

V.A.T.C. SPRING MEETING.

Table listing race results for the Caulfield Cup of 2500 sovs. One mile and a half. Columns include race name, horse name, jockey, and finishing position.

V.R.C. SPRING MEETING.

Table listing race results for the Melbourne Cup of 3000 sovs. Two miles. Columns include race name, horse name, jockey, and finishing position.

Acceptances.

GISBORNE PARK STEEPLECHASE MEETING.

HUNTERS' FLAT.—New Year 12.8, Cynosure 12.0, Rifle 11.8, Jim 11.7, Oaklands 11.0. HUNTERS' STEEPLECHASE.—Maccaroni 13.0, Cynosure 12.2, Jim 11.12, Rifle 11.10, Kate 11.4, Cloth of Gold 11.0, Oaklands 10.10, Paddy 10.10. PARK STEEPLECHASE.—New Year 11.0, T Rose 10.8, Disturbance 10.7, The Bishop 10.3, Sam 10.0, Forella 10.0, Lignite 9.12, The Saint 9.7. HURDLES.—Hop Garden 11.8, T Rose 10.12, Zanzibar 10.11, Lord Raven 10.4, Glenora 10.2.

Sam 9.12, Lignite 9.8, Deceiver 9.0, Miss Bevan 9.0.

WINTER OATS.—Three Star 11.9, The Sharper 11.2, Glauvena 10.11, Perkin 10.11, Strowan 10.11, Hopparden 10.2, Zillah 9.8, Samoa 9.6, Dangar 9.0.

FINAL HANDICAP.—Three Star 11.9, The Sharper 11.0, Strowan 11.0, Perkin 11.0, King Cannibal 10.12, Glauvena 10.8, Hukatere 10.0, Hop Garden 10.0, Zanzibar 10.0, Lord Raven 9.10, Zillah 9.5, Samoa 9.5, Goodshot 9.0.

OUR TREBLE COUPON.

THE following coupons were received up to Tuesday, the 7th inst., for the Caulfield Cup, Melbourne Cup, and New Zealand Cup treble:—

Table listing various horse names and their owners for the Caulfield Cup, Melbourne Cup, and N.Z. Cup. Includes names like A.N., J.O.B., J.I.A., A.G.H., etc.

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Cheques, drafts, etc., and all business communications to be addressed to ARTHUR CLEAVE AND CO., Vulcan Lane, Auckland. Literary communications to the EDITOR.

The EDITOR will always be pleased to receive contributed items, paragraphs, sketches, or any brief article of interest to the trade.

Communications intended for publication should be written in ink, and only on one side of the paper. Anonymous letters will be consigned to the waste-paper basket.

Unsuitable contributions will not be returned unless a special request to that effect and stamps to cover the cost of postage be sent with them.

The annual subscription to THE SPORTING REVIEW AND LICENSED VICTUALLERS' GAZETTE will be 12/6 payable strictly in advance.

WELCOME TO THE REV. L. M. ISITT.

A WELCOME this reverend gentleman was held on the evening of June 24th. The welcome was given by the members attending the prohibition convention sitting in Wellington. Judging by the reports of the meeting which appear in the local papers, Mr Isitt, in the matter of slang, scurrility, and all uncharitableness, cast his notorious Bradford speech into an impenetrable darkness. The burlesque was intensified by the flattery ladled out to the guest of the evening by some of the speakers, and made more ridiculous by Mr Isitt's assertion relative to the absence of the Mayor of Wellington, which was not only in the worst possible taste, but also extremely unfair to an absent man, who, had he been present, would have given the rev. gentleman such a castigation for his malevolent remarks as Mr George Fisher alone can administer. To outsiders the face was made all the more "screaming" by Mr Isitt saying that he was surprised at the "cordial and sympathetic manner in which he had been received by the people of Wellington." Just as if every person, including the rev. gentleman himself, was not fully aware that the meeting would be cordial and enthusiastic. Spurious as the cordiality may be, and fictitious as the burst of enthusiasm in all probability was, we do not consider it was any honour to have a direct reference made to our journal, but judging from the report which refers to us, the rev. gentleman appeared to feel keenly our remarks relative to the hope that he would enjoy his visit to England, and remain there. We regret exceedingly that our expressed hope did not obtain realisation, and we say without the slightest hesitation that if it cost this colony one thousand pounds per annum to contribute to that enjoyment and keep him in the Mother Country the best interest of economy would be conserved, and a large contribution to the peace and tranquility of the colony would be assured by such a national monetary contribution to such a slang-using agitator. We wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not fear the rev. gentleman as a power capable of upsetting the rights of vested interests which have been firmly established under the existing law. We only desire his absence from this colony because we admit that his presence is a disturbing element, and capable of being extremely mischievous, and mischievous only; and as it would pay the country to get rid of the stoats and weasels by voting a large sum for their total extermination, so it would be profitable in the interest of peace, truth, and justice, to vote a large sum to get rid of the gentleman to whom we are making such pointed allusion. In the course of his speech Mr Isitt compared himself inferentially to Mr Gladstone, by saying, like that great statesman, he would be "as harsh and uncompromising as truth." We have heard a comparison between a roaring lion and a crawling insect, but as comparisons are odious we shall pursue them no further, except to say that during his whole life, as a great statesman, Mr Gladstone denounced any policy which went in the direction of robbery or spoliation, and surely nothing could possibly show the line of demarcation more clearly which divides a statesman from an agitator who, in our opinion, abrogates the fine principles of justice and righteousness in his every utterance, and in daily life and conduct. In choice

and elegant diction Mr Isitt goes on to say that the prohibitionists were going to land "their five knuckles" on the very bridge of the nose of the liquor traffic, and then desired to have a "leg of mutton fist" to drive it home. This is metaphorical in its originality — not only clever, but capable of arousing the risibilities of an audience easily made mirthful. We were not surprised to find that the rev. gentleman traduced his fellow "clergy" in the Old Country, and was it not again an exemplification of Mr Isitt's nature to refer to English ministers who differed with him in their line of thought and of action as "knock-kneed, swivel eyed parsons," and further on to say that the English parsons had to be "continually tickled up." We have heard the rev. gentleman spoken of as an eloquent speaker, and perhaps he merits this testimony to a certain extent. We are certain, however, of one thing; that is of his ability to write a new slang dictionary, which would be instructive as showing the rev. gentleman's ability in one certain direction, but whether it would be literature that would be accepted as affording readers an intellectual entertainment of a high order is another phase of the question. We are in doubt as to whether or not we are doing the rev. gentleman too much honour by thus alluding to his public utterances. It was once said in the House that a certain member was not worth a righteous man's anger, and did not deserve his pity. We cannot positively assert that Mr Isitt comes under this category. In our next issue we shall refer to an interview which took place between the convention and the Premier.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE LIQUOR ACT.

We have always contended that it was not in many cases the quantity of alcoholic liquors consumed in this colony responsible for the evils attendant upon its injurious use, and we have no doubt but many of the fatal accidents which have resulted from intoxication, or the suicides which have taken place under the influence of delirium tremens or some other "phase of alcoholic insanity," can find its cause in the vile compounds which the unfortunates in the respective cases have imbibed, and not from having consumed good and pure alcohol. For these reasons we hail with satisfaction the appointment of experts whose duty it is to visit hotels with power to take samples of whatever liquor is exposed for sale, and we declare it to be a matter for equal gratification to realise that the present law has made provision for the imposition of a heavy penalty when a conviction is obtained against a publican who exposes or has in his possession poisonous compounds, instead of pure unadulterated liquors. We are quite willing to admit that in our large centres those engaged in the Trade are much more "faithful to trust" than those who vend liquors a few years ago, and we have just been informed by a gentleman occupying a high position that, in the Borough of Invercargill, the liquors vended are so good as not only to give universal satisfaction, but also to obviate the disasters which have resulted from the use of baneful liquors in many parts of the colony. For these reasons it is almost unnecessary now for the inspector to devote much of his time and attention to the first-class hotels in our large centres. Another reason why this is so can be obtained from the fact that Trade competition at the present time is so keen in the hotel business in our towns as to render it imperative to keep good liquor. We are given to understand that in each of our four cities it costs a large sum of money—which the country has to pay—for the purchase of samples for analysis. In fact, we have been credibly informed that, in one of the cities, the cost of obtaining these samples amounted in one month to over £100. If this is so, the public conclude we are paying too much for our whistle. Speaking of the character of our hotels to which we have alluded in this article, we are led to briefly consider the serious charge made against the management and control of the hotels in Wanganui. We have ourselves been many times in Wanganui, and have taken particular notice of the character of the hotels in that nice little town, and we certainly came to the conclusion that the hotels then were admirably conducted, and were a credit to the "trade" of the colony. It was, therefore, a surprise to us to learn from the report of a prohibition convention, held recently in Wellington, that a Mr Carson (the proprietor or manager of a local paper) declared that there were not more than three hotels in the whole of Wanganui that are properly conducted. We trust the whole of the trade will combine to wipe out this "outrage," and if Mr Carson again contests the Wanganui seat for the General Assembly, the hotel-keepers of Wanganui will take effective steps to be represented in Parliament by one not capable of such an outrageous statement. It is probable that before the next issue of our paper the new Government Licensing Bill will be before the House for consideration, and we shall watch the course of legislation and inform our readers of its progress.