

Anticipations.

TAKAPUNA JOCKEY CLUB'S SPRING MEETING.

[By PETRONEL.]

The concluding races of the Takapuna Jockey Club's Spring Meeting on Saturday next should, if the weather is like that experienced on the first day, result most successfully. Everything that can be done for the comfort of visitors will be carried out and I shall expect to see a big attendance, more especially as the elections are over and people have leisure for amusement. The Ferry service was excellent on Saturday last, and no doubt Mr Alison will keep a watchful eye on the requirements of the public on the concluding day of the meeting. The various races may result as under:—

Stanley Handicap.	
SULTAN ... ..	1
KATTLEDRUM ... ..	2
MIMOA ... ..	3
Second Handicap Hurdles.	
POKOMOKO ... ..	1
FAYONA ... ..	2
VOLCANO ... ..	3
Spring Handicap.	
ST. URSULA ... ..	1
LILLIE ... ..	2
CRUSADE ... ..	3
Second Hack Handicap	
MISS BLAIR ... ..	1
KITTY FLYNN ... ..	2
KHAMA ... ..	3
Second Pony Handicap.	
LENA ... ..	1
FAIR GWYNNE ... ..	2
MIMOA ... ..	3
Cautley Handicap.	
PICKLOCK ... ..	1
ST. PETER ... ..	2
ST. ELMO ... ..	3
Handicap Steeplechase.	
NOE' WEST ... ..	1
TROUBADOUR ... ..	2
OPOU ... ..	3
Welter Handicap.	
REGULUS ... ..	1
SOLO ... ..	2
ST. ONA ... ..	3



**TAKAPUNA JOCKEY CLUB**  
**SUMMER MEETING, 1900,**  
 TO BE HELD ON  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 29,**  
**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31,**  
 AND  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3.**

NOMINATIONS.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, by 9 p.m.

Takapuna Cup ... ..	1 sov
Takapuna Jockey Club Handicap ... ..	1 sov
First Handicap Steeplechase ... ..	1 sov

Takapuna Cup, a handicap of 300 sovs; second horse to receive 30 sovs, and third horse 10 sovs out of the stake. Winner of any race of the value of 50 sovs, after the declaration of weights, to carry a penalty of 5lb extra; of 100 sovs, 7lb extra. Nomination, 1 sov; acceptance, 3 sovs; and 3 sovs at the post. One mile and a half.

Takapuna Jockey Club Handicap of 250 sovs; second horse to receive 20 sovs out of the stake. Nomination, 1 sov; acceptance, 3 sovs. One mile and a quarter.

First Handicap Steeplechase of 150 sovs; second horse to receive 20 sovs, and third horse 10 sovs out of the stake. Nomination, 1 sov; acceptance, 3 sovs. About three miles and a half.

All Entries to be addressed to the Secretary, Devonport, or Durham Street East, Auckland.  
 ROBT. WYNYARD,  
 Secretary.



DISTRICT ORDERS

By Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Banks,  
 Commanding.

Brigade Office,  
 Auckland, December 6, 1899.

STATION PRACTICE.

The Annual Station Practice will be carried out as under:—

9TH DECEMBER.—From Fort Resolution, by the Auckland Naval Artillery Volunteers.

16TH DECEMBER.—From Forts Bastion and South Battery, by the Auckland Naval Artillery Volunteers; Forts Cautley and North Battery, by Ponsonby Naval Artillery Volunteers; Fort Takapuna, by the Devonport Coastguard Artillery Volunteers.

The Forts are to be manned in sufficient time to open fire at 3 p.m.

By Order.  
 J. GRANT, Captain,  
 Adjutant,  
 Auckland District.

Wonderland.

[By THE OFFICE BOY.]

Wonder whether the bookies didn't reap a rich harvest over Seahorse and the Auckland Cup.

Wonder whether it wouldn't have been a little bit more sportsmanlike if the Major had scratched his colt as soon as the weights appeared.

Wonder when the track at Potter's Paddock is going to be improved.

Wonder why the totalisator people at Potter's Paddock were not quite firm enough in refusing tickets after the races were started.

Wonder when the Duders are going to win a race.

Wonder whether the Takapuna stand doesn't want moving badly.

Wonder whether the tea tent on the Takapuna lawn wasn't a great disfigurement.

Wonder if Zealous will become as good a member of the family as Seahorse.

Wonder how the Auckland Cup backers of Seahorse are feeling. A bit "sorry naow," I expect.

Wonder if Bluejacket isn't as game a horse as one could wish for.

Wonder how the *Herald* and *Star* get Naval cadets out of the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. Sub-editorial hypnotism and scissorism, I suppose.

Wonder whether Lady Avon isn't a good little weight-carrier.

Wonder whether Jack Booth has another Bar-the-Door up his sleeve.

Wonder if things are not getting very close in the Transvaal.

Wonder whether a Waxworks Show isn't a better diamond mine than the De Beers. Ask Rowley.

Wonder whether Lindsay Cook hasn't got plenty of "liberty"—next door.

Wonder whether Quinton's interference with Daytree wasn't a bit too obtrusive.

Wonder whether Advance isn't well in the Wellington Cup with 7st 9lb.

Wonder what Frank Mamanemin thinks of Verdi.

Wonder what the feelings of the prohibitionists are this morning.

Wonder whether Daytrees didn't get a lovely start on Saturday in the Cheltenham Handicap.

Wonder if Handicapper Knight hasn't a very good opinion of Knight of Athol.

Wonder whether the Hohoro party are not a bit green at the racing game.

Wonder whether hotels will be "white elephants" to-day.

Wonder where Blue Paul could have finished in the Pony Race on Saturday.

Wonder whether Ryan and Buchanan had a good time at Coromandel. Judging by the picture in this week's Review they did.

Wonder whether everybody, bar Richardson, isn't very glad that the General Election is over.

Wonder whether Harold Ashton isn't an A1 advance man.

Wonder whether the *Herald* knows Pat Quinlan now.

Wonder whether the Auckland Cup this year isn't a very bad betting race.

Wonder whether the East Tamaki Race Meeting on Saturday week isn't the place to spend a happy day.

Wonder if Pookomoko is really being backed for the Auckland Cup.

Wonder whether prohibition will be carried next election.

Inter-Provincial.

[OWN CORRESPONDENTS.]

CANTERBURY.

CHRISTCHURCH RACING CLUB—SANT ILARIO—CANNIE CHIEL—BETTING.

CHRISTCHURCH, December 5.  
 The Christchurch Racing Club will hold its race meeting on December 16 and 18. The nominations for the flat races are smaller than in previous years, but the four trots have filled well. For the Christchurch Cup, one mile and a quarter, Huku, Skirmisher, Sequin, Ben Farley, Lapidary, The Spinner, and Suzannah have been entered. Other horses entered at the meeting are Fireside, Cannonshot, Bristol, The Orphan, Rougement and Phryne.

The following are the weights for the Grey-mouth Cup of 200 sovs, one mile and a half:—Dundas 9 0, Strathnairn 8 12, Skirmisher 8 12, Ben Farley 8 10, Sequin 8 3, Pom Pom 8 2, Haria 7 12, Petrolins 7 10, Speculator 7 5, Paratina 6 7. Of this lot I prefer Strathnairn.

Owing to the success of Canterbury horses at West Coast Christmas and New Year meetings,

several owners and trainers intend making the trip this year. The Greymouth, Hokitika, Westland, Reefton, and other clubs will no doubt be pleased to receive the additional support.

Matters at Riccarton are rather quiet just now. As I predicted, all Canterbury-owned horses, except Sant Ilario, were taken out of the Auckland Cup. With regard to Sant Ilario, it should be remembered that he is a colt who is likely to perform better as he grows older; and now that he has no Seahorse to meet in the big race at Auckland, his chance should not be underestimated. Sant Ilario is also in the Great Northern Derby and Royal Stakes, and as he is reported to have improved a lot since the Canterbury Meeting, he may be relied upon to make things merry for the Northerners.

Sir George Clifford's Clanranald colt, Cannie Chiel has been left in the Great Northern Foal Stakes and Royal Stakes. I hear Cutts has the colt in capital fettle, and, if all goes well in the meantime, I think you will see him in Auckland before the end of the month.

Screwgun, the champion two-year-old of last season, has been left in the Royal Stakes, and if Dick Mason can get him thoroughly wound up the battle between the two champions—Screwgun and Seahorse—will be well worth seeing.

Betting on the Auckland Cup has livened up a bit since the acceptances. Seahorse was supported in many quarters, and the news of his being scratched came as a great surprise to a host of backers. Explosion is favorite here at 5 to 1. Battlexe, Record Reign are at 6 to 1. Last week Tire was quoted at 25 to 1, but on Saturday he was backed for several hundreds, presumably from the right quarter. Tire is now quoted at 8 to 1.

Skirmisher was scratched for the Greymouth Cup directly his owner saw the weights.

HAWKES BAY.

HAWKE'S BAY JOCKEY CLUB—NEWS AND GOSSIP—THE PREMIER'S WEIGHT.

NAPIER, December 1.

A meeting of the Metropolitan Jockey Club committee was held yesterday at the Criterion Hotel. Present—Hon. J. D. Ormond (chairman), Messrs F. Logan, G. L. Sunderland John McVay, G. P. Donnelly, and J. H. Coleman. It was resolved that notice of motion be given for a general meeting of members to be held on the 5th January, 1900: "That in view of the new rule authorising two country representatives to sit with the metropolitan committee, five shall form a quorum."

At the request of the Gisborne Racing Club certain defaulters and horses were ordered to be placed on the Unpaid Forfeit List. The following programmes were approved:—Maramaru Hack Racing Club, 26th December; Wairoa County Racing Club, 6th and 7th February; Tolago Bay Jockey Club, 17th March; Danvirke Jockey Club, 14th February. The following licenses were granted:—Trainers: Alexander Parsons, John Anewa Ratima Thomas Allardice, Edward Cuneen, and Tamati Wehikore. The application of Robert Jilitt was held over for inquiry. Jockeys: J. S. O'Neill, John Anewa Ratima, and W. G. Bauer. The application of A. G. Taylor was held over for inquiry. Apprentices: Thomas Floyd, David Allan Parsons, and Tukua Timu. Gentleman riders: W. Pettit, John McIntosh, John Martin, and Edward Amundsen.

At Crissage, Waewashape (Musket—Aconite) has produced a filly to Gold Reef. The new-comer is consequently a half sister to Koromatuku.

En Avant's full brother, whom it was intended to call In Advance, has had the name of Bellwether bestowed upon him, as it was feared that confusion would crop up if he was called In Advance, as there is an Advance at present racing.

The Frenchman, Te Hapuka, and Qultina left by express train for Masterton this morning, where they claim engagement at the Masterton Club this week.

Downpour is making extra good progress in his education over the sticks on the Hastings track. Like his half-brother Mutiny, he seems to take a delight in the leaping business.

Barbarossa and Tataramoa are again in active commission.

The sporting M.H.R. for Waipawa, Mr George Hunter, when speaking at Danevirke last week, had occasion to refer to Mr Seddon in the matter of his heart bleeding for the people. "It does not affect him very much," said the registered owner of the chocolate and canary livery; "for when he got on the scales recently at Woodville they registered 19st 6lb as his correct weight." One of the audience remarked that he could not ride Mitra, one of Mr Hunter's horses. "If he could I will give him the mare," was the next rejoinder of Mr Hunter. Should the Premier accept the challenge, it would be worth a bit to see him on the erratic flighty sister to Cynisca.

Ulla was well supported here for her win at the Feilding races last week.

Good reports reach me of a pair of Robinson Crusoe yearling colts, owned by Mr G. E. G. Richardson, and who are at present running on his property at Nuhaka. Princess Royal (full sister to Administrator) and First Flash (dam of First Blood) are the dams of the pair, the former progeny being a chestnut, while the half brother to First Blood is like him, a good whole coloured dark brown.

TARANAKI.

SUNDRY SUBJECTS.

NEW PLYMOUTH, December 4.

I was pleased to see that Mr J. George scored a brace of wins at Feilding with that consistent horse, Crusoe. When well placed the black gelding always gives a good account of himself.

Sarsaparilla, a mare that was being schooled for hurdling, dropped dead in the Taranaki saddling paddock on Friday last, after being worked. D. Crozier was training her.

The local and coastal bookmakers are somewhat piqued at being shut out by the Taranaki Jockey Club from future meetings.

I notice that Taranaki is well represented in the acceptances for the Auckland Cup, etc. Should training operations prove satisfactory, I expect to see all our open handicap horses journey North, as the four days' bill-of-fare at Auckland is both tempting and varied.

Mr N. King, the well-known sport, had a startling experience on Thursday last. He was driving Mrs King, their two children, and a lady friend from the Taranaki Show, when the mare in the shafts got restive in the steepest part of the main street, and, swerving suddenly, got on the asphalt footpath, and took downhill under the verandahs for nearly 100 yards. Mr King, being untenaciously, managed, after carrying away a verandah post, to pull the mare up. The trap was almost demolished. Luckily the occupants escaped with a severe shaking only. This was little short of marvellous under the circumstances.

Mr H. Hammond, the trainer of Lady Nelina, Singlehot, and Co., is now combining carpentry with horse training.

Coronet is still in favor here for the Auckland Cup.

Mr G. N. Oorke, who is well-known in business and racing circles in Taranaki, has just returned from a sojourn at the Klondyke goldfields. He gives a poor account of the fields, and says that the reported big finds exist almost in every instance in the imagination of newspaper reporters, who boom the fields for the railway and steamship companies.

Mr J. George's colt, Lasting (Sylvia Park—Durus) has been spelled in his work.

Mr A. W. Budge has accepted the position of starter for the Taranaki Jockey Club.

Mr J. Russell has bestowed the name of Le-perton on the full brother to Bills and Waituna on the Waikou—Lady Onslow filly.

The Waitara Club have added a few necessary improvements to the course at Sentry Hill.

The Taranaki trotters that competed at the recent Otahuhu Meeting were not successful in one instance.

Gowrie made a successful debut in open company at Feilding last week.

Owing to the rainy weather experienced lately, local trainers have been handicapped in the preparation of their charges.

Mr P. Rail, who figured in the Emmett case some years ago, and who has been residing in Auckland for some years, has again taken up his residence in this district.

WELLINGTON.

FEILDING—THE AUCKLAND CUP—PHILANTHROPIST—THE MASTERTON MEETING—THE W.R.C. MONTHLY MEETING.

WELLINGTON, December 4.

The Manawatu Racing Club has decided to pursue the old system, and disallow bookmakers at the forthcoming meeting.

The Hutt mare, Faika, who returned the big dividend at the Wellington Meeting, showed good form at Feilding, when she again paid a good price in the Kiwitea Stakes. Her backers received £6 14s. Melusina's daughter is very well just now.

A number of local punters who followed Crusoe at Feilding had a good time, as nothing had much skow with the son of Cruiser in either of the big handicaps. Emboldened by their success on the first day, they followed him on the second, and were astounded on hearing the horse had paid a few shillings under £7. So were the layers, who scarcely appreciated the situation. Crusoe, who is a very useful horse, put up a good gallop at the Hutt prior to the Wellington Meeting.

The Manawatu Club's Committee at its last meeting recommended R. J. Seddon, W. McArthy Toxward, and W. B. Lloyd for gentlemen riders certificates.

Sedgebrook seems to be one of those horses that the ordinary run of punters miss. He paid a good dividend when he scored at the Hutt, and again at Feilding. After failing in previous starts, naturally an objection was lodged, but the stewards did not think there was grounds for any action.

Explosion is greatly fancied here for the Auckland Cup, but there is little or no business being done over that event.

On her running at the Hutt, Rosella should have a great chance in the Railway Handicap. In fact, Wright appears to have a good show of annexing the double. Personally, I like Coronet for the Cup if fit and well.

The Hawke's Bay horse, Philanthropist, was well supported here for Mangaone Handicap, which he annexed; but those who followed him made nothing, because he went down in his three other races. Another horse who came in for medium support was Gowrie, who is a rather speedy customer, and he landed the odds in the Flying Stakes, but could only get third in Sedgebrook's race.

The Masterton Racing Club's Meeting commences this Thursday, closing on Friday. The fields are good, and close contests are promised. There are eight in the Hack Hurdles, which looks a fair thing for Bulrush or Pipi. A field of seven comprises Masterton Cup, and victory is likely to go to one of Cress's pair, Ruamahunga or Volley. Of the eleven listed for the Ladies' Bracelet,



GEO FOWLDS is slaughtering