

Sporting Topics.

(By "The Judge.")

Melodeon broke a blood vessel while running in the Cup and was eased up.

Mahutonga won the Auckland Cup from end to end, but the time although good was not up to Wairiki's performance last year.

Mahutonga's time for the Cup has only twice been beaten, viz., in 1892 by St. Hippo and last year by Wairiki.

The amount handled on the totalisator at Ellerslie on Monday was £20,897, a decrease of £553 on last year's figures. The falling off was in the Foal Stakes and the Cup, the other events showing an increase.

The disappointment of Monday's racing was the poor showing by Savoury, the favourite, in the Railway Handicap. He carried 1816 tickets out of a total of £3828 invested on the race, but never at any time looked the least bit dangerous and finished in the ruck.

The Glenora yearlings, which come up for sale on Wednesday next will be brought down to Cambria Park on Saturday, where they can be inspected at any time before the sale. They are a very likely looking lot.

Times taken during the running of the Cup show that the big event was got through as follows:—Quarter-mile, 26½ sec; half-mile, 52½ sec; six furlongs, 1min 19½ sec; one mile, 1min 44 sec; one mile and a-quarter, 2min 10½ sec; one mile and a-half, 2min 37 sec; one mile and three-quarters, 3min 3½ sec; two miles, 3min 30½ sec.

The following are the drawers of placed horses in Tattersall's No. 2 Consultation on the Newcastle Tattersall's Cup, run at Newcastle, N.S.W., on the 10th December, 1904. 50,000 tickets at 5s each, fully subscribed:—1st, Ossian, M. Angelo, 26, Shadler Street, Neutral Bay, Sydney, £4000; 2nd, Stormaway, Lenaghan and Sutton, to J. F. Parry, Commercial Hotel, W. Maitland, N.S.W., £1250; 3rd, Lady Simmer, Mrs W. Cook, Terrica, via Inglewood, Queensland, £750.

The following are the drawers of placed horses in Tattersall's No. 1 Consultation on the Newcastle Tattersall's Cup, run at Newcastle, N.S.W., on the 10th December, 1904. 50,000 tickets at 5s each, fully subscribed:—1st, Ossian, Sceptre and Co., care of R. Murray, Mt. Barker, South Australia, £4000; 2nd, Stormaway, Mallee Syndicate, to W. J. Laroner, Brim, Victoria, £1250; 3rd, Lady Simmer, Bob Knox and Co., care of T. H. Garth, Mawhera Quay, Greymouth, New Zealand, £750. These amounts are net.

With the perfectly natural dislike to being compelled to go through the Newmarket Tunnel in a cattle truck, intending visitors to Ellerslie on Monday freely patronised the electric trams. The Company made an effort to cope with the rush which, however, was quite beyond them. It would have been well to have put a few more cars on the line. The policy of sending out so many quite empty cars to Newton and Ponsonby, when all the world and his wife were trying to get out to the races, seemed hardly wise, but perhaps there will be an improvement on Monday and Tuesday. It seems certain the Remuera line will have to be duplicated.

The programme for the Autumn Meeting of the Wanganui Jockey Club will be found in our advertising columns. The fixture will be held on March 2 and 3, and as usual eight events will be decided on each day. The programme is a particularly good one throughout, but the events which may be specially picked out on the opening day are the Stewards' Handicap, of 150 sovs, one mile; the Juvenile Handicap, of 150 sovs, six furlongs; the Westmere Hurdle Race, of 150 sovs, two miles; the Wanganui Cup, of 750 sovs, 1½ miles; and the Flying Handicap, of 250 sovs, six furlongs. On the second day, the Autumn Handicap, of 150 sovs, one mile; the Fordell Hurdle Race, of 120 sovs, 1½ miles; the Jackson Stakes, of 500 sovs, six furlongs; and the Wanganui Stakes, of 350 sovs, 1½ miles, are the chief attractions. The Autumn Meeting of the W.J.C. is without doubt one of the most popular gatherings in the colony, and the programme put before owners is well worthy of their attention. General entries close with Mr F. Moffatt, the secretary, on Friday, January 27, at 9 p.m.

The surprise of the day on Monday at Ellerslie was the dividend, £17 8s, paid on Numa in the Christmas Handicap. The Pinfire horse had shown form in winning the opening event, the Trial Handicap, and had to carry but two pounds more over his pet distance. Why he should have been so deserted it is hard to say, but if a number of outside speculators had not stuck to him he would have paid the biggest dividend of the day, for on the inside machine his supporters were very few. Numa led from end to end, and won handily.

Lady Annie has before now given evidence of pace, but I doubt if her most sanguine admirers considered she was equal to spreadeagling the field in the Railway Handicap in the way she did. The time, 1min 15 3-5sec, was smart, but one would have thought there were one or two in the race quite capable of equalling it. The winner was bleeding at the nose on being pulled up.

The investments at the Manawatu R.C. Summer Meeting amounted to £39,441, an increase of no less than £8129 on the amount handled at the corresponding meeting last year.

The Cambria Park dispersal sale will take place next Wednesday. A special train will convey visitors up to within a short distance of the farm.

The totalisator money handled at the Dunedin J.C. Meeting amounted to £10,800 10s, as against £7699 for the corresponding meeting last year.

Manjess must be a great pony. He won the Fernhill Welter Hack race at Wingatui with 11st 6lb in the saddle, giving heaps of weight away to everything else in the race.

Buluwayo's younger brother, Quagga, is more than paying his oat bill this season. He scored a double on the opening day at Dunedin, winning both the Salisbury Hack and Trial Stakes very easily indeed.

Hewitt put up a remarkable performance by winning the double, i.e., both Pony Cups at Ellerslie and Alexandra Park on Monday and Tuesday last. This makes the third occasion that he has achieved this feat.

Most of the sporting people were pleased to see Mr Harry Tonks win a double with Lingard at the Thames Summer Meeting, as the wins were long overdue.

Wairaka also secured a double win in the two Steeplechases at the same meeting.

Solitary, nicely handled by young Lack Pinker, secured the Telephone Handicap at the Summer Meeting of the A.T.C. on the first day of the meeting. Pinker was also successful on Lady Annie in the Railway Handicap, and is certainly one of our best light-weights.

The Lurcher, since going into Percy Johnston's hands (his old mentor), has run most consistently, having been twice second at Te Aroha and winning a double at the Taranaki J.C. Summer Meeting.

General Average seems to have struck form since Geo. Wright has had charge of him. At the T.J.C. Meeting he dead-heated, ran second, and won on the last day.

Most of the double event layers had a real good time over the Auckland Cup and Railway Handicap, as not more than £400 was taken out of their volumes altogether. After Cruciform went out the betting was brisk, most of the pencils getting round.

The Price Brothers, W. and G., each secured a couple of races the second day at the Manawatu Summer Meeting, winning with Auratus, Netamere, Probable, and Kaharoa respectively.

The Manawatu Summer Meeting put up a record for N.Z. in a two days' meeting in a totalisator turnover, viz., £39,441.

Jimmy Buchanan won his first Auckland Cup last Monday on Mahutonga, and was heartily cheered on returning to scale.

Hewitt had three wins the first day of the A.R.C. Summer Meeting, viz., on Numa in the Trial Handicap, on Sungod in the Foal Stakes, and on Reduction in the Pony Cup.

The Alexandra-owned Te Tanawha won three out of six events on Monday at the Club's annual meeting. The owner, Mr J. Harper, won six out of seven events on the card.

The Railway Handicap turned out a bit of a surprise. The favourite, Savoury, an even money chance, never once feathered his backers, whilst Soult, also well supported, was left at the post. Boris, another well fancied horse, ran nowhere; this horse did the best trial prior to the meeting, six furlongs in 1min 19sec on the course. The winner, Lady Annie, did the best trial of the local horses, 1min 20 1-5-sec from a standing start.

Mr J. Thorpe secured a bargain when he bought Apologue from Mr Simmel-hag for 20(gns. It is rumoured that Mr Thorpe has been offered a substantial profit on his very good bargain. The colt, who has size and speed, looks like blossoming into a Derby and Cup colt.

Mr R. Hannan as usual came in for some good luck. He scored with Bellman in the A.R.C. Hurdle Race, also with Liberator in the Flying Handicap, at Taranaki, and with Pekepeke in the Maiden Plate at the Thames.

Orange and Blue seems a bit of a frost at present. Although well backed in both the A.R.C. and Auckland Trotting Club's Pony Cups, she failed in each case. This mare races better in the spring and autumn; she seemed very fretful on Tuesday.

Anticipations.

AUCKLAND RACING CLUB'S SUMMER MEETING.

SELECTIONS FOR THE SECOND DAY.

(By "The Judge.")

To-day (Thursday) the second act of the A.R.C. Summer Carnival will be undertaken. Although rain set in yesterday morning the amount that has fallen at the time of writing cannot have been sufficient to have done the course any harm, and indeed should have had an opposite effect. If the weather proves fine there should be another good gathering at Ellerslie, although not being a holiday the attendance will naturally fall far short of Monday's big total. The meteorological outlook is not too hopeful however.

Racing will be commenced with the Alexandra Handicap, seven furlongs, for which sixteen have been left in. Numa has been heavily penalised for his double win on the opening day, having been raised 15lb, but then most of the others have also had their imposts increased. The three I like best are—

KREMLIN
JEWELLERY
GOLDEN VEIN

Eight horses remain in the Ponsonby Hurdle Race, one and three-quarter miles. Lingard's dual victory at the Thames shows he is in form, and he should run well with 7lb over the minimum. Spalpeen showed a glimpse of his old form on Monday, and over the shorter distance should do better, while Bellman is in such great buckle that he will want a lot of beating. Places may go to—

BELLMAN
SPALPEEN
LINGARD

Only four two-year-olds have accepted for the Criterion Handicap, six furlongs, a somewhat unsatisfactory result for a good stake. Apologue won the Nursery Handicap comfortably enough on Monday with 7st 12lb, but now has been raised 9lb, giving 2lb to Carl Rosa, which I hardly think he will be equal to. They may finish—

CARL ROSA
APOLOGUE
FOREMOST

Next comes the Summer Cup, one and a-quarter miles, and this being the principal race of the day will attract a lot of interest. The scratching pen has been freely used, out of the forty-one handicapped eleven being left in. Romeo, who finished third in the Auckland Cup, has 7lb more to carry, while Starshoot, who finished several lengths behind him, has been increased 15lb, and Ghoorka has 13lb more to carry. Quarryman may run

well and so should Putty. Possibly the placings of Mr Lusk may be—

ROMEO
STARSHOOT
DELANIA

In the Salisbury Welter, one mile, eight are engaged, and if all these are started they may dash past the finishing post in the following order:—

NUMA
PARATUTU
SIR GILEAD

The Pony Handicap, six furlongs, is certain to give rise to a good race. Eight have been left in, and as Reduction won the Pony Cup at Alexandra Park with 8st 10lb she should be very dangerous with but 4lb more over a shorter course. Placings may go to—

REDUCTION
GIRTON GIRL
MANOUVRE

The Visitors' Plate, five furlongs, will bring out a very fair field, as fifteen have cried consent. Air Gum is top-weight, but may run well. The three who should do best are—

KILDERKIN
MULTIFID
LYCIA

The Waitemata Handicap, one mile and a-half, has but five acceptors and of these

ST. HARP
DUNMORE
KING PAUL

may prove the pick. The following are the acceptances:—

ALEXANDRA HANDICAP OF 150 SOVS; SEVEN FURLONGS.]			
	st lb		st lb
Golden Vein ...	9 0	Waipuna ...	7 11
Numa ...	9 0	Strathavon ...	7 9
Kremlin ...	8 11	Lovelink ...	7 9
Boris ...	8 11	Feabird ...	7 0
Jewellery ...	8 10	The Middy ...	7 0
Gladstone ...	8 5	Beau Seaton ...	6 12
Alice ...	8 5	Golden Sands ...	6 10
Avananche ...	8 3	Vivandel ...	6 10
PONSONBY HURDLE RACE HANDICAP OF 100 SOVS; ONE MILE AND THREE-QUARTERS.			
Bellman ...	11 13	Lingard ...	9 7
Spalpeen ...	11 0	Maroonand Gold ...	9 5
Dolores ...	10 0	Pharos ...	9 5
Loch Lomond ...	9 11	Hinai ...	9 0
CRITERION HANDICAP OF 150 SOVS; SIX FURLONGS			
Apologue ...	8 7	Foremost ...	7 7
Carl Rosa ...	8 5	Iata ...	7 6
SUMMER CUP HANDICAP OF 500 SOVS; ONE MILE AND A QUARTER.			
Romeo ...	9 0	Gladstone ...	7 11
Quarr man ...	8 11	Alice ...	7 8
Starshoot ...	8 9	Delania ...	7 8
Marshal Soult ...	8 8	Heroism ...	7 5
Ghorka ...	8 8	Strathavon ...	7 0
Putty ...	7 11		
SALISBURY WELTER HANDICAP OF 200 SOVS; ONE MILE.			
Numa ...	10 11	Bowman ...	9 3
Paratutu ...	10 9	Lady Hune ...	8 10
The Needle ...	9 12	Nosticini ...	8 6
Sir Gilead ...	9 10	Muthema ...	8 0
PONY HANDICAP OF 100 SOVS; SIX FURLONGS.			
Sonoma ...	9 10	Forth ...	8 7
Reduction ...	9 6	Lucrece ...	7 12
Manouuvre ...	8 11	Wheturere ...	7 11
Girton Girl ...	8 7	Sentinel ...	7 0
VISITOR'S PLATE OF 100 SOVS; FIVE FURLONGS.			
Air Gun ...	9 0	Dardanous ...	7 9
Crichton ...	9 0	Foremost ...	7 9
La Ugele ...	8 9	Kilderkin ...	7 6
Pearl Necklet ...	8 9	Silky ...	7 4
Lycia ...	8 9	Merry Delaval ...	7 4
Eispath ...	8 9	Czarevna ...	7 4
Master Delaval ...	7 9	San Souci ...	7 4
Multifid ...	7 9		
WAITEMATA HANDICAP OF 100 SOVS; ONE MILE AND A-HALF.			
Dunmore ...	8 7	Needlework ...	7 9
King Paul ...	8 3	Woodhead ...	7 6
St. Harp ...	7 12		

WELLINGTON PARK STUD SALE.

TAKES PLACE TO-MORROW.

It must not be forgotten that to-morrow (Friday) the nineteenth annual sale of the Wellington Park yearlings will take place. A very full description of these yearlings, illustrated by photographs, has already appeared in this paper, and therefore it is unnecessary to say anything further about them. In all thirty-four yearlings will be submitted, including some beautifully bred stock. The sires represented are Hotchkiss, Phoebus Apollo, Menschikoff, Seaton Delaval, Cyrenian, and San Francisco, while the names of the Wellington Park matrons are almost household words and their progeny should realise high prices. The annual sale is always a particularly interesting function, and as there are many visitors in town for the races the attendance round the ringside when Mr Nolan mounts the rostrum should be very large. The sale will commence at one o'clock and there will be no lack of brakes, cabs, etc., to convey people out to the farm. Vehicles will also be in readiness to meet teams arriving at Ellerslie. Full particulars may be obtained on inquiry at the Stud Company's office, in Durham-street East.