



MR. E. W. DUDER, re-elected on the committee of the A.R.C.

### THE C.J.C. GRAND NATIONAL MEETING.

#### FIRST DAY.

The Canterbury Jockey Club did not have the best of weather for the opening day of its Grand National Meeting. A thick, drizzling rain fell early in the morning; towards noon the sky cleared, but the afternoon was cold and unpleasant. The attendance was well up to the average, while the racing was on the whole first class. The Grand National Steeplechase furnished an excellent contest; the exhibition of jumping being equal to that witnessed in any previous National, and the pace was a cracker from the start, a new time record being established.

The Hunters Hurdles provided the opening event, five horses going out. Kaikomako, an aged son of Musketry, at once caught the eye of backers, and he was sent out a strong favourite. From an even start the field came on the first hurdle in a line. Roan Banner, who took off too close, coming down. At the next hurdle the favourite fell, leaving Makuri in the lead with Crispinot second, and Canton a dozen lengths away third. Just after passing the mile post Canton ran up to the leaders, and easily drawing away, won by three lengths from Crispinot, who was a similar distance in front of Makuri.

There were four withdrawals, Stay-boy, Le Beau, Southern Cross, and Magical, from the Trial Hurdles, leaving eight to face the starter. St. Albert was installed a firm favourite, Ability being next in demand. Ability turned round at the start, and took no part in the race. Hop Rose fell at the first hurdle, at which stage St. Albert was three lengths in front of Royal Shell, with Design and Golden Count following in that order. There was very little change in the positions until the mile post was reached, Catch'em running up into third place. At the six furlongs post St. Albert was still striding along in front, having a good three lengths lead from Royal Shell; a little further on Te Uira moved up and rounding the top turn was level with Royal Shell. St. Albert landed in the straight with a two lengths advantage, and despite a strong challenge in the last furlong by Te Uira, he held his own and won by two lengths; Golden Comb being a dozen lengths behind Te Uira, Design fourth, and Royal Shell fifth.

The Winter Cup, the principal flat race handicap of the winter season, next claimed attention. Twenty-three horses figured on the card, and there was only one withdrawal, Don Orsino. The race provided some spirited betting, Seaman, Helen Portland, Jolly Friar, Idealist, and Pas Seul, carrying the most money. The outsiders of the field being Ruapehu, Fandango, St. Bill, and Montigo. There was very

little delay at the post, but when the barrier went up fully half the horses were slow to move. Mataari was first to show out, but after the first furlong had been covered, Idealist ran through and soon had a three lengths lead; Jolly Friar and Buccleugh being at the head of the next division. Passing the six furlongs post, Buccleugh ran into second place; behind Idealist; Helen Portland, Jolly Friar, and Czar Kolohol following in the order named. As the field swept round the top turn, Idealist was still holding his own, and entered the straight with a three lengths advantage, which he maintained to the finish, winning comfortably from Seaman, who put in a strong run from the distance and beat Helen Portland by a neck for second place. Buccleugh was half a length further away fourth, while Jolly Friar and Pas Seul were at the head of the others. The time was the fastest on record for the race, and after the first half-mile the field became strung out; several of the horses being clearly outclassed.

The Grand National Steeplechase came next, and of the twelve horses who paid the final acceptance, Hikairo was the only one to decline the contest. Phaetontis, the early favourite for the race, maintained his position in the betting to the finish. Inniskillen, on the strength of his fine track form, being made second favourite. Phaetontis, Needlework, Eclair, and Kaitere were voted the best conditioned animals in the race. A fine start was effected, the field coming down the straight like a line of cavalry. The stand double was negotiated safely, Romany Lad, Inniskillen and Irish being in the lead with Needlework at the head of the second division; Kaitere bringing up at the rear. All got over the fence at Cutts' in fine style, Needlework moving up close behind Irish and Romany Lad. The first of the kennels double proved fatal to Romany Lad, while at the same jump Irish lost ground and allowed Needlework to assume command. The next pair were Evenlode and Phaetontis, Kaitere still being a long way back. As they came into the straight, Needlework, who was jumping beautifully, drew out and led past the stand well clear of Irish, Evenlode and Phaetontis. Passing Cutts', Irish fell back, Evenlode running into second position, just clear of Phaetontis, while Eclair, Loch Fyne, and Slow Tom bunched came next. Going round the turn Slow Tom ran into third place, but came down at the sod wall, where Needlework was leading by three lengths from Phaetontis, Eclair just leading Loch Fyne and Evenlode. Before reaching the straight Kaitere could be seen coming through his field in great style, and at the last fence he was close behind the three leaders, Needlework, Phaetontis, and Eclair. After clearing the last jump, Needlework was first into his stride on the flat; but Eclair, finishing gamely under punishment, got up in the last fifty yards, and after a great struggle, beat Needlework by a length; Kaitere being three lengths away third; next came Phaetontis a dozen lengths away, Nadador, Evenlode, and Irish following at intervals.

There were only four starters in the Tally-ho Steeplechase South Canterbury, as usual, furnishing the winner. Brownhill was leading until six furlongs from home when he fell; Albury then went on and won easily by fifty yards from Jack Snipe.

When the barrier went up for the Jumpers' Flat Race, Landlock crossed in front of Merriwai, Warfire, Cavalry, and Levant, completely spoiling their chances. Stronghold was first to show out, but after going a quarter of a mile he had to give way to Ben Jonson; Lady Hune being at the head of the others. This pair practically had the race to themselves. Ben Jonson after leading throughout, beating the mare by a bare length; Gold Dust was third six lengths away, followed by Leaside, Stronghold and Creusot.

The Enfield Steeplechase was a chapter of accidents. The favourite fell at the first fence, where Pitcher ran off; Wet Blanket came down at the sod wall, while Deerslayer came to grief when leading at the top of the straight. Starlight, who was always in a handy position, gave the best display of jumping, and won easily by five lengths from Sir James; Hinemoa finishing a long way behind, in third place.

The Hack Handicap was run when the light was getting bad, and it was hard to see the colours. There were seventeen starters; Armamento and Jack-a-shore being the first and second favourites. The winner turned up in Hinupai, who came through from the

distance with a strong run, and beat Heorthen somewhat easily, while Volodia, who was leading in the early part of the race, finished third.

On to-day's form in the Jumpers' Flat Handicap, Ben Jonson must be hard to beat in the Grand National Hurdles on Thursday. To-day I like the chances of Merriwai, Ben Jonson, and Shrapnel.

### TALES OF SPORT.

This week's tale in the above series is entitled "When Cupid Captains the Team," and it deals with the ever-popular national pastime of Rugby football. The love interest woven into the story so ingeniously makes it very readable and interesting, and all lovers of football will find this clever story most entertaining and well worth reading.

Marton nominations to-morrow.

Avondale J.C. in a flourishing condition.

Mr J. E. Henrys has been re-appointed handicapper for the Dunedin Jockey Club, and Mr H. Piper has again been appointed starter.

Cuirassier's death at Morrinsville on Wednesday night was due to stoppage of the bowels. He was in good health up till a few days before his death.

The stewards of the Wellington Racing Club have decided to increase the value of the Wellesley, Wellington, and Challenge Stakes by 100sovs each, making each stake 500sovs.

## INTER-PROVINCIAL.

(From Our Own Correspondents.)

### WANGANUI.

Local Gees Getting Ready for the Spring—Kuroki and White Star Going Well—Armistice in Fine Trim—Manipoto with the Strangles—Fishermald Hopping Along Again—Irish Rifle being Prepared for Marton and Bangitikei—General Peel Much Improved—Sedgemoor and Cassiopea—Rapanui—The Hunter Well—Auratus in Work—Gleam Well—Romany King Doing Slow Work—Tapu Well—Mongolia Coming Along—Noifaa Coming Along Well.

WANGANUI, August 13.

Most of the local horses that were spelled after the Wanganui May meeting have been taken up again, and are being got ready for spring meetings.

Kuroki and White Star are galloping in fine style at present, and the former shows no sign of his old leg trouble.

Armistice, the New Zealand Cup candidate, is looking very well, and revels in her work. Harry Jackson should have Mr. Moore's mare in tip-top form by Cup time.

Another New Zealand Cup candidate in work here is Manipoto, who, under T. F. Goddard's guidance, is working nicely, although he has been only restricted to slow work, having had a touch of strangles last week.

Walter Raynor has taken Fishermald in hand again, and she appears to have wintered well.

Irish Rifle has been put on the active list again, and will be seen out at the Marton and Rangitikei meetings.

Geo. Laing should be well repaid this spring, judging by the way General Peel has improved since he took him in hand.

Belcher should have Sedgemoor and Cassiopea very fit by the time the Marton and Rangitikei meetings come round.

Jack Blair took his hunter, Rapanui, through to Pahiatua hunt meeting last week, but had no luck, although the old horse is looking very well and should score a win at the Egmont-Wanganui meeting here this month.

About a dozen horses are in work at Waverley now. Both S. Brereton and E. Oakenfull have a large string in their stables.

Auratus was showing good form over the sticks, but was troubled with



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muscle soreness, so had to be spelled for a time. However, she is working on very nicely now, and will most likely be seen out at Wanganui meeting.

Brereton has Gleam looking splendid, and the Daystar mare should place a win to her credit shortly.

Romany King was rested a while, but is now doing slow work.

Tapu is one that should pay his way this season.

Oakenfull is bringing Mongolia along nicely at present.

Noifaa is in work now, and the Waverley meeting should see him amongst the starters, and more than probable, winners.

### WELLINGTON.

Horowhenua R.C. Alter Their Spring Dates—Their Spring Programme—A Sportsmanlike Action—Mr. Bevan an "All Right" Racing Man—Spring Race Meetings—The New Gaming and Lotteries Bill—The Premier's Reply—More Dodging by Sir Jo!—Totes and Tote Inspectors—A Wise Recommendation—The Double Tote and the Young Rooks—The Wowzers who Battle for Them—The N.Z. Cup Stagnant.

WELLINGTON, August 11.

The Horowhenua Hack Racing Club whose meetings for several seasons have resulted disastrously from a financial point of view decided at their annual meeting to abandon St. Patrick's Day, and hold their annual meeting early in the Spring; the outgoing stewards had with this end in view applied for the 11th and 12th September as dates upon which to hold their meeting, this having been granted a programme has been issued, the principal events being the Horowhenua Cup of 150 sovs, nine furlongs, and the Weraroa Handicap of 100 sovs, seven furlongs. Mr T. Bevan, junr., a Horowhenua horse owner, came in for special thanks for withdrawing his horse from one race at the last meeting instead of claiming a walk over, the club thus saved £50 through Mr Bevan's sportsmanlike action.

Local and provincial horseowners will have their hands full after the end of this month. Marton annual meeting takes place on 4th and 5th September; Horowhenua on 11th and 12th. The Rangitikei Racing Club's meeting follows on the 18th and 19th, and Wanganui on 26th and 27th. Next we have Otaki on October 9th and 10th, and Wellington Racing Club's Spring fixture on the 16th and 19th, this with Masterton meeting on 24th and 25th should give owners a chance to earn sufficient "oof" to go on with, and if their cattle are class enough, to have a cut at the C.J. C. or A.R.C. Spring meeting, where valuable stakes are on offer.



MR. W. DAVIES, re-elected on the committee of the A.R.C.



MR. J. MARSHALL, re-elected on the committee of the A.R.C.

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