

The Takapuna Jockey Club's Summer Meeting opens on Saturday week.

Entries for the Te Aroha Meeting are due with Mr A. S. Mackay on the 24th inst.

Matters are very quiet in racing circles in Auckland, but the Takapuna meeting should liven things up.

There is money, good substantial money (says an authority) not that in small quantity, in breeding horses well, with a fixed end in view. Breed good mares to good horses and you need have no fear of the result. It is bloody that tells in horse breeding. The very nature of the conditions and surroundings requisite to the production of first-class carriage horses will long stand in the way of an over supply. Is there any way in which you can grow £50 worth of farm products with less labour, less capital and better profit than by raising a good horse? From the age of two and one-half years a well-bred colt, properly fed and handled, should be able to do enough work about the farm to pay for his keep.

An interesting breeding experiment has been entered upon by the Iowa State College and the United States Government, with a view to establishing a new breed of grey draught-horses. The object of the experiment is to combine and improve the qualities of the highest excellence of the Shire and Clydesdale, as far as possible, and to eliminate some of the characteristics that are objectionable from the American standpoint. It is the intention to combine the feet, quality, pasterns, and action of the Clydesdale with the more massive proportions of the Shire, and, while doing so, to establish the grey colour and other essential characteristics, which will eventually lead to the development of an American breed of draught horses, better adapted to American conditions than any of the foreign breeds. It is the opinion of the best informed horsemen that the crossing of these breeds will not be attended with the usual uncertain results of cross-breeding experiments, as they have practically the same origin, and have been bred along quite similar lines for many generations. In America, grey is the popular draught horse colour, and other things being equal, a grey gelding commands more money on the market than one of any other colour. Although the Shire and Clydesdale will form the foundation of the experiment, it is possible that some Percheron blood may be introduced later on.

## INTER-PROVINCIAL.

(From Our Own Correspondents.)

### CANTERBURY.

CHRISTCHURCH, January 15.  
Lapland, who ran third in the last New Zealand Cup, has not raced since. He will be a starter in the Wellington Cup. He has been doing good work at Riccarton during the past week or two, and should strip in his best form at Trentham.

Helianthes was also taken up to Wellington, the pair being in charge of Dan Roberts.

Petrovna, who has scored at previous Wellington meetings, Clanchattan, who won a race at the Auckland summer meeting, Sea King Sant Rosaleer, and Sir Artegal, a promising juvenile, are also going up, and between them should account for some of the spare Wellington bullion.

Boniform was not, as was generally expected by those people who profess to know everything that goes on in certain racing stables, left in the Wellington Cup. The Northern Derby winner looked to have an excellent chance in this race, and he was favourite in all the doubles. When will backers leave the Yaldhurst horses alone in handicap races until the day of the race?

Bonny Glen, who has been in active training for some weeks and taken part in some severe contests is having a spell.

Suttee a filly by the Government sire Tyranny, is the first of his sire's get to race in New Zealand. That the filly is smart is shown by the fact that she has lately won six races.

That speedy mare Cross Battery will be given a chance to regain some of her lost laurels at the Wellington meeting. No mare of recent years has put up such fast gallops in private as Cross Battery, but when it comes to racing in public she seems to go all to pieces. At the Cup meeting also at Dunedin she let her connections down badly, and it is quite time she made amends for some of her recent failures when carrying good gold. Medallist is once again bowling

along in his best style. I cannot understand, after his good form early in December, how this horse failed to show up more prominently than he did during his Northern trip. He is certainly worth ticking off for a good race in the near future.

The Grafton mare Mary of Argyle, who ran unsuccessfully at the Cup meeting, is again in active work, as also are Don Orsino Volodia, Hilarity, The Libyan, Gypsobel, Tremulous, Aimee Soult, Sea King, and Pas Seul.

Perhaps the two most disappointing mares racing down this way this season are Cross Battery and Pas Seul. They have both failed to win when their owners thought highly of their chances, and unless they come to light shortly will prove somewhat costly to keep going.

Mr. W. J. Clay, the owner of St. Joe, has gone over to Tasmania to see his horse run in the Hobart Cup.

Sir Geo. Clifford will be represented by a strong team at the Wellington meeting. Clanchattan, Red Rain, Fleetfoot, Stratagem, Sister Anne, De Witte and Cockleshell will comprise the team. Between them they should capture some of the stake money. Fleetfoot will probably prove the most successful member of the team, but Stratagem should go near winning a good handicap event.

Entries for the principal events to be decided at the C.J.C. summer meeting close on Friday next.

The two big autumn handicaps—the Easter and Great Autumn—are each worth 1000sovs this year. Entries close on January 31.

A fair amount of business has been done on the Wellington Cup double—Cup and Telegraph Handicap. Prior to the acceptances, Boniform was a strong favourite for the Cup.

Since the formation of a Pony and Galloway Club at Wellington, inquiries have been made for ponies in the Ashburton district. Some years back this part of Canterbury produced a number of smart ponies, and there is no reason why some cannot be found in the district to-day.

A number of prominent racing men have accepted the invitation to be present at the Wellington summer meeting. This club, through its president, Mr. J. B. Harcourt, has been noted for his liberality in the past in extending invitations to outsiders.

Fleetfoot and Armet are likely to meet in the Wellington Stakes, to be run on Wednesday next. The former has beaten the Menschikoff filly three times in succession over five furlongs and upwards, and is, I think, the better filly.

### WELLINGTON.

WELLINGTON, January 14.  
Trentham is at present the location of a very large number of trainers and their charges. Although a number of extra loose boxes have recently been erected, the accommodation has not proved up to requirements, and in numerous instances, private quarters have been utilised. The number of horses at present housed at Trentham greatly exceeds those of any previous race meeting, and under such circumstances a most successful race gathering seems assured.

E. Cutts and Son, who had the care of Sir Geo. Clifford's respective strings at Manawatu and Ellerslie, have now settled down at Trentham and further reinforcements from the same stable are due to arrive from Riccarton, making in all eight horses that will assist at the W.R.C. Summer Meeting in Sir Geo. Clifford's colours.

R. J. Mason, on his arrival from Auckland, disembarked the filly Armet, and in charge of W. Holmes, sent her to Trentham to await his return from Yaldhurst with Mr Stead's Cup candidate. Boniform was taken south, his mentor explaining that he preferred to exercise him on the Yaldhurst ploughed gallop, pending a decision being arrived at as to his starting for the Wellington Cup, but has since been scratched. Gold Braid, the other Yaldhurst representative has, according to Mason, been kept up to the collar in view of the Wellington meeting.

The Hon. J. D. Ormond's trainer, S. Waddell, has engaged ten boxes, and evidently purposes bringing a fairly numerous team. Rumour has it that Sir Tristram will represent Mr Ormond in the Cup, this notwithstanding that Zimmerman has been sorted out as one of the pick of the Cup Handicap, by those who saw him race at Ellerslie. A local turf scribe, however, points out that many horses, have, in the past, prevailed with heavy impost on the Ellerslie course, and have later ignominiously failed with more lenient imposts on other racecourses. This he attributes to the fact that the concluding portion of the Ellerslie course is slightly down hill. Heavily weighted horses are thus enabled to ease their tightened muscles whilst descending the incline, and are ready to respond to final challenges when tackled in the last stages of the contest.

F. Tilly has elected to be represented in the Wellington Cup by Apa. This horse ran second to Achilles last year, carrying 7st 12lb, and although he failed to distinguish himself in the Auckland Cup, he may prove more serviceable to his party over the Wellington Cup distance. His second to Master Delay for the C.J.C. Metropolitan Handicap is worth bearing in mind. Sir Frisco, runner-up to Elevation for the Palmerston Stakes, will accompany Apa, and may take a hand in the Telegraph Handicap, in which he has a handy impost. Motukawa, a maiden 4-year-old son of Waiuku, and Paone, a two-year-old filly by Stepniak-Armigera, complete the Forde's team.

J. Prosser (who is about again after being laid aside through indisposition), will arrive at Trentham on Monday with a somewhat numerous team. All Red, William, Swimming Bell, Gauge, Atuahua, Playmate, and a couple of Stepniak two-year-olds, constitute the list of Prosser's charges; one of the latter a colt by Stepniak. Tortulla is mentioned as one that will stand any amount of scrutiny. The stable will miss the services of C. Jenkins during the meeting. The latter, however, has been located at Porirua for some time, and the schooling he has given some of the younger animals will have asserted them in the art of galloping.

R. Gooseman, E. J. Rae, F. Davis, and T. Quinliven, are expected on Tuesday with the Hawke's Bay representatives, and when the balance of the Canterbury horses put in an appearance, Trentham should bear a lively appearance.

The local trainers have their horses engaged to their full strength, but unfortunately local owners are poorly represented in the matter of class. Some of the local racing stables badly want replenishing. There are too many "has-beens" devouring valuable fodder, that would be better expended on younger animals. Balarat lasts well and may pay her way during the season.

J. Lowe has realised that Aeolus has not yet recovered from the exertions of undergoing a New Zealand Cup preparation, and it is reported that the son of Euroclydon will not be saddled up during the meeting—(quite a number of horses are yearly ruined by the N.Z. Cup preparations). Some of Lowe's lesser lights may be given a run, but the travelling and knocking about they have recently received may not have improved them. A fairly large contingent of horses are expected from Wairarapa, including Riflemaid, Gawain, Full Rate, Mo'lock, Sunbonnet, San Julie, Lochilla, Russell, Mauid and Gratiation. The latter claims an engagement in the Wellington Stakes for which race his relative Elevation was unlucky enough to be defeated by Guidwife last year.

The terms offered the bookmakers by the Wellington Racing Club have been well received by the Metalliceans, and if rumour speaks correctly, there will be somewhere between thirty and forty bookmakers laying the odds at Trentham. The club are, I understand, prepared to issue licenses to as many as make applications accompanied by the stipulated fees, leaving the backers to choose for themselves for the meeting.

### TARANAKI JOCKEY CLUB.

#### AUTUMN MEETING.

President: Captain Mace, N.Z.C. Vice-President: Mr. A. Standish. Stewards: The President, Chairman of Committee (Mr. F. Watson), Judge and Treasurer (ex officio), and Messrs. Thos. Elliot, B. Elliott, A. Hill, N. King, C. M. Lepper, S. McGuinness, W. L. Newman, Hon. O. Samuel, M.L.C., A. Standish, C. H. Weston, D. S. Wylie. Judge: Mr. A. W. Budge. Starter: Mr. C. O'Connor. Handicapper: Mr. G. Morse. Clerk of the Scales: Mr. Ab. Goldwater. Assistant: Mr. W. C. Weston. Clerk of the course: Mr. G. W. Heslop. Hon. Surgeon: Dr. Fookes. Timekeeper: Mr. F. Stohr.

#### FIRST DAY, WEDNESDAY, 25th MARCH, 1908.

- 12 noon.—KAWAROA HANDICAP HACK HURDLES of 60sovs; second horse to receive 10sovs from the stakes. Over six flights of hurdles about 3ft 6in high. Entrance, 1sov; acceptance, 1sov. One mile and a-half.
- 12.45 p.m.—STEWARDS' HANDICAP of 100sovs; second horse to receive 10sovs from the stakes. Entrance, 1sov. acceptance, 1sov. Five furlongs.
- 1.30 p.m.—PUKAKA HACK HANDICAP of 65sovs; second horse to receive 10sovs from the stakes. Entrance, 1sov; acceptance, 1sov. Six furlongs.
- 2.15 p.m.—TARANAKI CUP HANDICAP of 300sovs; second horse to receive 25sovs, and third horse to receive 10sovs from the stakes. In the event of any horse winning a handicap of the value of 100sovs or over, after the declaration of weights, the handicapper may, if he thinks fit, re-handicap each winner. If the weight of any horse is altered, the revised handicap will be published on or about Friday, the 20th March, 1908. Entrance, 1sov; acceptance, 4sovs. One mile and a-quarter.

- 5.3 p.m.—FIRST WELTER HANDICAP of 100sovs; second horse to receive 15sovs from the stakes. Entrance, 1sov; acceptance, 1sov. One mile.
- 3.45 p.m.—KAITAKE HACK HANDICAP of 65sovs; second horse to receive 10sovs from the stakes. Entrance, 1sov; acceptance, 1sov. One mile.
- 4.30 p.m.—FLYING HANDICAP of 110sovs; second horse to receive 10 sovs from the stakes. Entrance, 1sov; acceptance, 2sovs. Six furlongs.
- 5.15 p.m.—HACK SCURRY of 50 sovs; second horse to receive 5sovs from the stakes. Weight, 8st. For horses that have never won a race of the value of 25sovs at the time of entrance. Entrance, 1sov. Five furlongs.

#### SECOND DAY, THURSDAY, 26th MARCH, 1908.

- 12 noon.—PUKETORI HANDICAP HACK HURDLES of 60sovs; second horse to receive 10sovs from the stakes. Over six flights of hurdles about 3ft 6in high. Entrance, 1sov; acceptance, 1sov. One mile and a-half.
- 12.45 p.m.—GRANDSTAND HANDICAP of 100sovs; second horse to receive 10sovs from the stakes. Entrance, 1sov; acceptance, 1sov. Five furlongs.
- 1.30 p.m.—WHAREPAPA HACK HANDICAP of 65sovs; second horse to receive 10sovs from the stakes. Entrance, 1sov; acceptance, 1sov. Six furlongs.
- 2.15 p.m.—PAUL MEMORIAL HANDICAP of 200sovs; second horse to receive 20sovs, and third horse 10 sovs from the stakes. Entrance, 1sov; acceptance, 3sovs. One mile and a distance.
- 3 p.m.—SECOND WELTER HANDICAP of 100sovs; second horse to receive 15sovs from the stakes. Entrance, 1sov; acceptance, 1sov. Seven furlongs.
- 3.45 p.m.—KAWAU HACK HANDICAP of 65sovs; second horse to receive 10sovs from the stakes. Entrance, 1sov; acceptance, 1sov.
- 4.30 p.m.—FAREWELL HANDICAP of 80sovs; second horse to receive 10sovs from the stakes. Entrance, 1sov; acceptance, 1sov. Six furlongs.
- 5.15 p.m.—FINAL HACK FLUTTER of 50sovs; second horse to receive 10sovs from the stakes. Open to horses that have never won a race of any description at time of starting. Weight, 8st 7lb. Entrance, 1 sov. Five furlongs.

Winners of any Handicap (other than Cup) after declaration of weights to carry 5lb extra.  
Winners of any Handicap Hurdles after the declaration of weights to carry 7lb extra.

#### DATES OF ENTRANCE, WEIGHTS, AND ACCEPTANCES.

Nominations for the following Handicaps will close on FRIDAY, 13th February, 1908 at 9 p.m., 1sov each:—Kawaroa Hack Hurdles, Stewards' Handicap, Pukaka Hack Handicap, Taranaki Cup Handicap, First Welter Handicap, Kaitake Hack Handicap, Flying Handicap, Puketori Hack Handicap Hurdles, Grandstand Handicap, Wharepapa Hack Handicap, Paul Memorial Handicap, Second Welter Handicap, Kawau Hack Handicap, Farewell Handicap.  
WEIGHTS for the First Day's Handicaps will be published on or about MONDAY, March 9th, 1908.  
ACCEPTANCES for the Kawaroa Hack Hurdles, 1sov; Stewards' Handicap, 1sov; Pukaka Hack Handicap, 1sov; Taranaki Cup Handicap, 4sovs; Welter Handicap, 1sov; Kaitake Hack Handicap, 1sov; Flying Handicap, 2 sovs; and

ENTRIES for the Hack Scurry and Final Hack Flutter, 1sov each, will close on SATURDAY, 14th March, 1908, at 9 p.m.

#### RULES AND REGULATIONS.

All Entries will close at the Secretary's Office, New Plymouth, at 9 p.m., except when otherwise specified.  
All Entries to be sealed and addressed to the Secretary, Taranaki Jockey Club, New Plymouth, entrance money enclosed, with the name of horse, age at time of entry, pedigree, name of owner, colours of the rider, and name of trainer.  
Every Gentleman Rider or Jockey must produce his license to the Clerk of the Scales.  
All Races to be run under the N.Z. Rules of Racing.  
MUSSELL FLEETWOOD, Secretary.

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