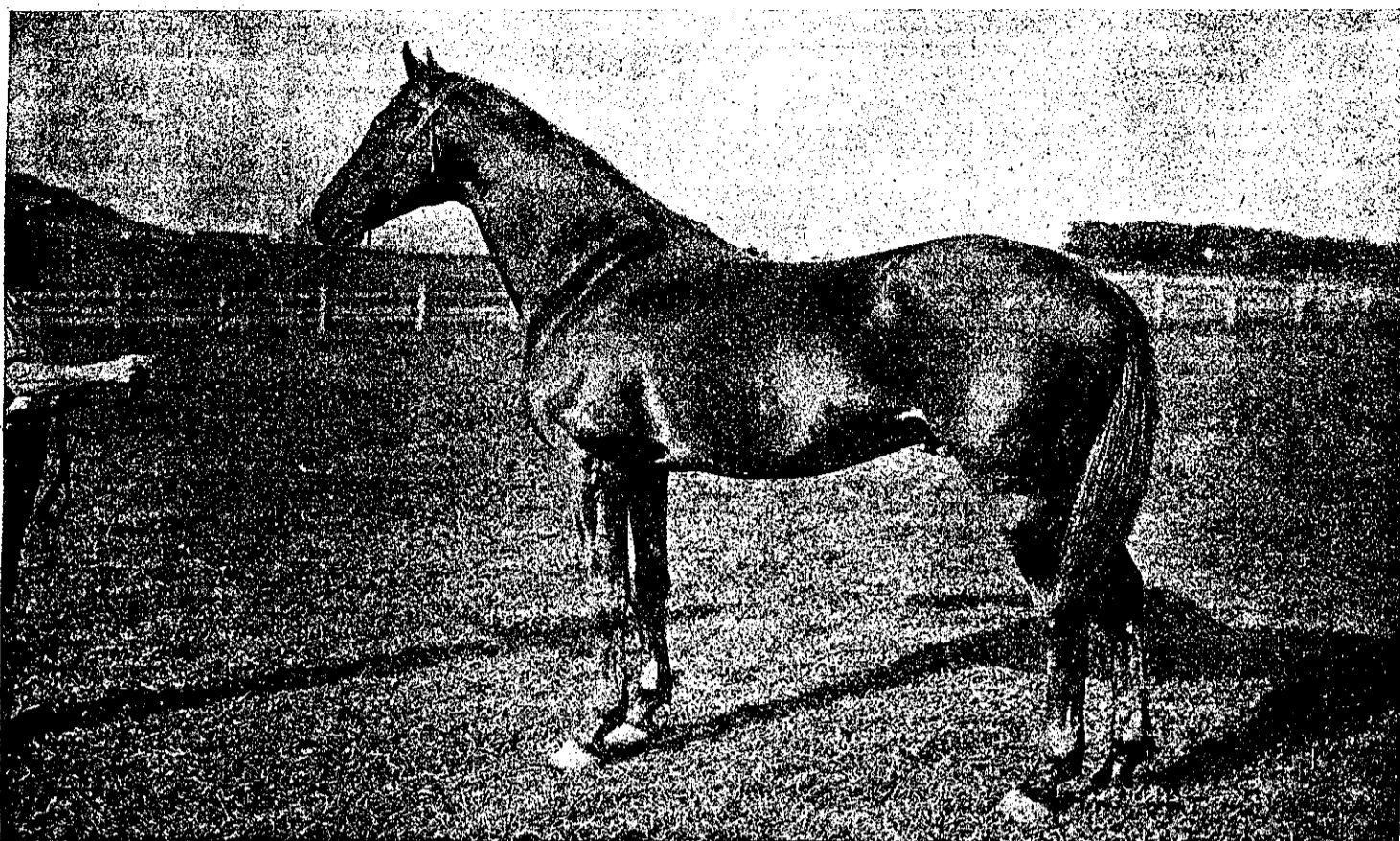


evidence tendered in the case, few are likely to invest in any stock sired by Morpheus, although personally we do not think that half the stock sired by him will show unsoundness, but then the trouble is to find out which of his progeny are likely to be affected. As a duty, we certainly think that where a breeder is presented with a cripple foal, by Morpheus, that Mr. McRae should return the service fee. But our object in discussing this case is to draw the attention of breeders to the necessity of banding themselves together and demanding that each stud horse groom should be compelled to produce a certificate, signed by two competent veterinary surgeons, stating the extent of the horse's unsoundness and whether hereditary. Breeders would then be able to decide whether the unsoundness was of sufficient importance to warrant them in declining the horse's services. The Government Stock Department should take up this matter if they wish to keep the breed of horses in New Zealand sound. If we were breeding for racing purposes we should insist on seeing a certificate as to the soundness of the horse we selected. Breeders are only standing in their own light if they do not insist on knowing (by expert, i.e., by veterinary surgeon opinion) whether they are breeding from a sound or unsound horse. The price of horses has dropped considerably during the last few years, and the slightest blemish is sufficient nowadays to condemn the most highly-bred animal, so that they want to be bred as sound as possible.

SIRE OF THE SEASON.



Mr L. D. Nathan's b h ST. HIPPO, aged, by St. Leger—Hippona.

VOLUME X N.Z. STUD BOOK.

We are pleased to be able to announce to breeders and the racing public generally—a large number of whom take an interest in the pedigrees of racehorses—that we are in receipt of a communication from Mr A. D. Willis, of Wanganui, the publisher of volume IX. of the New Zealand Stud Book, that he has decided to issue volume X. as early as possible. Mr Elliott, the editor, acts in conjunction with Mr Willis, and the latter states that he intends placing a really reliable book in the hands of breeders and the public. Mr Willis is now in communication with the various racing clubs, asking for their co-operation, which we hope will be taken up in a hearty manner. The book is most urgently needed, and everyone interested in breeding should assist in bringing out a book worthy of the best horse-raising country in the world. We will return to this subject next week.

In consequence of the uncertainty of the Auckland Racing Club obtaining a totalisator permit for their First Spring Meeting, it was decided yesterday to postpone the date for receiving nominations until Friday, 4th September.

Inter-Provincial.

DUNEDIN.

The Wellington Steeplechase winner bought by a Dunedin sport—Death of a brood mare—Lord Rosslyn being pushed along—The D.J.C. Anniversary meeting—Casket lame.

Nat (by Natator—Queen Margaret), the steeplechaser, has been purchased by Mr Laing and a Dunedin sport, and the horse has arrived at Forbury. I hear he went very cheap—about 40 guineas.

Apology II. (dam of False Impression) died on Tuesday morning from exhaustion after foaling twins. She gave every promise of being a good brood mare, her stock being considered some of the best about this way. She was quite a young mare.

Very fair entries were received on Saturday for our Hunt Club Meeting, to be held on the 12th September.

Lord Rosslyn is in the principal event, and is doing more fast work than anything here, being evidently pushed along in view of this race.

In consequence of the decreased totalisator permits, the D.J.C. Anniversary Meeting has been struck out of their programme. This was the day the Dunedin Cup was run for when it was one of the principal betting races of the colony.

We have had grand weather for training this last week, and the Cup candidates are doing well, although Casket pulled up lame last week.

WELLINGTON.

The Carterton Racing Club—Tiritea, Chris, and Donald McKinnon shipped to Sydney—Two hurdlers accompany the team—A trophy with the Exhibition Cup suggested—The nomenclature nuisance again—Lower Valley Jockey Club.

The Taratahi Carterton Racing Club will this season hold a two-days meeting, on November 9th and 10th. Mr J. E. Henry was re-appointed handicapper.

Mr W. Douglas' horses, Tiritea, Chris, and Donald McKinnon were shipped to Sydney last Wednesday week, in charge of George Hope and James Redmond. The three horses appear among the entries for the Randwick Spring Meeting for each of the hurdle races and steeplechase races.

The hunters Ben B (by Opawa) and Bob (by Gladiator), belonging to the same interests and who failed to find buyers at Christchurch, were also taken across.

It has been suggested to me that, in connection with the Exhibition Cup, to be run at the Wellington Racing Club's Spring Meeting, the club should add a trophy, as has previously been done in connection with the Wellington Cup race.

Mr Frank Burt, of Featherston, has named his filly, by Egalite—Jeanette (engaged in next

year's Wairarapa Hack Guineas), "Tribby." This name Mr Frank Moeller, of Napier, has already adopted for his Torpedo—Christina filly.

The following is a list of horses in training and young stock on Mr Alfred Ward's Ugbrook Station, Awatere, Marlborough:—In training: Chestnut filly, Britannia, 3yrs, by King Cole—Masthead; bay colt, Prince, by King Cole—Amy; bay mare, The Princess, by King Cole—Queen Margaret; brown filly, Bellona, by Catesby—Mab. Two-year-olds: Filly by Catesby—Barosuna, filly by Catesby—Masthead, filly by Catesby—Martha, colt by Catesby—Amy, colt by Catesby—Mab. Yearlings: Filly by Catesby—Martha (Cadogan—Maritana), colt by Catesby—Amy. Mab has visited Catesby, and Martha and Amy Fiske (Nordenfeldt—My Idea). [Bellona is the name of the Sylvia Park mare by Nelson from Muskerina.—Ed. S.R.]

A meeting of stewards of the Lower Valley Jockey Club was held last Saturday. A letter was read from the Masterton Racing Club, stating the intention not to race on Boxing Day. It was resolved to write and thank the Masterton Club. Mr A. R. Macfarlane sent in his resignation as handicapper to the club, which was received and accepted with regret, and great praise was given to that gentleman for his many services to the club. Mr Henry was appointed in his place.

John Coyle informed me on Tuesday that it was not likely he would go to Nelson to reside, but would probably go to Marton shortly instead.

HAWKES BAY.

Fusilade changes ownership—The popularity of the "Acme" starting machine—Tenby in work again—The Napier Park Racing Club.

Mr W. Rathbone, of Waipawa, has sold his stud horse, Fusilade (by Musket), to Mr Crerar, of Wanstead, Waipukurau.

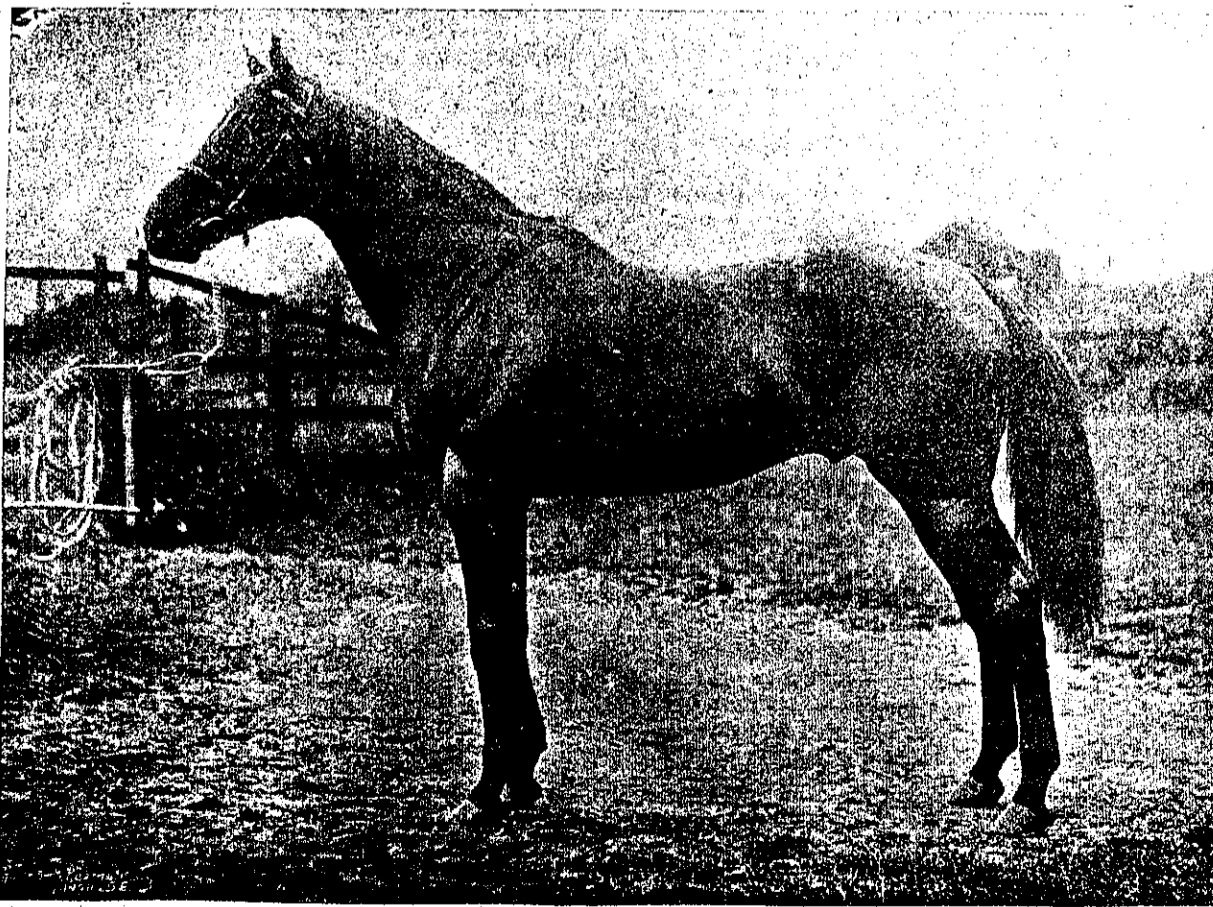
The committee of the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club have decided to erect one of Mr S. Ellis' "Acme" starting machines upon the grass track. Although not using the machines for their own race meetings, they are not slow to recognise the fact that numbers of our trainers visit, with their charges, several meetings where the automatic starter is in use, and, in several cases that have come under my own personal knowledge, local horses have been severely handicapped by not being thoroughly used to the machine. By the committee's forethought, this difficulty will now in a great measure be remedied.

Tenby, who got knocked about a good deal in the Trial Steeplechase at Wellington, last month, is all right again, and is doing useful work at Napier Park.

I notice that the New Zealand correspondent of the Australasian, in commenting upon Rainbow's win last month at Wellington, says that it was his first win during the season. This is not correct, as he won the Ladies' Purse on the second day (15th February, 1896) of the Town and Suburban Hack Meeting, and, also, won the hack double at Waipukurau on Easter Monday.

The adjourned committee meeting of the Napier Park Racing Club was held on Thursday afternoon, Mr T. Close in the chair, when the programme for the season was further considered. The Spring Meeting, with a similar list of events as that of last year, will take place on October 13th and 14th; the Autumn Meeting will be held on the 23rd and 24th March, the only alterations in the events of that of the preceding year being that the Second Hurdles is reduced 20 sovs, bringing it now to 80 sovs; the 12th and 13th May are the dates allotted for the Steeplechase fixture, the Napier Park Steeplechase being increased to 200 sovs, and two welter races of the value of 45 sovs each will take the place of the hunters races that occupied a place on the past Winter Meeting's card.

THE STALLION PURCHASED IN ENGLAND FOR MR S. HORDERN, OF SYDNEY.



HAUT BRION, br h, by St. Simon—Bonnie Lassie.

Geo. Fowlds sells rowing sweaters from 5s 6d each