

the home bend, and it looked as if the half sister to Seahorse was going to score, but Gold Cup came at her

STRONGLY HALF UP THE STRAIGHT, vanquishing her by half a length. The winner carried 9.13, and cut out the journey in 1min 53.5sec, which shows that she is coming back to her old form. There is no doubt that a lot of her success is due to Jones, who handled her better than I have seen her ridden for a long time. Truly, he is not the prettiest horseman I have seen, but he gets down on his mounts in a desperate style, and gets every ounce out of them. The favorite was never prominent, nor was The Dude, for they suffered by the start, which was a very straggling one. Gold Cup paid £8 inside and £2 16s outside.

The original quartette En Avant, Pistol Shot, Toia Mai, and Clovis proceeded to the post for the Hurdle Race, En Avant having six pounds more invested on his number than Pistol Shot (this it must be remembered was the original investment, for though the totalisator was opened afresh no betting was registered). Clovis, who is an aged gelding by Fitz Hercules, was third choice. En Avant made play, and was in front to the third hurdle from home, when he fumbled upon landing, nearly unseating Redmond, who was hanging right over his side, he

MADE A WONDERFUL RECOVERY for which he was vouchsafed a great round of cheering from the spectators, the accident gave Pistol Shot and Toiamai a three lengths advantage, but on coming to the straight Redmond put in some of his best on En Avant and was soon on terms with Pistol Shot, who this time was ridden by Carey. Just as they reached the post, according to my views, and I was in a good position to see right against the judge's box, I made En Avant the winner by a half a head, the judge, however, was not of my way of thinking or seeing for he sent up Pistol Shot's number which ruling did not give general satisfaction. I may mention that one owner (I may as well tell his name for it is nothing to be ashamed of) Mr W. Robinson, owner of Pistol Shot, offered to scratch his horse if the others did the same and allow En Avant to walk over for the stake, which was an expression of practical sympathy with Collins in his hard luck. Pistol Shot paid inside £2 10s, outside £1 8s.

WAVERLEY AND WAITOTARA R.C. ANNUAL MEETING.

A GOOD MEETING.

[BY OUR TARANAKI CORRESPONDENT.]

As usual, this club held their annual back—so called—meeting, on November 9, under most suspicious circumstances. There was splendid weather prevailing, and the fixture was patronised by a record attendance from along the coast—from New Plymouth and Waitara in the north, to places beyond Wanganui in the south—and there was plenty of money about for speculative purposes. It was estimated that were fully 2000 persons on the course, a large proportion being brought by special trains from north and south, and the need of more accommodation was never more apparent. Since the last meeting the club

have made a few necessary alterations in the privy and bar accommodation, but a good deal yet remains to be done for the convenience of patrons. The petition between the lawn and saddling-paddock should be abolished in order to obviate the great crush that usually takes place at the narrow entrance, and the steps to the stand should be at the side, with a balcony in front, so that persons could gain easy access to the stand, and not be blocked by a number of inconsiderate persons who are wont to use the present double-front steps as a vantage spot to view the races. The totalisator lanes should be enlarged and better managed, so that the work could be carried out more expeditiously and a great deal of confusion and jamming prevented. Messrs Neylon and Spriggins machined £4343 during the day, which is a record for the club. In one race alone some £300 was blocked out, owing to speculators hanging back too long, and then wasting further time by getting jammed up in the narrow lanes in their frantic endeavors to get their money on. If the totalisator-house were shifted to the other side of the lawn, it would greatly relieve the congested state of the lawn in its narrowest part, and make things comfortable all round. The few improvements I suggest could be carried out with little expense, and, seeing the patronage accorded the club, I think the money would be made up in one meeting by the percentage from the extra amount that would be machined. Mr W. S. Dustin, of Wanganui, supplied a really excellent and substantial lunch, which was greatly appreciated by patrons. The liquor-bar was run by Mr Hellaby, who, with his assistants, had a busy time after each race—when the winners were "wetting" their dividend. Despite the large holiday attendance there was not a single case of inebriation, sobriety being a marked characteristic of every racecourse now-a-days. Mr Edgar Symes carried out the secretarial duties in a thorough and efficient manner, and was well assisted by the other officers of the club. Mr A. W. Budge manipulated the starting barrier with success. Mr Noian acted as judge, and in the two short races he had his work cut out to place the second and third horses, owing to the number of horses that ran past the post almost on terms. The racing throughout was interesting, if not exciting, and some good dividends were paid out, especially on the Final Stakes, which was appropriated by Marianthus (a black daughter of Recluse),

WHO REWARDED BACKERS

with a dividend of £54 12s. In both the short flutters the "book" did not give the pedigrees of the horses engaged, as it did in the handicap races, and there was considerable grumbling over the omission, some going as far as to say that it must have been done for a purpose. I don't see what object the club could have had in omitting the pedigrees, and the explanation is that, as the two races were general entries, owners reckoned the club would not need the breeding lines. However, in future, it would be as well for the club to insist on pedigrees being sent with all general entries.

The programme opened with the Hurdles, one mile and a half, for which the nine on the card went out. Heart Whilst, Nayborn, and Hautonga were made favorites in order, while Whetu had the next best following. The race is easily described. Whetu held a good position all the

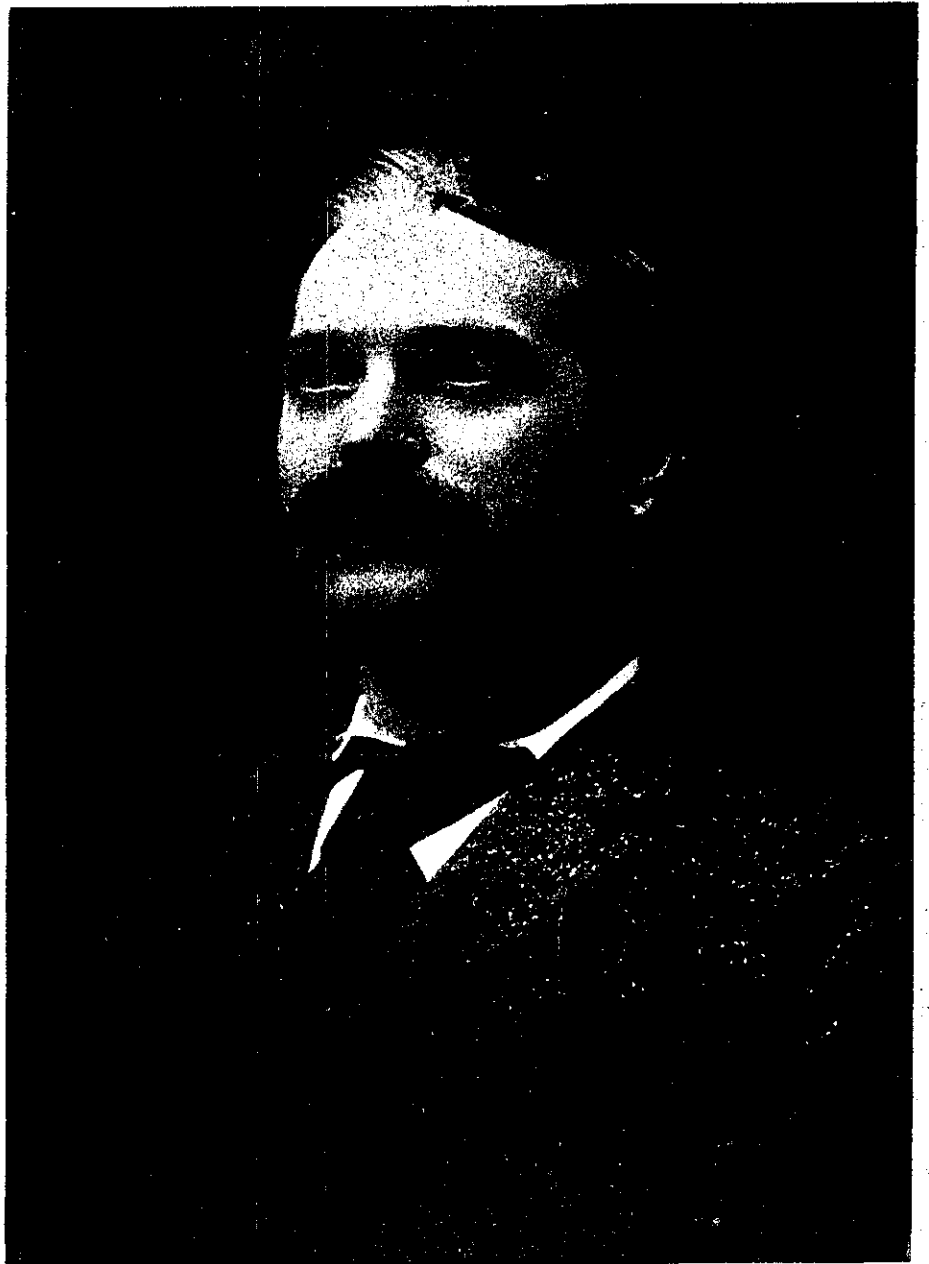


Photo by Iles, Auckland.

MR J. CAHILL, Secretary of the Newmarket Bowling Club.

way and won easily by several lengths from the disappointing Heart Whist, with Queen Mab third. Nayborn jumped with no confidence. I think the big tumbles she got steeplechasing and hurdling in open country at Wellington has knocked a lot of pluck out of the mare. The top deal battens in the hurdles were splintered like matchwood by some of the field, and as an exposition of clean lepping the race was not a success. Time, 2sec 58 1.5sec. Dividend, £7 7s.

and Tukapa divided favoritism, with Marinathus, and Forager next in demand. Sentry

JUSTIFIED BACKERS' CONFIDENCE

by winning by over the length of the straight, run in 52 2.5 sec, Tukapa a good second, and Gipsy Queen a good third. Dividend, £3 13s.

Bugler, Vibration, Somnolent, Krina, and Koriki dropped out of the Prince of Wales' Handicap, seven furlongs, leaving ten to go to the post. As this was Southerly Buster's first start, the

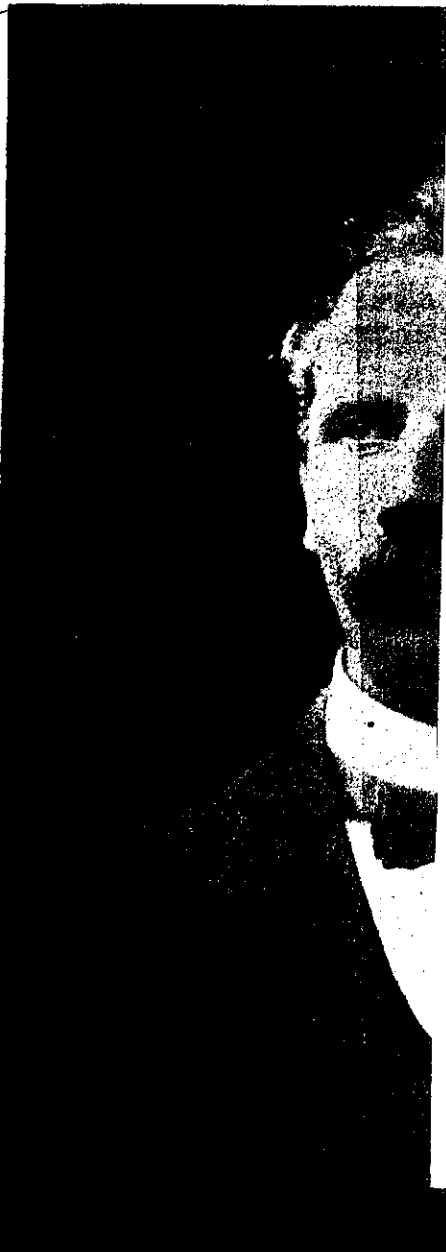


Photo by Iles, Auckland.

MR C. G. LAURIE, President of the Newmarket Bowling Club.

Time, 2min 17 4.5sec. Dividend, £6 2s. The Wilson Stakes, half a mile (weight 8st, any winners to carry 14lbs extra) brought seventeen to the post. The defections were Ika, Scout, Tambour, Thirispot, Fox, Whetu, The Crown, Rover, Te Taiaha, and Kohima. Sentry

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