

dency has been shown of recent years to dispose of good mares to foreign buyers when opportunity arises. This has been clearly shown in Australia, where the agents of Japan and the Indian Government have been making large purchases, the drafts including a great many fine mares whose loss to the colony must tell in the long run on the breeding industry. It is well that this important question should be brought home to those responsible.

THE NEW ZEALANDERS' BIG SCORE AT RANDWICK.

THE remarkable series of successes which have been achieved by New Zealand horses at the spring meeting of the Australian Jockey Club has been the general topic of conversation during the week. On Saturday Noctiform and Sungod led off by running first and second in the A.J.C. Derby, but as the pair finished many lengths in advance of their nearest opponent, it is evident that the Yaldhurst sportsman could have won with whichever horse he liked. Sungod was evidently left in to make it a truly-run race, and there is no doubt that he filled his mission admirably. It is safe to say that Mr. Stead would rather have won this event than any of the big handicaps, despite the fact that they carried more money with them. Monday proved a veritable triumph for horses bred in this colony, for not only did they win every event, but also took some of the places as well. Machine Gun demonstrated his great sprinting powers by carrying a welter weight to victory in the Shorts Handicap. Then the Yaldhurst filly Isolt opened her winning account by romping over nine other competitors in the Maiden Stakes. Next Maniopoto showed his Epsom defeat was a mistake by simply playing with the opposition in the Metropolitan Handicap, winning the big event in a canter by six lengths in the record time for Australasia. The First Steeplechase proved a peculiarly great triumph for the New Zealand contingent, in that of the thirteen starters we had four representatives in Sultana, Dingo, Up-to-Date, and Haydn, and these ran first, second, third, and fourth respectively. When the New Stakes was called on for decision, Sungod was found equal to carrying on a series of victories, and then the day was appropriately ended with the victory of Nightfall over another New Zealand-bred horse in Canteen. Truly Monday at Randwick may well be remembered as "New Zealand's Day." At the time of writing, the results of Wednesday's races have not come to hand, but it seems almost too much to expect the run of successes to continue, especially taking into consideration the unfortunate mishap to the Derby winner, Noctiform. Our representatives are scattered fairly well through the programme in Saturday's events, and with the wins already achieved, it seems probable that the bulk of the prize-money will come to New Zealand owners. It is gratifying to know that their plucky enterprise has been so well rewarded.

CONTEMPLATED DISPERSAL OF WELLINGTON PARK STUD.

At an extraordinary meeting of the shareholders in the Wellington Park Stud Company, held last week, the following resolution was unanimously carried:—"That the directors be, and they are hereby, authorised and empowered to sell and dispose of the whole of the property, undertaking, and assets of the company, or any part thereof, to such person or persons, company or body corporate, and at such price or prices and on such terms and conditions as the directors think fit." That this step was necessary very clearly came out in the speech by the chairman, the Hon. E. Mitchelson, who told the shareholders that since the time the company took over the stud the losses amounted to £4694 7s 5d; this after taking credit for some £5000 for stallions insured with the International Horse Agency Company. None of the insurance money had yet been paid over, the Horse Agency authorities having so far declined to recognise the liability owing to the failure of Mr. Thos. Morrin, as agent, to remit to London the insurance premiums. This matter had given the directors much concern, and it had been decided to instruct the company's solicitor to take steps to recover the amount from the International Horse Agency. Whatever loss might be contracted in this connection would be in addition to the sum already mentioned. A sum of £1934 10s 3d was standing to Mr. Morrin's suspense account, but as Mr. Morrin was a large shareholder in the concern it was not anticipated that the company would suffer a serious loss, if any, in consequence, provided they had a good sale. It was to be hoped that they would have

a good sale, and there seemed a very fair prospect of this being the case, as the yearlings by the stallion Menschikoff sold at the last sale were going on very satisfactorily, and it therefore seemed probable that the progeny by the same sire would sell well at the forthcoming sale. The company had been very unfortunate since entering on the venture, owing to having lost stock—chiefly brood mares—to the value of about £2400, in addition to which £1751 had been written off as reduction in value of mares.

It thus appears certain that the famous stud will be broken up next December. There can be no doubt that the news of this will be read with unfeigned regret by everyone interested in horse-breeding and the improvement of the colony's blood stock. Among the mares at Wellington Park, nearly all have made their names famous as dams of winners of the classical events in Australia and New Zealand. When thinking of Auckland's big stud farm, names which leap into recollection and taken at random are Zalinski, Royal Artillery, Antares, Battleaxe, Uhlán, Trenton, Canteen, Coronet, Screw Gun, Cruciform, Cuirassier, Stepniak, Enfilade, Field Battery, Siege Gun, Florrie, Forme, Lancaster, Fulmen, Havoc, Hilda, Osculator, Impulse, Machine Gun, Merganser, Starshoot, Multiform, Niagara, Strathmore, Nordenfeldt, Scotty, and a host of others. An immense number of victories have gone to the credit of equines raised at the Park, and their stake-earning capabilities has been prodigious. During the last few years a number of the big studs in Australia have been dispersed, and now Wellington Park follows the others. Under the circumstances perhaps no other step was possible, but it is none the less a subject for keen regret.

AVONDALE JOCKEY CLUB'S SPRING MEETING.

NEXT Saturday the Spring Meeting of the Avondale Jockey Club will be held, and this will be continued on the following Wednesday and Saturday. It is unfortunate that the opening day will clash with the big football match between Australia and Auckland, for this must militate to a large extent against a satisfactory attendance. There is, however, ample prospect of some good sport, so that if the weather is fine no doubt a good many sportsmen will make the trip out to assist at the fixture. To enable patrons to visit the course special trains will leave Auckland at 11.15 a.m., 11.35 a.m. and 12.20 p.m., while a train will also leave at 1.20 p.m. In addition to those there will be plenty of brakes, etc., available. If no more rain falls the track should be in very fine order, and the times should prove fast. As it is the first time the horses have been seen out since the winter recess, there is no form to guide one, and of course the two-year-olds will be making their debut. Under the circumstances it is very difficult to attempt any forecast as to results, but the following are suggested as being likely to run well:—Maiden Plate: King Paul or Lady Clare. First Hurdle Race: Inniskillen or Ranana. Avondale Stakes: Neva or Sweet Alice. Avondale Cup: Putty or Waipuna. Plunket Handicap: Nervine or General Average. Steeplechase: Swimmer or Major. First Pony Handicap: Girton Girl or Dr. Quest. Flying Stakes: Avalanche or Gladstone.

Nominations for the Manukau Hurdles, City Handicap, and Birthday Handicap, to be decided at the opening meeting of the Auckland Racing Club, close on Friday, September 9, at 9 p.m.

Nominations for the Auckland Cup, Railway Handicap, Summer Cup, A.R.C. Handicap, and Auckland Steeplechase, to be run at the summer meeting of the Auckland Racing Club, close on Friday, September 29, at 9 p.m.

The Pakuranga Hunt Club sports will take place at Alexandra Park on Saturday, September 30. Six events are to be decided, these being the Farmers' Flat Handicap, 1½ miles; the Hunters' Hurdles, 2 miles; the Open Handicap, 6½ furlongs; the Hunters' Steeplechase, 2½ miles; the Farmers' Hurdles, 2 miles; and the Ladies' Bracelet, 2½ miles. This makes up an interesting little programme, and it should draw a good entry. Owners should bear in mind that nominations close with the hon. secretaries, Messrs. R. B. Kinloch and B. Lewis, to-morrow (Friday) evening. The executive are working hard to make the reunion one of the most successful ever held.

Sarilla and Martyr King have come up from Gisborne to play their part at the Avondale meeting.

Twenty two-year-olds yet remain in the Avondale Stakes, so that it looks as if a good field will start.

On the form shown at Randwick, Mr. Stead must have a lot to say in the settlement of the New Zealand Cup and the classic races this season.

The money to be distributed in prizes this season at Ellerslie has been reduced by something over £1000, this retrenchment having been rendered necessary by the recent frauds by the late accountant.

The Otahuhu Racing Club will hold the annual race meeting on the Otahuhu racecourse on Wednesday, October 11. Nominations close on Friday, September 29.

The accident to Noctiform is very unfortunate for Mr. Stead, for it appeared a certainty that the Multiform colt would have won another race at the A.J.C. Meeting. The cabled account says that he injured his hock, and has been scratched for all events at the meeting.

The pictures of a big steeplechase at Aintree, now being shown at His Majesty's Theatre, are about the best ever seen in Auckland, and must prove of keen interest to racing men. The series include saddling up, going to the post, the parade, two jumps, and the finish are really most artistic.

A tremendous lot of money must have been lost in this colony when Maniopoto failed to gain a place in the Epsom Handicap, and his subsequent hollow victory in the Metropolitan Handicap makes the first day's running out to be all wrong. I am afraid if it had occurred at Ellerslie there would have been a demonstration which would have quite put the "Battleaxe incident" in the shade, and beyond question the owners would have been asked to explain.

The A.J.C. winner Noctiform was got by Multiform by La Notte, by Eiridsford from La Tosca, by Robinson Crusoe from Nightmare, by Panic, so that he lacks nothing on the score of breeding. As La Notte has also thrown Nightfall, it looks as though she was going to prove a big success at the stud.

Real Blue has produced a colt to Seaton Delaval, and Sparkling Water a colt to Hotchkiss at the Wellington Park Stud.

The big field of twenty-three have accepted for the Avondale Maiden Plate, so that the winner should take some finding.

Maniopoto's win in the Metropolitan Handicap muicts him in a 14lb penalty for the New Zealand Cup, in which he will now be asked to carry 9st 4lb.

Mr. J. W. Russell's Phœbus Apollo colt has been named Apollonaris, a rather happy effort in nomenclature on the part of mine host of the Occidental Hotel.

Such a big run set in for Maniopoto for the Epsom Handicap on Saturday that the bookmakers eventually closed down on him. On Monday, when he won, only one or two local sportsmen had stuck to him.

The only horse in the Metropolitan Handicap drawn in Tattersall's sweep by Aucklanders was Loredano, but the son of Gibraltar and Venetia did not start, although the owner was offered a nice bet about him.

A good word comes from Napier concerning the manner in which Mahutonga is standing up to his work, and all going well he will make a bold bid for the New Zealand Cup.

A rumour is current that Golder Knight is unsound, and if there is anything in the report, his early backers will hardly feel on good terms with themselves, for it requires a very sound horse to stand a winding-up preparation for the New Zealand Cup.

A rather novel race took place at Marton a few days ago, when for a stake of £50 a-side Morris, a well-known sprint runner, beat the racehorse Merry Boy over a hundred yards; fifty yards to a pole and round this pole back to the starting-point. Morris, who had a start of ten yards allowed him, was first round the pole, and won by three yards. The horse is particularly quick at swinging round on his hind legs, and has, it is alleged, won several similar matches.

The Avondale J.C. Spring Meeting will commence next Saturday.

Handicaps for the first day of the Wanganui Jockey Club's Spring Meeting are due to-morrow.

The Rangitikei meeting will commence next Wednesday, but local sportsmen will be chiefly taken up with the second day of the Avondale meeting.

The Ashburton County R.C. Meeting commences to-day. A number of New Zealand Cup horses are in the big race, which makes the fixture of more general interest than otherwise would have been the case. Beau Seaton or Calibre may win.

G. Price is coming up from the South to ride at the Avondale meeting. McCluskey will also be seen in the pigskin, his sentence of disqualification having been removed by the local club.

The Pakuranga Hunt Club closed the season on Saturday with the customary Point-to-Point Steeplechase, this being held at Papatoitoti. The race for heavy-weights was won by Mr. C. Wallace on Pukorimu, who came in alone. A good field turned out for the light-weights, this being pulled off by Mr. F. Selby on Æsop, with Mr. Dalton on Te Akau in second place. The weather was fine and the outing was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The arrangements were in the hands of Messrs. W. McLaughlin, H. Bullock-Webster, R. P. Kinloch, and B. Lewis.

The July issue of the German "Racing Calendar," issued by the Union Club, contains the prohibition against public betting, and warns all those who are tempted to infringe the new law that they will be summarily expelled from the racecourse. The percentage to be paid by the public or deduction from the winnings is put down at 16 2-3 per cent. instead of the old 20 per cent., and a proportion of this will be placed at the disposal of the different German societies for the purpose of breeding material. Race societies have the right under the new law to appoint and arrange for certain agents to take money for investment at the totalisator.

In England a little while back two jockeys were prosecuted by the police and fined for ill-using their respective mounts while returning to the paddock after running in a hurdle race at Sandown Park. Then the stewards of the National Hunt committee took a hand, and suspended one rider until December 1, and the other until the close of the year.

A Bombay writer, in dealing with the Totalisator v. Bookmaker question, says that although in India there is a feeling that the operations of the machine should be extended, it is improbable that the W.I.T.C. or Calcutta T.C. will ever adopt it, to the exclusion of the bookmaker.

The annual report of the Tasmanian Commission of Police states that in the past season totalisators were used at 90 race meetings, the sum of £148,626 15s being passed through the machines. The Government Commission amounted to £796 7s, and the cost of supervision to £104 18s 2d. The total retained by the clubs was £11,135 16s 6d, made up of—Commission, £9729 8s; and broken money, £1406 8s 6d.

The spring meeting of the Poverty Bay Turf Club will take place on Thursday and Friday, October 26 and 27. The programme is made up of sixteen events, the sum of £635 being distributed in stakes. On the opening day there are the Trial Handicap, 6 furlongs; the First Hurdles, 1½ miles; First County Stakes, 6 furlongs; Spring Handicap, 1½ miles; First Welter, 7 furlongs; Maiden Scurry, 4 furlongs; Flying Handicap, 6 furlongs; First Hack Flat, one mile. On the second day the events are the Second Welter, one mile; the Second Hurdles, 1½ miles; Second County Stakes, one mile; Makaraka Handicap, one mile; Second Hack Flat, 6 furlongs; Maiden Scurry Handicap, 5 furlongs; Waikanae Handicap, 5 furlongs; and Farewell Handicap, 7 furlongs. The meeting on the Makaraka racecourse is always an enjoyable fixture, and the programme is well worth the attention of owners. Nominations for the First and Second County Stakes, First and Second Hurdles, Spring, Flying, Makaraka, and Waikanae Handicaps close with Mr. J. Walker Bain, the secretary, on Saturday, September 30, at 9.30 p.m. For the other events entries are due on October 14.