

prospect of his furnishing into something special. His dam (Moulens) was got by Panic from Josephine.

There is plenty of luck in racing. A punter at the recent meeting went to invest a pound for himself and some friends on Venus in the Second Hack Hurdles, but when he returned to his party he found he had invested on No. 6 (Tarrigan). He was profuse in his apologies for his mistake, and was looked on by the others as a man of ill omen. However, when Tarrigan won and paid £38 8s, he was regarded as a person whose lucky star was in the ascendant.

Mr J. E. Henry was watching the form at the form at the Taranaki Meeting, preparatory to declaring his Egmont weights.

One of the Taranaki stewards while peregrinating in the saddling-paddock on the second day received a hard kick from a horse in the rear part of his anatomy. It is not related whether he took the forcible hint as "the office" for the next event.

I hear that Flying Jib is to be given a chance at the jumping game.

An official at the Taranaki meetings who carries out his duties thoroughly is Mr Ab. Goldwater, the clerk of the scales.

Mr J. B. Williamson renewed many old acquaintanceships here, and also obligingly carried off the Cup through the agency of Coronet.

WELLINGTON.

GENERAL GOSSIP.

WELLINGTON, February 10.

The committee of the Manawatu Racing Club have been considering the advisability of securing a new course for some time past, the present site being an undesirable one for many reasons. A meeting was held the other night to discuss a proposal to secure 100 acres of a property owned by Mr Baker, but no decision was come to on the matter, the question being reserved for a future meeting.

Of course all the small punters here had a trifle on Coronet for the Taranaki Cup. It wasn't a hard race to pick, and people who make a rule of waiting for good things, made a few shillings by the success of the Auckland.

Aide-de-Camp should pay his way down in Otago—his new home. A visiting sportsman fancied the horse at Pahiatua, and secured him from Mr Cress. The son of Hiko is of the useful sort, and should score often in a district where good horses are scarce.

Mr Coffey, of Hawera, has sold Sentry to the local sportsman, Mr D. Gordon, and the horse is now being trained by J. Prosser at Porirua.

So successful was the late meeting at Pahiatua that the club will be able to pay off its overdraft, and take over the whole of the debentures issued some time ago.

According to a return just issued the Treasury benefitted to the extent of £13,694 19s 4d through totalisator commission last season—a very respectable amount. One hundred and forty-four permits were granted for races, which extended over two hundred and fifty days. The religious bodies, during the same period, were granted forty permits for their beautiful art unions.

The Foxton Club is waking up; the course is to be considerably improved, and next meeting it will likely be connected by telegraph.

Okoiari was well backed for both her events at Taranaki on the opening day. There was nothing much in it, because she was beaten by Gowrie in the Stewards, and pain a small div. in the Flying.

Boreas has had an easy time of it since the Hutt Meeting. He will not be taken to Christchurch.

The unfinished improvements on the Wellington Club's course are being dealt with, and it will not be very long now before they are finished.

February 13.

Mr J. B. Vallance (the well-known amateur rider) and Mr Pringle (the secretary of the Otaki club) have been finally selected for service in the Transvaal.

The sub-committee appointed by the committee of the Wellington Racing Club to consider the question of disqualification of persons and horses for having taken part in unregistered meetings in this district met yesterday, and decided to remove all disqualifications up to date.



Photo by A. L. Cleave, Ellerslie.

UNFURLING THE CHAMPION FLAG AT THE NEWMARKET BOWLING GREEN.

After the Races.

TARANAKI J.C. AUTUMN MEETING.

[BY OUR TARANAKI CORRESPONDENT.]

The club's principal reunion for the season opened on Wednesday, February 7, and was concluded on the following day. Fine weather favored the meeting throughout. The attendance was, however, not up to the usual proportions—a fact which has been variously accounted for. Changing the dates no doubt affected the entries as far as the Auckland contingent was concerned, for the meeting coming just after the three days' racing at Takapuna curtailed the number of horses from the North, and, necessarily, also might have affected the interest, as money and men follow the neddies. Then, again, the poor entries received for the open events was, no doubt, due to the fact that the club closed their nominations at a bad time—namely, in the Xmas season, when owners and trainers were away "assisting" at different fixtures. Many entries along the Coast and elsewhere were missed on this account. The bush fires prevailing in the district also prevented many country people from coming in, and, again, there was a certain percentage of people who did not attend because they were under the impression that the meeting was going to be a poor one. However, the fixture passed off very successfully, from a racing standpoint, and the public who attended were treated to some excellent and exciting finishes. Speculation was good, considering all things, and the total investments exceeded those of last year. On the first day Messrs Neylon and Spriggins machined £3094, about £50 short of the total last year, and on the second day a total of £3611 was put through, being a total of £6705, or an increase of £225 on last year. A 10s tote was run on the outside. This time the club made better arrangements for lunch; they placed this important matter in the hands of Mr Joe West and his wife, who gave entire satisfaction in their arrangements and the quality of the viands provided. All the officials of the club

worked well. Mr M. Fleetwood, the secretary, carried out his duties well; Mr O. Ohavannes manipulated the barrier expertly; Mr E. R. Haworth as judge gave his decisions promptly, and in some events he had close finishes to decide; the handicappers (Messrs J. O. Evett and R. G. Pardy) carried out their duties well. One of the stewards who was missed was Mr J. Paul, who was away on a holiday in Auckland. A feature of the meeting was the excellent music interpreted by the Taranaki Band, under Mr G. Garry, who was complimented all round on the treat afforded the public.

Racing was started with the Stewards' Handicap, seven furlongs, for which five went to the post, St. Jack being the only absentee. Crusoe and Gowrie were the best backed. At the start Daystar, who looked big and lusty, took the lead, but before much ground had been covered Gowrie took command, attended by Crusoe, Sedgebrook, Okoiari, and Daystar in order. Rounding for home Gowrie still showed the way, and led into the straight from Sedgebrook. Half-way up, Okoiari came with a late run, but swerving slightly she missed getting up, and suffered defeat by a head, Sedgebrook well up. Time, 1min 30 4 5sec. Dividends, £3 4s (inside) £1 18s (outside). Daystar wore a bandage on his foreleg, covered with a leather case, which slipped and interfered with his chance.

Volcano was the only defection from the Hurdles, two miles, leaving six to contest. Tui and Light were best backed. Osborne just showed out, but, jumping slowly, he lost ground at the obstacles. Tui and Nayborn carried on the running in the last round, attended by Voltaire and Light. Tui dropped back on the far side, and Voltaire and Light went after the leader, but Nayborn had the race won at the second to last hurdle, and coming along full of running, won easily from Voltaire, Light a fair third. Time, 3min 56sec. Dividends, £11 3s and £7 16s.

Tarrigan dropped out of the Hack Hurdles, one mile and a half, leaving seven in. Hautonga and Bonus were the best supported. The winner turned up in Kaimate, who, jumping proficiently throughout, came away at the finish and won comfortably. Hautonga was second, and Bonus third. Time, 3min 0 2 5sec. Dividends, £5 16s and £3 7s.

Waiorongomai and Lasting defected from the Cup, one mile and a half, leaving but four starters for the £350 prize. Coronet was installed favorite, with Battleaxe next in demand. Wilson made play at the start, closely attended by Coronet, who cut him down at the far side. Coronet was never afterwards headed. St. Jack made a plucky attempt to get up, but could not make any impression on the top-weight, who won by a couple of lengths easily, Battleaxe a moderate third. Time, 2min 39 2 5sec. Dividends, £2 4s and £1 3s.

The sixteen figured on the card went out for the Hack Flat, one mile. Heart Whist and Tito, and St. Ada and Calliopa, were bracketed on the machines. Lubra and Tito were most fancied. Mr Chavannes effected a beautiful start. Immediately after they got going Waylay drew out, and negotiating the bend first she got a break on the others, who crowded out at this point. Round the far side Waylay was streaking along with a commanding lead, the others being hard ridden to get up. Three furlongs from home the rider on the leader began to get to work on his mount. Waylay led into the straight, pursued by Lady Helena and Lubra, and just lasted long enough to win from Lady Helena by half a head, Lubra a head off third. Time, 1min 46 1 5sec. Dividends, £9 10s and £8 13s.

Only two went out for the Henui Handicap, five furlongs. This race was a repetition of last year, when a brace competed, and it should convince the club that this event, and the Huatoki Handicap on the second day, ought to be wiped out and more popular races substituted. Faugh-a-ballagh won anyhow from Gowrie. Time, 1min 6sec. Dividends, £1 13s and 19s.

Three was the field for the Flying, six furlongs. Okoiari was made favorite, and justified the confidence by winning, with a bit to spare, from Sedgebrook, Faugh-a-ballagh third. Time, 1min 18sec. Dividends, £1 18s and 18s.

SECOND DAY.

Proceedings opened with the Grandstand Handicap, seven furlongs, for which five went out. St. Jack and Gowrie raced in front till reaching the bend, when Sedgebrook ran up and cut them down, and, coming on full of running, stalled off a challenge from St. Jack and won by a bit over a length, Okoiari third. Time, 1min 32sec. Dividends, £3 15s and £1 17s. The trainer of St. Jack entered a protest for inconsistent running, and also interference. A number of stewards were selected to hear the protest, which, after a lengthy hearing, was dismissed. The evidence in the inconsistency was to the effect that the horse was unreliable, and instances were given (notably at Feilding) where the horse had ran in a similar manner.

Four went out for the Second Hurdles, one mile and a half. Voltaire was made favorite. Osborne led at the start, but faulty jumping now told its tale. Voltaire held the lead for the best part of the journey, and stalling off a challenge from Light and Nayborn, won by a length from Light, Nayborn half a length away third. Time, 3min 3 5sec. Dividends, £2 2s and £1 1s.

Diamond dropped out of the Second Hack Hurdles, one mile and a half, leaving seven to compete. Kaimate and Bonus were best backed. Tarrigan (a plain-looking grey son of Swordsman) held a good position throughout, and, jumping well, lasted long enough to win by a length from Bonus; Kaimate a fair third. Time, 3min. Dividends, £38 8s and £8 16s. Buru when leading fell at the second jump, his rider (A. Greenwood) sustaining a fractured collarbone.

Okoiari dropped out of the Autumn Handicap, one mile and a quarter, leaving five in. Coronet was made favorite, with Uhlan next in demand. Wilson went to the front from the start, with Coronet, St. Jack, Uhlan, and Battleaxe handy. At the far side Battleaxe fell back last. Rounding for home, Coronet was in command, with Wilson and St. Jack very handy, and Uhlan coming very fast. When turned for home Coronet, St. Jack, and Wilson were fighting a strong battle, but Uhlan swooped down with a determined challenge, and forging ahead in the last chain, won by a length from Coronet, St. Jack a good third. Time, 2min 12 4 5sec. Dividends, £4 19s and £2 8s.

Okoiari was scratched for the Huatoki Handicap, one mile, leaving a brace in. Gowrie won easily from Crusoe. Time, 1min 46 1 5sec. Dividends, £1 6s and 14s.

Lady Helena, Lady Belle, and Raukura defected from the Hack Flat, one mile and a quarter, leaving eight in. Legion of Honor was made favorite. Wild Vixen took command when the barrier lifted, and, setting a strong pace, was never headed, winning easily from Dartmoor, with Legion of Honor third. Time, 2min 14 1 5sec. Dividends, £4 8s and £2 2s.

Eight went out for the Farewell Handicap, seven furlongs. Lady Helena led to within thirty yards of the post, when Daystar came with a strong run and beat her by a head; Osborne, who was galloped on and had a leg stripped, third. At the far side The Crown and Cairo fell, the former smashing his shoulder so badly that he had to be destroyed. Trigger, the rider of Cairo, had his shoulder hurt. Time, 1min 32sec. Dividends, £7 19s and £4 13s.

An eighth race—the Transvaal Stakes of 20 sovs, for hacks, six furlongs—was added to the programme, the proceeds being devoted to contingent purposes. Eight were saddled-up. Dartmoor was installed favorite, and won through Gallagher's horsemanship by a head from Bonus, Flying Jib a good third. Time, 1min 17 4 5sec. Dividends, £2 10s and £1 8s.



Photo by A. L. Cleave, Ellerslie.

SHOTS AT THE NEWMARKET BOWLING GREEN—NOW OR NEVER.