mile and three furlongs, and the Randwick Plate 3 miles, so that Castor's roan son is evidently to have his legs stretched before leaving the other side for the New Zealand Cup. Royal Rose, The Dancer, and Acone are also well engaged at the meeting.

Handsome Jack, the four-year-old son of St. Leger and Radiant was put in the sale ring on Saturday last, but the 120gs offered naturally failed to fill the owner's estimate. The colt was bred at Sylvia Park (1890 being his foaling date), and though he has never raced, he was proved to be a more than fairly promising horse during the autumn of 1893. As he was rather overgrown at that time a chance was given him to furnish, and looking at him now, one sees he has certainly made the most of his time. After St. Leger's son was withdrawn on Saturday an offer of 100gs was made for Dishonour, the six-year-old son of Captivator—Maid of Honor, but a reserve of 200gs blocked the deal.

It is considered highly probable in Melbourne that the starting machine will be in force at the next Cup meeting. The machinery has slowly but steadily overcome opposition, and now the V.R.C. committee, the members of which laughed at the machine at one time, have invited patentees of any inventions they have not already seen to bring their gates before them and submit them to practical tests. The minor racing clubs have already agreed that all registered suburban clubs shall adopt the machine at an early date, and when they see the full benefit of starting by machinery they will probably consider the advantages to be derived from machine betting.

Another member of George Wright's string was shipped on the N.S.W. side on Saturday last, when Royal Rose, with 8.0 up, started in a field of 15 for the Hawkesbury Grand Handicap of 150 sovs, one mile and three furlongs. Ten to one was the public estimation of the King Cole colt's chance, and the best he could get was third, Emin Pasha, the five-year-old son of Grandmaster carrying 6.12 to victory in 2min 25½sec, the aged horse Magnus running second with 7.12. The Hawkesbury race was a furlong longer than our Autumn Handicap, and if one remembers Royal Rose's hard held victory in that race (with 21bs more than the N.S.W. event) in 2min 12sec, and then allows 14sec for the extra furlong (which would bring the Auckland colt's ability well up to 2min 26sec) it looks as though his condition or that of the track had something to do with his defeat in a race that took 2min 25½sec. The wire tells us he came very fast at the finish and for the sake of his N.Z. Cup backers it is to be hoped he did.

Mr G. S. Budge announces in our advertising columns that his imported American standard-bred trotting stallion, Albert Victor, will stand this season at the trotting track Epsom. This fine trotter's pedigree shows great lines of racing blood, and whether he can foot it in a manner in keeping with his pedigree may be imagined from his performance in the Epsom Trot at Potter's last season when he made such a holy show of the harnessed trotters opposed to him. On that occasion it will be remembered he caught all his horses in the first half mile, and had he been pushed throughout the two miles he would have put up a record that would have taken some beating locally. Albert Victor is by Albert W., the 2.20 son of Electioneer, who gave to the American tracks such clinkers as Sunol 2.8½, Palo Alto 2.8½, Orion 2.10½ and 137 trotters in the 2.30 list. Albert W. himself gave slippery ones when he sired Little Albert 2.10½, Flowing Tide 2.14½, High Tide 2.17½ and many other possessors of fast records. His dam was Victorie, by Echo—Victoria, by Geo. M. Patchen, Jun.—Victress. Particulars re terms may be obtained from Mr G. S. Budge, Valley Road, or Epsom.