

**THE BLIND TROTTER.**

There is much speculation among trainers as to just what will be the outcome of Scott Hudson's experiment of taking a blind trotter down the Grand Circuit (writes "The Breeder"). It is the bay horse, Rythma, a son of Oakland Baron out of a mare by Strathmore. The horse was bred by Douglass Thomas, in Bourbon county, and worked a mile last season over the farm track at the Thomas place close to 2:10. That the son of Oakland Baron is a speed sensation no one doubts. What he will do when he gets bumped in a big field is the question that trainers are thinking of. Hudson has entered Rythma extensively down the circuit in the green classes to which he is eligible. Rythma is taking his work daily over the Lexington track and goes as nicely as if there was no such thing as blindness. Many of the Lexington, Ky., trainers are of the opinion that Hudson is taking a long chance with a blind horse. They argue that some fellow with a grudge will bump Rythma going around the turn in a big field, and that the blind horse will lose his head instantly and develop a tendency to run away. "Hudson ought to get him in a race that he knows the horse can win," said one trainer, "and then get him out in front of the field and bring him back and let him out ahead of them until he gets used to the company. A race or two like that ought to do the trick. Give the horse a little schooling of this kind, which will inspire his confidence in the man with the reins, and Rythma ought to be bringing back some of the money next fall."

**Turf Results.**

**NEW ZEALAND GRAND NATIONAL MEETING.**

The New Zealand Grand National Meeting, held under the auspices of the Canterbury Jockey Club, was inaugurated to-day at Bicoarton, in beautiful weather. The attendance was exceptionally large. The investments for the day on the machine totalled £13,667, as against £16,395 for the first day last year, the falling-off being probably due to the presence of bookmakers in large numbers. The following are the details of the racing:—

**FIRST HUNTERS' HURDLE RACE** of 100 sovs. Once round and a distance.

- 67 Miss Batton's ch g Slow Tom, by St. Ives, 5yrs, or 6yrs, 11.3 (Mr B. Harley) ... 1
- 195 Mr S. Brown's ch g Hurricane, 6yrs, 10st 9lb, 12lb allowance (Mr W. Thomas) ... 2
- 148 Messrs W. G. Stead and G. Palmer's ch g Phaetonitis, 6yrs, 10.12, 7lb allowance (Mr W. G. Stead) ... 3

Other starters: 238 Tufto, 12.5; 104 Hutana, 11.6 (7lb allowance); G.B.O., 11.8 (Inchape, 11.0 (7lb allowance); Waimara; 10.2 (12lb allowance), carried 10.5; The Soldier, 10.7 (7lb allowance).

Won easily by four lengths. Time, 3min 10.3-5sec. Dividends, £8 10s 6d and £2.

**MAIDEN HURDLE RACE HANDICAP** of 150 sovs. One mile and three-quarters.

- 383 Mr W. O. Rutherford's ch g Scottish Minstrel, by Clanranald—

**RESULTS OF RACES**

**NOTICE.**

At the request of several Subscribers to the **SPORTING REVIEW** we have decided to undertake wiring the results of races occurring in New Zealand. If you wish to know the result of any race please forward One Shilling in Stamps, or Postal Note to

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- Prima Donna, 6yrs, 10.3 (T. Graham) ... 1
- 101 Mr H. McLean's br g Surrey, aged, 9.5 (C. Keeper) ... 2
- 138 Mr J. Merry's br m Winsome, 6yrs, 7.2 (J. O'Connell) ... 3

Other starters: 395 Strathnairn, 10.3; 23 Reliance, 9.3; 65 Wonderful, 9.0. Won easily by a length and a-half. Time, 3min 28.3-5sec. Dividend, £3 1s 6d.

**WINTER CUP** of 500 sovs. One mile.

- 81 Mr R. W. Paterson's ch m Waiwhera, by Quilt—Waikaha, 4yrs, 9.0 (Wilson) ... 1
- 487 Mr D. Gordon's ch g Ostiak, by Stepniak—Miss Betty, 6yrs, 11.6 (C. Jenkins) ... 2
- 76 Mr W. Blackmore's br h Field Battery, by Hotchkiss—Lady Evelyn, 9.13 (G. Price) ... 3

Other starters: 325 Blazer, 11.9; 97 Battleaxe, 11.2; 69 Cora Linn, 10.10; 249 The Shannon, 10.9; 79 Muscovite, 10.5; 143 Fleka, 10.5; 255 Windwhistle, 10.2; Somerled (bracketed with Windwhistle), 9.7; 362 Scotty, 10.2; 364 Siege Gun, 9.12; 82 Cameo, 9.7; 137 Ardnarf, 9.7; 90 Magnificent, 9.7; 184 Keltor, 9.5; 85 Robemere, 9.4; 96 Djin Djin, 9.2; 111 Clanburn, 9.0; 35 Rubin, 9.0; 37 Culcita, 9.0; 34 Good Spec, 9.0; 12 Count de Kolmar, 9.0. Won by a short nose. Time, 1min 49.4 5 sec. Dividends, £29 2s 6d and £1 12s.

**NEW ZEALAND GRAND NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE** of 750 sovs; second horse 100 sovs; and third 50 sovs from the stake. Three miles and a-half.

- 488 Messrs Macmanemin and Salisbury's b g Haydn, by Sou-wester—Myra, aged, 10.9 (S. Fergus) ... 1
- 137 Mr T. Godfrey's b g Pipi, by Natatoti—Cockles, 9.7 (H. Carr) ... 2
- 238 Mr G. H. Frank's br g The Swimmer, by Captain Webb—Princess Helen, 9.12 ... 3

Other starters: 474 The Guard, 13.2; 376 Moifaa, 12.8; 195 Cavaliero, 12.0; 261 Gobo, 11.13; 289 Cannongate, 11.8; 264 Plain Bill, 11.0; 99 Huku, 10.7; 120 The Phantom, 9.13; 267 Straybird, 9.11; 162 Lochade, 9.11; 86 Awahuri, 9.7. Won by two lengths. Time, 7min 25.2-5 sec. Dividends, £4 15s 6d and £5 13s 6d.

**WINNERS OF THE NEW ZEALAND GRAND NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE.**

|  | min. | sec. |
|--|------|------|
| 1888 Mr G. Donnelly's Mangahone, 11.2              | 9    | 29   |
| 1889 Mr A. Ellingham's Chemist, 12.9               | 9    | 18   |
| 1890 Mr A. Cox's Daddy Longlegs, 9.7               | 10   | 27   |
| 1891 Mr G. H. Rhodes' Freeman, 9.12                | 8    | 29   |
| 1892 Mr D. Rutherford's Ahua, 11.9                 | 7    | 42   |
| 1893 Mr W. Douglas' Waterbury, 10.8                | 8    | 13   |
| 1894 Mr S. H. Gollan's Norton, 12.8                | 8    | 04   |
| 1895 Mr W. Douglas' Mutiny, 11.5                   | 7    | 26   |
| 1896 Mr W. Douglas' Mutiny, 12.4                   | 7    | 28   |
| 1897 Mr C. Archibald's Levanter, 12.6              | 7    | 25   |
| 1898 Mr F. Watson's Dummy, 10.13                   | 7    | 25   |
| 1899 Mr McCulloch's Blackberry, 10.6               | 7    | 40   |
| 1900 Mr J. Prosser's The Guard, 10.6               | 7    | 25   |
| 1901 Mr D. Gordon's Gobo, 9.10                     | 7    | 16   |
| 1902 Messrs Macmanemin and Salisbury's Haydn, 10.9 | 7    | 25   |

From 1888 to 1890 the course was about four miles. In 1891 the distance was reduced to about three miles and a-half, at which it has since remained.

**TALLY-HO PLATE STEEPLECHASE** of 50 sovs. About two miles.

- 226 Mr S. Ponge's br g Brab, by Chaos—Karori mare, 6yrs, 12.0, 7lb allowance (R. Harley) ... 1
- 290 Mr T. H. Lance's b g Doopey, aged, 12.0, 7lb allowance (G Neagle) ... 2
- 247 Mr E. D. O'Rorke's b g Matarawa, aged, 12.0, 7lb allowance (owner) ... 3

Other starters: 26 Brass, 11.9 (12lb maiden allowance); 266 Zither, 12.7; 30 Aheki 12.0 (7lb allowance); 26 Epsom Lad, 12.0 (7lb allowance); 79 The Whip, 12.0, The Beaver, 12.0, bracketed. Won comfortably by a dozen lengths. Time, 4min 16.4-5sec. Dividends, £3 11s. and 18s.

**LADIES' BRACELET** of 70 sovs. Two miles on the flat.

- 110 Mrs H. Friedlander's b m Scylla, by Stepniak—Whirlpool, 5yrs, 11.8 (Mr Starkey) ... 1
- 199 Mrs S.H. Gollan's ch h Shellback, 4yrs, 11.0 (Mr Ormond) ... 2
- 539 Mrs T. Wylie's b g Royal Conqueror, aged, 11.10 (Mr E. D. O'Rorke) ... 3

Other starters: 32 Kiore, 11.10; 42 Playfair, 11.0.

Won easily by four lengths. Time, 3min 55.3-5sec. Dividend, £7 10s 6d.

**ENFIELD STEEPLECHASE HANDICAP** of 100 sovs.

- 474 Mr P. E. Baldwin's b g Shylock, by Wapiti—Portia, aged, 10.2 (F. Lind) ... 1
- 266 Mr E. Russell's b m Sultana, aged, 10.4 (B. Russell) ... 2

Other starters: 150 Hutana, 9.7; 94 Schnapps, 9.7; 259 Slow Tom, 9.7. Won easily. Time, 4min 25.2-5sec. Dividend, £2 6s.

**WOOLSTON PLATE** of 50 sovs. Six furlongs.

- 230 Mr C. A. Loughman's rn g Fire Shot, by Armament—Flirt, aged, 9.11, including 11lb overweight (G. L. Stead) ... 1
- 176 Mr W. Pine's br g Lapidary, aged, 9.0 (Pine) ... 2
- 260 Mr W. Rathbone's ch g Blarney, aged, 9.0 (O'Brien) ... 3

Other starters: 161 Dauntless, 9.0; 193 Caliver, 9.0; 170 The Master, 9.0.

Won by a length. Time, 1min 23sec. Dividend, £4 13s. The winner was bought in at £105.

**THE STUD.**

**WELLINGTON PARK STUD.**

(By "Atlas.")

A year seems to be a long period to look forward to, but a brief span when regarded retrospectively. Thus to me looking back it seems but yesterday that I paid my annual visit in August of 1901, to the leading breeding establishment of N.Z., the Wellington Park Stud. On that occasion I had the pleasure of the company of Mr J. F. Sheridan. Most people probably do not know that the "Widow O'Brien" is quite an enthusiastic admirer of the thoroughbred and his ecstasy when he saw St. Leger and Castor is fresh in my memory. It had been his pleasure to see the aristocratic looking Castor run in England, but in the short time that has elapsed since then, death has deprived Wellington Park of the two great sires that were then the pride of the stud. Their loss is but another evidence of the great risk that all studmasters have to face in the conduct of a large and expensive breeding establishment. When the annual sales come round and good prices are realised, the thoughtless are probably prone to think that the horse breeding establishment is a mine of wealth, but they forget at what cost good results have been achieved, the cost not only of money but hours of constant anxiety and care. The loss of St. Leger and Castor was a great one, but in the new sires Phoebus Apollo and Menschikoff, the enterprise of Mr Morrin has provided two magnificent specimens of the thoroughbred, and already from the young stock that Phoebus Apollo has produced, it is safe to predict that the lustre of Wellington Park will not be dimmed in the future. No better evidence to justify this assumption can be obtained than by an inspection of this year's crop of youngsters, who celebrated their first birthday on August 1, and prominent among these are the progeny of the St. Simon horse. The great success of the Wellington Park stock on the Turf was well maintained during the past season, the progeny of the three sires St. Leger, Hotchkiss, and Castor earning in New Zealand alone £19,707, to say nothing of the money that they accumulated in Australia and England, not only in racing, but at the stud, while the progeny of the Wellington Park mares racing in New Zealand were responsible for something like £17,000, which is a solid encouragement to induce investors in quest of the best class of thoroughbreds to visit our yearling sales, for such horses as Cruciform, Royal Artillery, Battleaxe, Coronet,

Bluejacket, and other great lights of former years are living examples of the brilliance of the stock bred there. Cruciform, by St. Leger—Forme, proved herself to be one of the most brilliant mares ever bred in the colonies, and though not severely tasked, her owner, Mr Stead, having so many great strings to his bow, she earned £3705. In point of brilliance it is difficult to separate Royal Artillery from Cruciform, and each would have an army of backers if pitted against one another. Royal Artillery is a magnificent advertisement of his sire, and that great stud mare Rose of Wellington, and sets the seal on Hotchkiss' reputation of sharing with Trenton and Carbine the fame of being the greatest living Musket stallions, and he is remembered this illustrious trio are all New Zealand bred. Royal Artillery earned during the past season £2435, and the amount would undoubtedly have been larger had it not been that he was called upon to share the honours of the season in the classic events with his two brilliant stable companions, Cruciform and Menschikoff. Wellington Park is entitled to the credit of the production of St. Michael, who earned £2085, but Mr Morrin disclaims that credit, because the dam, Ich Dien, was not his property, but his sire St. Leger was, and the luxuriant Wellington Park paddocks was the cradle of St. Michael. Battleaxe credited the Stud Farm with £1445, in addition to the cart load of money that he has made for his owners during the past four years, and his great success will cause attention to be directed to the immensely stalwart yearling, who will this year represent Hotchkiss and Queen Cole. At the close I give a list of the winners during the season that have been bred at Wellington Park, and it is unnecessary for me to further refer to them when introducing the subject of my visit to the stud last week. I have always endeavoured to time my visit to Wellington Park so as to see the young stock a few days after their first birthday, and the stallions before the commencement of their season. I was fortunate in selecting a bright, genial afternoon, and Wellington Park was seen at its best. The paddocks, if anything, appeared to be more luxuriant than ever in their garb of green; and as I reached the crest of the hill overlooking the stallion paddock I found that its occupant was the new candidate to stallion honours.

**MENSCHIKOFF.**

The stud groom, Jerry Kennelly, Mr Morrin's trusted henchman for over a quarter of a century, was on hand, and it was soon evident that the new horse has already become a great favourite with his boss, and that a complete understanding existed between the pair. Menschikoff evidently relishes his daily run in the stallion paddock, round which he canters and gallops in his glee in a style that makes one think that the animal is justly conceited in his great liberty of action. When Menschikoff takes such a delight in exercising himself so freely, it is not surprising to find that he is maintaining a lot of the condition that was put on him when in training. Indeed, his crest and muscles are as hard and firm as a horse in work, and were it not that Mr Morrin has ruled that he shall race no more, one would like to see him stripped for a flutter with the best of the day again. This compact son of Stepniak and Pibroch, although brimming over with the courage and spirit of a thoroughbred, is docile, and approaches the stud groom at his call. When the covering is removed the perfect model of a thoroughbred is presented. Some may take objection to Menschikoff on the ground that he is apparently on the small side, but the fact is that he is one of those compact horses that is more powerful and bigger on close examination than would be at first imagined. It is a fact that a horse of perfect conformation and symmetrical build looks smaller than he really is, while the horse with angular developments and worse than value-