

TROTTING.

OFFICIAL CALENDAR.

THE AUCKLAND TROTTING CLUB. DURHAM STREET EAST, August 30th.

To the Editor SPORTING REVIEW. SIR,—I have been instructed by the Committee of this Club to inform you that your paper has this day been appointed the OFFICIAL CALENDAR for trotting clubs in the Provincial district of Auckland.

Yours faithfully, C. F. MARK, Secretary.

AUCKLAND TROTTING CLUB SUMMER MEETING.

A successful gathering—Pica takes the double—Old Judge wins the Trotting Cup—A close finish in the Hurdles—Katie M registers a great performance.

[BY BORDERER.]

THE best of weather was experienced for the opening day of the Auckland Trotting Club's Summer Meeting, and, as a natural result, the Epsom enclosure was very well attended by trotting men and supporters of pony racing. The sport provided was excellent, the finishes for the Harness Trot and Hurdle Handicap being well worth a visit to Potter's. The arrangements of the meeting were well carried out, and in no direction did one hear the voice of the complainer, save as regards the time at which the last race was run. But with a fine light obtainable racing men are not in too great a hurry to finish the day. The betting was good, last year's record being topped by £488, the total amounting to the respectable figures of £3,836. From the success which has attended the Club this season, they should quickly be in a comfortable position so far as finances are concerned. In the Maiden Trot the stewards emphasised the lesson that horses must be driven out by fining the riders of Fawn, the Count, Maud, and Totsy £1 each for neglecting to ride their mounts out to the finish. No doubt they had no chance with the winner, but, for all that, there is a very necessary rule which requires horses to be ridden right out, and the Club were perfectly right in inflicting fines. The big dividends so often declared at the Paddock were not obtainable, although Effie gave the handsome return of £9 11s. for 10s. in the Maiden Pony Race.

THE PONY RACES.

The big galloping race, the Pony Cup Handicap of 70 sovs, one mile, was thought a good thing for Reil, and Helena and Nellie were both well backed. Reil was first away, with Florrie close up, then Nannie and Pica. Nannie showed the way into the back stretch, but when the runners turned for home consistent old Pica—the Fishmonger of Potter's Paddock—came with a rattle, and had the field beaten before they reached the outer stand. From this out he never gave them a chance, although Nellie came very fast all the way up the straight. Reil finished second, a length behind the leader. Time, 1min 52sec. Dividend, £2 7s. Knowing what a clever jumper Pica is, backers quickly placed him in the premier position when the hurdle race came along, and the old horse proved worthy of the trust, although it was a very close call with Fauntleroy, who was only a head away when the post was passed. Helena was first off, with Mother Shipton on her girths. At the second jump Helena not only cleared the hurdle but also the course railing, and landing on her head, took no further part in the race. Mother Shipton held the lead for a short space, but when they got within measurable distance of home Pica shoved through to the front, followed by Fauntleroy. Approaching the last fence both horses struggled desperately to gain a large gap caused by the overturning of a panel, and the favourite reaching it first gained an advantage that left him a head to the good when the judging line was passed. Little Raven followed Fauntleroy home. Time, 3min 1sec. Dividend, £1 10s. The Maiden Pony Handicap was productive of a good dividend. Mother Shipton, Little Belle, and Quail were all heavily backed, but not one of them could get into a place, three outsiders beating them easily. Little Belle got left at the post through her own fault, Little Nannie getting a

bit the best of the release. Dearie closed with the leader at the home bend, but when they were fairly straight for home Effie went at them, and fighting a very game finish beat Dearie by three-parts of a length in £1 9s. The five furlong Christmas Handicap saw the knowing crowd ankle-deep in the muck. On paper Rodney was the best of good things for this race, but the "knowledge" was whispered among the knowing people that Mr Barr's pony was a "stumer" (Anglice, a non-trier). Germina was the popular pick, and the favouritism in that direction was intensified when a Southern pencil put forty tickets on her. This either meant that he highly fancied the chance or was afraid to stand the money lodged with him. His face was a picture when the supposed dead 'un (Rodney) came to life and simply walked over his opponents, winning with the greatest of ease in 1min 6sec, Nannie and Kaipara filling the places. Then the knowing crowd kicked themselves with solemn vigour. I should not think Rodney made a very wise move in going to Potter's, in spite of his win, for after that walk-away win under 98 the handicapper will no doubt take such very good care of him that he will not obtain many chances.

THE TROTTING EVENTS.

Old Judge was a pronounced favourite when betting opened on the Auckland Trotting Cup, and when the machine stopped operating he stood at level money. Duke C. was next in demand, and the others, with the exception of Nelly, were indifferently supported. Morning Star, who had the limit, soon cruelled his chance by breaking, and before they had gone a mile it was seen Sandall had them all beaten, the finish seeing him six lengths ahead of Duke C, which was the only horse able to get near him. Ruby took third place. The two miles were trotted in 5min 51sec, and the dividend was £1. This is the first time the Cup has been trotted over two miles, the previous contests being over three miles of ground. In '90 '91 Commodore won off the 40sec mark in 10min 6sec, and the year following the famous Brandy put up a win but was disqualified for wrongful entry, and Rarus, who was on the 25sec mark, won. Time, 8min 49 1/2 sec. The year following Little Ben with a 53sec start won in 8min 36sec, and the year after Sandfly with a 64sec start won in 8min 30 1/2 sec. Last season Tom Hicks, aided by the ridiculously long start of 75sec, won in 8min 48sec. To return to Saturday's racing. The Maiden Trot, one mile and a half, was reckoned a good thing for Slim Jim, who had easily won the Hordern Four year-old Stakes, but The Judge got home by half a dozen lengths in 4min 34sec, Slim Jim second and Totsy third. Dividend, £2 1s. As stated above Slim Jim won the Hordern race, doing the mile in the slow time of 3min 30sec, Melinda and Gipsy in the places. The best trotting race of the day was the Harness Trot, two miles and a quarter, in which the scratch mare, Katie M., had to give starts up to 65sec. The mare trotted splendidly throughout, and putting in a great finish beat Duke C. by a length in 5min 50sec, Nellie in third place. There was a protest for breaking, but the stewards properly dismissed it, for the mare was always brought into stride as quickly as possible and never gained in her breaks. Dividend, £1 2s. The remaining trot, the Electric one mile, was won by Nellie, who got home in 2min 49 1/2 sec, Hurricane and Nelson in the places. Dividend, £4 15s. So ended a most enjoyable day's racing.

TO-DAY'S MEETING AT POTTER'S PADDOCK.

The second day's racing of the A.T.C. Summer Meeting will be held at Potter's Paddock this afternoon, when another good attendance may be anticipated. The principal trot will be the President's Handicap, two miles and a quarter, for which I like Tom Hicks and Ruby. In the Telegraph Trot, one mile, Hurricane and Gay Belle should be hardest to beat. The Glasgow Trot, two miles, may go to Katie M. or Duke C. The leading pony item will be the New Year Handicap, six furlongs and a half, for which I like Reil and Pica. The Steeplechase may go to Fauntleroy or Helena; and the five furlong Grand Stand Handicap to Germina. BORDERER.

CANTERBURY NOTES.

[BY WIRE—OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

December 31.

The New Brighton Trotting Club had a most successful day's sport at the suburban convincing ground on Boxing Day. As it was a holiday and it being the only sporting meeting in the neighbourhood, the attendance was good and the speculation brisk, the sum of £2142 10s. being handled by Messrs Hobbs and Goodwin. The trotting as a whole was distinctly good, the big race of the day being splendidly contested. Vick won the Maiden as he liked, Beatrice occupying second position. The winner is by Victor, and although M. Edwards had to ride him nearly all the way he eventually won easily. Turadale had an easy task to win the Pony Handicap, nothing but Ionic ever getting within a distance of the gelding after half the distance had been covered. Lady Agnes won the Boxing Day Handicap from end to end, August finishing second. The Maiden Handicap was won by Destiny, who is by the thoroughbred horse, St. George, Sans Souci six lengths away second. I think I am correct in saying that this is the first of the progeny of St. George to win a trotting race, although many by Burlington have been successful. The Brighton Handicap Trot (in harness) was won by Alice Asmore. It proved an exciting trot from beginning to end. The winner started favourite, but did not settle down into her stride until a mile and a half had been covered. Then, however, she began to improve her position, and on entering the straight for home was close on the heels of the leading division, which comprised Sea Foam, Mistake, Carolina, and Little Ben, all of whom were trotting abreast. Rotherham, who was trotting much better than during the first mile, was close up, and when Alice Asmore found an opening on the outside, Rotherham followed her, the latter eventually finishing second to the mare, with Seafoam close up third; Carolina, Little Ben, and Mistake close behind. Honest Wilkes, driven by our recent visitor (Mr Albaugh) also started, but was never in a prominent position. He is a fine-looking horse, but evidently not quite ready. Alice Asmore is a remarkably fine animal, combining pace and quality with great size. Bilbah beat Lady Agnes by a length in the mile Electric, both breaking just before reaching the judge, Bilbah settling down the quicker. Lady Agnes easily won the two mile Trot in 5min 36sec, and was penalised two seconds only in the mile. She had to trot the same gait to complete the journey in 2min 48sec, and, although the actual race took 2min 48 1/2 sec, Lady Agnes was much too well treated, and of course was made favourite. A protest was entered against Bilbah on the ground that he had trotted at Wellington under the name of Pagan. The stewards adjourned the matter until the following day, retaining the totalisator investments. The question was again held over until enquiries could be made in the North Island. The final Trot (in harness) was won by Carolina, who had previously prepared backers for her victory by the way she shaped in the trot won by Alice Asmore. I hear that Microbe, a well-known pony trotter in the South, is dead.

The riders of Fawn, The Count, Maud, and Totsy were each fined £1 at Potter's Paddock last Saturday for not driving out their mounts in the Maiden Trot.

Weights, etc.

AUCKLAND TROTTING CLUB SUMMER MEETING.

ACCEPTANCES.

HORDERN STAKES OF 50 sovs, one mile.—Balmain, The Count, Tip Top. GLASGOW TROT HANDICAP OF 35 sovs (in harness), two miles.—Katie M. scratch, Tom Hicks 34sec, Ruby 36sec, Duke C. 38sec, Ike 39sec, Nellie 39sec, Carmen 39sec, Tamati 39sec, Commodore 50sec, Tip Top 50sec, Sandfly 56sec, Morning Star 60sec, Lucy 60sec, Lawyer Bell 70sec. TELEGRAPH TROT OF 35 sovs, one mile.—Old Judge scratch, Nellie scratch, Hurricane scratch, Duke C. 2sec, Ruby 4sec, Ike 6sec, Kapai 10sec, Judy 14sec, Miss Graham 16sec, Gay Belle 16sec, The Judge 19sec, Nelson 19sec. PONY STEEPLCHASE OF 40 sovs, two miles and a half.—Fauntleroy 11.6, Little Raven 11.4, Butterfly 10.12, Helena 10.12, Mother Shipton 10.8, Libeller 10, Little Jane 9.4, Bees 8.7. TRIAL TROT OF 25 sovs, one mile and a half.—[Kapai scratch, Waimate scratch, The Judge 8sec, Miss Graham 8sec, Nelson 14sec, Morning Star 14sec, Slim Jim 18sec, Wallace D. 23sec, The Count 23sec, Totsy 30sec. PRESIDENT'S HANDICAP OF 80 sovs, two miles and a quarter.—Old Judge 11sec, Tom Hicks 14sec, Hurricane 16sec, Ruby 16sec, Nellie 17sec, Ike 22sec, Carmen 31sec, Sandfly 36sec, Gay Belle 43sec, Morning Star 52sec, Lawyer Belle 52sec, Nelson 52sec. SELLING PONY HANDICAP OF 20 sovs, five furlongs.—Fauntleroy 9.2, Little Nannie 8.0, Robin 7.8, Banjo 7.6, Dearie 7.0, Bees 7.0. GRANDSTAND HANDICAP OF 30 sovs, five furlongs.—Rodney 10.6, Pica 9.4, Nelly 9.4, Germina 8.4, Quail 7.10, Sultan 6.7, Bees 6.7, Kaipara 6.7. NEW YEAR HANDICAP OF 45 sovs, six furlongs and a half.—Rodney 9.6, Reil 9.2, Pica 9.2, Nelly 9.0, Germina 7.10, Florrie 6.7, Sultan 6.7, Kaipara 6.7.

FOXTON RACING CLUB'S HACK MEETING.

NOMINATIONS.

FLYING STAKES HANDICAP OF 40 sovs, six furlongs.—Fore Royal, Provoke, Reality, Arawa, Ruhina, Flying Shot, Seabreeze, Puawai, First

Sight, Stockade, Titoki, Blue Mountain, Iphimede, Tapeoa, Volta, Brookfield, Airlie, Sedgebrook.

HANDICAP HURDLES OF 50 sovs, one mile and three-quarters.—Leander, Nat, Awarua, Pyrites, Strike, Canard, Barman, Rossall, Le Grande, Red Hot, Moa, Revenue, Bush Girl, Clear Light, Sa Lib.

FOXTON RACING CLUB HANDICAP OF 150 sovs, one mile and a half.—King's Own, Goosander, Epsom, Docility, Locarius, Disraeli, Review, Ruhina, Flying Fish, Flying Shot, Undine, Ebor II., First Sight, Stockade, The Brook, Slumber, Reality, Swift.

ELECTRIC HANDICAP OF 30 sovs, five furlongs.—Sedgebrook, Volta, Snappac, Marina, Seabreeze, Puawai, Kanapa, First Sight, Titoki, Blue Mountain, Bush Girl, Hesitation, Tapeoa, Flying Shot, Leander, Fore Royal, Provoke, Reality, Arawa.

STEWARDS' STAKES HANDICAP OF 50 sovs, one mile and a distance.—King's Own, Goosander, Epsom, Naughty Girl, Reality, Locarius, Disraeli, Review, Flying Shot, Sedgebrook, Swift, Scabreeze, Undine, Ebor II., Stockade, Iphimede, The Brook, Slumber.

WELTER HANDICAP OF 25 sovs, one mile and a distance.—Barossa, Leander, Nat, Tippler, Whisper, Raupo, Pyrites, Mischief, Flying Fish, Sedgebrook, Wolff's Schnapps, Le Grande, Red Hot, First Sight, Opai, Revenue, Venture, Clear Light, Violet, Hesitation, Cleave, Hautonga, Brookfield.

Turf Records.

AUCKLAND RACING CLUB SUMMER MEETING.

SECOND DAY—WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1ST.

[Weather Fine.]

GLASGOW HANDICAP OF 100 sovs; second horse to receive 10 sovs from the stake. Seven furlongs.

Table with columns In, Out, Name, Age, Sex, Weight, and Odds. Includes Major F. N. George's b m Anniversary, Mr J. Lowther's ch h Lord Dunluce, Mr Watson's ch m St. Laura, etc.

NEW YEAR'S HANDICAP HURDLES OF 100 sovs; second horse to receive 10 sovs out of the stake. Two miles.

Table with columns Name, Age, Sex, Weight, and Odds. Includes Mr R. H. Skipwith's b m Ladybird, Mr J. Bland's b g Ika Vuka, Mr J. Musgrove's b m Economy, etc.

GREAT NORTHERN DERBY OF 500 sovs, added to a sweep-stake of 15 sovs each; second horse to receive 100 sovs, and third 25 sovs from the stake. For three-year-olds. Colts, 8.10; fillies and geldings, 8.5. One mile and half.

Table with columns Name, Age, Sex, Weight, and Odds. Includes Mrs Wm. Duncan's br c Fabulist, Mr Sam. Bradley's br c Armour, Mr D. A. McLeod's br c Osculator, Mr G. G. Stead's b c Mauser, Mr A. E. Byers' b c St. Regel, etc.

MIDSUMMER HANDICAP OF 150 sovs; second horse to receive 15 sovs, and third horse 5 sovs out of the stake. For two-year-olds. Five furlongs.

Table with columns Name, Age, Sex, Weight, and Odds. Includes Mr G. Brimblecombe's b f Porangi, Mr J. Chaffe's b c St. Paul, Mr R. Burke's b f Lady Anna, etc.

COUNTY HANDICAP OF 100 sovs; second horse to receive 10 sovs from the stake. Six furlongs.

Table with columns Name, Age, Sex, Weight, and Odds. Includes Mr F. Macmanamin's b h St. Clements, etc.