

moves awkwardly when going at half-pace. When warmed, however, he is an entirely different mover, galloping with great freedom and swing.

Romany Girl, who hails from Gisborne, had no difficulty in landing both hurdle races.

Previous to the start of the second day's obstacle event, when doing his preliminary, Cavalry's saddle slipped round, depositing his rider (W. O'Connell) on the green sward. The horse then bolted, but was caught and saddled up; but he was in trouble after going three-quarters of a mile, and finished a long way back.

Probable, who showed good form as a two-year-old last season, performed well at the gathering, as he conquered in both of the races he turned up in.

Mr. H. H. Pharazyn, owner of Oryx, Operatta, and Satio, has purchased the two-year-old full brother to Operatta from Mr. E. J. Watt, who bred the pair.

Additional foalings at Karamu are:—Miro (Dreadnought—Spinaway) a colt, Martyrdom (Apremont—Martyr) a colt, Aphrodite (Apremont—Watersprite) a colt, Montdread (Dreadnought—Mont Marte) a colt, Banjo (Dreadnought—Lyre) a filly, all to Birkenhead.

At Te Mahanga:—Haingongoro (Torpado—Cascade) a colt, to San Fran.

At Okawa:—Cantatrice (Goldsborough—Songstress) a filly to Merriwer.

At Mr. Donnelly's quarters:—Pearl Shot (Torpado—Pearl Powder) a filly, Como (Vasco de Gama—Virginia Water), a filly, both to Gold Reef.

WANGANUI.

WANGANUI, October 18.

Punters were kept fairly busy during the past week with the Napier Park and Otaki meetings, and taking all things into consideration, the pickers had all the best of the deal. Kuroki, Nova, Black Reynard, Flanagan, and Flotilla at Otaki, and Operetta, Douche, Romany Girl, Canton and Gazeley at the Park, proved a serious thorn in the sides of the various local metallicians. In fact, one of the latter remarked as the results came through: "I have never been in such a place as Wanganui for pickers of certainties."

Frank Lind took Kuroki down to Otaki, and the big chestnut gelding scored a double. On the first day he paid £1 18s, which was expected, but the dividend on the second day came as a surprise to backers and layers alike. The fact of the son of Fiske giving weight to such good ones as Pretty Maid and Maui evidently had the effect of increasing the price of the winner. The son of Satellite is now out of hack company, but, being in at Masterton, he may race out his nomination, after which I believe his mentor intends putting him to the illegitimate game, at which his dam gave promise of being a huge success prior to breaking down badly. Great praise is due to Lind for the patience and perseverance he has displayed in the long and tedious preparation of the six-year-old gelding, and although for some considerable time Kuroki failed to return anything for their outlay, he has of late rewarded his connections handsomely. May he continue to do so is the earnest wish of all sports who are acquainted with the popular and genial Frank.

The defeat of King Billy by Zimmerman at the Park came as a great surprise to the racing fraternity here, as the son of Merriwer was thought by many to be invincible.

Excellent nominations have been received by the Waverley-Waitotara Racing Club for their annual fixture, which eventuates on November 9. The quality of the contestants is fairly good, and the handicapper (Mr. G. Morse) will have splendid material upon which to execute his arduous tasks.

The Vanguard mare Opaeae has been nominated for the hurdle race at Waverley, but it is hardly probable she will be fit enough for the occasion. A couple of seasons back Opaeae demonstrated her hurdle abilities by winning several events of a mile and a-half, but beyond that distance she was a failure.

Tilley journeyed to Otaki with Pretty Maid, Bounce, and Nova, the latter securing a double in taking style. Pretty maid was looked upon by supporters of the stable as a moral the second day, but the daughter of The Officer was defeated by Kuroki. Nova is a three-year-old colt by Stepniak out of Faau, possessing a really creditable turn of speed. Asteroid and Midea were taken to Napier by W. Price, but the pair failed to earn a winning bracket for the Fordell mentor.

Paritutu has been supported during the week for the New Zealand Cup, and also taken freely in doubles with Solution, Chivalry, Machine Gun, and Kremlin.

was an "absolute moral" for the Second Hack, so punters came at him and, of course, scored a win.

Tilley has Solution, Martello, and St. Joe engaged at the Wellington meeting, while the Waverley-trained Auratus also claims an engagement.

The Wellington Racing Club's Spring Meeting will be held on Friday and Saturday next, and given fine weather a successful gathering should be recorded. Several of the runners have recent form to recommend them, while several others have been doing good work on the track. Special interest will be lent to the meeting of the two sturdy chestnuts, Achilles and Mahutonga, in the handicap, and if started I look to the son of Medallion to prevail with Black Reynard in a place. Other dividend-payers may be:—Hack Hurdles: South Star and Black Squall. Shorts: Marguerite and St. Claimer. Flying: Prelude and St. Tristram. Rimutaka Hack: Gazeley and Aorangi. Wainui: Regulation and Seagull. Spring Hack: Petticoat and Truce.

TARANAKI.

NEW PLYMOUTH, October 17.

The nominations for the Waiki Club's no-totalisator meeting, to be held on Thursday, November 2, should ensure a successful day's sport, given fine weather. Among those nominated for the Flying Handicap I notice the names of Reticent (Haere—Secrecy), and therefore half-brother to Kaharoa; Otaoroa, Oliver Twist, Nigger, and Slavery. In the Cup are the names of Starfish (Daystar—Fishlass), Slavery, and Nigger. Starfish and Reticent have also been nominated in the Publican's Purse Handicap. The other events include a hurdle race and a steeplechase. The course is a few miles from Waitara. Bookmakers will supply the medium of speculation. Mr. Harry George, a well-known racing enthusiast, is the secretary of the club.

The news of the sudden illness of Mr. J. O. Evett, the Auckland Club's handicapper, was received here with a good deal of regret, as the burly weight-adjuster made a wide circle of friends during his many years' connection with the Taranaki Club. The appointment of Mr. J. E. Henrys as deputy-handicapper for the Auckland Club means, I suppose, that he will be asked to act in the event of Mr. Evett being unable to do the club's work. In view of Mr. Henrys' other engagement at periods when the Auckland Club hold meetings, it does not appear how the appointment fits in. Surely there are gentlemen in Auckland who are competent enough to adjust the handicaps in the event of Mr. Evett being incapacitated. If there are not, then it does not reflect much credit on the Northern city, which holds the premier position in racing in this country. It may be a case of a prophet being no good in his own locality.

The decision of the Auckland Club's committee, on the casting vote of the chairman, not to allow bookmakers to ply their calling at Ellerslie, is creating some interest in this district. It is to be hoped that the club's committee will agree to the petition that is being circulated, and call a full meeting of members to discuss the question. There are numerous grounds that can be advanced in favour of the bookmakers. At any rate, I think it is bad policy for those interested and engaged in the sport to be in opposition, as the racing pastime has plenty of enemies without the authorities creating a "divided house." If there are defects in the bookmaking system in Auckland, surely they can be remedied without taking such an extreme step as the total exclusion of all bookmakers from the Ellerslie racecourse. It is to be hoped that the Auckland Club's committee will reopen the question, and thus allow the bookmakers' side of the question to be placed before a full meeting of members. That would have the merit, at any rate, of being judicious.

One New Zealand Cup candidate, Paritutu, will be taken South by Jervey George this week, all going well. The Castor gelding has been in work here since the Wanganui meeting. On his form this season Paritutu's chance does not look too rosy, but I understand that Mr. George thinks he possesses a show of annexing the big prize. At any rate I wish him good luck in his effort.

WELLINGTON.

WELLINGTON, October 18.

The acceptances for the Wellington meeting include a numerous contingent from Porirua. In most events the stables have a couple of representatives, and in the principal event Achilles, Gold Crown and Flamen are engaged. The former, if at his best, should hold the opposition fairly safe. His stable companion, Gold Crown, and Black Reynard should prove his most dangerous opponents. The latter escapes a penalty by his Otaki win, and has only to repeat his Woodville form to give the best of the Porirua team a great battle. The Shorts Handicap may fall to Prelude. This filly is par-

ticularly smart over five furlongs, and should not have received weight from such as Hinerewa, Coxswain, and Kudu. Boris and Solution should prove the best of the top weights.

Prelude has again the best of the weights in the Flying Handicap. Blythe-maid and Sir Tristram have nice imposts, and may stall off the top weights. The lower weights look most tempting in the Wainui Welter Handicap. Wind and Seagull should run prominent, and Regulation should prove the best of the top weights.

Betting on the New Zealand Cup may be said to be nil. Backers are disinclined to accept the short odds quoted about Nightfall, viz., 4 to 1. The poor form of Mahutonga and Melodeon at Hawke's Bay is not encouraging, and as the Porirua stable make no pronouncement until after the Wellington meeting, backers are confining themselves to the selection of doubles—Cup and Stewards. Solution, Chivalry and Achilles have supporters. Munjeet and Porcelain are also supported by those who believe in the Yaldhurst representatives.

Light rain interfered with this morning's training operations on the Hutt course. Prosser's team of twelve horses were on the course. Gold Crown and Flamen ran six furlongs in 1min 20sec. Boris and Exmoor and Marguerite ran once round at a useful pace. Cannie Chiel and Signalman, looking well, ran once round, finishing fast.

Veneer ran five furlongs in 1min 6sec. Achilles and Mahutonga were indulged in gentle exercise. The former looks muscular and well, and has many friends for the Wellington Handicap.

Ballarat and Black Reynard look in capital condition. The latter should win a race at the meeting.

Owing to the Porirua and other stables having more than one representative engaged in the majority of the events, the fields will probably be considerably reduced on Friday.

The following should catch the judge's eye:—

October Hurdles: Taxpayer or South Star.

Shorts Handicap: Boris or Prelude. Wellington Handicap: Achilles or Black Reynard.

Flying Handicap: Sir Tristram or Exmoor.

Wellesley Stakes: Mungista or Zimmerman.

Wainui Welter: Regulation or Wind. Rimutaka Hack Handicap: Aorangi or Gazeley.

Spring Hack Handicap: Gawain or Pas Seul.

OTAGO.

DUNEDIN, October 18.

The Dunedin Jockey Club's spring meeting proved a fairly successful gathering, despite the bad weather which immediately preceded it. The rain, however, had the effect of making the going very loose, and this prevented some of the horses from being amongst the starters. The totalisator handled £7600 10s during the two days, or £1277 10s more than what was registered at the last year's spring meeting.

Mr. J. Ellis' stable was in rare form, and his horses won four races on the first day and two on the second.

The Hon. Geo. McLean's stable won three races, and G. Murray-Aynsley brought Narcissus and old Huku from Christchurch and captured both the hurdle events on the card.

The Casket gelding Koputai scored in the principal race on the first day, and Brighton, who won the principal welter on the first day, also scored easily in the chief event on the second day's card.

The New Zealand Cup candidate Apollodoris won a five-furlong race, and another Cup candidate in Beau Seaton ran like a duffer in the mile race on the second. Neither look to have a Cup chance, and they will have to improve a bit before they could be seriously considered to have a winning prospect in the big race at Riccarton. The going, however, was very bad, and furnished an excuse for one or two indifferent displays of form. The meeting passed off without any unpleasantness except that the stewards censured J. Rae for his handling of Crichton on the second day. On form the Lochiel colt appeared to have a great chance of winning, but the totalisator figures marked him down as the outsider of a field of three, and the machine correctly foretold the result of the race as far as Crichton was concerned.

The club introduced a two-year-old race on the programme for the first time.

The Juvenile Handicap, decided on the first day of the D.J.C. Spring Meeting, resolved itself into a duel between Afar, the sister to Vladimir, and Lady Landon, a good-looking filly by Seaton Delaval out of Robinella. The pair singled themselves out from the others, who only got near them through the leaders swinging wide at the home turn. Afar had the outside running, and apparently was travelling a trifle better than Lady Landon. After they had run over a couple

of furlongs the leader was being higgled at by Derrett when rounding for home, but in the last furlong he could not pace it with the bearer of the Zetland spots, who drew out in the last bit and won by a short length. Afar had the worst of the weights, but she has been in hand since about March last, whilst Goodman only took possession of Mr. Buckley's horse in June last.

Rio Grande, who scored in the Burnside Welter, is a well-bred colt, who has come on nicely since he joined Rutledge's stables. The colt was got by Stepniak out of British Queen, a daughter of St. George (brother to Chester) out of Britomarte, the sister to Euroclydon.

Vladimir ran a good race in the Mosgiel Handicap. Considering the time he has been in active commission he is still on the big side, but coming on well.

Red Gauntlet was made favourite for the Shorts Handicap on Saturday, but after showing a glimpse of his well-known pace in the first couple of furlongs he was in deep trouble before reaching the home turn.

The Trident gelding Blackpool, who is out of the Yattendon mare Eleanor, sported silk last week after being absent from the scene for about three years. He came back under the mentorship of the one-time well-known trainer, J. Cotton, and ran well during the early stages of his races, but faded away at the business end of his journey. The gelding, however, looked big and well, and may do better when he has been longer in commission.

The Stepniak—Irene colt Astrachan, who is a brother to Petrovna and Master Alix, started twice last week, and was finishing fast in his first race, but was always in trouble the second time he was out. The colt has had his preparation interfered with through showing intermittent lameness, and probably suffers from muscular rheumatism.

Moudjik, who won the Taicma Hack last week, is a son of Stepniak and Vaultress, the dam of Pitch and Toss and Mountebank. Since he raced as a two-year-old the colt has dropped a bit in the hindquarters, and exhibits a slight tendency to drag as if he had ricked himself across the back. He acted with a good deal of dash under a light weight, but with 9.5 in the Burnside Welter he never looked very dangerous.

Lady Landon, who kept Afar fairly busy in the Juvenile Handicap, has grown into a fine cut of a filly, showing a good deal of power and quality.

Notus, the upstanding son of Lord Rosslyn and Mistral, the dam of Pampero, was much admired at Wingatui for his fine powerful appearance and general quality. An English visitor who looked him over some little time back was anxious to take the colt to England with the object of converting him into a 'chaser. Ostakhakoff, who landed a race each day of the D.J.C. Spring Meeting, is a brother to Ostiak, and should do even better with more age, as he looked very light in condition, and did not display any great muscular development.

AFTER THE RACES.

OTAHUHU RACING CLUB'S ANNUAL MEETING.

The Otahuhu Racing Club's annual meeting took place on Wednesday last (Labour Day) and was attended by a large concourse of people. The road had quite a holiday appearance, and the route between the city and the racecourse was lined with all kinds of smart vehicles. The train also supplemented the attendance by a full freight, and arrived and left after the meeting to schedule time. The secretary (Mr. F. Yonge) worked like a Trojan, and was successful in his department, so that everything went off without a hitch. The races filled well, and there must have been a record number of starters. The judge (Mr. A. R. Harris) was not called on to judge any very close finishes, although there were some pretty races. Twenty-one members of Tattersall's Club paid for the right to ply their calling, and there was no grumbling about the scarcity of money invested.

Major started favourite in the Handicap Hurdles, and was an even-money chance, but one had to be content with third place. Te Papa won rather easily, but the backers of the winner were rather lucky to receive their money, as the winner was afterwards disqualified for being on the forfeit list, and the grey gelding Bachelor received the stake.

The Dash Trot saw a field of eight line up to the starter, and it was easily won by an even-money favourite in Farewell II. Specialist, who was well supported at the finish, ran second. The rider of the winner, a returned trooper, who had been wounded in the spine, had to be lifted on and off the horse, and could only walk with the assistance of two sticks. Needless to say, he was loudly cheered.

Omati, another even-money chance in the Maiden Plate, went down before a