



RACING NOTES

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RACING CALENDAR.

FIXTURES.

March 4, 5—Dannevirke Racing Club
 March 5—Akaroa County Racing Club
 March 6, 7—Hawke's Bay J.C.
 March 7, 9—Te Aroha Jockey Club
 March 11, 12—Nelson Jockey Club
 March 13, 14—Napier Park R.C.
 March 14, 17—Ohinemuri Jockey Club
 March 17—Opunake Racing Club
 April 1, 2—Southland Racing Club
 April 2, 3—Masterton Racing Club
 April 11—Tuapeka County Jockey Club
 April 11, 13—Beaumont Jockey Club
 April 11, 13—Auckland Racing Club
 April 13—Waipukurau Jockey Club
 April 13—Kumara Racing Club
 April 13, 14—Canterbury Jockey Club
 April 13, 14—Feilding Jockey Club
 April 13, 14—Riverton Racing Club
 April 15—Westland Racing Club
 April 22—Reefton Jockey Club

EVENTS REQUIRING ATTENTION.

Nominations for the Brighton Hurdles, Easter Handicap, St. George's Handicap, and Autumn Steeplechase, to be decided at the Auckland R.C.'s autumn meeting, close with the secretary, Mr. J. F. Hartland, on Friday, March 6, by 9 p.m.

Nominations for all events at the Masterton R.C. autumn meeting (except the Maiden Hack Race) close with the secretary on Friday, March 6, at 10 p.m.

Nominations are due for the Feilding Jockey Club's autumn meeting on March 20th for all events. The Feilding Cup is worth 500sovs, the Mangaone Stakes 300sovs, the Easter Handicap 300sovs, and Denbigh Stakes 200sovs, and no race is of less value than 100sovs. In each case the nomination is 1sov.

MEGAPHONE, CARBINE, ABERCORN.

The following appears in the "Answers to Correspondents" column of the "Sydney Mail":—

Megaphone.—"Old Horse" (Blackall, Q.): Megaphone was only a half-bred, unless his breeding in the Stud Book is wrong. His sire, Newbold, and his dam, Sound, were both half-breeds. Megaphone was unquestionably a racing freak, and perhaps you know that his brother Newbolt was also a smashing galloper, and possibly would have been as good as Megaphone had he been tried down south; but he never raced this side of Townsville. I saw him make a hack of Ben Bolt at w.f.a., yet down here, among the best, Ben Bolt won the Caulfield Cup, and successfully carried 9st. 5lb. in the Doncaster Handicap, beating such a mare as The Queen, who carried by 7st. 10lb.

Carbine and Abercorn.—W.G.B. (Rappville): In my opinion, Abercorn was the better stayer of the pair, and, with the exception of First King, possibly the best long-distance horse Australia has raised. He could run farther at top speed than any horse I ever saw or heard of. Carbine was much speedier than Abercorn, and could always chop him for pace at the end of a moderately run race. He twice beat Abercorn over three miles in slow time, when the pace was only on over the last mile. Both were wonderful horses, and for certain the best we have ever known. The superior of the pair, after all, is merely a matter of opinion. Murillo can hardly be described as an imported horse, for the reason of having been foaled in Australia. Gozo, Lochiel, Russley, and Murillo are frequently described as imported horses. They were sired in England and foaled in Australasia, consequently are Australians. Murillo started in four races, beginning in the Debutant Stakes, in which he was beaten a head by Scotland, and was third with top weight in the Gwyn Nursery at Caulfield. He won the Maribyrnong Plate, and on Cup day carried top weight and won the V.R.C. Nursery. He won £1614 in stakes.

There are probably some people who will subscribe to the opinion expressed in the above that Abercorn was a better stayer than Carbine, though he did not prove it. Lochiel and Russley were both foaled in New Zealand, so can hardly be described as Australians.

BRITAIN'S HORSE EXPORTS.

According to an official report issued by the Board of Agriculture, 1503 stallions, 20,353 mares and 45,073 geldings were exported from Great Britain last year. Over two-thirds of the total were valued at less than £10 per head, i.e., 18,517 at less than £5, and 27,059 at £5 and less than £10. The greater proportion of these went to Belgium and the Netherlands. These countries and France appear also to have been the best customers for horses of higher values, the other chief destinations being Denmark, Germany, United States, Canada, and South Africa. Among the countries taking horses of highest average value were Austria-Hungary, which took 26 at an average of £665; Australia, 216, at an average of £306; and New Zealand, 44, at an average of £283. The Greek, Japanese, German, French and Russian Governments bought up all the light horses they could lay their hands upon.

ALWAYS SECOND.

Many years ago in Victoria there was a solidly built chestnut gelding called Happy Jack. He was a son of Ladykirk, and, according to the Sydney "Stock and Station Journal,"

His owner had backed him well, and was glad to divide, fearing that he might get back to his old habit of running second. Lots of horses would win races if the winning post could be shifted. Their hearts fall them when the crowd is reached. Others take heart and show their gameness.

RUSSIA AND THE THOROUGHBRED.

The Russian Empire owns the largest number of horses under one Government in the world. Since the Crimean war Russia has been one of England's best customers for the thoroughbred. When the Crimean disturbance was on, the hackney and other light harness breeds were not popular with Englishmen as saddle horses, either on the road, in the ranks, or for pleasure. The English gentleman preferred a three-quarter thoroughbred horse, and English officers tried to get their chargers as nearly thoroughbred as possible: while the remount departments went for a similar class for the light cavalry. The heavy cavalry rode a bigger horse, with a strong dash of the Clydesdale in it, because of the tremendous weights they were compelled to carry; but subsequently it was proved that the lighter horse of

at faro, remarked: "An' ter think that everybody in our village used ter say kyarus is a waste o' time!"

THE LIVERPOOL GRAND NATIONAL.

The value of the Liverpool Grand National Steeplechase has been increased this year to 4000sovs., including a trophy valued at 125sovs. The cost of starting is 35sovs. The entries were taken just before the last mail left, and number 62, as against 63 last year. The horses engaged include King George's representative, Tweifth Lancer, who is trained at Royston by P. Whitaker. There is a probability of both the King and Queen visiting Liverpool as the guests of Lord Derby to see the race run on March 27. The late King Edward (when Prince of Wales) won the Grand National with Ambush II. Covercoat and Irish Mail, first and second last year, have again been entered, and so has the French horse Lutteur III, the winner in 1909. It was cabled a little time back that raidum had been successfully used to bring Lutteur III. back to soundness.

A CAPITAL IDEA.

The Adelaide Racing Club has hit upon a capital idea, one which should



LORD LIVERPOOL, MR. W. DOWNIE-STEWART (MAYOR OF DUNEDIN) AND SIR G. McLEAN (PRESIDENT) AT THE DUNEDIN JOCKEY CLUB'S RECENT MEETING.

was a remarkable equine in so far that he seemed to be able to run second in almost any company, but would get no further forward even in a low-class hack race. First of all he ran at little bush meetings. He usually put in a wonderful run at the finish, and this at once suggested to those who did not know him that if his rider had made an earlier run he would have won easily. It was on an occasion of the kind mentioned that Happy Jack attracted the attention of the late Mr. Robert Howie, an astute judge. This trainer of Derby, Cup and National winners purchased Happy Jack at a price that seemed little more than a quarter of his value; but the best of training and the assistance of a crack horseman failed to lure the son of Ladykirk out of his habit of running second. It seemed that the horse could gallop fast enough, but that when he had outpaced all but one horse he reckoned his mission was fulfilled. Happy Jack was the two ends of a mystery.

There have been lots of horses noted for running into second place. Tupaki, an Auckland horse, was always capable of leading his fields, but invariably found one too good for him at the finish. He could get six furlongs or a mile, but as the winning post was neared he would just manage to let something come and lead him past it. He was sold to go to Australia. A four-furlong race was sorted out for him. His new owner backed him, and he succeeded in making a dead-heat of the event.

breeding handled the weight as well and went at faster speed. The Russians saw the advantage of the thoroughbred during that war, and have been buying heavily for over 50 years; but never, perhaps, did they come out of their shell to such an extent as at the last December sales, when M. Mantacheff, from the icy empire, expended over £50,000 in thoroughbreds, and after the sales made Mr. A. W. Cox an offer of 55,000 guineas for Lemberg. This great price (a record) was refused. Lemberg won £41,694 on the turf, and is a half-brother to Bayardo, a son of Bay Donau—also the property of his breeder, Mr. Cox, who is frequently described as an Australian, but he is not. He is an Englishman who saw service as a jackeroo at Lake Dick, near Broken Hill, and acquired an original share in Broken Hill through winning a game of euchre. That original share made him a millionaire, and the luck that attended him in the desert stuck to him in bright green England, whither he returned and became the owner of Eager, one of the best horses in England. Subsequently he bred Lemberg and Bayardo. Lemberg (10) is by Cyllene by Galicia, by Galopin from Isoletta, by Isonomy from a Muncaster mare, Lady Muncaster, a descendant of Queen Mary. Mr. Cox may have spent his life out in the red sand but for that game of euchre. He can echo that religiously reared American, who, after winning a pile

of assistance to owners in securing riders on the day of the meeting. On each race day the committee will place in the jockeys' room a printed slip, divided into columns, so that owners can, in a brief form, show what they want, as they can state the name of the horse a rider is needed for, and in another column pencil the stall where the owner can be seen. The scheme is simple, as all that an owner need do is to walk into the jockeys' room and jot down his requirements, and no doubt many boys will be on the alert to interview owners when they enter the quarters of the riders.

A STEEPLECHASING INCIDENT.

The following appeared in the London cables to the Sydney "Sun":—

An exciting incident marked the finish of the Steeplechase at Kempton Park recently. Coming up to the last jump the favourite (Mr. Ismay's Kenia) had a lead of Oakley. Kenia blundered, and shot the jockey (Pigott) from the saddle, but he clung to his mount's neck, and scrambling back into his seat, won the race. The failure of Oakley's rider to take advantage of the accident and overhaul the stumbling Kenia led the stewards to hold an inquiry. It was ascertained that Oakley had jumped clumsily, causing his rider to lose the stirrups, so that he was unable to profit by the opportunity which Kenia's blunder offered.