

committee, showing a profit on the meeting of £3450. Three new members were elected.

Mr. G. W. S. Patterson, who has gone to Java, has resigned from the committee of the Auckland Racing Club.

Messrs. Harris and Thorpe have appealed to the A.R.C. Committee against their six months suspension by the A.R.C. Stewards, and the case will be heard on the 21st inst.

The double machine has proved immensely popular at Takapuna. At the coming meeting on the opening day it will be operated on the Zealandia Handicap and Takapuna Cup; for the second day on the Suburban Handicap and T.J.C. Handicap, and for the third day on the Borough and Summer Handicaps.

The best two-year-old in England during the past season was Polar Star, the best three-year-old Spearmint, and the best handicap horse Polymelus, whose performances towards the close of the season were of the most brilliant description.

Mr. Martin Taylor, than whom there is no more keen enthusiast for coursing in Auckland, announces in another column that his greyhounds are for sale. In the list is that very fine brindle bitch Lobelia, which may rightly be called the champion of New Zealand, as her performances have been of the most brilliant description. There is a brindle bitch by Lord Roberts from Rosette, also a number of well grown pups by Better Days from House Girl. Those on the look out for some likely dogs should give Mr. Taylor a call.

#### THE WHANGAREI MEETING.

The summer meeting of the Whangarei Jockey Club will take place on Friday and Saturday, and as far as can be seen everything bids fair for it proving a very great success. Certainly Mr. Dent, the secretary, has done his best to make it so, and as the acceptances are good, there is promise of some excellent sport. Quite a number of Auckland sportsmen intend making the trip to the picturesque northern township.

The five two-year-olds that competed at the A.R.C. summer meeting which look like furnishing into Derby or Cup horses are Maheno, Pohutu, Downfall, Glencullock and Hierarch. These five should give a good account of themselves at three years old.

Now that all the visiting teams have left, things have got into their usual groove on the Ellerslie track. Most of the horses engaged at Takapuna are doing easy work. Those nominated at Whangarei were given solid work on Tuesday morning on the tethan. Geordie and Uhlander were associated together for seven furlongs, when the latter finished in front in 1min 32 2-5sec. Luminous ran a circle alone 1min 58sec. Omate was ahead of Sweet Alice over a six furlong sprint in 1min 17 1-5sec. Conductor with Japan to assist the last four furlongs got over the same distance in 1min 16 2-5sec. Bordman jumped and then did a circle on the tan. Lochbule got to the end of a mile in 1min 45sec. Discoverer had a credit of 50 5-5sec for the half mile. Baltimore left a mate well behind in a six furlong flutter in 1min 20 3-5sec. Paritutu, the only visitor left, did medium pace work.

The following should run well at Whangarei:—Geordie, Nervine, and Uhlander in the long races, and Conductor, Omate, and Discoverer in the sprint events.

Ohaupo races take place next Wednesday. Uenuku, Millie, and Lord Seaton read the pick of the Ohaupo Handicap, and Sweet Alice and Keep Step in the short races.

The pony Frederick, who has been carrying welter weights of late, will be shipped to Sydney on Monday next.

Mr. Alf. Adams is back again from a six months' trip to Australia, where he attended all the big meetings.

Yet another stroke of bad luck for Mr. G. G. Stead has come about. On Saturday, when the two-year-old Convent Bell, by Multiform—Curfew Bell, met with a fatal accident when exercising. The rider had his leg broken.

The following are the acceptances for the Whangarei Meeting, which commences on Friday:—

Railway Handicap.—Lady Clements, Conductor, Omati, Discoverer, Bushman, Lunetta, Lady Howitzer, La Cigale.

Kensington Handicap.—Celerity, Conductor, Omati, Discoverer, Fieramosca, La Cigale.

Settlers' Handicap.—Rosefayn, Quebec, Sir Gilead, Lady Ellen, Neptune, Methuma, Midcyr, Lady Howitzer, Etonette.

First Hurdles.—Bowman, Lady Ranta, Morpeth, Geologist, Major.

Publicans' Handicap.—Lady Clements, Miss Lancelot, Luminous, Lochbule, Geodie, Uhlander, Annoyed, Sir Gilead, and Lunetta.

Cup.—Geologist, Luminous, Lochbule, Geordie, Uhlander, Annoyed, Quebec, Nervine, Sir Gilead, Peregrine.

Flying Handicap.—Celerity, Conductor, Omati, La Mascotte, Discoverer, Bushman, Methuma, Fieramosca.

On Saturday week the whole of Mr. B. Armitage's racing stock will be submitted to auction at Green Lane stables. The lots to come under Mr. H. O. Nolan's hammer are Jewellery (St. Leger—Necklace) stunted to Seaton Delaval; that good mare Lady Annie (Soul—Miss Anna); Moonga, the dam of Seahorse; Girton Girl (Madallion—Equation) a very consistent performer; Necktie (Menschikoff—Castorlace, whose victory in the Midsummer Handicap was a very run-away affair; First Gun (Hotchkiss—First Love); Paroquette Cyrenian—Songstress); Bright Spark (Cyrenian—Sparkling Water); and that very smart pony Lady Nannie (Cyrenian—Nannie). These will be disposed of without reserve, and it is safe to assume there will be some brisk bidding for some of the lots.

Quite a number of horses went up to Whangarei last night by the Ngapuhi.

The Takapuna C. has appointed a salaried official to watch the running and report to the stewards.

Wednesday's rain was very badly wanted as the tracks were getting fearfully hard for the bad-footed brigade.

In winning the Belmont Park Stakes, weight-for-age, at the recent Belmont Park (Perth) meeting, the Auckland-bred Prophecy cut out the nine furlongs in 1.56 2-5secs, which is a record for West Australia. Prophecy made all the running, and just beat May King, who has since distinguished himself by winning the Perth Cup. As a yearling Prophecy, who is by Phoebus Apollo, was purchased by her present owner, Mr. Fenton, for 57gs.

The American millionaire, Mr. W. K. Vanderbilt, has won £49,196 in stakes in France this season, the crack three-year-old Maintenon being the principal contributor to that amount. Mr. Vanderbilt's other three-year-old Prestige, who was undefeated, won a few races early this season, and was then retired owing to the possibility of a break-down.

Campania, dam of the Auckland Cup winner, Master Delaval, is now at Bundoora Park (Vic.) Stud, Mr. J. V. Smith having purchased her last year.

The ex-Auckland pony Sally Horner won a double at the Christmas meeting of the Fiji Jockey Club, getting home first in the mile and a-quarter race and the six furlongs event.

That a race club which only holds a race meeting once in the year has averaged £4280 in payments for each programme over a period of eighteen years, is a record no other club can show, except that at Onkaparinga. During the years mentioned the total amount of money paid out is £77,000, that is since the totalisator was installed on the course. Of this sum more than half, viz., £40,570, has been paid over to the horse-owners, £11,800 has been spent in improvements to the course, and £1881 has gone to charitable institutions. The annual meetings of the Onkaparinga Club are always held on Easter Monday.

The Onewhero meeting takes place on January 16. Tambourina is top weight in the Cup with 13st 10lb.

Marguerite won the Rangitikei Cup in 2.6 2-5, which, although very fast, was beaten by Hova at Flemington in 1893. Australian Star has the world's record of 2.2 1-5.

That usually well-informed paper, the "Sydney Mail," gives the results of the Manawatu Cup and the Palmerston Stakes as two of the principal events at the Auckland Racing Club's Summer Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Hoskingtown (near Queanbeyan, N.S.W.) Jockey Club was notable for the suc-

cess of that very ancient and cast-iron son of Apremont, Whakawatea, who, despite his 17 years on earth, got home in front of four others in the Hoskingtown Cup.

The Northern S.S. Company advertise that the smart steamer Ngapuhi will leave for Whangarei on Friday, the 11th inst., at 10.30 p.m., this enabling visitors to witness the second day's racing. The Kanieri will leave to-day (Thursday), at 3 p.m. for the Town Wharf, Whangarei. By the latter boat the ordinary fares will be charged, but the Ngapuhi will take passengers at excursion rates.

Very good nominations have been received for the Gisborne meeting, but the only Auckland in the list is Uenuku. This seems curious with such a good programme.

Eighty-nine horses have entered for the V.R.C. Newmarket Handicap, including Cuneiform, Captain Shannon, Beresina, Menschikoff, and Solution. Fifty are entered for the Australian Cup, including Putty, Apologue, and Solution, while the two latter figure in the Champion Stakes.

Two New Zealanders to win recently in Melbourne were Delawer, who scored in the Christmas Gift at Epsom, and Sultana, who won the Oberon Steeplechase from end to end at Caulfield.

A bookmaker arrested at Deptford, England, on a charge of "assembling with two other persons for the purpose of betting," said to the constable who arrested him, "I'll bet you £5 to £1 you've made a bloomer." The magistrate at Greenwich who heard the charge, on being told of this offer, said to the constable: "Did you take the bet?" Bookmaker: "No, I wish he had." He added that he was only betting with one person at a time.

Several of the English racing tracks are six furlongs, and some a mile straight running, but even these have their drawbacks, judging by the remarks of an English writer, who says:—"There is another question which I should like to ventilate. It is a fact, I suppose, that the course on which the Cesarevitch is decided is absolutely the finest in the world. Unfortunately, however, one of the features that renders it so magnificent is also a most serious drawback. First of all, there is the straight stretch of a mile from the starting post to the Ditch, and then the run across the flat to the winning-post. The two 'arms' form an obtuse angle. Short of an absolutely straight track from end to end, there could be nothing better than this—theoretically. There is, however, a world of difference between theory and practice. Inasmuch as the public see nothing of the first half of the race for the Cesarevitch—the momentary glimpse of the field running across the gap is hardly worth counting—the course does not meet a very essential requirement. When a man pays to see racing he expects to see it. Not until the competitors for a race on any portion of the Cesarevitch course are a mile or so from home can the spectators on the grandstand begin to get the glimpse of an idea of what is happening. Some Australians who were at Newmarket recently were almost dumb with amazement when they were shown the long course. They found it hard to believe that the British public could be induced to travel great distances to 'see' a race run on a track so much of which is out of the range of vision." The writer suggests a new course, so that the public could see the race.

Statistics published recently in connection with the past season's doings on the French turf show that Mr. W. K. Vanderbilt, the well-known American millionaire heads the list of winning owners in France, with the handsome total of £49,196, due to the victories of the undefeated Prestige and Maintenon, the winner of the Derby and Prix du Conseil Municipal, etc. next comes Mr. Lieux, with not quite half that amount. M. Caillault is third, with £21,469, preceding M. Edmond Blanc and the Duke de Gramont. M. E. Veil-Pickard, Ephrussi, and Prat claim about £8000. M. Gaston-Dreyfus takes the largest amount of breeders' premiums (£1480), consequent upon Maintenon's successes, while M. Edmond Blanc claims £480. George Stern tops the list of winning jockeys with 126 victories, and then follow Belhouse (84), Ransch (74) Milton Henry (68), Cormack (61), J. Reiff (60), G. Bartholomew (48). Le

Sagittaire—thanks to Maintenon—heads the list of winning sires with over a million francs, preceding Flying Fox and Perth with nearly half that sum. Maintenon is the first on the list of winning horses in France with about £33,000, preceding Spearmint (£10,000), and then come Elder, Prestige, Punta Gorda, Sais, and Glouglou II.

#### AUCKLAND TROTTING CLUB'S SUMMER MEETING.

##### CONCLUDING DAY.

The most successful meeting ever held by the Auckland Trotting Club was brought to a close on Saturday in beautifully fine weather. The attendance was a very large one, while the sport provided was first-class. Everything passed off very smoothly, a result largely due to the able administration of the energetic secretary, Mr. C. F. Mark, whose general arrangements gave entire satisfaction. Business at the totalisator was brisk, the sum of £5426 10/ going through the machines. This made a total of £17,682 for the three days, an advance of £7711 on the figures for the corresponding day last year.

The day's sport opened with the Trial Handicap, thirteen facing the starter. The scratch horse, Tableau, was considered to be the pick of the basket, but this proved an error of judgment. After Huon Clair had been in advance for a spell Wilhelmina went to the front, and would have won anyhow but she got up badly. The daughter of Wilmington was, however, equal to winning ten yards from Cleveland's Pride with Cleve a yard further away third.

Bridget and Isabel found most favour in the Pony Trot, but Plaintiff, Little Harold, and Seacole had plenty of admirers. Plaintiff led, but a break let Isabel in with the lead, and she was never caught, winning by fifteen yards from Little Harold with Seacole a good third.

Some very spirited betting took place over the New Year Handicap, six of the seven ponies being very solidly backed. The one outsider, Miss Dix, was left at the post, and Norana, the favourite, led the field down the back with Kilderkin next. The daughter of Seaton Delaval was never troubled, winning with the utmost ease by three lengths from Kilderkin, with Merrimanu two lengths off, third.

Nine was the main in the President's Handicap, General Election being most fancied. The race was a really capital one all the way. Weary Willie was in front for a bit, when Rosebud passed him. The gelding was by no means done with, for he came again in the straight, but failed to get up by less than a yard, with Duke C. ten yards off third.

Black Rose and Straight Mat were solidly supported for the Park Trot, eleven facing Mr O'Connor. Lena G. had the race to herself almost from the start, and stepping it out in fine style she won without an effort by fifty yards from Lady Brook, with Seacole a poor third.

For the High Class Trot Mint was in most demand, with Princess Ena also well backed. The Mooress and Princess Ena were responsible for the bulk of the running, but the latter died out somewhat at the home bend, and a great race home resulted in a win for The Mooress by four yards, with Typewriter but a foot away third.

On the strength of her fine effort in the previous pony handicap, Norana was made in odds a favourite for the Grandstand Handicap, but a lot of bullion was forthcoming for all the others, notably Mataura. Norana was out in front all the way, but in the last little bit Julian brought Norana with a well-timed rush, and she got up in time to win by a head from Norma with La Annie two lengths off, third.

The concluding event was the Telegraph Trot, for which a dozen carried silk. Silver Girl was a very pronounced favourite, and after going a bit she took command. Princess Ena passed her at the home bend, and finishing in fine style won by nearly twenty yards from Macquarrie, with Miss Wilson a similar distance off third. This bringing a really good day's sport to a finish.

The results were as follows:—

TRIAL HANDICAP TROT of 30sovs; second horse to receive 5sovs out of the stake. One mile and a-half.  
Mr. H. Barr's gr D Wilhelmina, by Wilmington, 10s. (Barr) ..... 1