

TURF TATTLE.

[BY NORDENFELDT.]

THE Spring Meeting of the Pakuranga Racing Club will divide attention this afternoon with the meeting of the Auckland Amateur Athletic and Cycle Club in the Domain. It is unfortunate that the two meetings should clash, and doubtless both will suffer to a certain extent. When the dates were fixed upon, neither Club was aware that there was any possibility of another engagement taking place on the same afternoon. The Pakuranga Racing Club will hold their meeting on the Otahuhu racecourse, and if the clerk of the weather is kind, doubtless there will be a large muster of racecourse habitués present. The handicaps issued by Mr. Knight were not what might be called flattering, and several owners expressed themselves dissatisfied when they made their appearance. The acceptances are consequently small, and the starter is not likely to have any very large fields to get away. Sport will commence with the

HANDICAP MAIDEN PLATE. 1 mile and 1 furlong.

	st lb		st lb
Deception	8 12	Captive	7 7
Priscilla	8 10	Iron Bark	7 7
Fishmonger	8 8	Johnnie	7 0
Nap	8 0		

These are a bad lot, and as one or two of the horses have other engagements later in the afternoon, there is some doubt about what will compose the field. I prefer the chances of

PRISCILLA or FISHMONGER.

MAIDEN HURDLE RACE. 1½ miles. w.f.a.

	st lb		st lb
Randwick	11 4	Dundee	11 4
Irish Agitator	11 4	Begorrah	11 4
Sentinel	11 4	Mangere	9 4
Neli	11 4	Maritana	9 2

Sentinel, who acted as runner-up to Orlando in the three races he won at Ellerslie last week, if in that form now, should hold the others safe. Begorrah and Neli are unknown qualities. I like best

SENTINEL.

HANDICAP FARMERS' PLATE. Once round.

	st lb		st lb
Deception	10 0	Premier	9 0
Ingorina	9 10	Pandora	9 0
Lord Gillie	9 7	Billy Billy	9 0
Memorandum	9 4	Neli	8 7
Randwick	9 2	Iron Bark	8 7
Carronade	9 0		

I fancy the finish will lie between
INGORINA or MEMORANDUM.

TAMAKI CUP HANDICAP. 1½ miles.

	st lb		st lb
Leorina	8 12	Ingorina	7 5
St. Michael	8 10	Deception	7 0
Tamora	8 6	Te Kooti	7 0
Belmont	7 12		

St. Michael showed good form at Ellerslie, and if ridden by T. Hodson will, I think, just about beat the lot opposed to him here. Leorina and Tamora will both run well, but if anything is to beat St. Michael, perhaps it will be Belmont. I shall tip

ST. MICHAEL or BELMONT.

HANDICAP HURDLE RACE. 2 miles.

	st lb		st lb
Larrikin	10 0	Fishmonger	9 7
Nap	9 7	Carronade	9 0

I prefer the chance of

LARRIKIN.

SELLING RACE. 7 furlongs.

	st lb		st lb
Octopus	9 11	Memorandum	8 11
Blarney	9 11	Larrikin	8 11
Hailstone	9 4	Johnnie	7 11

This race is best left alone, but if compelled to select one I should pick

MEMORANDUM.

FLYING HANDICAP. 5 furlongs.

	st lb		st lb
The Baron	9 4	Prudence	7 8
Capella	8 4	Priscilla	7 4
Belmont	8 0	Te Kooti	7 0
Blarney	7 10	Premier	6 10

If The Baron was a quick horse off the mark, I should select him in his present form to win, but Capella and Prudence are more likely to be first past the post, and I like best

CAPELLA.

WHEN the weights for the Otago Cup were telegraphed to Auckland, the name of Crackshot figured in the list at 7st. 10lb., and the horse was at once selected as one of the best in at the weights. Southern papers to hand, however, show that Mr. Butler's colt is not engaged,

and that it was Crutchfield's name that got confounded for Crackshot's. Occident, with 8st. 12lb. opposite his name, reads better than the New Zealand Cup winner, Wolverine, with four pounds less. Palliser, 6st. 10lb.—the colt by Nordenfeldt—Radiance, that Mr. Stead purchased at the same sale as he bought Medalion—should have a capital chance if he is any good at all. I have heard good accounts of Tempest, who is weighted at 6st. 7lb., but the horse ran very disappointingly at the Christchurch gathering. Mariner, 6st. 3lb., is in the "Occident" stable, and has already shown some good form this season, and if the stable rely on him he is sure to run prominently. Nothing else in the list has a chance on recent form, but the field will probably be a very small and weak one.

EVENTS REQUIRING ATTENTION.

TAKAPUNA JOCKEY CLUB.

ACCEPTANCES and General Entries for the Spring Meeting of the above Club must be made with the secretary, Mr. R. Wynyard, by 9 p.m. on WEDNESDAY. The events requiring attention are as follow:

Handicap Maiden Hurdle Race, 30 sovs., 1½ miles
Devonport Handicap, 40 sovs., 5½ furlongs
Handicap Maiden Plate, 30 sovs., 1 mile
Handicap Hurdles, 50 sovs., 1½ miles
St. Andrew's Handicap, 75 sovs., 1½ miles
Handicap Steeplechase, 80 sovs., 3½ miles
Spring Handicap, 45 sovs., 6 furlongs
Selling Race, 30 sovs., 6½ furlongs

SOUTH AUCKLAND RACING CLUB.

Nominations for the following events to be decided at the Summer Meeting of the above Club on the Claudelands racecourse, December 20th, must be made with the secretary, Mr. G. H. Carter, Hamilton, or Mr. H. H. Hayr, Tattersall's Club, Auckland, by 9 p.m. on WEDNESDAY next, 26th instant:—

Christmas Handicap, 25 sovs., about 1 mile
Handicap Hurdles, 40 sovs., 2 miles
South Auckland Cup, 115 sovs., 1½ miles
Handicap Steeplechase, 60 sovs., about 3 miles
Tradesmen's Plate Handicap, 35 sovs., 1½ miles
Flying Stakes Handicap, 20 sovs., 6 furlongs

THE METROPOLITAN CLUBS' CONFERENCE.

THE Metropolitan Clubs conference met at Christchurch during the late race meeting. However, not much was done. The following is taken from the *N.Z. Referee*:—

Mr. Clifford moved—"That the constitution of the N.Z. Jockey Club, as drafted at the Wellington Conference, be adopted."

Mr. O. H. Williams seconded.

The Hon. G. McLean moved as an amendment—"That the constitution of the N.Z. Jockey Club be postponed for further consideration at a conference to be held during the next session of Parliament."

This was seconded, and Messrs. Pearce, Donnelly, Williams, Stead, Hammond, Dr. Cleghorn and the chairman opposed the amendment, speaking very strongly in favour of Mr. Clifford's motion.

Mr. Adams said, personally he was in favour of a N.Z. Jockey Club, but, as instructed by his club, the Nelson J.C., he had to vote against it.

The Hon. G. McLean and Mr. Driver said they were instructed by the Dunedin and Taranaki Jockey Clubs to oppose the proposal of Mr. Clifford.

Mr. Clifford eventually withdrew his motion in favour of Mr. McLean's amendment, which was carried.

It was resolved that the following words be inserted between the 1st and 2nd clauses of Racing Rule 22, viz.—"That if more than one Selling Race appear on the programme of any day's racing, the added money to one of such races shall be computed as part of the added money for the purposes of this rule."

The question of the right of certain registered colours between Mr. S. H. Gollan and the Hon. W. Reeves was, at the request of the Hawke's Bay J.C., reconsidered, when it was resolved—"That this Conference having considered the question, see no reason to alter their previous decision."

It was resolved that a sub-committee consisting of Messrs. Clifford, Driver, Hammond and the secretary be appointed to consider the question of registration of colours generally,

and to draw up rules for submission to the next Conference.

A letter was read from the secretary of Christchurch Tattersall's Club pointing out that the new racing rule with regard to defaulters and bets was practically inoperative, and asking that some alteration be made.

Mr. E. W. Roper, secretary of Tattersall's, interviewed the Conference and stated his views on the matter.

Mr. Stead gave notice to move—"That at the next Conference the English racing rule with regard to defaulters and bets be inserted in the Rules of racing in place of Rule 162."

Resolved that the minutes of this Conference be printed and distributed to Metropolitan Clubs.

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the Conference.

SPORTING ITEMS.

Ahuia has gone temporarily to the stud.

The Futurity Stakes of 70,000 dollars (!) in America went to a horse called Pontomac.

Mr. G. G. Stead has purchased Agalate, the two-year-old filly by July from Teredo.

Weights for the Annual Meeting of the Northern Wairoa Racing Club are due on Friday next.

A horse called Roy Wilkes trotted a mile in 2min. 8½secs. on September 1st, thus beating Maud S.'s record of 2min. 8½secs.

Jack Rae contemplates returning to Auckland shortly, and will probably be back in time for the Summer Meeting.

Weights for the Spring Meeting of the Takapuna Jockey Club will be declared on Monday by Mr. W. Kngiht, the Club's new handicapper.

A new pony and trotting club has, we are told, been formed at Cambridge, Waikato. It is intended to hold a meeting in January, when £115 will be given away in stakes.

Mr. W. Bobbett has christened his Captivator—Madcap two-year-old colt *Marion*. This is the name of one of the crack three-year-olds in England this season, which has won seven successive races.

Dolosa (by Leolinus—Lure) won the Warwick Farm Handicap at the Warwick Farm races, Sydney, last Saturday. The distance of the race was one mile, and the value of the stake 100 sovs.

In the class for thoroughbred entries at the Canterbury Agricultural and Pastoral Association's show, Chainshot, by Musket—Locket, was awarded first prize; Artillery, by Musket—Ouida, second; and Stonhurst, by King of Clubs—Watersprite, third.

"Jimmy" Kean, the well-known trainer of Cuirassier, Leopold and Co., returns to Auckland, we believe, by the incoming steamer. He will probably bring Dolosa with him. Cuirassier has been placed in E. Kelly's hands at Sydney to be trained.

Mr. D. B. Tonks sold the privileges in connection with the Spring Meeting of the Takapuna Jockey Club yesterday. The following lots were sold:—Gates £50, Mr. Alison; No. 1 Booth £13, Mr. Quinlan; No. 2 Booth £11 10s, Mr. Quinlan; Grand Stand Booth £10, Mr. Hawkins; sole right refreshment booths £2, Mrs. McIntosh; Cards £17 10s, Mr. H. H. Hayr.

We extract the following from the *London Sportsman*:—Two members of the sporting press were called before Lord Penrhyn, Lord Durham, Mr. Fitzwilliam and Mr. Vyner at Doncaster, in reference to several paragraphs which had appeared with regard to the exclusion of the members of the press from the weighing-room. The above-named gentlemen, whilst pointing out that Mr. Edward Weatherby acted in accordance with Rule 130—which says that no person shall, without special leave from the Stewards, be admitted to the weighing-room, except the owner, trainer, jockey or other person having the care of a horse engaged in the race—denied that the order came from them. Moreover, Mr. Vyner wished it to be known that he was not present at Doncaster during the afternoon. Mr. Weatherby then stated that his instructions were received from a Steward of the Jockey Club. Members of the press are, of course, compelled to obey the law as enforced. At the same time we cannot help thinking that the closing of a channel of information against the legitimate use of the public is a step that might have been avoided.