

petition has been forwarded to the D.J.C., signed by all the local trainers, with the exception of one or two, protesting against the new rule. They hold that such a regulation is unnecessary, as the power in the hands of Metropolitan Clubs is absolute. In any case they contend that a nominal fee is sufficient, taking into account the several rules and charges which already affect them. What action the club will take is hard to say, but the discontent down South is sufficiently marked to make serious consideration of the trainer's grievance on the part of the local racing authority a necessity. The rule does not receive unqualified assent and approval from the Auckland trainers, many of whom are quite in accord with their Southern brethren. The complaint made by the local men is that the racing club makes no stipulation as to who shall receive a trainer's license. They hold, and we think very rightly too, that to give a license to any man who applies, armed with the necessary £2, simply means placing an injustice on both *bona fide* trainers and owners of race-horses, for as regards the first their living is cut away by inexperienced men underpricing them in training fees, and as for the second, they are tempted by the difference between the fee of the experienced and inexperienced trainer to give engagements to the latter, to the detriment of their horses and consequently their pocket. Of course, as the question affects the owners it may be said they should have sufficient knowledge and acumen to employ the better man, but the unfortunate trainer is placed at a very serious disadvantage. Many of our local men complain bitterly at the loophole the license rule allows for the introduction of unskilled trainers, and the A.R.C. might profitably meet the complaint by exercising great care as to who they issue licenses to.

Coming Events.

HAWKE'S BAY JOCKEY CLUB'S SPRING MEETING.

[BY SIR LAUNCELOT.]

THE acceptances for the First Hurdles and Flying Handicap, and the final payments for the Hawke's Bay Guineas are not quite up to expectations, there being only eight left in the Hurdles, and a dozen in the Flying Handicap, while only four owners have been found bold enough to face Pegasus for the Hawke's Bay Guineas. The Southerners have shirked the contest, and the H.B.J.C. will, for once, not have a single South Island-owned horse competing at the meeting.

In the First Handicap Hurdle Race of 75 sovs, about 2 miles, we shall see how Satyr, 11.12, shapes with his compatriots whom he has not met in battle array since his return from Australia. Though I do not think he can absolutely win, I fancy he will take a lot of beating, and I look upon Chester, 10.7, as the one most likely to effect his overthrow.

Though only four are left to oppose Pegasus in the Hawke's Bay Guineas of 300 sovs, one mile, they are a well-bred lot, and one of them, Captain Russell's Noyade, by Lord of the Isles—Lorelei, is a winner. The Hon. J. D. Ormond's colt, Tussock, by Nordenfeldt—Speargrass, only ran once last season, when he was unplaced with 7.0 in the Nursery Handicap at the H.B.J.C.'s Autumn Meeting, which was won by Noyade, 8.8. Stanmoor was started last season, and was only placed once; and as far as I know St. Laura, who is a daughter of St. Leger and Miss Laura, and hails from New Plymouth has, has not yet sported silk. As I have before written, I decline to believe Stanmoor to be a good horse till I see him win, and I think the opponent Pegasus has most to fear danger from is Noyade. With her in the road, I cannot look on it as a 'moral' for Pegasus, though I think he will win.

St. Hippo has been paid up for in the Flying Handicap of 100 sovs, 6 furlongs, although he has had the big burden of 10.6 given him. He will probably be started if the going be decent. What a treat it would be to see him spreadeagle his field with such a weight. Miss Letty should cut out a nice 6 furlongs with 8.9, and I shall bracket her with St. Katherine, 8.9, and Loch Ness, 8.0, to furnish the winner—Fleta, 6.12, a good outsider.

There are eleven entries for the October Handicap, ten for the Welcome Stakes (for two-year-olds), seven for the Post Stakes, fourteen for the Corinthian Handicap, a dozen for the Maiden Plate,

eleven for the Second Hurdles and fifteen for the Final Handicap.

HAWKE'S BAY JOCKEY CLUB'S MEETING.

[BY "BORDERER."]

THERE is every prospect of the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club meeting with marked success in connection with their two days' meet, which has been fixed to come off on October 2nd and 3rd. The nominations and acceptances are very satisfactory indeed, and the ten events will all start with good fields. Up to the time of writing the weights in connection with only two of the events on the card, the First Handicap Hurdle Race and the Flying Handicap, were forthcoming, so that the task of anticipating the judge for the various races becomes a work of great difficulty, and makes any attempt at tipping very much of a leap in the dark affair. For the first race, the Handicap Hurdles of 75 sovs, about two miles, Satyr, even with 11.12, will prove a dangerous starter, and in spite of his impost will, I fancy, catch the judge's eyes first. Kapua, 11.0, and Chester, 10.7, will make a big run for the stake, but I prefer the former's chance for second place to Chester's. Jack, 10.6, Dromedary, 10.5, Avis and Joker, 10.0, have been fairly dealt with by the handicapper, and the light weight, Oddfellow, 9.10, will make a big race over the two miles. The third position should lie between Joker and Oddfellow, and I give the latter the preference.

For the Flying Handicap of 100 sovs, six furlongs, twelve horses have accepted, and these include sufficient fliers to make the spin over the six furlongs a very interesting event. The top weight is, of course, St. Hippo with 10.6, and the others have been awarded as follows:—Miss Letty and St. Katherine 8.9, Swivel 8.8, Ua 8.6, Loch Ness and Stanmoor 8.0, Porepo 7.0, Fleta 6.12, Spinaway and Dingo 6.10, and The Parson 6.7. The light-weight division I do not think have a show. The top weight will have a big following, and will doubtless carry the bulk of the money, but I will not be surprised to find the middle weights tackle St. Hippo in earnest at the finish. Ua, Loch Ness and Stanmoor I regard as very much in it, and incline to the second named as the pick of the trio. St. Hippo and Loch Ness should provide the winner, with Stanmoor second and Ua third.

As regards the other events, as I said before, the tipping must be of the leap in the dark order. So I will without further detail give my selections. For the Hawke's Bay Guineas of 300 sovs, one mile, I take Pegasus 1, Noyade 2, Stanmoor 3. For the Welcome Stakes I take Formé 1, Hacata 2, St. Kevin 3.

Inter-Provincial

[FROM OWN CORRESPONDENTS.]

WANGANUI

[BY WIRE.]

Sept. 26.

THE cross country horse Allegretto, by Papapa—Jenny Lind, died this morning. The cause of death was the bursting of a blood vessel. The horse was in splendid condition, with the exception of one of his front legs, which was a bit dickey, so swimming exercise was given him last week. Yesterday morning he did the usual swim, and on being taken to the stables showed signs that there was something wrong. He was at once given a tonic, which seemed to relieve him a great deal, but he took a relapse during the night, and despite all efforts on the part of his trainer he died this morning. Alegretto ran last in the Wanganui Steeplechase, in which he was alongside the winner (Empire) until the third fence from home was reached, when he fell. The horse was engaged in the forthcoming Spring Meeting, having been entered for the Hurdles.

Fraternite, Fisk, Manganoho, Narrator by Natator, are all being treated to swimming exercise, and are all a bit shaky in the legs.

WELLINGTON.

[BY WIRE.]

September 26.

Mr W. Davies with Kent and Sweet Dream left for Rangitikei yesterday. H. Peters left for the same place with Luna.

At a special meeting of the Wellington Racing Club stewards held on Thursday last, Mr J. O. Evett was re-elected handicapper and Mr A. King hack handicapper.

The Otaki Maori Racing Club have submitted two programmes to the Metropolitan Club, and have had them approved. One is for a meeting to be held on 1st January, at which they will give £220, and the other is for a meeting to come off on the Queen's Birthday, at which £401 will be given in stakes. This will be distributed as follows:—Trial Handicap of 21 sovs, 6 furlongs; First Hurdles Handicap of 60 sovs, 2 miles; Boyle Plate of 30 sovs, 1 mile; Glasgow Handicap of 120 sovs, 1½ miles; Second Hurdles of 40 sovs, 1½ miles; Flying Handicap of 50 sovs, 6 furlongs; and Stewards Handicap of 60 sovs, 1½ miles. For a hack programme this must be considered most liberal.

To-day the Porirua J.C. programme was passed for a meeting to be held on the 9th November, at which £180 will be given in stakes. The card includes the Porirua Handicap of 45 sovs, 1½ mile.

The entries for the Wairarapa Trotting Club's Meeting to come off on the 11th October were received on Friday last, and exhibit a great falling off from the last one. Only 51 entries were distributed over the seven events. Mr King declares the handicaps on Saturday next.

The Lower Valley J.C. at Martinborough have selected a site for their new course, and an influential committee has been appointed to finance the purchase.

Mr Tancred's hurdler Oddfellow, who has now been promoted out of the hacks into the regular class, is entered for all the Hawke's Bay Meetings, and is leaving for Napier at once.

Mr Hiley, the owner of Dick alias Tinker, who was acquitted at first since been found guilty of complicity, and disqualified for life.

NAPIER.

[BY WIRE.]

Sept. 26.

THE Auckland horses arrived here safely on Sunday last. Pegasus got down in his box when being transhipped, but fortunately did not sustain any injury. Wright took his string straight out to Hastings by special train, but Pegasus did not go out till Monday afternoon.

Our horses have not had enough work. Even last Saturday morning there was nothing special about the gallops, the best being between Ua and Rosefeldt, the former appearing to hold her own comfortably. Loch Ness, Dreamland, and Rangiatea have all been doing good work.

W. Broughton has purchased from Bamber, of Wanganui, a yearling filly by Natator—Ripple (St. Leger—Foam); a yearling filly by Natator—Empson (Ascot—Sunshine); besides a big roomy Nutsworth mare. He has also purchased from Mr Crawley a mare by Pupapu—Maid of the Mill. The mares he procured in order to mate them with Renata.

The following wagers have been laid by Proffitt and Wilson over the N.Z. Cup during the past week:—300 to 30 Prime Warden, 300 to 24 Response, 250 to 8 Liberator, 300 to 9 Au Revoir, 200 to 8 Stanmoor, 200 to 12 Dilemma, and 250 to 8 Tempest 200 to 12 Merganser. The following doubles have been laid on the N.Z. and Melbourne Cups:—500 to 5 St. Hippo and Loyalty, 200 to 2 St. Hippo and Light Artillery, 400 to 4 St. Hippo and Sternchaser, 200 to 4 St. Hippo and Vakeel, 500 to 3 Merganser and Donizetti, 250 to 2½ Merganser and Vakeel, 250 to 2½ Merganser and Cremorne, 200 to 2 Hipomenes and Oxide, 250 to 2 St. Katherine and Realm, 250 to 2 Skirmisher and Oxide, 250 to 2 Westmere and Oxide, 500 to 3 St. Anthony and Sternchaser, 500 to 2 Au Revoir and Donizetti, 500 to 3 Pegasus and Donizetti. Two straight wagers over the Melbourne Cup have been booked, viz, 100 to 7 Sternchaser and 100 to 6 Loyalty.

September 27.

Good nominations and acceptances were received last night for the Jockey Club Meeting. Surprise was expressed at Westmere's non-acceptance for the Guineas, but he is reported to be not quite himself.

My tips are:—Guineas: Pegasus, 1; Stanmoor, 2; Noyade, 3. Hurdles: Satyr, 1; Oddfellow, 2; Kapua, 3. Flying: St. Hippo, 1; Lochness, 2; Stanmoor, 3. Welcome Stakes: Formé, 1; St. Kevin, 2; Maluri, 3.

Owing to the City Hall being engaged next Wednesday evening, Mr. John Fuller has arranged to hold the next People's Popular Concerts at the Onehunga Public Hall. A very attractive programme has been drawn up, and includes some favourite operatic duets.

OUR SYDNEY LETTER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, Saturday, Sept. 16.

A few things worth remembering. At the A.J.C. Spring Meeting, 1892, Frantic won both Hurdles and the Steeplechase. Ulric beat Isaac and Ronda for the Trial, 1½ miles. Camoola led Arquebus and Blarney Stone home for the Blue Ribbon, and Daredevil, Kilmore, Shamrock was the placing before 22 others in the Epsom Handicap. In a field of 10 Bungey beat Oxide and Autonomy for the Spring Stakes. The Kensington Handicap was won by Newcastle, and Roburite second, Prime Minister third. The grey Victor Hugo won Kelso, the Shorts, Newcastle being second, and Prime Minister again third. Alchemist was carrying 9.5 in this and was backed at 8's. Time, 1min 15sec. Mulgrove beat Aurellus, Mitre, and a dozen others for the Grand Stand Mile, and Crichton (now on the briny, emigrating) downed Blarney Stone, Calculus, and seven others for the Spring Maiden, 1½ miles. The Metrop. Althotas won from Vespasia, Selkirk (since dead) and 23 others in 2min 36½sec, and unfancied. Trieste had no trouble in annexing the Oaks, and Prime Minister won the Squatters' Handicap from Helene, Roburite, and 19 others. Bungebah repeated his form by annexing the Craven (1½ miles) Plate from Autonomy, Marvel, and three unplaced. Helene improved, and won the Suburban Handicap, seven furlongs, Insignia and Belle Dame the other places. Again Alchemist was fancied with 10.9 up. Trieste as good as walked over Crichton and Blarney Stone for the Second Biennial, and Cis Parker got Paris, with 9.1, home before Candour, St. Albans II., and nine good horses for the Wycombe, 11 furlongs. The Sydney Handicap, 1½ miles, was won by the N.Z. Florrie, Alexander second, Realm third. Insignia took the Selling, Straightfire the Members', nine furlongs, and Ethelbert won the Waverly, 1½ miles, from Affiance and Storm after a clinking finish. Candour beat St. Albans II. and Autonomy in the three mile Randwick Plate, and The Gift, at an outside price, waltzed home before E.K., Roburite, and 22 others for the Final.

At the last minute Mr Cook has decided not to send The Admiral to Sydney for the A.J.C. Meeting.

The interest will be intense when Camoola and Cremorne meet on Saturday as opponents in the Spring Stakes.

D. Cook, the jockey (attached to the Orville Lodge stable), proved himself an adept in steering winners at the Hawkesbury last week. He won on Rosstellan, Ballate and Volunteer.

The Rev. Hill, in his preaching on Sunday, mentioned a case which came under his personal notice, where a boy spent his school sixpence in procuring two 3d. tickets in a totalisator. People can hardly believe it, but it is quite true that such 'totes' exist, and not only exist but new ones are cropping up like mushrooms every day.

It must have been amusing to hear the rev. gentleman praise the police for their endeavours to put the evil down, but, then, one can hardly expect a sky pilot to be in the know, even if he walks through King-street every day.

Why do public speakers literally pat the police on the back when it is known, can be seen, and is a standing disgrace that the most open illegitimate betting is being carried on in Sydney to the ruin of thousands of homes?

Here is an instance. An artizan has been to the shop, and owing to slack trade his pay on Friday night only amounts to a shilling or two over a pound to meet the expenses incurred by himself, wife and four children for the week. The rent is due to-morrow, and he knows it. Instead of going home as soon as he is paid, he goes with a mate to have a long beer. The racing question arises, and another beer is tipped down. Some one, who winks and looks knowing, says, 'Stiff'un cannot lose to-morrow. He knows its all right. Got it straight from the stable. Hush. Must pay a big divy, especially at "Bloodsucker's" tote.' The workman falls in, and on leaving, instead of wending his way homewards and paying his way as far as he can, goes to the 'tote' named and takes a half-sovereign share on the fancy horse. Once in the den the poisonous infatuation to take a double or two ('only a bob each,' he says to himself) claims him, and when he leaves only a few shillings are left to satisfy the anxious eyes of his wife. The thought of this makes him have another beer or two to give him courage to explain and excuse himself. The eventful race comes off, and the