

NOTES.

(By "The Judge.")

Despite very indifferent weather the Takapuna Jockey Club put £22,756 through the totalisator in two days—a winter record for the club.

Khama should have more than an outside chance in the big jumping event on Monday. He is very fit just now, and is a bold jumper.

Judging by his appearance and running at Takapuna Inniskillen cannot possibly be fit in time to do himself justice at the A.R.C. meeting.

The cable states that the Manchester Cup, which was run on Friday last, resulted in a win for Mr. J. A. Rothschild's horse Beppo, a four-year-old son of Marco and Pitti.

Mr. John Marshall, the well-known Auckland sportsman, left on Tuesday for a trip to the Islands.

The Wanganui contingent had a rough trip up by the Rarawa, but all the horses landed safely.

The Pakuranga Hunt Club's next meet will be at Sylvia Park on Wednesday. Yesterday the meet was at Orakei.

Returned visitors from Wanganui say that Irish looked a certain winner of the Wanganui Steeplechase when he came down half a mile from home.

Despite her 7lbs penalty Nadador should run well in the G.N. Steeplechase, as she is a proved stayer and a good fencer.

If Mahoe stands up he looks "a moral" for the G.N. Hurdles. There are no patent hurdles at Ellerslie, and it is on the cards he may come to grief, the usual fate of the Century Hurdles winner.

Quite a host of Southern horses have arrived in Auckland to play their parts at the coming meeting.

Although the telegraph man did not let us know at the time, it transpires that Narcissus broke his neck in the Wanganui Steeplechase.

The English Derby will be run for next Wednesday. From the betting it would appear that owing to the absence of Polar Star, the race is a good thing for Slieve Gallion, with Galvani next.

Messrs Duder Bros. had but a solitary representative at the recent Takapuna meeting, a very unusual state of affairs. This was Devonport, who carried the black and gold colours in the final event. The son of Soult was obviously above himself in the matter of condition, and he was in difficulties a long way from home.

A very popular double for the two big jumping races at Ellerslie is Mahoe and Irish. As short a price as 20 to 1 has been freely taken, and there is very little to be obtained of that.

When Moulton turned into the straight for home in the Takapuna Steeplechase it looked a pound to a hay seed on him for a win. Percival, however, stopped riding him at the terraces, always a dangerous thing to do with a tired horse who cannot be got going again quickly, and Haydn, who had been under the whip in the last three furlongs, just got up in time to win. It is not to be wondered at that Haydn's bull dog courage should earn him some hearty applause when he returned to scale.

Duart, who in the easiest possible fashion won the Royal Handicap at Takapuna on the opening day finished absolutely last in the Victoria Handicap on the second day after getting well away. Doubtless the heavy going had something to do with it, but is it any wonder followers of form were astray in their calculations.

In the Royal Handicap on the opening day at Takapuna, Syren, 6.10, was never in the hunt, finishing right back, while on the second day in the big race with 6.8, the daughter of Cyrenian led all the way and won easily, and then put up a penalty in the Welter and won again just as easy.

THE PAKURANGA HUNT CLUB.

Only the very keen enthusiasts attended the meet at Mangere on Saturday for the weather was very wild and wintry, the driving rain squalls making matters very unpleasant. A hare was started on Mr Gavin Wallace's land and she led the field a merry dance, a run of nearly two hours resulting with two or three checks. There were plenty of stone walls and

post and rail fences to be negotiated, and the nine followers all had a capital run. Among those present were Miss West on Pukanui; Mr Ben Myers on Bowler, Mr Virtue on Honey, Mr Dalton on Te Akau, Mr Grant on Doctor, Mr Adams on Brian O'Lynn, Mr Denison on a bay, Mr Selby on Barrister, and the whip on Boxer.

STEVENSON V. FORD.

Mr H. H. Stevenson commenced his second match in Auckland on Tuesday evening, the Albert Hall being packed with spectators. His opponent was the well-known local player, Mr B. Ford, who received 1100 in a game of 2000 up. The latter led off with a nice 40, but the visitor soon got to work and commenced to rapidly close the gap. With runs of 68, 38, 35, 59, 147, and 32, he had put on 492 at the adjournment. In the meantime Ford had not been altogether idle, playing some pretty shots, and he was 1330 when the rest came.

On resuming Stevenson sailed away at a great rate, his top of the table play being a treat to watch. One run of 194 was a particularly fine exhibition. He strung on sequences of 68, 38, 35, 59, 147, 32, 194, 95, 42, and 87, and when the session closed was 1001, while Ford had got no further than 1426. The latter player was right off his game and made but few attempts at losing hazard play, a stroke he has made peculiarly his own. Only twice in the second spell did he reach 30, which in itself shows how much out of form he was. Stevenson's average was 27.9, while Ford's was but 9. An interesting exhibition of fancy shots brought the evening's amusement to a close. The game was concluded last evening after we had gone to press.

BOXING.

The 9st. 7lb. Professional Championship of New Zealand, promoted by the Auckland Boxing Club to take place on Monday, 3rd June, is causing immense interest in boxing circles. The two men entered, Messrs Godfrey and Gault, are both well-known and highly thought of by boxing enthusiasts, and we congratulate the club in bringing together two men with such fine performances. James Godfrey has won prizes to the value of £250, which includes the following championships:—

Won the Feather-weight Amateur Championship of England in 1903. Won the International Amateur Championship between England and France, 1903, took place in Paris. Beat J. Gosling, the unbeaten Champion of New Zealand, 1906. Won the Championship of Auckland, 1906. Won the Championship of New Zealand at Wellington in 1906.

Alfred Gault, who is a native of Auckland, started boxing as an amateur 18 months ago. In his first contest he met E. Whitford, but lost on points. In his next contest with Whitford he won in a round and a-half. Beat McGovern in one round. Beat H. Donovan in one round. Beat E. Sanderson in two rounds on a foul. In his next contest with Sanderson he put him out in one round.

Both men are in hard training, and should be in fine fettle by the 3rd June, so the public may expect to see one of the best exhibitions of skill and endurance that has taken place in Auckland for some time.

COURSING.

(By "THE JUDGE.")

The North N.Z. Coursing Club commenced the May meeting on Saturday. It would be difficult to imagine anything more unpleasant than the weather, frequent heavy rain squalls driving across the ground, while the boisterous south-west gale had a very keen edge to it. Despite these drawbacks a hardy band of enthusiasts sallied out to Otahuhu and were rewarded with some excellent trials. Unfortunately, owing to two or three "no courses" and "undecideds," matters were protracted until too late, the last course being run in the semi-darkness. Mr Coombes had a very cold job of it in the judge's chair, while Mr Brennan had a difficult task with the slips, so many dogs not being sighted owing to the rain squalls. Messrs Tapper and others of the committee worked hard to make matters go well, and all that it was possible for them to do was effected.

In the first round of the Otahuhu Maiden Stake there were eighteen dogs. Mr Harper had to withdraw Don, owing to distemper, and Sneaker had an accidental bye. Equilibrate and Battalion were slipped to a rising hare which they could not reach, both flags going up for a "no-course." In the run off Equilibrate just led up, but smart work and a kill by Battalion just won him the course. Tom Mack led Coo-ee, who had been off his feed, three lengths, and beat him very easily. Golden West led Robin Adair by

three lengths to a strong hare, who gave but little work before she escaped. At Last and Pearlje were unsighted at slips, but enough work was done to give the former a win. Prodigal easily led Te Aroha Lass, and killing, beat the bitch pointless. Fireman led Shy Girl to a tricky hare, but the bitch doing nearly all the work and killing got a narrow verdict in her favour. Disowned led Royal Blue two lengths and won very easily. Lady Rosette led and easily beat Newmarket.

In the first ties Battalion led Sneaker five lengths and won easily. Golden West led Tom Mack two lengths, but if puss had kept out the fawn might have made it interesting, as he was doing good work. At Last and Prodigal had a "no-course" owing to the latter not getting sighted. At the next try Prodigal led three lengths, and his opponent had not scored when puss escaped. Shy Girl and Disowned met the latter leading up, and the former killing, this bringing off the judge's cap for an "undecided." It was almost dark when they came out again. Shy Girl led from slips, but Disowned showing more dash at the finish of the run just got the lead, and killing smartly got the verdict.

In the First Round of the Middlemore All-Aged Stake, Peter Jackson was too fast for Gipsy King, just getting a turn out of a racing hare. Gavotte led Turangarere, but the latter killing smartly, brought off the judge's cap. In the next attempt Turangarere took the lead and won fairly easily. Balbye Gran and Tim Doolan were unsighted from slips, but enough work was subsequently done to justify the judge in giving a decision in favour of the former. Robin Hood led Garryclough nearly two lengths and commenced to work smartly when Garryclough dashed in and killed himself out. Major had a bye.

The particulars were as follows:—

OTAHUHU MAIDEN STAKE. First dog, £18; runner-up, £6; third dog, £3. Two dogs at £2 each.

FIRST ROUND.

Sneaker beat Don (withdrawn).
Battalion beat Equilibrate.
Tom Mack beat Coo-ee.
Golden West beat Robin Adair.
At Last beat Pearlje.
Prodigal beat Te Aroha Lass.
Shy Girl beat Fireman.
Disowned beat Royal Blue.
Lady Rosette beat Newmarket.

FIRST TIES.

Battalion beat Sneaker.
Golden West beat Tom Mack.
Prodigal beat At Last.
Disowned beat Shy Girl.
Lady Rosette a bye.

MIDDLEMORE ALL-AGED STAKES.
First dog, £12; runner-up, £4; third dog, £2 10s.
Peter Jackson beat Gipsy King.
Turangarere beat Gavotte.
Balbye Gran beat Tim Doolan.
Robin Hood beat Garryclough.
Major a bye.

The meeting was brought to a conclusion yesterday afternoon, but the results did not arrive until after we had gone to press.

TRAINING NOTES.

ELLERSLIE.

TUESDAY.

The tracks were very heavy after the recent rain and only moderate work was got through. Celtic alone got to the end of 7 furs nicely. Lord Seaton did a similar task, finishing up strongly. Haydn and Khama worked in company over 18 furs; both horses are in the pink of condition. Bonomiana, Silicia, Shrapnel and Inniskillen got through capital work. Uenuku had a slight advantage of Stromness in a 7 fur flutter in 1.35 1-5sec. Kiatere jumped the schooling hurdles nicely and should beat more than beat him in the G.N. race, the distance should stand to him. Manapouri and Paroquet had a ding dong go over 6 furs in 1.23 1-5secs. After the breakfast interval, Ruaparaha and Waipuna galloped a circle in 2.23-5secs, the half brothers are both very well. Omati finished strongly at the end of 6 furs in 1.21secs. Ben Jonson had Lady Hune in trouble over 9 furs in 2.2-5secs. Geordie and Catch 'Em strode over a round in 2.8secs. Cuiragno had all the best of Soulfish in a round over the battens, the former is very fit and must take no end of beating on Saturday next. Leopold, Lady Lanta, and another were schooled over the steeplechase jumps, and it was a very faulty exhibition, all three making mistakes. Moulton and Tanglefoot jumped the same fences, the latter jumped the stone wall strongly and fell after landing, and when remounted made no further mistakes. Moulton should be very handy in any race he starts in as he is now getting more seasoned. No Shot put in a couple of rounds at three-quarter pace and looks well. A lot of other unimportant work was got through, all the work was done on the sand gallop.

AFTER THE RACES.

THE TAKAPUNA JOCKEY CLUB'S WINTER MEETING.

CONCLUDING DAY.

The Winter Meeting of the Takapuna Jockey Club was brought to a very successful conclusion on Friday (Empire Day). Despite heavy rain showers throughout the night and early morning a very large number of people crossed the water to assist at the fixture. The rain held off all the afternoon, but on the way home there was a big downpour. Despite a wet and heavy track the racing was fairly good, one or two of the jumping races giving rise to some keen contests. The meeting throughout was well managed by Mr. Wynyard and his staff, everything going smoothly. Mr. Ralph's judging was beyond dispute, and Mr. O'Connor was in his best form at the starting barrier. Betting was very brisk, the sum of £12,739 going through the machine. The total of £22,756 for the two days represents an advance of £9098 on last year's figures. The double winners—Syren and Miss Winnie—paid a dividend of £17 19/.

Proceedings were resumed with the Pupuke Handicap (5½ furlongs), and of the lot of moderates Turbine and Cymri were in most demand. The race does not call for much description, for Turbine, getting well away, led the field by two lengths down the back with Freebird next. The latter fell at the bend, and Turbine coming on won without an effort by two lengths from Cymri, who beat Cyreniac in the last little bit by half a length.

Although there were but four runners in the Hauturu Hurdles (1¼ miles), a better race could not have been wished for. Khama was made favourite. From an excellent start Bonomiana went away with the lead, and at the stand the Soult mare was two lengths ahead of Hautapu, with Khama and Yolette following. It was a case of extended order, for the next round, but here Hautapu gradually fell back and was tailed off. In the second round Khama ran up to Bonomiana, while Yolette steadily closed on the pair. At the home bend all three were together, and with heads turned for home the whips were out on the trio. It was anybody's race at the last hurdle, but here Bonomiana made a bad jump, while Khama going to the front, won by a length from Yolette, who was a similar distance in advance of Bonomiana.

Nine turned out for the Britannia Handicap (one mile), punters going for Polycaste, Pearl Necklet, Te Aroha and Syren. The race proved something of a disappointment, being a repetition of "the won-all-the-way" affairs of which there were so many at the meeting. Directly the barrier rose Syren hopped out smartly, and she led past the stand from Millie and Omati. Down the back Syren drew further away, and a long way from home it could be seen the race was in her keeping. Coming on she won by three lengths, Annoyed just beating Te Aroha for second place, with Millie fourth.

For the Victoria Handicap (5½ furlongs) ten carried silk, the popular selection being Certainty, Frederick and Duart. The start was a good one, Celerity immediately taking up the running, with Miss Winnie alongside her. At the bend they were together, but when heads were turned for home Miss Winnie shot to the front with Certainty second. From the distance Ryan brought Soultmaid with a great run, but she could not quite reach Miss Winnie, who won by a head, with Certainty a neck away third, Girtion Girl fourth, and Duart last.

A dozen turned out for the Second Pony Handicap (5½ furlongs), and this gave punters something to think about. Most tickets were rung on Imprimis and Sonoma. Once again the race was a poor one, the winner leading from start to finish. Mighty Atom, as usual, got out of the barrier very smartly, and attended by Forth led down the back. Gradually drawing away from the field the son of Freedom won very easily by three lengths from Sonoma, who caught Forth twenty yards from home, and beat him by a neck, with Imprimis and Manapouri almost in a line.

Of the seven runners in the Takapuna Steeplechase (3½ miles), Haydn was made a hot favourite. A better race could not have been wished for. When Mr. O'Connor sent them away to a straggling start Inniskillin took up the running from Cachuca. At the hill the first time the order was Inniskillin, Cachuca, Silicia, Loch Fyne. The leader soon had enough of it however, and was pulled up. Much the same order prevailed for the next round, when they crossed the water jump as follows:—Cachuca, Haydn, Silicia, Loch Fyne and Mool-