



NORTH ISLAND TROTTING ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND.

Affiliated Clubs to the North Island Trotting Association.

NAME OF CLUB.	SECRETARY.	TOTE PERMIT
*Auckland T.C.	C. F. Mark	3
Hawke's Bay T.C.	J. T. Cassin	2
*Palmerston North T.C.	C. G. Miles	2
Wellington T.C.	R. J. Barnes	2
*Johnsonville and Hutt County T.C.	Geo. Bennett	1
Hawera T.C.	W. H. Tristram	2
*Otahuhu T.C.	W. Lockhart	1
New Plymouth T.C.	A. A. Ambridge	1
Normanby T.C.	J. Scott	0
Total Permits		14

*Includes pony racing. C. C. MILES, Secretary, Palmerston North.

[BY PETRONEL.]

TROTTING CALENDAR.

FIXTURES.

October 14, Sat; 18, Wed—Auckland T.C. Spring Meeting.
Dec 2, Sat, 6, Wed—Otahuhu T.C. Spring Meeting.
Feb 17, 21, 24 (1900)—Otahuhu T.C. Summer Meeting.

NOMINATIONS.

September 22—Auckland T.C. Spring

HANDICAPS.

September 23—Auckland T.C. Spring

ACCEPTANCES.

October 6—Auckland T.C. Spring

The following gentlemen have been elected as the first council of the New Zealand Trotting Association:—Messrs P. Selig, A. L. Myers, D. McLean, E. Clarkson, T. H. Davey, J. F. Grierson, C. S. Howell, G. H. McHaffie, and G. King.

The Plumpton Park Trotting Club has arranged the following programme for its Spring Meeting:—First day—Maiden Handicap of 35 sovs, two miles; Pony Handicap of 30 sovs, two miles; Sockburn Handicap of 30 sovs, two miles; Progressive Handicap of 50 sovs, two miles; Selling Handicap of 35 sovs, two miles; Plumpton Handicap of 80 sovs, two miles; Electric Handicap of 45 sovs, one mile; Dash Handicap of 45 sovs, one mile. Second day—Maiden Handicap of 45 sovs, two miles; Pony Handicap of 30 sovs, two miles; Hornby Handicap of 90 sovs, two miles; Selling Handicap of 35 sovs, two miles; Midland Handicap of 50 sovs, two miles; Riccarton Handicap of 90 sovs, two miles; Telegraph Handicap of 45 sovs, one mile; Final Handicap of 45 sovs, one mile.

REVERSAL OF FORM.

Ever and anon during the season (says the Chicago Horseman) we hear this or that driver or owner charged with fraud in pulling this or that horse at some meeting or other, the particulars often being hazily fixed in the speaker's mind, if one may judge by the indefiniteness of his utterances. The public has always been prone to censoriousness, and if there is a chance in a hundred to show up the seamy side, up it comes in all its ugliness. The propensity seems to be rather stronger on the turf than in most other lines, and the reason for this probably is that most money changes hands more rapidly in racing than in most other businesses. If a man loses a dollar or two he has risked on his own judgment, it is very seldom that he will not try to find some one on whom he may lay the blame and so relieve his own shoulders of their just load. This may be human nature, but it is

Would it not be well to give the horse his due and not inveigh so loudly against him, his owner, and his driver, because he cannot be kept keyed up and lubricated for an entire season like a locomotive.

ACCIDENTS PREVENTED
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WILLIAM CHARLES WALKER.

The poor consumptive pale and ill, Had caught a sudden violent chill, Distressing coughs had made him weak, While hectic flushes tinged his cheek; But what at last has made him strong, When after suffering so long, He now can damp and cold endure, He takes Wm. E. Woods' Great Peppermint Cure. (ADVT.)

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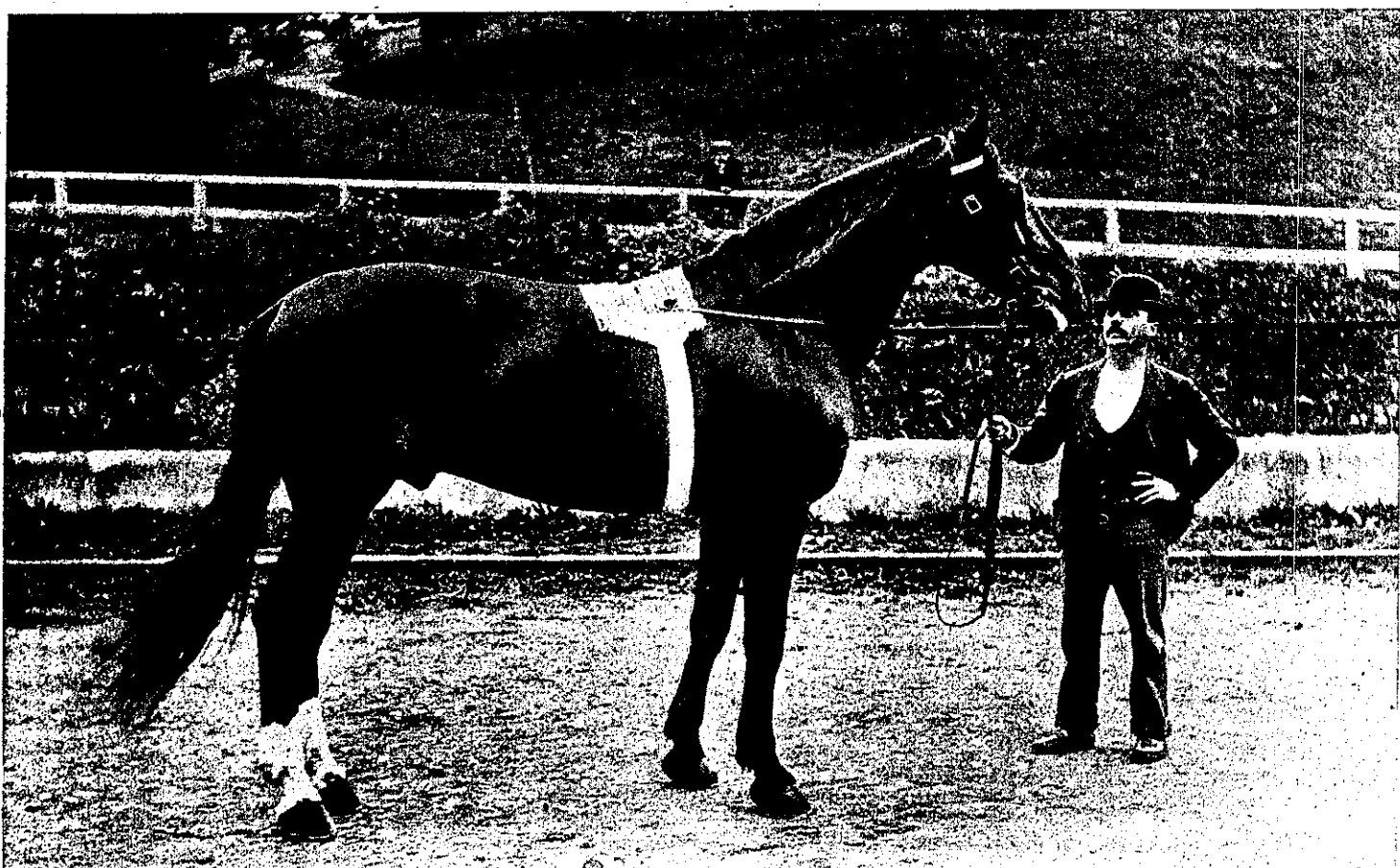


Photo by Beattie & Sanderson, Auckland.

MR A. R. HARRIS' BRED WILMINGTON (BY FALLIS—FLUSHING BELLE), THE WELL-KNOWN TROTTER STALLION

NOTES.

The Tahuna Park Trotting Club opened an inquiry on Wednesday as to the bona fides of a horse belonging to G. Wallace, which ran under the name of Kelt at the club's winter meeting. Kelt finished second in the Selling Race. Wallace protested against the winner for galloping, and the protest was upheld, the stakes being awarded to Kelt's owner. It is now alleged that Kelt is identical with Souter Johnny, alias Pat, Tommy II., etc., which ran at Wairoa and Lumsden five or six years ago as Pat. The last owner of Pat (T. Agnew, of Invercargill) wrote that he sold the horse to Wallace, of Dunedin. Wallace gave evidence that he bought the horse from a man named Cameron, whom he thought was a rabbit. He denied ever buying the horse from Agnew. He sold Kelt to Walker about a week before he got notice from the club. He could not say who Walker was, or where he went to, but thought he was a rabbit, and had gone up Middlemarch way. He did not think the horse worth training. The fact that he paid a dividend of £100 was evidence that the horse was not up to much. Witness stated that he had only 2s 6d on the horse. The inquiry was adjourned with a view of further evidence.

The Hon. Mr Carroll, Colonial Secretary, last week paid a visit to the Wellington Trotting Club's track at Petone. He was accompanied by the president (Mr C. Wilson, M.H.R.) and some of the members of the committee of the club. The object of the inspection was for the Minister to ascertain for himself the nature of the appointments and the course itself, owing to the representations made by delegates at the last Trotting Conference that the club should not be granted any more permits. He was favorably impressed, and I do not think members need have much fear about not getting their usual tote licenses.—Wellington correspondent.

rather a poor brand for all of that. Here this week we see a horse go out like a lion and win his race in straight heats. There, the next week, we see the same horse beaten by the same or very nearly the same, field in perhaps a second or two slower time. Immediately the horse's former friends begin to cry fraud, and the driver and owner will be lucky if during the continuance of the race some uneasy piker does not entreat the judge, in language more or less convincing, that a gigantic fraud is being committed, and that the derrick ought to be applied at once. No allowance is made for the horse himself. Apparently his friends take him for a machine built of wood and iron, and not for a mass of flesh, blood, and nerves.

Are not horses entitled to their off days just as much as men and women? What would these men who howl so loudly when they lose a few dollars say if they should be condemned in the bitterest and noisiest manner every time they come down to breakfast, feeling just a trifle off? Would they think that any sort of fair treatment? Hardly. Yet they don't seem to allow the poor horse the same liberty they themselves demand. A horse ought no more to be expected to do the same day in and day out the season through than he should be expected to take wings, when pinched against the rail and pocketed, and fly over the heads of his antagonists to the wire, poise him on the edge of the judge's box, and demand an announcement in his favour. To expect the one is as ridiculous as to expect the other. Perhaps a draught horse may hold his form indefinitely till age breaks him down, but so highly organised a being as the race horse runner or trotter must not be expected to feel always the same. A slight chill, caused by even a momentary exposure to a cold draught of air, will destroy a horse's chance to win a race, and there are a thousand and one other things that tend in the same direction.

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