

## After the Races.

### NORTH NEW ZEALAND GRAND NATIONAL MEETING.

#### SECOND DAY.

The second day of the big winter gathering at Ellerslie was well attended, in fact, nearly a record being achieved. This, of course, was due in a large measure to the fact of it being a holiday—Empire Day—while the weather, although dull, was very pleasant. The enjoyment of the afternoon was to a certain extent marred by an extraordinary demonstration made against the winner of the big event, and, as the subsequent enquiry by the stewards lasted a very long time, the racing was much delayed, while the result of so much money being temporarily locked up in the totalisator prevented a much larger amount going through the machine during the afternoon.

The Second Maiden Hurdles was the first item to be discussed, this being considered to lie between Up-to-Date and Spalpeen, while of the other seven Fencer and Revealer had most friends. A somewhat curious incident occurred in the race, for at the second hurdle Revealer got rid of his rider, despite which fact he continued on, clearing every obstacle in good style, and ultimately passed the judge's box the second time round some lengths ahead of the actual winner, Spalpeen. This colt shaped very proficiently, and fairly spread-eagled the field, being easily able to stall off Up-to-Date's final challenge at the finish. Fencer was four lengths off third, and then followed Master Model Mount Zeehan, and Oingo.

In the Ranfurly Maiden Welter, Croupier was dropped on as most likely to prove the winner, while Soultfish and Lavadel also had plenty of admirers. Lavadel led his ten opponents all the way down the back of the course, closely attended by Irish and the favourite. When heads were fairly turned for home a great race ensued. Muskerdale, on the outside, could be seen making a great race, and he lasted long enough to win by nearly a length from Ian and Irish, who made a dead-heat of it for second place. Croupier was fourth, and Lavadel next.

Then the big event, the Grand National Hurdle Race, of 500 sovs, came up for decision. At first it seemed as if Otairi or Mars would be favourite, but such a strong demand set in for Tresham that he went to the post with more money staked on his ability to win than anything else in the race. Just eleven went to the post, or just half the number originally handicapped. Battleaxe led at the start, and at the second jump Otairi came to grief. Tresham thereupon took up the running, and passing the stand was showing clear of Lady Bell and Haydn. At the back of the course the son of Catesby was still making play from Haydn, while Battleaxe commenced to make a forward move. At the entrance to the straight Mr Watson's gelding had the measure of Tresham, and coming away won with the utmost ease by three lengths from Haydn, who beat the favourite by a similar distance in the run home. The winner and his rider, Johnson, came in for one of the most hostile demonstrations ever seen on the ground, but the protest against him was dismissed.

After the great excitement had cooled down, and much after its time, the Lally-Loo Steeplechase was run, there being six runners for this. Favouritism was divided between Nor-West and Sudden, the former having a slight call in the betting. Sudden was speedily taken to the front, and at the back he was some ten lengths ahead of Straybird, while Nor-West almost came to grief. Going up the hill for the last time Nor-West ran up to the leader, but when it was expected that Sudden would come away again he broke down. This left Nor-West to open out a big lead, and despite a desperate chase by Straybird, he won very easily indeed by ten lengths, while Sudden, who was very lame, cantered in a bad third.

The Prince of Wales' Handicap, of 200 sovs, run over seven furlongs, proved the best race of the meeting, and was indeed one of the finest struggles for supremacy ever seen at Ellerslie. There were just a dozen competitors, Paratutu and St. Olga being most in demand. Following her usual custom, St. Olga was first away, and she cut out the running down the back, followed by Paratutu, Maroon and Gold, and Miss Lottie. The St. Leger mare was still in command at the distance where several others joined issue, and a magnificent finish ended in Mr Lusk being unable to separate St. Olga, Paratutu, and Miss Lottie. Only half a head away came Cygnet, while Zuleika was a head behind Mr Marshall's filly, the latter having Green and Gold within a neck. Such a wonderfully close go must indeed be considered a feather in the cap of the handicapper.

Hinemoa was generally considered something very choice for the Selling Steeplechase, in which she was opposed by four moderates. She ran very indifferently, and finished absolutely last. Kanaka was responsible for most of the running, and, as home was neared, it looked as though the

black gelding, who was almost without a friend on the machine, would win. Marine, who has evidently improved a good deal, came at him in the last hundred yards, and won fairly easily by nearly two lengths, with Hylas a long way off third.

The Ladies' Bracelet closed the day's proceedings. This was run in the dusk, a somewhat dangerous proceeding on a heavy course. Tuni was served up pipping hot for this, Great Slot being the only other backed. Punters gauged the position to a nicety, for the favourite was soon in front, and, making no mistakes, won in a canter by ten lengths from Great Shot, with Boxer a dozen lengths off third.

During the afternoon the sum of £9754 was handled by the totalisator people.

#### THIRD DAY.

Proceedings were re-commenced on the final day with the Second Maiden Steeplechase, for which The Pullack was in strong demand. Marine and The Pullack led at the start, but after travelling for a bit Hipstone, whose jumping showed a marked improvement, went ahead, and gradually drawing away on the second round, was twenty lengths ahead as they came to the hill. Here Marine closed up rapidly, but, as they came down to the last jump the race looked a certainty for the son of St. Hippo. There is no such thing as a certainty in steeplechasing, however, for at the very last hurdle in the straight Hipstone came to grief, this leaving Marine to canter in by himself. Hipstone was mounted, and managed to just beat Mount Zeehan for second place. The favourite, who, however, was in hopeless trouble at the time, fell at the wall at the entrance into the straight.

A field of a dozen carried silk in the York Welter, Putty and Rosella carrying by far the most investments, while of the others Zuleika and Val Rosa had plenty of friends. When the barrier rose Bastion shot out, and followed by St. Olga and Strathavon carried along the running down the back. At the bend for home Messrs Duder's horse was still in the van, but directly heads were turned for home Durable was seen to come through. A great finish took place, Putty just getting the better of Durable in the last fifty yards, while Val Rosa, running kindly for once, was third, at the head of a bunched field.

Haydn was an absentee from the Winter Steeplechase, which apparently left the race at the mercy of Cannongate, and he was made a red-hot favourite. Directly O'Connor let them go Hylas was taken to the front, and he led down the back from Tuni, with the top-weights handy. Down the hill Hylas drew away, and led from Cannongate, while at the stand Nor-West was alongside the black horse. Here Tuni was almost down, but McGregor made a very smart recovery. Running down the back Cannongate stole away, and reached the hill four lengths ahead of Nor-West and Hylas, with Tuni six lengths away last. Down the incline Higgins let the son of Cannon go, and he was in a moment ten lengths away, but Wright then commenced to bustle Nor-West along, and as they entered the straight he was alongside Mr Marshall's gelding. For one instant it looked as though Nor-West might prevail, but when the top-weight was shaken up he drew out, and won by two lengths, with Hylas about ten lengths off third. The winner pulled up lame.

All the ten on the card went to the post for the Campbell Hurdles, for which Tresham was sorted out as the right pea. Directly they settled down to work Meteor shot out and commenced to make the running, and he led by several lengths past the stand and down the back stretch, when Lady Bell and Mars set out in pursuit. As they neared the bend for home the son of Mitiora was still out by himself, but the other two came at him in earnest. Meteor was over the last hurdle a length to the good, and although Mars made a desperate effort to get past Mr

Hannon's gelding struggled home under severe punishment, and won by half-a-length, with Lady Bell two lengths off third. The favourite never got near the leaders at any part of the journey.

There was a splendid field in the Third Maiden Welter, no less than sixteen being in the starter's hands. Cygnet was made favourite, other well-backed candidates being Croupier, Maoriland, and Sandy. When the barrier rose the first to show oait were Black and Gold, Sandy, and Hurrah, while before they had run far the field was spreadeagled. At every stride Messrs Duder's colt got away from the others, and as they turned into the straight it could easily be seen that it was his race. He came bowling up the straight full of running, and won in a canter by four lengths from Sandy, who was two lengths in front of Swagsman, with Croupier and Ambition at the head of a loose field.

Great Shot and Miss Drury were the popular selections for the Hunters' Steeplechase. Kiatero was responsible for the bulk of the running, with Great Shot in next place, while Mr Ellett kept Miss Drury far in the rear. Down the hill she was two hundred yards behind the others, while Kiatero had drawn out such a lead as to make a win for him almost a certainty. The son of Castor came right away, and won by twenty lengths from Great Shot, with Boxer just in front of Miss Drury. The latter, when there was no possible chance of winning, was brought with a great rush, and was only just out of a place, the rider being hooted on returning to scale.

The Farewell Handicap was considered to lie between Numa, Black and Gold, and St. Olga, who were backed in that order, a singularly accurate forecast of the capabilities of the trio, for they finished in the exact order of favouritism. There were eleven runners for O'Connor to deal with at the barrier, and he effects so many splendid starts that it was quite a surprise to find that for once in a way he had failed. Numa got right away, while Hurrah and Green and Gold were virtually left at the post. Profiting by his start, Numa made every post a winning one, cantering in two lengths ahead of Black and Gold, while St. Olga was some three lengths off third.

The sum of £10,106 was put through the totalisator during the afternoon, a substantial falling off from last year's result.

A London paper says that one of those periodical attacks on the sporting interest which the "Unco' guid" have a predilection for was directed about the end of April against the purveyor of some journals devoted to the discussion of Turf affairs. It seems that the Country Council not long since drew up and passed certain by-laws, having for their aim restriction of the sale of racing publications in the streets, by which it is sought to make it a penal offence to sell papers "wholly or mainly devoted to giving information as to the probable result of horse races." The point was first very rightly taken that the by-law is bad, on the ground that it is unreasonable and not warranted by the statute, and on that the Magistrate reserved his decision, which has not been announced at the time of writing. It is a very good thing that the case has been strenuously defended, at the Country Council have certainly been rather too free with their by-laws in this direction. They have passed one making betting in the streets a penal offence and they have, moreover, taken frequent action upon it. Nevertheless, there is little doubt that this latter by-law is altogether bad in law, as it is not warranted by the statute, and Parliament has not delegated to Country Councils the right to create new offences. That betting accompanies horse racing has nothing to do with the right of racing Publications to forecast probable results of horse races. Horse racing and betting are both perfectly legal in themselves, though betting debts are irrevocable at law. That betting follows horse racing is a mere accident of circumstances; and to endeavour to suppress bona-fide Turf journals on that account looks very much like an attempt to restrict the liberty of the Press.

## What is it Good For?

### IT IS GOOD

for a drink in the first place—A morning bracer—A tonic that makes the day's work easier. It is more, it is a medicine. It works on the Kidneys, Bowels and Stomach. It goes straight to the places that need help.

## WOLFE'S SCHNAPPS

## Inter-Provincial.

(From Our Own Correspondents.)

### CANTERBURY.

Christchurch, June 10.

Racing matters are quiet at Riccarton just now. Very heavy frosts are being experienced, rendering the morning work extremely dangerous.

Roller is nicely weighted in the Hawke's Bay Steeplechase, and if he starts will prove hard to beat.

Social Pest is evidently going to be raced in the steeplechases this season, as his name appears in the Wellington Steeplechase.

St. Denis was heavily backed for the Invermay Welter at Dunedin last week.

I expressed surprise at not seeing Terrapin's name in the New Zealand Cup after the son of Clanranald's form at Dunedin. Probably Mr Holmes regrets that he did not nominate his horse for the big race.

Lady Lillian continues to win races under a heavy scale of weight. 9st 13lb is a fairly big load to carry over a mile and a quarter, yet the daughter of Lady Zetland won easily, beating Terrapin, Kelburn, Scylla and others.

Four New Zealand Cup candidates in Terrapin, Bombardo, Lady Lillian, and Scylla won races at Dunedin.

Two well-backed ones in Narcissus and Ixia failed to win races at Dunedin.

Cutts will take Goldenmere and Dirk to the Oamaru Meeting. Sheenan will also take Antigone down to the same fixture.

Glenaladale will be trained for the New Zealand Cup. All going well, I fancy this son of Clanranald is the most likely of Clifford's trio to represent him in the Cup. Glenaladale has not sported silk since last November.

Mr C. Fraser has been appointed secretary to the South Canterbury Jockey Club, Mr G. P. Wood having resigned. It is understood that Mr J. E. Henrys will be offered the position of handicapper to the Dunedin Jockey Club for the season 1903-4.

Rowlock has done some jumping over steeplechase fences at Riccarton. He appears to be in good fettle for the winter campaign.

### HAWKE'S BAY.

Napier, June 10.

Waireka, in charge of Tait, arrived at Hastings on Friday evening. He is the first of the foreigners to make an appearance.

Mr T. H. Lowry has a large string in work at the present time, under the direction of his private trainer, A. Goodwin. The brigade consists of the following horses:—Rose Madder, Madrigal, Ia, Comfort, Creusot, Royal Fusilier, La Bigouterie, and the rising two-year-old son of Cyrenian and Fair Nell. The last-named was bred by Mr Gollan, and was purchased last March by Mr Lowry for 105 guineas.

Creusot, while having a run in the paddock last week, slipped and hurt himself, which necessitated his being put on the retired list for a few days. At the time of writing he has again taken a place in the active working gang. He is one of Mr Lowry's nominations for the New Zealand Cup. Royal Fusilier, the other member of his string that has been entered for the big handicap of the year, has been resting for a lengthened period, though he is now following his studies. He has thickened out greatly since he was seen out last season, and fills the eye as the making of a real good one.

Hinetaura, one of Mr G. Richardson's Cup candidates, has again been taken in hand by A. Woods. Robinson Crusoe's comely daughter looks all the better for the holiday that she has had.

Asteroid, who used to receive his education from A. Banks, at Hastings, is now under the guidance of George Collelo, at Taradale.

Ask for

# Wolfe's Schnapps

And Take Nothing Else.