

ANNUAL MEETINGS.

AUCKLAND TROTTING CLUB.

The fifth annual meeting of the Auckland Trotting Club was held at the Club's office, Durham Street, on Monday, 19th inst. Mr W. Adams occupied the chair, and the members present were, Messrs. Caulton, Kidd, Murdoch, Martin, McEwen, Greenwood, Ellis, Knight, and McMath. The report and balance sheet were read by the secretary as follows:—

"In presenting the annual report and balance sheet, your committee regrets that it again shows a slight loss. As, however, the amount is £15 2s 1d, and there has been a sum of £10 10s written off as bad debts, and a further sum of £31 3s deducted from sundry debtors for value—making in all £41 13s allowed—you will see that the result of the year's transactions is not quite so unfavourable as would appear.

"The total amount given in stakes by the Club during the season was £1710, to which must be added the amount (£100) presented by Mr Horner for competition among his stock at your meetings. This is a considerable reduction on the amount given the previous season—viz., £2,560 5s—and your committee thinks the result shows the wisdom of their action in making the reduction.

"The expenses have now been cut down to a minimum, and your committee feels assured that the new season will be the beginning of a new era of prosperity for your club. We do not, therefore, think it would be advisable to further reduce the stakes, the more particularly that the reduction of one-third in the number of meetings enforced by the Government takes effect this season.

"Your committee regrets having to inform you that a misunderstanding has arisen between this Club and the governing body in Christchurch. We trust, however, that the Canterbury body may see the advisability of revoking the extreme step which they have taken, as we feel quite assured that it is against the best interests of trotting for any disagreement to exist.

"Your committee think the time has arrived when a Conference of North New Zealand clubs should be held, with a view to obtain greater uniformity in the conduct of trotting meetings. We are pleased to inform you that steps are being taken with a view to have a meeting of delegates from the various North Island clubs to consider this most important business.

"Six members of committee retire by rotation. Five being eligible, offer themselves for re-election. As there were no further nominations, these gentlemen are duly elected. Mr Halstead having withdrawn, and no other being nominated, it will be the duty of the committee to appoint a member to fill the vacancy."

WILLIAM ADAMS, Chairman.

BALANCE SHEET ON 31ST JULY, 1895.

Liabilities:—To sundry creditors, £166 16s; balance from profit and loss, £505 18s 1d; total, £672 14s 1d.—Assets:—By sundry debtors, £441 2s, sundry debtors for unpaid subscriptions £50, less 10 per cent for profit and loss £49 2s, £442; office furniture, £2 17s 6d; sulkies, £58 17s; debtor for rent of course, £12 10s; assets on course, £62 13s 3d; cash in bank and hand, £93 16s 4d; total, £672 14s 1d.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST JULY, 1895.

Dr.:—To stakes, net, £1710; advertising and printing, £39 12s 6d; wages at meetings, £44 6s 6d; salaries—secretary, handicapper, clerk of course, clerk of scales, starter, and auditor, £183 10s; general expenses, including office rent, £87 12s; rent of course, net, £105 10s; government tax, £164 18s 9d; bad debts, £10 10s; deduction off debtors, 1895 £49 2s, less allowance, 1894 £17 19s, £31 3s; total, £2,337 2s 9d. Balance brought down, £15 2s 1d; balance for balance sheet £505 18s 1d, £521 0s 2d.

Cr.:—By members' subscriptions, £25 10s; nominations and acceptances, £942; gates and stand £240 1s 6d; privileges at meetings, £282 5s; totalisator, £829 13s; measuring fees, £5; registration, 10s 6d; selling races, £37; balance down, £15 2s 1d; total, £2,337 2s 9d. Balance 31st July, 1894, £521 0s 2d.

C. F. MARK, Secretary.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report said that, taking everything into consideration, the Club had come out of the year's racing very well. He had no doubt the chairman of the succeeding year would have a much more satisfactory sheet to lay before members when they met again a year hence.

Mr S. C. Caulton seconded the adoption of the report, which was carried.

WELLINGTON TROTTING CLUB.

[BY WIRE—FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.] August 20.

The annual meeting of the Wellington Trotting Club was held last evening. The President Mr H. D. Crawford, occupied the chair. In moving the adoption of the report he remarked he would like to see more life infused into trotting matches in Wellington. The Club was to be congratulated on its sound financial position.

The balance-sheet showed a credit balance of £34 1s 7d. Six new members were elected and the election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mr H. D. Crawford; vice-presidents, Messrs C. P. Skerrett and D. G. A. Cooper; treasurer, Mr J. K. Hamilton; judge, Mr A. Young; starter, Mr T. H. Hill; clerk of the scales, Mr J. Ramsay; clerk of the course, Mr T. S. Smith; handicapper and secretary, Mr J. A. Connell; stewards, Messrs T. Green, W. Ramsay, F. J. Preston, J. K. Hamilton, R. Pollock, J. Coyle, M. McGrath, and G. McDonald; auditors, Messrs W. C. Gasquine and R. Pollock.

It was resolved to recommend to the incoming committee that better seating accommodation be provided and that more suitable buildings be erected for the totalisator and the sale of refreshments.

Mr R. Pollock suggested that debentures be issued to provide funds to carry on improvements on the course.

Messrs R. Pollock, J. K. Hamilton, and the President and Secretary were appointed delegates to the Wellington Trotting Association.

At the conclusion of the meeting the newly elected delegates to the Trotting Association held a meeting. Mr H. D. Crawford (president) was unanimously re-elected and Mr J. A. Connell appointed secretary. It was resolved that the trotting clubs in the district be informed that the number of delegates to represent the different clubs on the Association be regulated by the number of meetings held by such clubs allowing one delegate for each meeting held.

The Taranaki Trotting Association wrote asking the local Association to define its boundaries and the meeting decided to include the whole of the Wellington provincial district in its jurisdiction.

Correspondence was read from the Canterbury Trotting Association and the Auckland Trotting Club with reference to the disqualification of the latter Club by the Southern body. It was decided to defer taking action so as to allow further negotiations to take place between the two bodies.

It was resolved to interview the Colonial Secretary as to the reduction of the number of meetings which is necessary in accordance with the Gaming Act passed last year.

WELLINGTON RACING CLUB.

[BY WIRE—FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.] August 20.

The stewards of the Wellington Racing Club met yesterday afternoon and drew up the report to be presented to the annual meeting on the 26th inst. It states that the three meetings held during the past season were most successful, fully justifying the action the stewards took in increasing the added money. Included in the receipts for the past two years is the sum of £218 received for licenses of trainers, jockeys, and apprentices. This money will be transferred to trust accounts, viz., Trainers' Provident Fund and Jockeys' Provident Fund, and the amounts to the credit thereof will be available in cases of accident or distress. The racecourse and appointments have been kept up to their usual standard, though at Easter practically the whole of the new sand track was washed away. The starting machines have proved a success. The receipts for the year, ended 31st July, include the balance from last year, £239 8s 11d; entries, £1,134; booth and cards, £220; lawn and gates, £315 4s 8d; admission per railways, £310; totalisator (£3,536 15s 6d less state tax £571 15s 1d) £2,965 0s 5d; members' subscriptions, £118 13s; jockeys and apprentices' licenses, £102 10s. The total is £6,000 17s 4d.

The largest items of expenditure were:—stakes, £3,773 5s; salaries, wages, etc., under various heads, £825; balance fixed deposit in Equitable Building and Investment Co., £400; Bank of Australasia, £129 0s 4d; in hands of Secretary, £2 4s 2d.

The stewards passed the following programmes:—Otagi Maori Racing Club, November 9th; Taratahi-Carterton Racing Club, November 9th; Lower Valley Jockey Club, December 6th.

THE BETTING MARKET.

Writing under date August 15th our Christchurch correspondent remarks:—"Usually on National settling right backers nominate their fancies for the big Cup. This year very little wagering has transpired, but things may live up a bit when some of the spring meetings are over. One prominent pencil informs me that he is full of Magazine, and the others that have been backed are:—100 to 6 Marino, 100 to 4 Au Revoir, 100 to 7 Skirmisher, 100 to 6 Waiuku, 100 to 7 Irish Twist, 100 to 7 North Atlantic, 100 to 7 Mahaki, 100 to 4 Prime Warden, 100 to 3 Chaos, 100 to 3 Lady Zetland, 100 to 5 Outpost, 100 to 7 Gipsy Grand, 100 to 6 Sternchaser; 100 to 8 can be got about anything."

Our Dunedin representative wired as follows on Tuesday night:—"Very little Cup betting since the Grand National Meeting. Barnett and Grant advise me the only business done has been 500 to 10 Speculator; 200 to 11 Marino; 300 to Mahaki at five."

Our Wellington correspondent wired under same date as follows:—"Westmere and Banner received support for the N.Z. Cup this week, Mr E. Yuile writing 500 to 20 against Westmere's name, and 500 to 15 against Banner."

Mr E. F. Yuile reports the following business:—

NEW ZEALAND CUP.—700 to 18 against Chaos, 200 to 16 North Atlantic, 100 to 7 Prime Warden, 200 to 14 Mahaki, 200 to 12 Impulse, 300 to 18 Marino, 200 to 8 Euroclydon, 300 to 12 Lord Zetland, 200 to 10 Casket, 100 to 4 Au Revoir.

NEW ZEALAND AND MELBOURNE CUPS.—1000 to 8 against Gipsy Grand and The Admiral, 1000 to 8 Impulse and Best Bower, 1000 to 8 Impulse and the Jeweller, 1000 to 8 North Atlantic and Best Bower, 1000 to 8 Saracen and Carnage, 1000 to 6 Waiuku and Laundress, 500 to 3 Mahaki and Atlas, 500 to 4 Gipsy Grand and Laura, 500 to 3 Impulse and Taranaki, 500 to 4 Irish Twist and Bob Ray, 500 to 4 Skirmisher and Ruental, and smaller lines.

Marechal Neil left for Sydney via Wellington last week in charge of jockey Katters. The Black Rose gelding will join the Randwick string of P. Nolan who has applied to the A.J.C. for a training license. By the time this is in print he will doubtless have obtained the necessary permit. I hear Kathleen and Fidget will shortly cross the water consigned to Nolan if indeed they have not already been shipped.

Our Illustrations.

DONALD MCKINNON the wonderfully improved Dauphin horse that carried off the New Zealand Grand National Hurdles so easily in 4min 5sec can claim a prominent position in our portrait gallery. Our picture was taken at the Racecourse Hotel, Riccarton, and shows the horse being held by his trainer. Two scenes during the Christchurch jumping festival also appear in this issue.

The subject of our hunting illustration this week is Mrs Bilbrough who has lately returned to New Zealand. Mrs Bilbrough is a keen sportswoman and an exceedingly pretty rider.

The Wellington Park sire chosen for illustration this week is Trenton's full brother Cuirassier who will be represented at the next Park sale by a very promising batch of yearlings.

THE PAKURANGA HARRIERS.

On Saturday last the card said, "The hounds meet at Sylvia Park." There is a lot conveyed in that short sentence. Huntsmen know that while the country is of the best, the fences are of the biggest, and that to be with the hounds they must be ready to put into practice two of the maxims of the great Assheton Smith:—"Throw your heart over and your horse is sure to follow;" and "There is no place you can't get over with a fall." However, all nature looked charming and gay, and after we had partaken of some refreshment at the invitation of Mr Bullock-Webster, the late popular master of the Waikato hounds, a movement was made for the swamp in the vicinity of the stables of Messrs. L. D. Nathan and Co. Here Selby cast his hounds, and in a very few minutes "Gone Away" resounded from the field, and the music of the pack confirmed the information given by those who had viewed the hare as she left her cover and crossed the road in the direction of Bailey's Hill. Her course was an unfortunate one, as all who know the almost impenetrable thicket of gorse and scrub adjoining the plantation on the hill are aware of the difficulty of getting a hare away once she seeks cover there. And it was to this thicket the hounds led us. After they had cleverly dislodged puss several times and she had returned to her dense hiding place, it was decided to draw the swamp again, in the hope that better luck would follow. We were not to be disappointed. The hounds had not been working many minutes before first one then another threw his tongue and then a chorus of inspiring music told us they had again found; and this time their quarry took the right direction. Away she raced right merrily, with the pack in full cry, in the direction of the mountain on the old Sylvia Park Estate, and the sight was a pretty one indeed. Finer grass pastures could not be wished for, and the fences in this line are of the stiffest. It was a picture to see the seven or eight ladies who followed taking the four-railed fences with all the dash and nerve imaginable. Auckland is, however, noted for the straight riding of her huntswomen. To the top of the hill puss led us, and then struck her course in the direction of the water on the other side. Here she doubled and led us over stone-walls and timber with bounds in full chorus to the top of the mountain once more. Again she manoeuvred and doubled, and on we sped at a rattling rate towards the water, and over almost the same line of country we had previously crossed. On reaching the water's edge the pack made a wide detour, and we found ourselves travelling at steepchase pace in the direction of the swamp again, where the hounds ran into their quarry and killed. So ended the sharpest and one of the stiffest runs of the season. The run was practically without check, and man and beast were glad of a respite before our huntsman made another cast. Again the swamp was drawn, and after feathering for a few minutes hounds gave tongue and were soon, with ringing melody, chasing after what proved to be the strongest hare of the day. First they swung towards the road, and then they took us at a merry pace to the top of the mountain again, where a big post and rail in an awkward position turned many a good fencer. A circuit of the mountain was made and then "puss" raced in the direction of the water. Here the pack checked slightly but were soon travelling as fast or perhaps faster than one could wish over stone wall and timber in a direction to the right of where we had found. Having reached the outskirts of the Sylvia Park property she doubled and took us back to the mountain where again she changed her tactics and ran back to the swamp. Now the pack were at fault for a few minutes. They were working too well, however, to give their quarry a chance of escape, and a burst of melody told us that "puss" would have to seek refuge elsewhere. A new manoeuvre was necessary to get rid of her indefatigable pursuers and this time she struck across country over hedges and ditches, stonewalls and timber in the direction of Panmure. Without check we ran until we reached the lagoon. Here "puss" was viewed travelling smartly down a newly grassed paddock on the edge of the lagoon and she subsequently crossed the road in the direction of home. Straight back to where she was found she led us with the hounds keen on the scent. On reaching the swamp again the hounds were once more at fault. In a short time, however, they dislodged "puss" who again set out towards Panmure, with Selby and his charges in hot pursuit, and I learnt subsequently that they killed. The hour was now late, and most of us made a move towards home more than satisfied with the great day we had had. There were a number of falls which was to be expected from the nature of the country. Had the immortal Jorrocks been present he would have withdrawn his opinion that "Puss-untin" was werry well for cripples.

FIRST FLIGHTER.

Weights, etc.

A.J.C. SPRING MEETING.

FIRST ACCEPTANCE.

EPSOM HANDICAP OF 20 sovs each, with 1000 sovs added. One mile. (Run on Sept. 14th.)

Table with 4 columns: Name, Weight (st lb), Name, Weight (st lb). Includes St. Hippo, Brockleigh, Whakawatea, Delaware, Devon, Messmate, Ruental, Mostyn, Preston, Hopscotch, Nobleman, Oxide, Solanum, Mahee, Little Agnes, Albicore, Acmena, Sundial, Babel, Sadur, Georgie, Milkmaid, The Parisienne, Lieutenant, Belgiorio, Division, Response, Attachment, Doris.

METROPOLITAN STAKES OF 20 sovs each, with 1000 sovs added. One mile and a half. (Run on Sept. 17th.)

Table with 4 columns: Name, Weight (st lb), Name, Weight (st lb). Includes The Admiral, St. Hippo, Brockleigh, Delaware, Ruental, Clive, Preston, Hopscotch, Quiver, Nobleman, Oxide, Mahee, Little Agnes, Acmena, Aurens, Sundial, Royal Rose, The Trio, Palo Alto, Veno, Eolas, Mannlicher, Division, Response, Blue Peter.

SOUTH CANTERBURY JOCKEY CLUB'S SPRING MEETING.

NOMINATIONS.

TIMARU CUP of 100 sovs, one mile and a quarter.—Maremma, Georgie Sharp, Magazine, Prime Warden, Gipsy Grand, Beadonwell, Marino, Loveshot, Chaos, Outpost, Barmby, Silver Spec, Vogengang, Captive.

FLYING HANDICAP of 50 sovs, six furlongs.—Maremma, Barmby, Lady Origen, Georgie Sharp, Miss, Marino, Goodwood, Magazine, Lord of Misrule, Molly Darling, Rothamstead, Britomarte, Lord Zetland, Lady Spencer, Lady Somnus, Outpost.

RHODES MEMORIAL STAKES of 100 sovs, one mile.—Winchman, Maremma, Beadonwell, Barmby, Georgie Sharp, Marino, Silver Spec, Magazine, Loveshot, Vogengang, Prime Warden, Lord Zetland, Chaos, Captive, Lady Spencer, Gipsy Grand, Outpost.

LATE COURSING.

Splendid weather greeted the first day's coursing in connection with the Auckland Coursing Club's August Meeting of yesterday (Wednesday), and a large attendance was present. The coursing was excellent throughout, and only one hare was killed. The following are the results:—

CHAMPION COLLAR STAKES.

FIRST ROUND.—White Star beat Sea Saw, Cushla beat Wisdom, Myrtle beat Pat, Ronda beat White Hind, Raspberry beat Guy Fawkes, Dora B. beat Locket, Stormfiend ran a bye.

FINAL STAKES.

FIRST ROUND.—Robin beat Rose Morn, Ocean Boy beat Fusilier, Ajax beat Queenie, Agent beat Lottery, Boojum beat Pawnbroker, Annabelle beat Vagrant, Black Boy beat White Hawk, Tim Doolan beat Blue Girl, Newport beat Rockdale, Black and White beat Jeannie Deans, Ida beat Rosedale, Schoolgirl beat Sailor, Gentle Lady beat Port Bow, Secret beat Lancashire Lass, Brigadier beat Towi, Jimmy beat Lady Mack, Star beat Ding Dong, Sequah beat Van Dieman, Sapphire beat Grace Darling, Jack's the Lad beat Music Teacher, Sir Thomas beat Cisy, Erina beat Clarence Rose, Black Cap beat The Wanderer, Grafton beat Scamp.

SECOND ROUND.—Robin beat Ocean Bay, Ajax beat Agent, Boojum beat Annabelle, Tim Doolan beat Black Boy, Newport beat Black and White, Schoolgirl beat Ida, Gentle Lady beat Secret, Brigadier beat Jimmy, Sequah beat Star, Sapphire beat Jack's the Lad, Erina beat Sir Thomas, Black Cap beat Grafton.

METROPOLITAN HOTEL

Corner of QUEEN AND DURHAM STREETS, AUCKLAND.

EVERYTHING ENTIRELY NEW Accommodation for 60 Boarders. THE ATHLETIC RENDEZVOUS OF AUCKLAND.

BILLIARD ROOM WITH TWO NEW TABLES

JACK GALLAGHER PROPRIETOR.