



[BY PETRONEL.]

TROTTING CALENDAR.

FIXTURES.

February 17, Sat; 21, Wed; 24, Sat—Otahuhu T.C. Summer

NOMINATIONS.

January 26—Otahuhu T.C. Summer
May 4—Ashburton T.C. Autumn

HANDICAPS.

February 2—Otahuhu T.C. Summer

ACCEPTANCES.

February 9—Otahuhu T.C. Summer

NOTES.

Close on 1600 trotters and pacers have entered the American standard list this season.

The full programme for the Summer Meeting of the Otahuhu Trotting Club appears in this issue. The gathering is fixed to take place on Saturday, February 17, Wednesday, February 21, and Saturday, February 24. The stake money for the three days amounts to 940 sovs. The club has distributed the prize-money very evenly, and the result is that a very attractive programme is presented. The principal trotting race is the Otahuhu Trotting Club's Handicap, over two miles. For this event £100 is allotted. Horses entered will be handicapped to do 2min 50sec or better for the mile. Other well-endowed trotting races are: The Harness Trot Handicap, two miles, 50 sovs; Suburban Handicap (saddle) of 60 sovs, two miles; Second Harness Trotting Handicap of 50 sovs, one mile and a half; Criterion Handicap of 60 sovs, one mile and a half; and the Class Trot Handicap, two miles, with a stake of 60 sovs. There are two hurdle races on the programme with 35 sovs each, a steeplechase with 40 sovs, a Pony Cup of 50 sovs, and several other good races for ponies under the 14.3 standard. Nominations for all events on the programme close on Friday, January 26, with the secretary, Mr W. I. Lockhart, at the Metropolitan Hotel, and at Otahuhu.

How often one hears an owner say when wishing to dispose of an outclassed trotter or pacer that he is "a perfect road horse." An eastern writer in the States gives the following description of the ideal trotter that will bring a big price. How many such horses are owned in any community? "The horse that suits the gentleman driver on either road or speedway must be considered the ideal trotter, because of the very high requirements for such a purpose. The road horse must know what to do when either called on for a brush, or asked to come for a slow trot or a walk; he must have a mouth that answers to the touch, an ear that hears demands, and a head that possesses brains enough to know what the touch or call means, and the willingness to obey. He must be good looking, sound, very speedy, easily driven, and absolutely fearless"

Robert Bonner's fortune will not be distributed without a contest. The preliminary steps for this action have been taken in the Surrogate Court in the name of Mr Bonner's grandchildren Robert Allen and Lawrence Kip Bonner. They are sons of Andrew Allen Bonner, who died several years ago.

The adjourned steeplechase put off from the second day of the Auckland Trotting Club Meeting came off on Wednesday evening last when Nellie, Karaka and Brooklet faced Mr V. L. Lockhart, the starter. Brooklet, who was the outsider of the party, jumped beautifully all the way, and after leading throughout won by three lengths.

From an official French source it is learnt that at the horse show to be held under the auspices of the French general government, in connection with the Paris exposition next year six classes in the foreign section will be devoted to the English sorts. Sixteen prizes, value 13,900 francs, will go to the Hackneys; 11 prizes of 9200 francs to the Cleveland Bays and Yorkshire Coachers; German, Austro-Hungarian, American and Russian horses will each have 12 prizes worth 8600. For the purposes of easy calculation five francs make an American dollar, which basis gives us a total of 15,760 dollars to be distributed in prizes to foreign breeds and of that sum total 2300 dollars will be won by American horses.

In a letter to the American press, J. Malcolm Forbes says: "As a horse owner I entirely approve of the two in three heat races, but as a stockholder in a trotting association I do not believe that associations can afford to go over entirely to the two in three heat plan. It would require too many prizes to be offered in order to have enough races to give an afternoon's entertainment. I think it works very well to sandwich in a two in three and a three in five race each day. To have races that will encourage racing in every heat, we must change the distance flag. I have watched very carefully the races for the past three years with the view of doing away with the laying up of heats by drivers. I am perfectly sure that no rule will prevent it being done. By far the simplest and best plan is to put the distance flag at 100 yards when eight or more start, and at 80 yards when less than eight horses start. I hope that this will be carefully tried next season."

CANTERBURY TOTTING CLUB'S SUMMER MEETING.

[BY OUR CANTERBURY CORRESPONDENT.]

Glorious weather prevailed for the concluding day of the Canterbury T.C. Summer Meeting on New Year's Day. The attendance was large, and the trotting throughout was first-class and quite equal to any seen in Canterbury. The race for the Canterbury Cup of 300 sovs, over two miles (in saddle or harness), produced a sensational race and dividend. There were thirteen starters, and among the number being the pick of trotting horses in New Zealand, while New South Wales was represented by Dr Slate and Venus. Mr H. Mace's beautiful colt Almont (10sec) was the public selection, and he went out a strong favorite. The race was full of interest from the start and created tremendous excitement among the crowd. Hassan (21sec) quickly passed General Grigg (22sec), and Zepha (23sec) passing the stand the first time was a few lengths ahead of Moana (18sec) and Venus (19sec), who was

driven by her owner. Hassan continued to show the way through the next lap, but before the following round had been completed Moana passed him, and when the last lap was reached she was well clear of Thelma (17sec) and Sam Slick (12sec), while Almont was some distance in the rear. Moana tired in the last quarter of a mile and Thelma and Sam Slick drew level with her with Almont coming fast. Sam Slick got his head in front one hundred yards from home, and despite a strong run by Almont, won by a couple of lengths from Mr Mace's colt, who was a similar distance in front of Thelma, Venus was fourth, Moana fifth, and Collector sixth. Time, 4min 56sec. Dividend, £165 6s. There were only five and a half tickets on Sam Slick, who, along with his owner, drove him was loudly cheered.

Dr Slate won the Advance Trot with Huon Prince, who started from scratch, and beat a fairly strong field. The finish of this race was very exciting, the Sydney horse just beating Worthington by a length and a half. Silvie Hue (scr), another of Dr Slate's team, trotted splendidly in the Intermediate Handicap of 100

sovs, and won by thirty yards from Irene (14sec and Occidental (9sec), who finished a dead heat for second place.

OUR SKILL COMPETITIONS.

£25 SKILL COMPETITION £25

FOR THREE WINNERS

Takapuna Jockey Club's

Summer Meeting.

£25 FOR THREE WINNERS

For Full Particulars See Page 24.

RESULTS OF COMPETITIONS.

£225 WON.

- 1896—Auckland Easter Handicap, Autumn Handicap, Auckland Steeplechase; A.R.C. Autumn Meeting. W. J. Dickey, Auckland, £20.
- 1896-97—Auckland Cup, A.R.C. Handicap, Auckland Steeplechase; A.R.C. Summer Meeting. F. Robinson, Epsom Road, Mount Roskill, £25.
- 1897—Easter Handicap, Autumn Handicap, Autumn Steeplechase; A.R.C. Autumn Meeting. £10, nineteen receiving 10s 6d each.
- 1898—Newmarket Handicap, Australian Cup, Wanganui Jubilee Cup. H. S. Ashton, Auckland, £25.
- 1898—Placed horses in Melbourne Cup, £25. T. Robinson (Mount Roskill), Mrs J. H. Noonan (Victoria Street, Auckland), O. Ranum (Devonport), each received £8 6s 8d.
- 1899—Takapuna Cup Calliope Handicap, T.J.C. Handicap, £25. C. Hannigan (Khyber Pass, Auckland), L. J. Richards (New North Road, Auckland), O. Morrison, Metropolitan Hotel, Auckland), each received £8 6s 8d.
- 1899—Caulfield Cup, Melbourne Cup, New Zealand Cup, £100. Maud J. Bell, Chapel Street, Auckland.



Photo by C. F. Cottier, New Plymouth.

CANOPUS (by Castor—Antelope), winner of Summer Handicap at Taranaki J.C. Summer Meeting.

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