



RACING.

(BY "THE JUDGE.")



RACING CALENDAR.

SEASON 1907.

FIXTURES.

- Dec. 9, 10—Woodville District J.C.
- Dec. 11, 12—Lake County J.C.
- Dec. 12, 16—Christchurch R.C.
- Dec. 16—Rakata R.C.
- Dec. 16, 17—Dannevirke R.C.
- Dec. 18—Alexandra J.C.
- Dec. 23, 26, 28—Manawatu R.C.
- Dec. 26—Murchison R.C.
- Dec. 26—Alexandra R.C.
- Dec. 26—Waipapakauri R.C.
- Dec. 26—Kaikoua R.C.
- Dec. 26—Porangahau R.C.
- Dec. 26, 28—Dunedin J.C.
- Dec. 26, 28—Reefton J.C.
- Dec. 26, 28—Lower Valley J.C.
- Dec. 26, 28—Cromwell J.C.
- Dec. 26, 28—Taranaki J.C.
- Dec. 26, 28—Thames J.C.
- Dec. 26 and 28—Thames J.C.
- Dec. 26, 30, Jan. 1, 2—A.R.C.
- Dec. 28, 31, Jan. 9—Auckland Trotting Club
- Dec. 29—Ashhurst-Pohangina R.C.
- Dec. 31, Jan. 1—Greyouth J.C.
- Jan. 1—Cheviot R.C.
- Jan. 8 and 9—Whangarei R.C.
- Jan. 1—Houhora R.C.
- Jan. 1, 2—Hawke's Bay J.C.
- Jan. 1, 2—Stratford R.C.
- Jan. 1—Wynham R.C.
- Jan. 1—Waikouaiti R.C.
- Jan. 1, 2—Vincent J.C.
- Jan. 1, 2—Wairarapa R.C.
- Jan. 1, 2—Rangitikei R.C.
- Jan. 2, 4—Southland R.C.
- Jan. 6, 7—Tuapeka County J.C.
- Jan. 13—Wairoa J.C.
- Jan. 19, 20—Waioa County R.C.
- Jan. 20, 22, 23—Wellington R.C.
- Jan. 22, 23—Gore R.C.
- Jan. 22, 23—Foxton R.C.
- Jan. 23—Ohaupo R.C.
- Jan. 27, 28—Pahiatua R.C.
- Jan. 27, 28—Tapanui R.C.
- Jan. 29, 30, Feb. 3—Takapuna J.C.
- Feb. 11 and 12—Poverty Bay T.C.

NOMINATIONS.

- Dec. 11—Auckland Trotting Club
- Dec. 18—Takapuna J.C. (sprint events)
- Dec. 18—Whangarei R.C.
- Jan. 8—Takapuna J.C.
- Jan. 9—Poverty Bay T.C.
- Jan. 30—Poverty Bay T.C.

HANDICAPS.

- Dec. 11—A.R.C.
- Dec. 11—A.R.C. Summer.
- Dec. 15—Auckland Trotting Club
- Dec. 30—Whangarei R.C.
- Jan. 8—Takapuna J.C. (special events)
- Jan. 15—Takapuna J.C.
- Feb. 5—Poverty Bay T.C.

ACCEPTANCES.

- Dec. 11—Thames J.C.
- Dec. 18—A.R.C.
- Dec. 18—Auckland Trotting Club
- Jan. 5—Whangarei R.C.
- Jan. 22—Takapuna J.C.
- Feb. 6—Poverty Bay T.C.

FINAL PAYMENTS.

- Dec. 18—Auckland Cup
- Dec. 18—Thames J.C.

THE AUCKLAND CUP.

Acceptances fell due for the Auckland Cup on Friday last and much interest naturally centred in what horses would be paid up for. The result proved somewhat disappointing for, of the forty-nine horses handicapped by Mr Morse, but eighteen remain in the race. As several of those will hardly see the post all thoughts of a record field have departed and it is probable that not more than a dozen will contest the long distance handicap. The most prominent of those through whose names the scratching pen has been put are Signor, Frisco, Tangimoana, Mahutu, Aborigine, St. Aidan, Tip Toe, and All Guns. The top weight Zimmerman is evidently to be given a run and he is sure to do better than at Christchurch. The brilliant sprinter Bobrikoff also remains in the list, but it looks as though his owner is somewhat in the dark as to the horses staying ability, for he has also retained the N.Z. Cup winner Downfall to carry his colours. Master De'aval is certain to see the post—bar accidents, and will be running on when many are stopping. California has rather lost caste of late, but is nicely weighted, and Moral is sure to run better than he did during the Spring meeting at Ellerslie. All Red, Uhlando and Ikon are three more visitors, and another southerner in Diabolo may be ticked off as a certain competitor who will represent a powerful stable. Auckland's best representations will be Master Delaval, Carl Rosa, and Te Aroha and these hardly look strong enough to

defeat the very powerful visiting contingent. Under the circumstances it seems very probable that the richest prize of the A.R.C. Meeting will be carried off by a Southern owner.

THE GREAT NORTHERN DERBY.

We are somewhat accustomed to seeing the Great Northern Derby resolve itself into something of a one-horse race, but this does not look like proving the case on January 1. This will be the thirty-fifth occasion on which the event has been run and it would appear that there is considerable prospect of a strong and representative field going to the post for the big classic event. Sixteen have paid the second forfeit, but some of these would appear to have been left in by mistake. It is, however, quite possible there may be nine starters and most of the big stables will be represented. Mr J. Monk will have Diabolo, a black son of Stepniak to Tortulla, to represent him. The yellow and black livery of the Messrs Stead will be worn by the rider of the Seaton Delaval—Prob'em colt Nobel. The blue and white of Mr E. J. Watt will be seen on Aborigine, who ran so well at the A.R.C. meeting. Master Soul (Soul—Lady Hester) will be Auckland's strongest representative, who may possibly avenge his southern defeat, but would doubtless prefer a shorter course. A good word has been said for Shuja, a brown son of Soul and Sprite. The all cerise of the Hon. J. D. Ormond will be borne by the Birkenhead—Montread colt St. Aidan. Another Hawke's Bay representative still in the list is Chanteuse, the daughter of Merriwee and Cantatrice representing Mr. T. H. Lawry. Sir George Clifford will, of course, have acting on his behalf that greatly-improved colt Husbandman (Treadmill—Golden Vale) who recently won the C.J.C. Derby. Another likely starter is Mrs J. Leonard's black colt Santa Rosa (Soul—Vieux Rose) who won the Avondale Guineas. If this lot goes to the post it should prove the most interesting tussle for the Blue Ribbon of the North seen here for many years, and will prove furthermore a remarkably good betting race, which has not usually been the case. Indeed it would not be surprising to find the race rival the Cup in point of popularity with the noble army of punters.

GOLDEN PROSPECTS AT ASCOT AND RICHMOND.

Mr. John Wren, the well-known Victorian sportsman, has an interesting announcement to make in this issue. This is in stating his future intentions for the Ascot and Richmond racecourses. In March next there will be a Novice Handicap of £300 for all horses that have never won a race worth £25 or more to the winner. All ponies are eligible for this, notwithstanding what they may have won. In July there will be a Height class race of £300 (five furlongs), and in September another, the famous "thousand pounder." Then in July there is to be a £500 for horses, and in November one of £1000, these two 5½ furlong handicaps being open to all-comers. There is evidently money to be won on the Melbourne pony courses next year.

THE POVERTY BAY TURF CLUB.

The programme is announced of the Poverty Bay Turf Club's annual meeting which is to take place on the Makaraka racecourse on February 11 and 12. Eight events are to be decided each date, and it will be noticed on referring to the programme that a very considerable increase has been made in the stake money. The chief events on the opening day are the Turanga Stakes of 200sovs., 1¼ miles, and the Flying Handicap of 85 sovs., 6 furlongs. On the second day the leading items are the Stewards Handicap of 80sovs., 7 furlongs, the Sunderland Stakes of 150sovs., one mile, and the Publicans' Purse of 75 sovs., 5 furlongs. The programme is

easily the most attractive yet put forward by the club, and it should have the effect of inducing owners to nominate freely. Mr. D. R. De Costa, the secretary, will take nominations up till 9.30 p.m. on January 9, and for events in which there is no acceptance up to January 30.

THE AUCKLAND TROTTING CLUB.

One of the chief attractions of the Christmas holidays in Auckland is the summer meeting of the Auckland Trotting Club, which will take place on December 28, 31, and January 9. So far as the light harness horse goes this is the premier event of the year in the North Island. Very substantial prizes have been hung up by the old established club, while every description of trotting horse has been catered for, as will be seen by the programme, which will be found on another page. Under the circumstances it may be expected that the entries will prove very numerous. Owners are reminded that these close with Mr. C. F. Mark, the secretary, to-morrow (Friday) evening, at 9 p.m.

THE WHANGAREI RACING CLUB.

When the host of holiday meetings have been got through and racing matters have cooled down somewhat, one of the meetings, which always engages a good deal of attention, is the summer meeting of the Whangarei Racing Club. This will take place on Friday and Saturday, January 8 and 9, and for it a good programme has been arranged, particulars of which can be found in another column. Owners must not overlook the fact that entries are due either with Mr. Dent or Mr. Hayr, on December 18.

WINNING JOCKEYS.

The month's suspension to which he was subjected for alleged foul riding undoubtedly cost F. Wootton premier position in this season's list of winning jockeys in England. On his return to the saddle Wootton rode with marvellous success, but though in about four weeks he scored 32 wins, bringing his total up to 130, that still left him nine behind D. Maher when the flat-racing season closed. W. Higgs finished third with 124, and O. Madden was probably fourth, for when the latest papers to hand left England he filled that position, and was a long way ahead of the fifth man on the list. The three leaders last year were: W. Higgs, 149; D. Maher, 114, and W. Halsey, 103; while Wootton was only thirteenth with 39. Though Maher has been riding in England nine seasons, this is the first time he has topped the list. On five previous occasions he got into three figures, and his English wins now total 846.

TARDY APPRECIATION.

Marcovill, winner of the Cambridge-shire, is not one of the easiest horses in the world to ride (says an English paper), and a less powerful jockey than Leslie Hewitt would probably have experienced considerable difficulty in keeping him straight. It is admitted on all hands that just at the present time the English Turf is poorly off so far as capable horsemen are concerned, and under the circumstances it is to be regretted that Hewitt has accepted a retainer to ride in Germany next season. The Australian cannot, however, be blamed for the step he has taken, the encouragement he has received in this country having been by no means on a par with his abilities.

NOTES ON THE RECENT FEILDING MEETING.

The Feilding Jockey Club's Summer Meeting was held in glorious weather, and there was a large attendance on both days, the crowd on the opening day being a record one. The amount of money handled by the "tote" staff showed a big drop on last year's figures. In 1907 the figures were: First day, £12,789; second day, £14,529;

total, £27,318. 1908: First day, £8909; second day, £8074; total, £16,893. The bookmakers' fees for the 1908 meeting amounted to £810, so that the club's income from betting channels would be about on a par with that of last year. The fields were large throughout, and quality was well represented, while the racing was very interesting. The starting on the first day was very faulty, Mr. R. R. Aldworth not proving a success at the barrier, but after his resignation of the position, Mr. Tom Cameron took up the duties and he excelled himself, the starts being really splendid in the various events.

The big fields showed that the club will have to devise some way of widening the course opposite the grandstand, where the track is too narrow to enable such big fields to be started properly.

Golden Eagle led off by beating a big field in the Flying Handicap, in which the St. Clements mare was made favourite. She got the best of the start, and won in the good time of 1.14 1-5sec. Catapult got left at the post. The Hack Welter saw Shuja (the three-year-old Soul colt) demonstrate that his win at Waverley was no fluke, as he beat a field of 14 like a racehorse, though he got away well. The time for the seven furlongs was 1.28 1-5sec., and as Shuja had 8.9 on his back it was a remarkably good performance. The Wanganui trained and owned Eclogue ran second.

Moral was made favourite for the St. Andrew's Handicap, but Husbandman gave further evidence of his quality by winning comfortably from The Lark. The latter slipped at the start, otherwise might have troubled the winner. Eleven started. Oryx jumped well in the Spring Hurdles, and put in a fine run at the finish which landed him a winner by half-a-head from Don Carlos, who looked to have the race at his mercy at the distance.

Stayboy scored a meritorious win in the Hack Hurdles, in which Mr. Coleman's Moose (by Sou'-wester) ran a very creditable second, and paid a good price. Gold Crest's win in the Feilding Stakes has been referred to as a lucky one, and it may be that had Provocation got off the mark with the Gold Reef horse the Birkenhead colt would have scored. However, the time recorded—60 3-5secs—and the ease with which he won, stamped the performance put up by Gold Crest as a remarkably good one. There were eight starters, Armlet being sent out favourite.

Fourteen went to the post in the Kiwitea Welter, which was won after a punishing finish by Ikon (San Fran—Nymph). The half-brother to Gold Crest got away particularly well, and was thus helped to victory.

Sir Antrim won the last event of the day—the Fitzroy Hack Flying—comfortably, and paid a surprisingly good dividend considering his recent Wairarapa successes.

On the second day proceedings opened with the York Stakes, which resulted in a head victory for Mr. D. Buick's fine colt Rangipapa, Crucinella making a great effort on the outside, and fighting out a most exciting finish. The time recorded was 1.14 2-5sec, which shows that the pace was hot. C. Jenkins rode the winner, and R. Hatch the half-sister to Nonette, and the two crack riders each put in some of their best work.

Lady Menschikoff next won the Nikau Hack from a good field after another race, and then Muskerry scored in the Manchester Handicap (the big money) from eight others easily in 2.6 3-5sec, a remarkably fast time for the mile and a-quarter. R. Hatch rode both Muskerry and Lady Menschikoff.

The big hurdles provided a splendid race, the jumping being good all round, old Mahoe getting home in capital style. D'Nil was made favourite for the Hack Hurdles, and the Crackshot gelding landed the stake for Mr. H. M. Speed (a popular official of the Wanganui Jockey Club.)

Stayboy won the Welter Hack comfortably from ten others, and then Ikon was made a slightly better fav-