

The Dunedin Jockey Club offer a reward of £10 to secure a conviction against anyone betting or laying totalisator odds.

The Te Aroha Races were a great success. Bob Roth was the only wielder of the pencil present, and is said to have done real good business.

Alf Brady, the professional walker, has challenged Sammy Goodman to walk one to three miles for £50 a side and the championship of Auckland.

Bob Gooseman left Napier for Taranaki on Saturday, via Wanganui, with his string for the Taranaki Jockey Club's anniversary meeting, which takes place to-day and to-morrow.

Mr. John Marshall, of City Chambers, advertises to let the house and well-known racing stables at Ellerslie, now occupied by Harry Hickton, which may be had at an absurdly low rental.

Mr. Geo. Hunter's two mares, Whisper and Cynisca, in charge of Bob Gooseman, will arrive here in time for the Auckland Racing Club's autumn meeting.

For the Helensville Races on Saturday a special train leaves Auckland at 9.25 a.m., returning from there at 6.5 p.m., and is timed to arrive in Auckland at 8.45 p.m. Ordinary fares (10/7 first class and 7/1 second class return) will be charged.

Messrs. D. B. Tonks & Co. sell the privileges of the Avondale Jockey Club at their mart, Queen-street, to-morrow (Friday) at noon. Judging by the large nominations the success of this meeting is already assured, and the gates, booths, cards, stalls, etc. should yield correspondingly large prices.

The weights for the Easter Handicap and Steeplechase are due next Monday. Mr. J. O. Evitt, the Club's handicapper, will arrive from New Plymouth on Sunday next, after attending the Taranaki Jockey Club's meeting to be held to-day and to-morrow.

It gives us great pleasure to state that Mr. Donald McKinnon had £10 on his horse Scot Free, which won the Napier Park Cup, paying the nice dividend of £13 18s., thereby returning the popular Waikato owner the nice sum of £139, in addition to the stake.

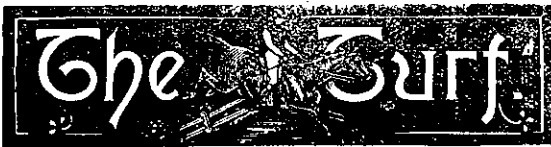
In the Napier Park Hurdle Race on the first day, after passing the post Redmond, the rider of Somnambulist, who was third, struck the rider of Whalebone, the winner, on coming past the judge's box, and Redmond afterwards entered a protest against Vine, Whalebone's jockey, for foul riding.

Mr. Courtney, auctioneer, of New Plymouth, has an advertisement in our columns announcing for sale the well-known steeplechaser "Jenny," by Puriri—Deadshot mare, winner of the Great Northern and Hawke's Bay Steeplechases, and several other thoroughbred mares. The sale will take place on Saturday next at Mr. Courtney's yards New Plymouth, and as it is the day following the Taranaki Anniversary Races the lots should be spiritedly competed for.

A little trouble was caused at the Hawke's Bay Trotting Club's meeting on the 21st inst., at Hastings, by the official race card in one instance being wrongly numbered. In the Handicap Pony Trot Florrie appeared on the card as No. 5, and an investor backed her as such. After winning he presented his ticket for his dividend, and produced his book and showed that it gave Florrie as No. 5, but all the other books show that she was No. 1, and Silvertail No. 5. This shows great carelessness somewhere.

The Hawke's Bay Gun Club held their Autumn Meeting on Tuesday, March 22, at Hastings, when some excellent shooting took place. Mr. E. Broughton won the President's Cup, Mr. W. Broughton being second. The Autumn Handicap of 60sovs, seven birds, resulted in no less than six of the competitors tying, viz., E. Broughton, H. Redwood, Jull, Montgomerie, Ferguson, and Macandrew. In firing off Mr. E. Broughton won with nine consecutive birds, Mr. H. Redwood taking second prize with eight birds. Messrs. Jull and Ferguson divided the third prize, killing 13 out of 14 birds each. Mr. H. Redwood had particularly hard luck in not even seeing his ninth bird, which rose against a background similar in colour to its own plumage. Mr. Redwood is a grand and enthusiastic old shot, and general sympathy was expressed by those present for his bad luck.

We commend to the notice of sporting men Mr. W. W. Finlinson, of Dunedin, who can give clients current quotations on the Great Autumn Handicap, Easter Handicap, and Sydney Gold Cup. Price lists and programmes will be forwarded to anyone on application, his address being the British or Court's Hotel, Dunedin.



[BY OLD TURFITE.]

THE Napier Park Club held a most successful meeting on the 23rd and 24th inst. There is one thing that must strike race-goers, and that is the different form horses show on the Hastings and Taradale courses. This has been noticeable for some years. In the Hawke's Bay Cup Crown Jewel and Retina finished first and second, but in the Napier Park Cup, with 14lb and 8lb more up, they ran nowhere to Scot Free, 8st 2lb, who is considered a non-stayer. Free Lance also cut up badly, so did Strephon. However, the latter has been some time on the shelf, and cannot at the present time be thoroughly wound up. Whalebone gave us another taste of his quality over the sticks, as he made all the running and beat Waterbury a neck at the difference of 14lb., and on the second day he again defeated him with only 6lb the best of the weights, though he had to succumb to Couranto, who was giving him 8lb. However, taking his form all through, he is a horse worth watching for future events, as he is only five years old. Bay Bell, with none the best of the weights, won the City Stakes Handicap pretty easily from a good field, thus proving Scot Free to be a better horse than most people thought he was, and that on account of having a hip down a left-handed course suits him better than a right-handed one like Ellerslie. Strephon and Retina again ran badly, and they must both be decidedly off, especially the former, who was again beaten in the Waverley Stakes.

THE Dunedin Jockey Club held their Anniversary meeting on the 23rd and 24th. It was chiefly confined to local horses, but it is worthy of notice that the programme on each day included a trotting race, thus showing that at least one Metropolitan Club has the good sense to recognise the sport. The class of trotters cannot be very brilliant, as the winner of the three-mile trot took 9min. 38secs. to cover the distance. There was also a pony race and a pony trot. If such a mixed programme was held at Ellerslie it would prove very attractive, and be much better than seeing the same horses running over and over again. The Anniversary Handicap was won by Galtee, 8st 7lb, Miss Mack, 8st 5lb, second, Tempest, 8st 9lb, third. Derby, Leinster, and Don Pedro also ran. Tempest and Galtee were great favourites. Mr. Stephenson secured the Seacliffe Handicap with that smart filly Huguenot, and on the second day he was first and second with Hippomenes and Tempest for the Holiday Handicap, Leinster being the only other starter. The Hon. G. McLean had a win with Conjuror in the Electric Stakes, beating Mistral, Huguenot, and five others, but the start was a very bad one. The other races call for no comment.

THE nominations for the Auckland Trotting Club's meeting, to be held at Potter's Paddock on April 16th are exceedingly good, the pony entries being very numerous, there being no less than 27 in the Autumn Handicap, seven furlongs, 16 in the Hurdle Race, and 34 in the Flying Stakes. For the trotting races there are 14 in the Harness Trot, 14 in the Electric Handicap, and 17 in the Easter Handicap, three miles. It is to be hoped that the handicappers will not spoil what promises to be a good meeting by inferior handicaps—giving the limit horse too much start. They must bear in mind that the Club is now in a flourishing position, and that the thing that is now required is a good class of horse, not the rubbish we have been accustomed to see at Potter's Paddock, and the only way to obtain them is by not crushing out a good horse because some

persons are so foolish as to enter a horse that cannot trot. On looking through the entries there are some that should never be on a track. There are two especially of this class in the Easter Handicap, and the handicappers would do well to show disapproval of such a thing by placing these horses close on scratch, then their owners will perhaps take the hint, and either put them in the minor races or keep them at home.

THE weights for the C.J.C. Great Easter and Autumn Handicaps are to hand, but as the acceptances are due to-morrow it is not worth while going into them until after they appear. Mr. Henry has certainly succeeded in making them flattering, although some of the horses can have no chance. Taking the Great Easter Handicap, 7 furlongs, Clanranald, 9st 5lb, heads the list. He is a horse with a great turn of speed and should have a show. Huguenot, 8st 11lb, and Flinders with 11lb less have nothing to complain of, nor has Hippomenes, 7st 11lb. Then lower down comes Ilium, 7st 4lb, and Pique, 6st 12lb. The latter is an in-and-out runner that may any day effect a surprise. Lady Zetland, 7st 6lb, and Conjuror, 7st 4lb, also read well, but my predilection at present is for Clanranald, Huguenot, Flinders, Ilium and Pique.

The Great Autumn Handicap, one mile and a half, is a far better race to speculate on than a sprint one. Dudu, 9st, after her race at Wanganui, must be passed over, as she then pulled up sore, and is, I am informed, in foal. Merrie England, 8st 13lb, is being specially prepared for this meeting, but he never was a fancy of mine. Cruchfield, 8st 10lb, is nicely weighted, and his running at Dunedin shows that he has come back to his form, and this is his distance. Morion is an overrated horse. Prime Warden, 8st 2lb, if in his old form, must be a dangerous one. Palliser, 7st 10lb, may be a rod in pickle, but I prefer Kulnine with 11lb less. Diadem, 6st 13lb, reads well, but she has been too long on the shelf. Ilium 6st 9lb, is not unlikely to land the double. The only other one that takes my attention is Awarua Rose, 6st 8lb, as I doubt if we have seen him at his best. Taking four, Cruchfield, Prime Warden, Kulnine and Ilium I prefer the best, but Awarua Rose is worth watching.

THE Helensville Meeting takes place next Saturday, and promises to be one of the best meetings held there for some years, as the acceptances are particularly good, and reflect great credit on Mr. Halstead, as it is no easy matter to satisfy owners of scrubbers who train their horses themselves. The course is a nice one, and the bank on one side forms a natural stand from which any number of people can obtain a good view of the racing. It only rests now with the Railway Manager to make the meeting a success. If he makes the same blunders as he did last Saturday, not many will patronise the train, and it is too far to drive.

The Maiden Plate has an acceptance of sixteen. Many of them are unknown to me, but on late form Assassin, Acacia, and Tiger read about the best, but it is a race that should be left alone until the numbers go up.

Nine have declared content for the Hurdle Race, the majority of them are very moderate. Kate 10st 5lb, Rewarewa 10st, and Assassin 9st 10lb, reading about the best. Of these I prefer Kate, but should she not go up it would be well to watch the machine as regards the other two.

For the Helensville Cup Leorina, 9st 10lb, and Ingorina, 9st 5lb, are brought pretty close together, but the latter has not been out lately; Warrior, 7st 10lb, is given a good show; Brigade, 7st 2lb, is a jade or she is well in; Ida, 7st 2lb, on her running at Papakura, must not be despised. Of the two I prefer Ingorina if well, but if compelled to back one it would be Leorina, with Ida to hunt her home.

The Hack Race has no less than sixteen acceptances, but this race should be left until the numbers go up, as they are generally "readied" and should be struck out of all programmes, but from what I am told Tiger and Blue Ribbon are pretty smart at this kind of game.

There are thirteen left in the Flying Stakes, but this race is greatly dependant on previous running, but it will be most likely a repetition of the Cup unless Brigade takes it into her head to try, therefore I think that Leorina is the