

RACING REVIEWED.

POVERTY BAY TURF CLUB.

MISTIE WINS TURANGA STAKES.

A RECORD GATHERING.

six-furlong post, but this has been levelled off and a three-foot cutting made, thus making the track level at this point. This will make considerable difference, especially in the six-furlong events, as the horses will now have a better footing than before, and there should not be so much difficulty in getting the fields away on even terms.

The Rangitikei Racing Club is installing a new silent totalisator for its annual meeting, and Mr. George Spriggs has been appointed to take charge of its management on the 25th and 26th March next. Nominations for the meeting close on Tuesday, the 24th inst.

The Signor filly which is engaged in the Juvenile Handicap here is in F. Tilley's stable. She has been named Orotocal, and it is said she has been galloping in very pleasing style lately.

Tannhauser, who looked to be well treated in the Wanganui Cup, is reported to have gone amiss, but whether the trouble is serious enough to prevent him starting here is not known. If he goes to the post the son of Martian must have a big chance on his Metropolitan Handicap form, as he won that event in fine style with 8.2 on his back in 2.34 3-5, which, together with his Dunedin Cup win last year, shows that he can go the mile and a-half journey, and the extra quarter of a mile here should not stop him.

H. Eva, the Hawera owner-trainer, has a couple of exceptionally fine two-year-olds in training in Miss Fisher (Maniapoto—Dear Dolly) and Shandon Bells (by Campfire—Sister Frances). The former has not been up long, but is a fine stamp of a filly, while Shandon Bells is a very promising looking youngster. She is a half-sister to Lady Menschikoff, and is engaged in the Juvenile Handicap here.

The recent rains have benefited the Wanganui Jockey Club's course very much, and it is now looking lovely. The tracks are in splendid order, and the going should be of the very best description next week. Everything points to the meeting being a big success from every point of view.

The weights for the minor events at the Wanganui meeting show evidence of careful compilation by Mr. Geo. Morse, and he will probably have the satisfaction of seeing good fields contest the various events. The acceptances are not due until Friday next, after which backers will be able to form a better idea as to the probable winners. In the meantime it may be said that the Petre Hack, six furlongs, bears a very open aspect. Bertrada (9.7) has a big burden, and Paoli (9.2), Vocation (8.13), Historette (7.13), Tiora (7.5) and His Eminence (7.0) look more attractive. The two latter will be amongst the winners very soon.

In the Wiritoa Hack, eight and a-half furlongs, Wild Lupin (9.6) has a big weight, but he has earned it all. Canute (9.0) will probably run better here than he did at New Plymouth, and will take some beating. Di Gama (8.7) is nicely weighted, and so is Square Deal (8.0). The latter has not shown his best form recently, but if he strips well here next week will prove that he is a worthy son of his famous sire. Record (7.8) is a consistently good horse, and may have to be reckoned with, as he is very fit.

In the big hurdles, Bercola (11.2) is being picked out as likely to run well. The top weight, Sandy Paul (12.3), is such a great stayer that he must have a chance, while of the others Kurnalpi (10.3) reads as well as anything.

There is not a very select lot in the Hack Hurdles, and the top weight, Merrimax (11.1), is not over-burdened in such a field. Aruake (9.6) has only got to jump well to be very dangerous.

There is plenty of material for a capital race in the Stewards' Handicap, in which Emperor (9.6) heads the list. Even with that weight he should run well. Of the others, Patronale 8.1, Allegation 8.1, Byron 8.0, Cheddar 7.11, Rewi Poto 7.4, and Austin 6.12 all appear to be likely to have something to say in the settlement of the event.

Sauci is at the head of affairs in the Juvenile Handicap, but he will probably be kept for the Flying Handicap. With Sauci out of the way, Rencontre will probably be made favourite, but Shandon Bells is expected to make a good showing.

Emperor, Rencontre, Historiette and Canute arrived here on Friday, and are all looking well, particularly Emperor and Canute.

The Poverty Bay Turf Club, made a start with its summer meeting on Thursday in beautiful weather, and the attendance quite fulfilled the most sanguine expectations. The Makaraka track was somewhat hard consequent upon the recent dry spell, but nevertheless the racing was of a thoroughly enjoyable character, the keenly-fought-out finishes being a strong factor towards the success of the day's outing. Mr. D. R. de Costa (secretary) conducted the gathering in his customary able manner, the other officials rendering valuable assistance in making the meeting a record one in the history of the club. The totalisator staff were kept extremely busy, the sum of £12,414 finding its way through the machine, as compared with £10,262, an increase of £2152 over that handled on the corresponding day of last year.

Eight saddled up for the opening event, the Welter Handicap, and Caher Davon, despite his big impost of 11.1, was pounced upon as the most likely to score, Glouria, Gazette and Perceler also claiming a large following. The favourite gave considerable trouble at the barrier, and did not get away well, Perceler being the smartest out. The Hawke's Bay mare maintained her position until the straight was reached, when Multikoff and Gazette displaced her, and in a determined struggle to the post the former gained the verdict by a nose, Park Tide being but half a length away third.

A trio contested the First Handicap Hurdle Race, Merry Lad being made a staunch favourite, and the Merr-wee justified the confidence of his supporters, for after leading all the way he won by close on a dozen lengths from Rongamau. Eiya, the other contestant, fell at the second hurdle, Traill escaping without injury.

Our King's failures at the Gisborne meeting did not prevent backers from again sending him out in pride of position on the totalisator in the Telephone Handicap, for which nine others saddled up, Blue Lake and Snona May also coming in for liberal support. The favourite, who was capably ridden by the Auckland, A. J. McFlynn, was in front turning the bend into the straight, and though challenged by Blue Lake, Multiplicity and Arosine, he just managed to get home by a nose from Blue Lake, with Multiplicity and Arosine a dead-heat for third, the race being a sterling one.

The big event of the day, the Turanga Stakes, attracted eight runners, the top-weight, Bircline, being heavier backed than Multiply, with Mangaroa next in request. Vi got away with her accustomed smartness, being closely attended by Mistie, while the favourite was the last to leave the barrier. A great race ensued in the straight, Mistie outstaying Vi and winning by half a length, with the fast-finishing Tatimi a similar distance away third.

Shonaform, ridden by C. Brown, was made a strong favourite for the Maiden Scurry in a field of eleven, but was badly bumped at the start and never was prominent. The race resulted in a victory for Royal Scout, who was heavily backed, Te Huhuti being two lengths away second, a length in front of Soutlie.

Carburetter was backed for the County Stakes Handicap as if the race were a gift, Despatch Carrier and Arosine being the best backed of the other half-dozen competitors. Carburetter was first out when the tapes lifted and momentarily flattered his supporters, but Arosine displaced him, but in the straight both Hima and Despatch Carrier put in their claims, Mr. J. Clark's roan gelding winning a good race from the last-named by half a length, with Arosine third.

The First Hack Handicap saw Multitude made the medium of brisk speculation, Multiano and Bodenham also coming in for considerable support. The race resulted in a surprise, none of the trio mentioned getting into a place. Trieze proved to be the winner, with Hiwitapu second and the outsider, Patti, third.

Blue Lake was singled out as the right goods for the concluding event, the Flying Handicap, while Waiorewa who won a double at the Gisborne meeting the previous week, was next in demand of the septette of starters.

The public's judgment was correct, the favourite defeating Waiorewa comfortably by a length, with Faith third.

CONCLUDING DAY.

BIRKLINE WINS BIG EVENT.

The gathering was concluded on Friday in fine weather, another large crowd being present. Betting was very brisk, £12,440 being put through the machine, making a total for the meeting of £24,778, as compared with £19,871 for the 1913 summer gathering.

Eocene was entrusted with most support in a field of four for the Stewards' Handicap and duly landed the stake from Faith and San Pluie. Another favourite, Hatana, prevailed in the Second Handicap Hurdles, leading from start to finish, Game and Fagot filling second and third places.

Nine lined up at the post for the Second Flat Handicap, and for the third consecutive time the favourite (Golden Sky) registered a victory, Patti and Multikoff finishing second and third respectively.

In view of his indifferent showing in the Turanga Stakes, Bircline was neglected for the big event, the Sunderland Stakes, on the second day, Blue Lake claiming most support, with Mistie and Vi also in big demand. The favourite looked all over a winner in the straight, but Bircline, nicely handled by C. Porter, soon had her measure, and won by a length, with the little-fancied Perceler third.

Another surprise was created in the Maiden Scurry, Grand Idea defeating the other seven starters after a good race. Ruffana was three-quarters of a length away, second, with Te Huhuti third. Royal Scout was favourite. St. Elmn was a strong favourite in the Roseland Handicap, which was won by Patti by a length, with Bodenham third.

The Publicans' Purse attracted a field of eight, and once more Our King (10.13) was installed favourite, with Golden Sky next in request. The latter scored her second victory of the afternoon, winning by half a length from Berg, with Hima third. Caher Devon was accorded the most solid support in the concluding event, the Farewell Handicap, Eocene and Tatimi being the most fancied of the other half-dozen starters. Eocene made the pace a cracker and appeared a likely winner, but Tatimi put in a great run up the straight and defeated her by fully three lengths. Faith was a length away, third.

OTAGO CRICKET.

INTERPROVINCIAL MATCHES.

(By Telegraph—Dunedin Correspondent)

MONDAY, February 16.

Harry Seideberg, the well-known Otago and New Zealand cricketer, who was captain of Otago against Canterbury in the match concluded to-day, had exceedingly bad luck on the first day. He was fielding in his usual place at cover-point, and when he had occasion to stop a hot one from Patrick he shot his right down to stop the ball, which jerked his thumb back, dislocating and splitting it at the same time. The injury was exceedingly painful, and Seideberg was unable to play for the rest of the match. Strangely enough, the emergency who filled his place was clean bowled in each innings without scoring. Otago was distinctly unlucky in losing Seideberg, who had been showing his oldtime form in recent matches.

The celebrations in connection with the jubilee of matches between Canterbury and Otago were commenced on Thursday with a match between veteran ex-representatives of the provinces. The Otago team included some famous players of an earlier generation. Among the notables were Fisher, Baker, Johnston, Brixford, and others whose names are written large in Otago and New Zealand cricket. The match resulted in a win for Otago by nine wickets. The feature of the game was the batting of Baker, who compiled 103 not out by clean hitting all round the wicket. It was the old "Jim" Baker, the hero of many a big cricket fight, come back. On the strength of this performance Baker, whose days were thought to be numbered, has been selected to captain Otago against Southland in the match commencing this week.

The Canterbury veterans' team, which was defeated by Otago in the Jubilee match at Dunedin on Thursday, paid a graceful compliment to the veteran "Jim" Baker, of Otago,

who made a century against the visitors, by presenting him with the ball used in the match.

Canterbury has the Indian sign on Otago in representative cricket. Since 1906 this province has not won a match against Canterbury, who again defeated Otago to-day by an innings and 32 runs. This was a Plunket Shield match, and Canterbury retained it with a team which was without the services of Dan Reece, Sandman, and Hickmott. Canterbury created a new record by compiling 442. The previous best to these matches was 382, established as far back as 1880. Canterbury was greatly assisted in this score by the wretched lofty fielding of Otago, who are now bemoaning the evils of the dropped catch. The most serious defection was the dropping three times of Patrick, who so appreciated the tolerance of the Otago fieldsmen that he went on and compiled 118 before he was finally disposed of. The Canterbury batting was solid rather than brilliant. Whitta, Cargill, and Patrick did the bulk of the scoring, and showed the best form.

Despite his three chances, Patrick batted splendidly, some of his square shots being a treat to see. The cricket throughout was bright and interesting, while all the glorious uncertainties of this uncertain game were dramatically realised. The batting of Canterbury was solid right down to the last man, the distinction being most marked when compared with Otago. In all departments of the game Canterbury proved its superiority.

Canterbury's ninth wicket on Saturday morning was exceedingly productive, putting on 106 runs to the overnight's score, carrying the innings to a fresh record mark. Otago was called upon to face high figures on opening their first innings, and although the wicket was playing true and the conditions generally were excellent few had the courage to suggest that the home side would be equal to the task of getting within reach, yet no one dreamt of the disaster that was to happen to the pick of the Otago batsmen, nor of the wonderful recovery that was to be made by the last wicket.

Batsman after batsman went out to the crease to fall a victim to superior bowling, sheer ill-luck, and their own rashness, until eight of the best wickets were down for 75. Tuckwell, who was looked upon to make a stand, was the victim of circumstances not unattended in cricket, but McFarlane simply threw his wicket away by attempting an impossible run. It was left to Chadwick, who was chosen owing to the inability of Condliffe to play, and Higgins to save Otago from rout and disgrace. This pair once started never looked back until they had taken the score from 75 for the eighth to 187 for the ninth wicket, when Higgins succumbed, after a sound innings, for 40.

Chadwick batted with rare freedom, and looked as if he might have continued without end had there been anyone to stay with him. His not out innings of 71 at such a critical stage in Otago's first innings was invaluable.

Otago had to follow on to attempt to save an innings' defeat, but they were not successful. After losing three wickets for 141 overnight, the team were dismissed this morning for 215. Tuckwell gave a fine exhibition of batting for 52, but McFarlane, who got 62, was extremely lucky. Bennett bowled very well for Canterbury, and Wilson, a googly bowler, also had several of the Otago batsmen tied up. The ground fielding of Canterbury was excellent, and the standard of their cricket all round was immeasurably superior to the home side.

Of the 54 matches played between the provinces, Canterbury has won 30, Otago 23, and one has been drawn.

The New Zealand Cricket Council has made very bad terms with Mr. A. Sims over the Australians' New Zealand tour, and there is not much likelihood of profit to the Association and the Council over the deal. It is understood that in provincial matches the Australians take 60 per cent. of the gross gate money. The local ground generally takes 25 per cent., leaving the local associations only 15 per cent., out of which the ground expenses have to be taken. In the test matches the Council is on a little better wicket, for the Australians get 50 per cent. gross takings, while the grounds take from 20 to 50 per cent., but the New Zealanders' travelling expenses, as well as ground expenses, have to come out of New Zealand's 25 to 30 per cent.