

The juggler immediately "dumps down" 12st on him, and causes him to meet the second horse on *more than two stone* worse terms by *actually taking weight off* the second and having no regard whatever for the rest of the horses that ran in the race. Can anyone tell me how owners are to contend against such glaring and overwhelming disadvantages?

I shall take a case or two in point by way of showing the art of handicapping to be a science. Suppose A, who is in receipt of 8lbs from B. wins, the weight-juggler claps on a stone or so at random or by some "rule-of-thumb." The expert on the other hand would carefully weigh the chances of the two horses, and by a process of calculations would immediately decide the exact terms on which they should meet again under similar, or even other conditions. Again, we will say that A, B, and C have, so far, only run in races which did not exceed a mile; D and E have run all distances up to one and a-half miles; F has only appeared to advantage in one race of one and three-quarter miles; and G, H, and K have run with varying success in races from one to two miles only. Consequently A may have met D and E, but not B or C. D may have met B and C, but not F, G, or H., and so on *ad infinitum*. Now if all these horses be entered for a one and a-quarter mile race over which distance no two of them have *ever* met, then is the compiler of weights put to the test as to his scientific ability. In such cases I say none but an "expert" can frame a satisfactory set of weights.

The task is an easy one enough when the horses have all met at that distance, but where they have *never* met then will the handicapper's science of weights be displayed.

When the matter is carefully thought over it is small wonder that racing does not progress as it should in New Zealand.

As I remarked before, "How are owners to contend against such disadvantages?"

I don't believe altogether in "boycott," but "extreme causes require extreme cures," but really the next best thing I see for the horse owners to do is "go out on strike," and unanimously decline to nominate with those clubs who employ such "shams" to adjust their weights.

Readers must not run away with the idea that these "remarks" apply only to the Auckland district. They apply to Australia and other parts of New Zealand as well as Auckland, and wherever the "cap fits" there let the cap "be put on."

Only a few days ago I read of a case in Australia which I had in my mind's eye when penning these lines. It was this. In a nine and a-half furlong race Grandee, 7st 4lb, beat Colleen Bawn, 6st 10lb, who ran a dead heat for second place. In a mile race shortly afterwards Colleen Bawn is weighted at 8st 1lb and Grandee is allotted 6st 13lb. That's Australia. We don't require to go so far for such instances. We find them in New Zealand, aye in the Auckland district, and even more glaring and numerous too, these cases of what I have termed "weight-juggling." I propose in my "remarks" from time to time, drawing attention to each and every case of the kind that happens to come under my notice. I shall conclude my rather lengthy article with the hope that the time is close at hand when this class of sporting (?) men will have become a thing of the past, and it will be difficult to decide which club has secured the services of the most expert handicapper.

In "Tattersall's" 100,000 sweep the first prize fell to J. Preacher, East Richmond, £27,000; Sir William was drawn by R. Matier, Sydney, £9,000; Strathmore went to "La Mascotte," c/o T. Lauritz, Wentworth, £4,500. In No. 1 50,000 sweep, at 10s, W. Turner, Ascot Vale, Victoria, took first prize, £9,000; W. Rider, Grafton, N.S.W., second, £2,700; and C. Anderson, s.a. "Investigator," Port Adelaide, S.A., £1,800. No. 2 sweep, 50,000 at 10s., Mrs. George, 59 Junior-street, Leichhardt, Sydney, first, £9,000; R. Elliott, Gulgong, N.S.W., second, £2,700; M. Hews, Union Bakery, Cobarr, N.S.W., £1,800. No. 3 sweep closed with 36,000 at 10s. M. Cody, Ballarat, Victoria, first, £6,480; W. Vale, P.O., Paddington, Sydney, second, £1,944; A. Corkhill, Leichhardt, Sydney, £1,296.

EVENTS REQUIRING ATTENTION.

AVONDALE JOCKEY CLUB.

To-morrow (Friday), 27th November, Mr. H. H. Hayr, secretary, receives nominations for the following events, at the SPORTING REVIEW office up to 8 p.m. :—

- Handicap Hurdle Race of 40 sovs., 1½ miles, 1 sov.
- Handicap Pony Race of 20 sovs., for 14.2 ponies, 7 furlongs, ½ sov.
- Avondale Cup Handicap of 50 sovs., 1¼ miles, 1 sov.
- Handicap Maiden Plate of 25 sovs., 1 mile, ½ sov.
- Handicap Steeplechase of 50 sovs., about 3 miles, 1 sov.
- Handicap Flying Stakes of 25 sovs., 5 furlongs, ½ sov.
- Steward's Handicap of 30 sovs., 1 mile ½ sov.

Friday, December 4th, at 8 p.m., acceptances close at the same place for the above events—acceptance fee same as nomination fee—also entries for the

- Selling Race of 25 sovs., 5 furlongs, 1 sov.

DRURY RACING CLUB.

To-morrow (Friday), November 27, Mr. Daniel Maher, hon. secretary, Drury, or Mr. H. H. Hayr, Auckland, receives nominations for the

- Drury Cup Handicap of 40 sovs., 1¼ miles, 1 sov.
- Handicap Hurdle Race of 20 sovs., 2 miles, 10s.
- Flying Stakes Handicap of 15 sovs., ¾ mile, 7s. 6d.
- Drury Racing Club Handicap of 40 sovs., 1¼ miles, 1 sov.
- Stewards' Handicap of 20 sovs., 1 mile, 10s.

AUCKLAND TROTTING CLUB.

To-morrow (Friday), November 27, at 10 p.m., nominations close with the secretary, Mr. C. F. Mark, Durham-street East, Auckland for the following events :—

- Maiden Trot Handicap of 50 sovs., 2 miles, 1 sov.
- Flying Stakes Handicap of 30 sovs., for 14.2 ponies, 6 furlongs, 10s.
- Handicap Trot of 40 sovs., 2½ miles, 1 sov.
- Pony Cup Handicap of 100 sovs., 1 mile, 2 sovs.
- Auckland Trotting Cup Handicap of 200 sovs., 3 miles, 2 sovs.
- Handicap Hurdles of 40 sovs., 1½ miles, 1 sov.
- Handicap Pony Trot of 30 sovs., for 14.1 ponies, 2 miles, 10s.

SOUTH AUCKLAND RACING CLUB.

To-morrow (Friday), November 27, at 9 p.m., nominations close with the secretary, Mr. G. H. Carter, Hamilton, or Mr. H. H. Hayr, SPORTING REVIEW office, Auckland, for the following events :—

- Maiden Plate Handicap of 30 sovs., 7 furlongs, 15s.
- Handicap Maiden Hurdles of 25 sovs., 1½ miles, 10s.
- South Auckland Cup Handicap of 115 sovs., 1¼ miles, 2 sovs.
- First Handicap Steeplechase of 40 sovs., about 2 miles, 15s.
- Tradesmen's Plate Handicap of 40 sovs., 1¼ miles, 15s.
- Christmas Handicap of 30 sovs., 1 mile, 10s.
- Flying Stakes Handicap of 30 sovs., 6 furlongs, 15s.
- Handicap Hurdles of 40 sovs., 2 miles, 10s.
- Publicans' Purse of 50 sovs., 1¼ miles, 1 sov.
- South Auckland Steeplechase Handicap of 70 sovs., about 3 miles, 25s.
- County Plate Handicap of 20 sovs., 1 mile, 10s.
- Railway Stakes Handicap of 30 sovs., 6 furlongs, 15s.
- Welter Handicap of 30 sovs., 1 mile and a distance, 15s.

ONEHUNGA RACING CLUB.

Tuesday, 1st December, up to 10 p.m. Mr C. F. Mark, secretary, receives acceptances at his office, Durham-street East, for the

- Handicap Maiden Plate of 20 sovs., 1 mile, 10s.
- Handicap Hurdles of 30 sovs., 2 miles, 10s.
- Spring Handicap of 50 sovs., 1¼ miles, 25s.
- Handicap Steeple of 50 sovs., about 3½ miles, 25s.
- Selling Race of 20 sovs., 7 furlongs, 1 sov.
- Flying Stakes of 20 guineas, 6 furlongs, 10s.
- Pony Race for 14.2 ponies, of 15 sovs., 5 furlongs, 10s.
- Welter Handicap of 20 sovs., 1 mile, 10s.

HAWKE'S BAY JOCKEY CLUB.

Tuesday, December 1st, at 10 p.m., Mr. F. D. Luckie receives nominations for the Summer Meeting of the above Club, which takes place on Saturday, 26th December.

NORTHERN WAIOA RACING CLUB.

Thursday, December 3rd, acceptances will be received by the secretary, Mr. N. A. McLeod, at Dargaville, Mr. H. H. Hayr, Auckland, at the office of the SPORTING REVIEW, and Mr. Buckhurst, Whangarei, up to 10 p.m., for the following events :—

FIRST DAY.

- Handicap Hurdle Race of 20 sovs., 2 miles, 10s.
 - Northern Waioa Cup Handicap of 40 sovs., 1¼ miles, 1 sov.
 - Railway Plate Handicap of 15 sovs., 1 mile, 5s.
 - Gumdigger's Purse Handicap of 20 sovs., 1 mile, 10s.
- Also entries at the same time and place for the
- Maiden Plate Handicap of 15 sovs., 1¼ miles, 15s.
 - Handicap Hack Race of 10 sovs., 1 mile, 10s.
 - Novel Race of 15 sovs., 1 mile, 15s.



[Contributions to this column are invited. All communications should be addressed to "Torpedo," and reach this office not later than Tuesday in each week. Notes from country corps will be specially acceptable.]

CAPTAIN FALCONER, of the New Zealand Torpedo Corps, has arrived in Auckland to inspect those members of the Naval Artillery and Engineers, who have been qualifying themselves for certificates in submarine mining. On Monday and Tuesday evening last he had the Ponsonby Navals in hand, last night the Engineers were examined, to-night and to-morrow night the Auckland Navals are to come before him.

From Dunedin we learn of a marker being shot dead at the butts while holding the danger signal in his hand. The circumstances point clearly to the carelessness either of the unfortunate man Wilson himself or of those in charge at the firing point. It was clearly the former's duty not to come out of the butts until he heard the bugle after showing his danger flag, if there was a bugle on the range, and if there was not one, those in charge at the firing point are morally responsible for the man's death. Deceased was a single man, twenty-five years of age. At the inquest a verdict of accidental death from a shot fired from the rifle of Gunner Davys, of the "B" Battery, was returned, Davys being exonerated from all blame, was returned. John Wilson was a member of the North Dunedin Rifles, and was accorded a military funeral on Sunday, there being an immense attendance of volunteers and the public.

Lieut.-Commander Parker had a detachment of the Auckland Navals at Fort Cautley for big gun drill on Friday last, while Lieut. Smith was in command of the remainder of the corps at the Drill-shed, where they received the finishing touches in their education in signaling and torpedo work preparatory to their examination by Capt. Falconer.

Capt. Kohn called a meeting of members and intending members of the New Zealand Rifle Association for Saturday evening at the Drill-shed, and the advertisement was marked, "Business important." In consequence of this quite a number of men from the "A" Battery, City Guards, Victorias, and others assembled, but as the newly-appointed member of the council did not arrive the meeting was allowed to lapse.

The Royal Irish had a fair muster on the rifle range on Saturday for their volley and independent firing under Capt. Tobin, and the shooting was quite up to expectations. They were, however, a few files short of the two thirds to enable them to count.

The Ponsonby Navals are having a most successful camp, and have been having a steady course of big gun drill at Fort Cautley, which has been greatly beneficial to the men. On Sunday morning they were early astir, and after bathing drill, cleaning up camp, and breakfast, they fell in for full dress parade and marched to the wharf, where they were met by Capt. Parker, Lieut. Smith, Dr. Walker, and forty rank and file of the Auckland Navals, who had come over to join the Ponsonbys in a church parade. They were accompanied by the Artillery Band, under Bandmaster A. Hunter, and proceeded to Trinity Church. After which the parade marched back to camp. After dinner the Band treated the visitors to a rare musical afternoon.

A team of fifteen men from the City Guards proceed to the Wairoa South on Saturday, the 5th December, to fire a match against the almost invincible Wairoa Rifles, and although I predict a defeat for the Guards, they may rest assured of a grand reception at the hands of Captain Crawford and his men, who are all real good fellows.

The Auckland Navals had a splendid muster of sixty-five on the rifle range on Saturday for their volley and independent firing. Lieut. Grant and Sergt.-Major Scully represented the staff, and divided the men into three squads, the scoring was moderately good, and the muster was large enough to enable it to count for the prize money.