

INTER-PROVINCIAL.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

CANTERBURY.

Christchurch, January 30.

Lee-Enfield has been schooled over the hurdles since returning from his racing campaign on the West Coast. He jumps fairly well, and ought to pay his way at hurdle racing.

Canticle has resumed work, but may not be forward enough to win a race at the summer meeting.

Martan will be specially prepared for the Wanganui Cup and other big races in the autumn.

Mr. J. Loughlin, the well-known Dunedin turf correspondent, has opened a branch of his business in Christchurch.

What a good thing this year's Middle Park Plate looks for the Ya'dhurst stables. Either Cuneiform or Isolt should have very little difficulty in carrying off the summer five hundred pounds classic event.

Scotty was well backed in Christchurch for the Takapuna Cup, but was well-nigh neglected for the big handicap on the second day. Gladstone was the fancied candidate on the second occasion.

W. Brown has accepted an engagement to ride horses under J. Lowe's charge at Wellington. As Mr. R. W. Paterson's horses are trained by Lowe Brown should have plenty of opportunities to distinguish himself.

The Bill of Portland filly Tomorrow has been thrown out of work, and will go to the stud. Tomorrow has not done anything on the track since she won the Welcome Stakes four seasons ago, and has let the stable down badly on more than one occasion during the past year.

The Stepniak filly Beresina was sent out the hottest of favourites for the Maiden Hack Scurry at Foxton, but after leading until a few yards from the post was beaten by Silver Shell by a head. The people behind Beresina had a big amount at stake, and reckoned the filly could not possibly lose, but as very frequently happens the good thing went down. Beresina will go over to Australia to keep Machine Gun company.

The Canterbury horses engaged in the Wanganui Cup are Nightfall, Savoury, Delaware, and Martian.

Sir G. Clifford, who won the race last year with Quarryman, is without a representative this year. He has entered Chryseis, Snowstell, and Lady Wayward for some of the minor events.

Nominations are due on Friday next for the Great Easter and Great Autumn Handicaps, two of the most popular handicaps of the racing year.

The Canterbury Jockey Club's Summer Meeting will be held next week, but the fields are confined to Riccarton horses, only three or four outside horses figuring among the entries. Eight horses have been left in the Midsummer Handicap, and of these Cannie's Child, on paper, looks to have the best prospects of winning. Next to him is Like Tirole. In the Filly Stakes Cream Jug, by Royal Artillery—Sancer, has not yet appeared in public. Turmoil and Volodia are a likely pair to furnish the winner.

One of the leading firms of bookmakers has removed from their commodious offices to smaller premises in an out-of-the-way thoroughfare. The recent raid seems to have fairly scared some of the Christchurch layers.

Terrapin and Narcissus are among those who have been taken up again. Terrapin has had a lengthy spell.

Here's a nice field for a hundred pound race: Catherine Gordon, Beeswax, Leeside, Tom Tit, Great Gun, and Farley Grove. This lot of hacks, with Catherine Gordon at the top, figures in the Halswell Welter, run at Riccarton next week.

OTAGO.

Dunedin, January 30.

A number of people have been speaking glibly about the great improvement effected in Ailsa since she went into Prosser's stable, but with all due respect to the Porirua train-

er's ability, the writer is of opinion that the element of luck, and also a slight change in class, is responsible for the Far Away filly's recent success. Her performance on Wellington Cup day in the Telegraph Handicap, which she won comfortably with 8st 4lb in 1m n 15 2-5sec, does not completely eclipse her Templeton Handicap win with 8st 11b in 1min 14 4-5s, which she accomplished at the back-end of last season. In the Telegraph Handicap Petrovna lost her position after going a little over a furlong, and in the last half had to give Ailsa fully five lengths start for home from that point, so that it was no great wonder that Ailsa beat her comfortably by a length at the finish.

The South Island-bred Moscow, the 625 guinea son of Stepniak and Coronet, has not grown into such a big colt as what might have been expected by anyone who made his acquaintance as a yearling, but he is a fair-sized and goodly-shaped equine for all that. Up to date he has not been a conspicuous success on the turf, but there was not a little merit in his display in the Wellesley Stakes, in which he had Cuneiform stepping along a bit, and he may be found amongst the winning youngsters in the autumn.

The leg in which Vladimir went amiss some time ago, but which became thoroughly sound again, filled a trifle as a result of his race in the Wellington Cup. It is expected that a few days' rest will effect a complete remedy.

There was a liberal response from owners on general entry day for the Dunedin Cup Meeting, and the list of names received for the various races totals 328, or an increase of 62 over last year's figures.

Petrovna was well backed for her race on the second day of the Wellington meeting, but she gave a very poor display, and probably could not get on the hard going.

Solution, Tuono, and Destruction have joined J. T. Lowe's stable at the Hutt, and the erstwhile Dunedinite has now 10 horses under his care.

D. J. Price has left for Sydney, and will finish the preparation of Machine Gun and Beresina for the Australian engagements. It is quite on the cards that the swallow-catching son of Rubina brings plenty of grass to the mill during his forthcoming campaign, and he may afterwards be shipped to America or England.

If one were incensed to be superstitious it could be said that the reason why Achilles has proved so vulnerable in many of his races is on account of the undignified manner in which he received his turf baptism prior to making his debut on the turf in the C.J.C. Pioneer Handicap, in which he was defeated by Helen Faucet. The story runs that the son of Medalion did not come South with the rest of Prosser's horses, which went to compete at the meeting, but arrived on his own, and was supposed to be a trotter. He was the medium of a big commission for his first race, but the fact of his being landed on the scene as a plebian, instead of a patrician horse, probably caused Achilles to forget his role, and he ran like one of the former instead of the latter type of quadruped.

A gentleman who sent a commissioner to ask the price of Stronghold some months back was informed that the Clanranald colt was valued at 1000 guineas. After his display on the first day of the Wellington meeting the intending buyer stated to the writer that he would not give £100 for the horse as a racer, but next time Stronghold appeared he somewhat retrieved his character by defeating Chivalry in good style. The latter, however, was giving away 19lb, and that somewhat discounts the merit of the win.

Becky Seaton and Gypsobel both visited Pallas whilst they were at Tapanui.

Mr. J. R. McKenzie has sent his horses in training back to Oamaru, where they will be prepared for future engagements. The team at present consists of Becky Seaton, Sweet Nell (half sister by Musketry to Pallas), and The Brat.

The party behind Ropa had a fairly

good win in connection with the St. Leger horse's victory in the Wellington Cup, but were unfortunate enough to miss the successful placing of £50 with an s.p. merchant, because the intended commission was handed in shortly after the starting time of the race.

The leading Wellington fielders bet full limit for cash, and consequently the failure to get the money on meant a difference of about £1500.

The Welcome Stakes winner Ivanoff gave displays at Wellington considerably below expectations, and was never dangerous at the finish of either of his races.

The result of this season's meeting of the Tapanui Club should put fresh heart into the leading spirits of the club, as it should prove a financial success, although some of the riding at the gathering was not altogether above suspicion.

A well-known North Island light-weight rider is said to have commenced proceedings against an owner who also inhabits that part of the world for making allegedly libellous statements concerning the fairness of the former's riding.

HAWKE'S BAY.

Napier, January 31.

V. Collelo, Mr. G. P. Donnelly's private trainer, is vacating the position at the end of the month.

A. Master, the trainer of Goldfield and White Squall, has strengthened his little lot by the inclusion of Jack Pot and Whakarua, who were taken in hand by him after the Wairoa meeting last month.

Mungista is resting, as is another of Gooseman's team, Chicane, who got badly chopped in her opening essay at Hastings last month. Her injury is so severe that it will be some time before she is all serene again.

Mr. A. Ellingham is shortly getting down from Porangahau, a coming three-year-old half-sister by Merriwee to Hipporofa.

Douche has not yet quite recovered from the attack of soreness that laid her up shortly after her good go in the New Zealand Cup. Her educator, W. Whitaker, who is one of the patient sort, means to give her every chance, and if he gets her back to her usual form, Jet d'Eau's chestnut daughter will well repay the attention and care he is bestowing upon her.

A rising three-year-old daughter by Captain Webb and Namoa, that was purchased last January at the annual dispersal of Mangatarata yearlings, has just joined this trainer's band of workers. She is the property of a Napier sport.

Eone, a cast-off of the Hon. J. D. Ormond's, captured a treble at the just-concluded Wairoa meeting. This black daughter of The Officer and Eon is particularly well at present.

Another treble winner at the fixture was Mataika, a five-year-old son of The Possible and Miss Dargon, owned by Mr. A. L. D. Fraser. J. Cameron, who trains him, also led in another successful one at the gathering, that being Te Wunui, a son of Mahaki and Rauini, the property of the popular native sport, Mr. Tara-naki Te Ua.

Te Hauke (Torpedo—Water Colour), and Taniwha (Nataator—Irene) annexed a double apiece.

Fred. Davis was in great form in the pigskin, scoring six wins out of ten mounts. The gathering was the most successful yet held by this club. The amount machined (£5714) constitutes a record for the club, being £1036 more than was handled last year. The attendance was enormous, and the racing better, with larger fields than has been the case previously.

The Brook's massive son, San Fran, who was purchased last year as a yearling, is being hacked about on his birthplace, Te Mananga Station, and is filling out into a rare stamp of a gelding.

WELLINGTON.

Wellington, January 29.

Mr. R. W. Paterson's horses Solution, Tuono, and Destruction have remained in Wellington since the races. At present they are being attended to by J. Low, who last season trained for the New South Wales racing man Mr. Crick. Some friction it appears, arose between the owner of Solution and her trainer, F. Tilley, of Fordell, over the riding of Solution. The owner wished to select his own rider, whilst the trainer had the stable's horse, W. Price, engaged. As Mr. Paterson insisted in having his way, his horses did not return to Fordell after the Wellington meeting.

The owner of Ropa only had a modest win over the Cup. His trainer only gave Ropa an outside show, and a moderate investment was the result.

The local metalicians report that the recent meeting resulted in plenty of betting. Mr. Laws, who had a straight-out book, laid his book every one of the 14 starters, and double wagers were accepted almost every combination. Ropa was coupled with Ailsa for a moderate amount, but had any of the favourite selections got home, most local layers would have been struck for the full amount of their books. Taking the meeting as a whole, they report satisfactory results.

WANGANUI.

Wanganui, January 30.

Those who visited Foxton on the 22nd, saw some very good racing, but the Wanganui sports did not gather in much coin. Submarine let a large number down badly, as they supported him strongly on the opening day, and let him severally alone when he won. Kuroki was also neglected when he ran second, as may be gathered from the fact that he would have paid over £15 for first place. Local bookmakers were priding themselves on having much the best of matters until Silver Shell's victory upset things. A number of local punters got the tip about this horse, and thereby the "books" suffered.

At the Foxton meeting the riders of a couple of the horses were heard having a quiet chat as they were going out for a certain race. "Get away well, and you'll be all right," said one. So it proved, and a good dividend was the result.

Mr. Angus Keith, the secretary of the Foxton Racing Club, acquitted himself very well in the position of starter at the club's annual meeting. Mr. T. Cameron (the official starter) was unable, through indisposition, to attend the meeting, and Mr. Keith thereby filled the breach, and carried out his duties very ably. The many friends of Tom Cameron will join with me in wishing him a speedy recovery. He is one of the best starters in the land, and most popular to boot.

In reference to the paragraphs which have appeared recently anent the alleged "jockeys' ring," a correspondent writes to the effect that he recently had an interview with an owner who races purely for the sport, and the latter said that the tactics adopted by some of the riders in a sprint not 100 miles from Foxton went to prove the truth of the statement as to the existence of such a ring, and the owner added that he was surprised that the stewards did not take action.

I understand that boxes have been engaged locally on behalf of Mr. Stead's horses, Nightfall, Delaware, and Savoury, so that there is every prospect of the Canterbury sportsman being strongly represented here at the autumn meeting.

I hear that Solution, Tuono, and Destruction will no longer be trained at Fordell. The two former were, I believe, kept in Wellington by their owner (Mr. R. Paterson), and the other day Destruction was sent down to join the other pair. I have not heard who is going to undertake the training of these horses in future, but whoever does will reap the advantage of the good condition into which Fred. Tilley had got his charges. Solution was turned out in splendid nick for the Cup race, and ran a great race for a mile and a quarter, notwithstanding that she was the recipient of several bumps which did not help her on her journey, and were evidently not intended to. Under the circumstances, and especially in view of the record time established for the race, it is not to be wondered at that the Soult mare failed to score. It was no fault of the trainer's, anyway, that she did not win. She should soon place a win or two to her credit, and then whoever has her in hand will be complimented on the nick in which he turned her out. Destruction had also received a very careful training, and was rapidly coming on. The son of Torpedo—Nymph is a fine-looking three-year-old colt, and it will be surprising if he does not shortly distinguish himself. From all accounts Tuono has also just about struck winning form, and whoever takes charge of them in future should not be long in leading in a winner or two. It is stated that Mr. Paterson contemplates disposing of his horses in consequence of the Wellington

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