

AUCKLAND CUP —

VERY promptly to time Mr. Chadwick has declared his adjustments for the Auckland Cup, and these have been perused with considerable interest. Achilles has been given pride of place with 9st 5lb, which most people will immediately say is too much. He has shown no recent form to warrant such an impost; in fact, his running at Riccarton was so bad as to lead to the belief that he is not the Achilles of old. Mahutonga, with 9st, has not much cause for complaint, which is but 2lb more than he won with last year. Certainly he did not show championship form at Riccarton, but from all accounts he was above himself, and should be seen to better advantage at Christmas. Quarryman, 8st 13lb, can run the distance, and is in fine form just now. The weight is rather more than he is accustomed to, but he should give a good account of himself. Gold Crown, 8st 5lb, has a lot of winning form to recommend him, but whether the son of Gold Reef and Nymph is able to see the journey out remains to be seen. Paritutu, 8st 4lb, is by no means ill-used, for he has but 6lb more than he carried into second place in the New Zealand Cup. Mr. George's gelding may be depended upon to beat more than beats him, and he should prove very hard to beat. Scotty, 8st 3lb, will certainly be dropped upon by many as one likely to prove the winner. It must not be forgotten, however, that he failed under 2lb less a year ago, when the St. Leger gelding was perhaps in better fettle than he had ever been in his life before. He will carry a lot of local money if stripped in good order for the fray. Gladstone, 7st 13lb, was in great form last Christmas, and on that running should be in the first flight, but since that time the chestnut brother to Gladstone has not acted in accordance with the family tradition. Ghoorka, 7st 11lb, may prove to be the Porirua candidate instead of Achilles, and as such is entitled to respect. If Buluwayo, 7st 8lb, was landed at the post in his best trim, the champion pony would take a tremendous lot of beating, but he seems a hard horse to train, and he may not come North. Putty ran wretchedly at the A.R.C. Spring Meeting, but was hardly ready for the task set him. He should be in much better nick by Christmas. Melodeon, 7st 7lb, is a lightly-weighted stayer, who would surprise no one by winning. Of the other prominent horses Geordie may be troubled by the distance; Boomerang is apparently right out of form; Sir Tristram may not stay out two miles; Zuleika may run well; while of the feather-weights Jewellery and Apologue read the best. At this early stage those that look to possess the best prospects are Mahutonga, Quarryman, Paritutu, Scotty, Melodeon, and Apologue.

. . NOTES. . .

(By "THE JUDGE.")

Seaton Delaval and Soult each had five winners at the recent Ellerslie meeting.

Mahutonga is due to arrive in Auckland this morning by the s.s. Talune.

The Otahuhu Trotting Club received the splendid entry of 211 for the coming meeting. This is a record. The handicaps for the first day appear in another column.

Mr F. W. Arnold took the biggest cheque at the recent A.R.C. Meeting, this amounting to £595.

Douche met with an accident the other day when being landed from the steamer at Napier.

The New Zealand Cup winner, Noctui-form has been shipped to England, where his performances will be closely followed by New Zealand admirers.

When Forth fell in the Pony Handicap, at Ellerslie, the rider Speakman received a very nasty fall. He has been in the hospital ever since.

Comfort has been withdrawn from the Auckland Steeplechase, in which he was allotted 11st 6lb.

The Waihi Hack Racing Club's meeting takes place on Saturday.

Mr. R. Wynyard's adjustment of weights for the Thames meeting is due on December 1.

It is reported that Sir George Clifford's team for Auckland will consist of Quarryman, Tomorrow, Gay Spark, Clanchattan, Kirriemuir and Golden Cairn. They are all being worked right-handed at Riccarton, which looks as if they are coming up.

Betting on the Auckland Cup is very dull, the only horses inquired for being Mahutonga, Scotty, Quarryman, and Paritutu. The first-named is favourite at 5 to 1 against.

By the time the summer meeting of the A.R.C. rolls round the Ellerslie track should be very fast. Some really good times were hoisted at the recent gathering, but these are certain to be improved upon. Now the course has been re-graded it should prove one of the fastest in the colony.

A good deal of dissatisfaction has been expressed by members of the A.R.C. as to the present location of the enclosure for their carriages. The absence of the vehicles from the saddling paddock has greatly improved the latter spot, and it is difficult to say where they should go. Perhaps under the trees would be as good a place as any.

When the roses recently planted along the iron railings at Ellerslie grow up, the stand enclosure should be quite a sight. Some of the varieties which Mr. Hill has recently put in are very valuable ones, and for them I understand the club is indebted to Mr. Mitchelson, the president.

There are indications that the field for the Auckland Cup will this year prove one of the smallest on record.

The nominations received for the summer meeting of the Thames Jockey Club must have fully satisfied the committee, for they are very numerous, neither are they devoid of class.

Amongst the competitors at the late Te Aroha Jockey Club's meeting was a full brother to Starshoot, who, however, ran very disappointingly.

Mr. M. O'Meagher was quite at home with the flag on both days of the Te Aroha meeting.

It was admitted on all sides that Mr. F. W. Edwards, the weight adjuster, made some very careful and successful handicaps at the Te Aroha gathering.

W. Gall had four winners at Te Aroha, those being Kola Nip and Solitary, who scored two wins each.

J. Pinker had three wins last week at Te Aroha, getting home on Solitary twice and Haeremai once.

Victor Cotton only accepted one mount at the Te Aroha meeting, on Soultfish in the Welter Handicap, but the popular croucher could get no closer than second.

The owner of Soultfish, Mr. J. McHugh, was present on the first day of the meeting, but did not stay to see his horse win the Cup.

On the appearance of the weights for the Auckland Cup and Railway punters selected Scotty, Paritutu, and Mahutonga for the Cup, and Hohoro, Landlock, and Carl Rosa in the Railway Handicap.

A couple of close finishes took place during the progress of the Te Aroha meeting, these being in the Tourists' Plate and the Publicans' Purse, when the judge could hardly separate the first three.

In England recently Sir Tatton Sykes purchased the dual Cambridge winner, Hackler's Pride, from Captain F. Forester for 5000 guineas. The daughter of Hackler and Comma was bought for stud purposes.

M. Michel Ephrussi's colt, Finasseur, the winner of the French Derby and Grand Prize, has met with an accident that has brought his racing career to a close.

Of the jockeys who rode at the recent big meeting in Poona (India), the Australians, W. Burns and W. Evans, finished with the best averages, the former scoring three wins out of ten mounts, while Evans' figures were four wins, four seconds, and a third out of 15 mounts.

When the last mail left England, Pretty Polly, who had to be retired for a time on account of an injury, was striding along in her old style, and was to have reappeared in public in the Champion Stakes at Newmarket last month.

At the Royal Windsor (England) meeting a few weeks ago, the Trenton mare Fisher Girl won the Royal Borough Handicap of 437sovs, one mile and a-half. She started at 7 to 1 in a field of six.

Among the recent conveniences provided at Flemington is a "dark room" for the use of photographers, and the innovation was greatly appreciated by the visitors of that cult.

It stated that Mr. F. Bullock received £1000 for his winning ride in the Melbourne Cup.

The biggest money in the six Tattersall's sweeps on the Melbourne Cup was won by C. Stidwall, Annandale, Sydney, £11,400.

The fastest three-year-old pacer seen out in America this year is Bonalet, who has covered a mile in 2min 11sec.

The amount of first prize in the Melbourne Cup was £4874.

The Melbourne owner, J. Wren, has sold Grand Rapids to C. Watson, of West Australia, for £400, and has made a present of Gapon (Menschikoff—Sunningdale) to his trainer, F. Musgrave. The latter was given the choice of the two-year-olds he was training for Wren, and chose Gapon.

At Syracuse (America) a few weeks ago the pacer Audubon Boy cut his record down to 2min 0½sec. His time by quarters was 31, 1.0½, 1.30, and 2.0½. It looks now as if he would get below the 2min mark.

It appears that the Australian crack Emir's lameness is more serious than at first expected. Although he showed signs of it after his run in the Melbourne Stakes, he was started in the Cup. It now transpires that his fetlock is affected, and it will be some time before he races again, if he ever sports silk. Warroo is another good horse that it is hardly likely will be seen in public again for a time.

The French correspondent of a London exchange says that notwithstanding the run of bad luck which prevented the purchaser of Flying Fox from showing what champions he had in his racing stable as three-year-olds, up to the end of September, M. Blanc stood credited with £54,700, in addition to the breeder's premiums, amounting to £2330. The total amount, £57,080, was taken by Sir James Miller, the heaviest winner in England last year, but was at the end of 1904 exceeded by M. Blanc, whose stallion Flying Fox took through the twenty of his children who had raced and won up to the end of last month £41,360, beating the performance of Gallinule in 1904, his best year.

Though defeated in the Melbourne Cup, for which he started a very warm favourite, the honours of the V.R.C. Spring Meeting go to Tartan (writes "Galtee More.") The condition in which he was turned out on Derby day, when he romped over such good horses as Marvel Loch, Gladstone, Emir, Maniopoto, and Co., in the Melbourne Stakes, was highly creditable to his painstaking trainer, Joe Burton. The son of Lochiel was as fit as hands could make him, and his Cup failure may be attributed in a great measure to the fact that his bridle slipped as he came down the running, and he did not finish with the brilliancy that he displayed in the Melbourne Stakes. His presence in the C. B. Fisher Stakes, on the final day of the meeting, had the effect of reducing the field to small proportions, and his only opponents were Gladstone and Torah. The South Australian colt had, however, gone off after his success in the Caulfield Stakes, and with Marvel Loch among the absentees backers were called upon to lay odds of 7 to 4 on the son of Lochiel. The race resolved itself into a procession, for the favourite at once made play, and followed by Gladstone and Torah, at intervals of a couple of lengths, took his ease over the first half-mile, which occupied 59½sec. Settling down to his work at the mile post, he slipped over the succeeding four furlongs in 51½sec, and clapping on steam for the third section of the journey, accounted for it in 48½sec, the last six furlongs taking 1min 13½sec, and the last mile 1min 40½sec, and hack beat the ex-New Zealander. It was a most meritorious performance, and the son of Lochiel must be considered unfortunate in missing the Melbourne Cup.

The great floral fete and carnival will take place on the Ellerslie racecourse on Saturday, December 2. All sorts of attractions are promised, among them being a procession of decorated vehicles and motor cars, a battalion parade of cadets, Scottish dances by the St. Andrew's Society, and a grand posters' match. There is no doubt that the floral fete is the prettiest function of the whole year, and in the event of fine weather is certain to attract thousands to the racecourse.

Anticipations.

TAKAPUNA JOCKEY CLUB'S SPRING MEETING.

(By "THE JUDGE.")

On Saturday next the Takapuna Jockey Club will make a commencement with the always popular spring meeting, and present indications point to another highly successful reunion at North Shore. Of course much will depend upon whether the weather is fine or not, but in the event of this being the case, despite the strong counter attractions of the Show and the opening of the sailing season, there is sure to be a large gathering when the racing commences at a quarter to one. A double event totalisator will be open, the events on which it will be operated being the St. Andrew's and Cheltenham Handicaps. Judging by previous experience, this should prove very popular indeed; indeed, it has been proved that more windows are needed at this machine, as there is such a rush for it that a lot of money gets crowded out. Mr. Wynyard, the club's secretary, having had such a long experience of the game, has reduced the running of a race meeting to an exact science, and the result of this is always to be seen in the up-to-date nature of the arrangements. The course is in capital order, and as no doubt the rain which fell yesterday will be of material benefit to it, there will be nothing to complain of on that score.

Proceedings will commence with the Trial Handicap, one mile, for which ten have accepted. Naturally class is not to be expected in a race of this kind, but judging by recent form it would seem that the three most likely to fill the places are

KOLA NIP
LADY CLEMENTS
THE LARK

The Cambria Handicap, four furlongs, follows, for which six remain in. None of the youngsters have so far distinguished themselves, but the likeliest to score appear to be

CONDUCTOR
LA MASCOTTE
DUART

The big event, the St. Andrew's Handicap, one mile and a-quarter, has next to be considered. Eleven horses have been accepted for, and Mr. Chadwick would appear to have set punters a difficult conundrum to solve. The three which read to possess the likeliest chances are

LANDLOCK
GEORDIE
MILLIE

The Maiden Hurdles, one mile and a-half, is next on the list, and the nice field of eleven has been paid up for. If the form shown at Ellerslie is any criterion, and it does not exactly follow as the horses will be running on a smaller course and the reverse way, the three whose numbers may go up are

SEABIRD
LADY CLARE
SOL

The Cheltenham Handicap, five furlongs, has, as usual, attracted a nice field. In his best form this would be a "cake walk" for Black and Gold with 8st 11lb, but his recent running has been very indifferent. With the sharp corners to be turned, the pony Sonoma should run well, for she has been very lightly weighted. The three I like best are

SONOMA
BLACK AND GOLD
HOHORO

There is another good field down to take part in the Melrose Handicap, five furlongs, fourteen yet remaining in. The event looks wonderfully open, but with a start it is not improbable that the place-getters may prove to be

LADY CLEMENTS
SIR HECTOR
THE LARK

There are only four left in the Tiri Hurdles, two miles, and the race does not look as though it would prove particularly interesting. Of the quartette

VEXATION

should prove the best at the weights.

The first day's racing will be brought to a conclusion with the First Pony Handicap, six furlongs, in which ten yet remain. It is always a hazardous task attempting to forecast races of this description, but judging strictly on form the most dangerous trio consists of

LURESOME
GIRTON GIRL
STORYTELLER

The meeting will be brought to a conclusion on Wednesday next.

Acceptances for the Otahuhu Trotting Club's Spring Meeting are due with Mr. Fred. Yonge, the secretary, to-morrow (Friday) evening at 9 p.m. Owners should not overlook the fact.