

'Un, of course, looks to have a splendid chance in the Caulfield Cup, but he is decidedly not a true stayer. Weight-for-age form is often deceptive, and Pink 'Un might find the Caulfield Cup distance a bit too much for him, though it must be admitted his weight (8st 11lb) is a very favourable one.

The Auckland Soupline won the rich Toorak Handicap on Saturday. He stayed out the mile all right, but the company was moderate and the time nothing remarkable.

Mr. W. H. Moorehouse gave some interesting particulars of the early history of the club at the annual meeting of the Wellington Racing Club. The first fixture ever held was on the Petone beach on October 20th, 1842, and the prize was ten sovereigns and a sweepstake. The winner was Mr. Watt's Figaro, Mr. Molesworth's Calmic Tartar was second, and Mr. George Hunter's Temperance third. The only other starter was Mr. Bannister's Sulky, a carthorse which used to undertake heavy tasks on the Petone beach. The next meeting was held at Alicetown, and subsequently Te Aro Flat and Burnham Water, Miramar, were the meeting grounds. It was not till after the big earthquake of 1855 that the old Hutt course was brought into use, the upheaval having rendered that ground fit to race upon. From the Hutt a change was made to the present headquarters at Trentham.

In a recent issue our Wanganui correspondent stated that Mr. F. Preston, owner of 'Frisco, was prepared to back his horse against Taitoki over a mile course for £500 a-side, the horses to carry the same weights they did in the Wanganui Handicap. Mr. Preston writes to give the rumour an emphatic denial. As he puts it, "I have never made such a statement, for I accepted the beating as a sportsman should do. No doubt the best horse on the day won."

Death has been somewhat busy in the racing world in England of late, a well-known figure in William Day passed away just before the last mail left Home. The erstwhile Woodyeates trainer had so long since relinquished the practice of his profession that his name alone is familiar to the modern generation of turfites; but few men have made a greater mark than this representative of a famous family. Curiously enough, the best animal he ever trained was about the last, for on the day that he carried off the Cambridgeshire under the record burden of 9st. Foxhall must have been a "horse and a-half" (says the Licensed Victuallers' Gazette). There were some pretty good ones about at this time, too, and in view of his subsequent performances it seems almost incredible that a horse could successfully concede Foxhall nearly three stone, as Bend or did earlier in the season in the City and Suburban. During his retirement William Day's memory has been kept alive by his contributions to racing history, and few more interesting volumes have ever been written with the Turf as their subject than his extensively read "Reminiscences."

What is declared to be an unparalleled fortune for a bookmaker has been left by Mr. George Cooper, who collapsed while following his profession at Brighton (England) races, and died next morning. His estate is understood to be worth close on £500,000. Nothing approaching this figure can, it is remarked, be recalled in the case of bookmakers. In recent times the largest fortune left by a member of the profession was that of Mr. Alec. Harris, who died worth about £150,000. Mr. Harris began life with a charity school education and a head for figures. Mr. Cooper was originally a stonemason in the north, and he began his career as a bookmaker by making a "copper" book on a piece of waste ground in his dinner hour. From this humble beginning he in time rose to be one of the leading operators, everyone who went racing being acquainted with the firm of Cooper and Rowson. Mr. Rowson, who predeceased his partner by two or three years, left only about £80,000, but he probably spent as much as that on his family, the luxuries of life, and in charity. Mr. Cooper, unlike his partner, was a bachelor, with inexpensive tastes. It was not to bookmaking exclusively that he owed his great fortune, though that provided him with the means of making money in other directions. Among other things he was an extensive land owner in Cheshire. There are several bookmakers whose resources must surpass even those of Mr. Cooper.

The Seaton Delaval—St. Evelyn filly has been named Sea Elf, a rather neat effort in equine nomenclature. The Eton—Lute colt will race as Waitata, also a good name. The colt by Soult—Castorline has been named Maxwell, and the Soult—Lottie colt St. Amant. All four are in F. Macmanemin's stable.

The Soult gelding Duart won the Flying Handicap at Otaki yesterday with the utmost ease, and as he reeled off the six furlongs in 1m. 15 4-5s., registered a very attractive performance.

The Auckland Trotting Club is calling for tenders for the publican's booth and outside stalls for the coming season.

Analogy (The Officer—Anadyomene) is the latest inmate of N. Cunningham's stable at Ellerslie.

I learn that the Messrs. Duder, who have raced together for many years, have severed partnership. Mr. Richard Duder will continue to use the black and gold colours, while the racing jacket of brother Bob will be the tricolor (red, white, and blue bands).

Three race meetings were in progress yesterday in different parts of the colony, viz., at Napier Park, Otaki, and Dunedin. At the two former the weather was fine, but at Dunedin it was showery.

The North Otago Jockey Club's spring meeting will take place on October 22 and 23.

The Wellington Pony and Gallopway Club will bring off another meeting at Miramar next Saturday.

Rooseveltdt, the three-year-old son of Menschikoff and Yankee Mary, won the Maiden Plate at Otaki yesterday. It was the first time he had caught the judge's eye.

Leonardo, an aged chestnut gelding by Euroclydon, won the Spring Hurdles with the utmost ease at the Dunedin Jockey Club's Spring Meeting.

The Te Hiwi Memorial Stakes at Otaki only drew three starters, Iranui getting home by a length.

Don Carlos, who easily annexed the Maiden Hurdles at Otaki yesterday, is a six-year-old gelding by Mauser from Pin Money. Last year he started seven times without scoring a win.

Reservoir, who, it will be remembered, won the Second Hurdle Race at the recent Avondale meeting, added another race to his credit at Napier Park yesterday, when he annexed the Taradale Hurdles by a length. Reservoir is an aged son of Jet d'Eau and Cartouche, who last season won four races in twenty-two starts.

## INTER-PROVINCIAL.

(From Our Own Correspondents.)

### CANTERBURY.

CHRISTCHURCH, October 14.

California is not engaged in many events at the Riccarton carnival, but his name figures in two weight-for-age races—the Canterbury Cup and the Stead Memorial Cup. Good judges contend that the son of San Fran will be champion of the year over any distance and will take the place vacated by Achilles.

The three New Zealand Cup candidates, Master Delaval, Master Soult and Downfall won races at the Hawke's Bay meeting, but did not incur any penalty for the big two mile handicap. It is freely stated that the last-named will carry Mr. T. H. Lowry's colours in the cup and that the much boomed Bobrikoff will start in the Stewards' Handicap.

The Ohoka Racing Club made a profit of £104 over its late race meeting. The totalisator receipts showed a falling off, but bookmakers' fees made up for the deficiency.

There was a great run on Truganani for the Final Handicap at the Hawke's Bay meeting. Backers would not hear of the filly's defeat, and as a result bookmakers closed down some time before the race was run.

The defeat of Nobel and Nauti-

form in their Hawke's Bay classic engagements came as a severe crusher to supporters of the yellow jacket and black cap stable. It is a long time since two youngsters racing in these colours, failed to score a place in their early spring engagement.

Saga has gone down to Dunedin and will be racing here this week. She is well handicapped certainly, and possesses a chance in whatever race she starts in. After racing at Oamaru the mare will come on to Riccarton for the cup meeting.

Contender has been tried over the small hurdles and shaped fairly well for a beginner. He has been a great disappointment on the flat lately and although showing good form on the tracks he has failed to repeat it in races.

Bonny Glen and St. Joe have lately shown signs of soreness and their starting in the N.Z. Cup must not be considered a certainty. From what I can gather neither will stand wind-up gallops for the big event.

Lapland is sticking to his work in good style and is probably one of the gamest and soundest horses in New Zealand. He ran third in last year's cup, has been racing all the year, and is now standing up well to another preparation for the Cup. Harvest, White Cockade, All Guns, Valdimar, Le Russe, Manga, Mythical, Leeside and Montreal have left for the Dunedin meeting this week.

Artillerie and Sea King, two Stewards' Handicap candidates, were racing at the A.J.C. Spring Meeting and each scored a second. This pair are nicely weighted in the Stewards' Handicap and both may be expected to take part in the race.

Count Witte has been doing some smart half-mile sprints and is evidently right at the top of his form.

Master Delaval and Frisco are now equal favourites for the N.Z. Cup.

### OTAGO.

DUNEDIN, October 14.

The Dunedin Jockey Club hold their spring meeting to-day (Wednesday) and Thursday, and under favourable circumstances it should prove the best opening of the season we have had at Wingatui. The club has had an uphill battle during the past few years, but the tide has latterly turned in their favour and a couple of successful seasons should see us getting back some of the prestige which formerly surrounded our chief fixtures.

Since Optional has joined R. Ellis' stable the colt has improved and is now shaping well on the track. Optional derived his name from the fact that his owner and breeder was found guilty of a breach of the Licensing Act and the verdict of £50 or three monthse was an option which created the name.

Optional was got by Casket from Offchance, a daughter of Foul Shot that was a useful sort in moderate company.

Sacha is getting through useful work again after being stopped through contracting a cold which put a break to his preparation for early spring events. Sacha does not appear to have grown a great deal since last year, but has thickened considerably since he last carried silk. Sacha is a half-brother to Apollodoris and two such equine contrasts are seldom produced by the same dam. Apollodoris is long, very plain and short, whilst Sacha is one of the round sort.

There appears to be an increasing interest taken in trotting, and the formation of two new clubs in Oamaru and Timaru gives a solid evidence of that fact. The formation of both clubs has been attended by a considerable amount of success as each of them will have a lengthy membership roll.

When in Oamaru recently the writer was taken over the land on which it is proposed to lay out a track. It is perfectly level and when put in shape should make an excellent course. It is the Oamaru club's intention to come out with an attractive programme for the inaugural meeting.

The Invercargill cup is to be endowed with a stake of 100 sovs, and the principal race of the second day of the S.R.C. summer meeting will be worth 80 sovs. Last season the principal race was worth 70 sovs on the first day and that of the second 60 sovs. At the forthcoming meeting 800 sovs will be given away during the two days, and as the dates fit in nicely with the D.J.C. summer meeting it is to be hoped that owners will not overlook the fact but help along the southern club in its progressive effort.

Crichton's N.Z. Cup chances may be put out of consideration, as he has gone lame again and is not likely to stand a preparation.

The Multiform colt Beneform, in the same stable, is also believed to be amiss. It is to be hoped that there is nothing seriously wrong with the latter as he has given indications that if fit and well he would be a good winner.

The latest addition to J. Rutledge's team is a fine upstanding 3-year-old colt by Stepniak from Gipsy Countess, a sister to the N.Z. Cup winner Grand Rapids. He is called Grand View and now looks a very promising bargain at the 22gns which was paid for him as a yearling.

Jack Ashore, bearing signs of a thorough blistering, is again an active member of J. Rutledge's team. In addition to Grand View, Rutledge has another stranger in his team in the shape of Invincible, a brown by Conqueror from Lady Spencer.

Grafton Lock, who was struck out of his D.J.C. spring engagements, is looking bright and well and getting through useful tasks on the track.

Mr. L. C. Hazlett has a lot of bad luck with his Australian purchases and his part of Rutledge's team, has had more bad luck than good fortune during the past 12 months.

The N.Z. racing clubs are the greatest libellers of the dominion's bloodstock that we have. They persist from year to year in clinging to the idiotic appellation of "hack" for a large number of events on their programmes and thereby depreciate the value of our horses in the eye of outsiders who, no doubt, read the term in the sense to which it really belongs. Our clubs should do their utmost to raise the prestige of our bloodstock, and if they went the first step in this direction we should probably have more foreign buyers amongst us than is at present the case. The latest proof of the absurdity of the term "hack" is supplied by Kopu who, on the 1st day of the Hawke's Bay meeting, won the Maiden Hack Handicap, and on the second day came out and beat Aborigine and five others in the Hawke's Bay Guineas, in the smart time of 1min 41 1-5sec, which is only a "tick" slower than Menschikoff's record for the race. Kopu was got by San Fran from Maude, the dam of Mahutonga and ran three times without success last year.

The death is reported from the West Coast of T. Burns, who, a few years ago, was a well-known lightweight in Dunedin. Burns, in his best day, was a very capable rider, and his early death will be regretted by his many southern friends.

### WANGANUI.

WANGANUI, October 14.

A reminder is given to owners and trainers that nominations for the Waverley Racing Club's annual race meeting, to be held on the King's Birthday, close on Monday, the 19th inst.

A large number of horses are in work here with a view to competing at Waverley, while the tracks there and at Hawera are also very busy.

Waddy, the full-sister to Boomerang, is now in work again, having recovered from the rick she sustained just prior to the Wanganui meeting. She will be given a run at the Waverley meeting, where her stable companion, Marshal, will also be engaged.

Tip-toe and Mallet, both of whom are trained at Hawera, will most likely be amongst the starters at the Wellington meeting, and will then go on to Riccarton. Tip-toe has not been asked to do very much since the racing here, but appears all the better for it. The son of Sylvia Park—Hark has been awarded 7.9 in the Stewards' Handicap, and in view of the good form he showed here, he cannot be considered badly treated.

Tan San is being worked the reverse way on the tracks in preparation for the Auckland Spring Meeting, at which the Fordell stable will also probably be represented by The Lark. The little son of Nestor is going along well, and should not be long in winning a race or two.

I understand that Mr. L. G. Bremer, owner of Kereroa, has decided not to appeal against the verdict of the Wanganui Metropolitan Club in the Frisco case.

It is considered that Maharani will not face the starter in the New Zealand Cup, while his stable mates (Mallet and Tip-toe) are hardly likely to run in that event, though Tip-toe may be regarded as fairly sure to run in the Stewards' Handicap.