

WELLINGTON.

Death of Roseleaf—Kingan's stable—Prosser's string—King Lear—A forfeit, or appeal—The bookmakers trouble—Financial success of Wellington Meeting.

WELLINGTON, November 26.

Although the totalisator returns at the Hutt showed a falling off of £2000 compared with last year, the revenue derived from this source and the bookmakers, was greater than last year. Zanella's victory was unexpected by her connections, and that is why she paid such a good price. Sefton ran both his pair (Quiltiri, a good favorite), but they ran absolutely last. In giving First Result a stone and a decisive beating (the latter was ridden out by P. White), Stockade proved himself the best of hacks about at present. The victory of Cour de Lion was received with cheering, but it was only hard riding on Jack Armstrong's part that he got him home. The favorite ran well and finished third. Lindsay, who rode Cour de Lion on the first day, was unable to scale the weight after the race. Half-way up the straight in the Second Welter Handicap Nightingale looked like a winner, but Sir Agnes came and won by a head. When Defiant romped home in the Spring Handicap there was a strong demonstration made by the public. The stewards considered a protest for inconsistent running, but dismissed it. That the horse showed most inconsistent form there can be no doubt. At the same time no one would suppose for a moment that his owner would do anything crooked. The Hon. J. D. Ormond was somewhat out up at the treatment received from the public. Perhaps the hooting was only intended for the horse. This is the first time I have seen the Dreadnoughts charged with dishonesty. In the Hack Flying Oracle never gave any of his opponents a chance. Boreas put down Chasseur easy enough in the Waiwetu Handicap, although the latter led the best part of the journey.

November 28.

Mr H. W. Clay is unfortunate with his horses. A little while back he lost Flanstella, full-sister to Roseleaf, who was killed last week.

F. Higgott, until recently in E. Cutts' employ at Riccarton, has gone into Kingan's stable at the Hutt.

I am informed that Mr J. R. McDonald's horses, Rip Van Winkle, Kapua, Headford, and Titoki, are leaving Bulls, and will in future be trained by Mr J. H. Prosser at Porirua.

King Lear broke down badly in the Hurdle Race at The Hutt, and Sea Serpent is unsound. That is the reason why he was not started at the late meeting.

Rudini's owner has appealed against the fine of £20 made by the Riccarton Racing Club. He maintains that the money due by him was paid to a country club secretary at the same time that the Wanganui Club was paid.

T. Tobias was among the pencilers licensed on the second day at The Hutt in the paddock.

A petition is being numerously signed here to bring before the Colonial Secretary and endeavor to get the imprisonment dealt out to bookmakers at Christchurch quashed.

The Wellington Racing Club's Spring Meeting proved a financial success.

In the absence of Mr W. Grace, Mr J. O. Hayward officiated as timekeeper at The Hutt.

THE BETTING MARKET.

Mr Robert Cleland reports the following business on the

AUCKLAND CUP.

- 100 to 25 St Paul
- 100 to 16 Waiuku
- 100 to 10 Nestor
- 100 to 10 Daystar
- 100 to 8 Swordfish
- 100 to 5 Epanlet
- 100 to 5 Haria
- 100 to 5 St Crispin
- 100 to 3 Eton

CUP AND STEEPLECHASE.

- 100 to 6 St. Paul and Levanter
- 100 to 6 St Paul and Moxel
- 100 to 4 St Paul and Tally-Ho
- 100 to 2 St Paul and Tim
- 100 to 4 Waiuku and Levanter
- 100 to 3 Waiuku and Moxel
- 100 to 3 Daystar and Levanter
- 100 to 2 Daystar and Moxel
- 100 to 2 Swordfish and Levanter
- 100 to 1 Swordfish and Tim

Photo by Wall Bros., St. Kilda, Melbourne.

Anticipations.

ASHBURTON RACING CLUB'S SUMMER MEETING.

[BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

- Welter Handicap.—CRESCENT OR GENERAL WOLFE.
- Ashburton Handicap.—STARSHOT.
- Spring Handicap.—ALCESTIS OR GENERAL WOLFE.
- Flying Handicap.—PALADIN OR MOUNT CLAIR.

BANISHED FROM THE TURF.

We abridge from our Australian exchanges the following particulars concerning the disqualification of Parthenopæus and his connections:—

One of the most sensational developments that has yet occurred in the annals of Australian sport took place when the committee of the Victoria Racing Club banished from the turf for life Samuel Allen and Thomas Arnfield, two of the best-known bookmakers in Australia. This heavy penalty was incurred in connection with the performance of the racehorse Parthenopæus—which is owned by these two bookmakers—at the recent V.R.C. Spring Meeting.

In the Spring Handicap, on Oaks Day, Parthenopæus started at an outside price and lost, after being "injudiciously" ridden. The keen eyes of the handicapper were, however, on the son of Splendor, and the vagaries of the jockey did not lead to any reduction in the weight the horse was allotted for the Final Handicap, run on the Saturday. On the contrary, although the distance was the same and the company to be met practically the same, Mr Dukin raised Parthenopæus 4lb, just as he did in another well-known case in which his suspicions were strongly aroused. In the latter case the horse did not start, but the Parthenopæus people were not similarly deterred, for not only did they start the horse, but from all quarters came heavy bettors to back the good thing. Chief amongst the visitors who were prepared to finish up the meeting with a plunge were a number of well-known Bendigo sportsmen, and to this significance has been attached the fact that one of the owners is a Bendigonian. The

double-event bookmakers say that different individuals never ceased coupling the fancied candidates in the previous races with Parthenopæus, and when the time came for the execution of the commission the money on the bill as well as in the paddock was literally piled on Parthenopæus, who came with a rattle from 10 to 1 to 7 to 2, despite the fact that several commissioners were at work on behalf of other horses in the race.

As to the result, Parthenopæus won comfortably; in fact, the issue seemed to be hardly in doubt. The inconsistency of the horse's running in this race and in the Spring Handicap was so great that it at once commanded official notice, and the parties were called on to undergo the ordeal of cross-examination by the stewards. In this trial P. Guinane, the jockey, and A. Ferguson, the trainer, both failed to remove the suspicions of the committee, who, on the other hand, felt so satisfied that the running had been crooked that they disqualified both jockey and trainer "during the pleasure of the stewards."

Up to this point the owner or owners of the horse stood exempt from punishment; but the V.R.C. stipendiary steward, Mr C. F. Fraser, assisted by Race-course Detective Wright, set to work to discover whether a statement that had been made by Allen that he did not back the horse in the Final Handicap was true or untrue, and whether he and others shared the responsibility, along with the jockey and trainer, for the pulling of the horse on the Thursday. The inquiries by these officers of the club brought out most interesting disclosures. Information came to hand which greatly magnified the gravity of the case, and the V.R.C. committee summoned S. Allen, the nominal owner, and T. Arnfield, a suspected part owner, to stand their trial.

Numerous persons who were known to have backed the horse were called by the committee on Monday to testify with regard to their operations. These were questioned by Allen and Arnfield as to whether they (the witnesses) had acted as commissioners for them (Allen and Arnfield), and they denied that they had done so; but the committee saw reason to accept this disclaimer with considerable reserve.

As if to emphasise the discomfiture of their position, the jockey came forward with an unqualified confession, which gave the inquiry a new and sensational turn. He had failed to attend the inquiry on November 14, and when he was asked on the Tuesday by the V.R.C.

officials to be present he decided to do so. In the meantime he consulted a solicitor, with the object of preparing a sworn declaration telling the story of his own guilt and the guilt of others. He was impelled to do this, it appears, on account of the fact that the others had failed to meet his proposals as to monetary support after his disqualification. In a word, he came to the conclusion that to save themselves the other three—Allen, Arnfield, and Ferguson—were inclined to sacrifice him, and he, therefore, determined to make a clean breast of it, and place himself in the hands of the committee. The statement he made was most ample and definite, and the committee was impressed with its truthfulness. The contents were not definitely disclosed to the press, but in its general effect Guinane accused the three others, and more particularly Ferguson, of fraudulent practices. He says he pulled the horse on the Thursday because Ferguson told him to do so. He found the going so well at the abattoirs that thereafter he ran as wide as he thought he safely could. Further statements he made indicated that the "roping" was done with the connivance of Allen and Arnfield.

Allen declared that he was the sole owner of the horse, and that Arnfield had not a partnership interest in the animal; but on that point the committee were dubious, the opinion being that the evidence tended to connect Arnfield with the horse to the extent of having a voice in the question whether he was to run to win or not.

When the evidence had been completed the committee deliberated for about an hour, those who took part being Messrs S. Miller (chairman), C. M. Lloyd, W. H. Croker, E. Manifold, P. Russell, E. Power, A. M'Cracken, and F. Madden. The verdict that was read by the chairman to the accused quartette was as follows:—"It having been proved to the satisfaction of the committee that Samuel Allen and Thomas Arnfield have been guilty of fraudulent practice with regard to the running of the horse Parthenopæus during the recent spring meeting of the V.R.C., the said Samuel Allen and Thomas Arnfield are hereby disqualified for life, and the said horse Parthenopæus is also disqualified for life. The disqualification already imposed on Andrew Ferguson and Patrick Guinane during pleasure will remain."

The sentence was naturally a great shock to the pair who are chiefly punished. Occupying leading positions, as Allen and Arnfield did, in the ring, the severity of the sentence can be imagined. They will now be prohibited from betting and denied admission to the racecourses of Victoria, and of the other colonies as well. In addition, they will, of course, sever their connection with the Victorian Club, and any horses they may individually or jointly own will not be allowed to run. Some years ago an arrangement was entered into between the English Jockey Club and the racing clubs of Australia to recognise the penalties imposed by established racing institutions, and to make them apply, not merely in the country in which the offence has been committed, but under all British racing clubs.

Both men are wealthy, and have only recently returned to Australia from a trip to Europe.



MELBOURNE CUP FINISH—GAULUS WINS.

Photo. by Wall Bros., St. Kilda, Melbourne.

For Letterpress see page 12.

Our Illustrations.

From Flemington we produce a snap-shot of the finish of the Melbourne Cup, won by Mr W. Forrester's Gaulus, with The Graftor second and that brilliant three-year-old Aurum getting home third under the crushing impost of 8st 6lb. Photos. are also given of Gaulus and King of the Downs, who won the hurdles at the Otaki meeting. A picture of those record-breakers, Creamer and Wilson, engaged in a walk in the Domain, will be of interest to athletes at this time when their names are almost household words. Throwing the hammer in the Domain is illustrated, and a group of competing cyclists at the Hawera Club's sports is represented.

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