

# SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

England keeps eighteen packs of staghounds.

H. B. Irving is reviving Conan Doyle's play, "A Story of Waterloo."

The war affected the Doncaster yearling sales to the tune of £80,000.

The Poverty Bay Polo Club has decided to forego its annual tournament this year.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlyle Smythe have passed through Sydney on their way to Java.

Peter Cook is reported to be the cleverest exponent of boxing in New Zealand.

When the mail left England R. T. Wootton stood third on the list of winning trainers, with a total of 15,963sovs.

Beecham's season of grand opera at Covent Garden bids fair to be abandoned owing to the war.

Nettlebeck, a German who broke the hour paced record, is now tramping in the mire with a gun.

Oldham and Manchester City continue to be the outstanding teams in football at Home.

R. Wootton, in his brief career, has trained 200 winners of 372 races. The stakes won amounted to 111,607sovs.

Harry Hill, a famous bookmaker of seventy years ago, rose from hotel "boots" to a commissioner dealing in £10,000 books.

Many yearlings at the Doncaster sales could not raise a bid, and many did not bring more than stud fees.

Every international football player in England for the last three years has joined the forces.

When Stanley Wootton, jockey and trainer, received a commission in the 7th Hussars he turned down close upon £3000 a year.

The best horse which passed through R. Wootton's hands was Shogun. We have his word for it that he should have won Craganour's sensational Derby.

Jim Driscoll, the famous Welsh featherweight, has enlisted in the Welsh Horse.

It is reported that 75 per cent. of the Canadian footballers at Vancouver have enlisted.

Hagerty, lightweight champion, having left the country, loses the honour in favour of P. Cook.

The proposal that a Queensland team of boxers tour New Zealand has been abandoned.

Every member of the Hampshire County Cricket Club, professional and otherwise, has volunteered for the front.

Mr. J. N. Crawford, Otago's cricket coach, intends to enter the ranks of the Benedicts after the grade matches finish in March.

Hannan and Webb, in a race for the championship of New Zealand, should draw a big gate, for both have the confidence of the public.

The Shire horse is claimed to be the lineal descendant of the old English war horse—the chargers of the knights of old.

The Queensland Boxing Association has notified the New Zealand Association that they are free to receive a team.

The Royal Sydney golfers have taken to the rifle range as a new form of sport.

Golf competitions in Australia, according to the local press, are few and far between.

Peter Guenther, paced cycle champion of Germany, has joined a German battery. His pace-makers went with him.

It is stated by Mr. Marriott, Rugby secretary at Home, that ninety per cent. of the English footballers have gone to the war.

The war is sending the song birds home. Mr. C. Murray Gibbes, a Sydney singer and composer, has returned after an absence of five years. He was a former member of the J. C. Williamson Royal Comic Opera Company.

Bert Cramond, the well-known Dunedin batsman, has left to take up an appointment at Invercargill.

Harry Overton, actor, one time well known in Australasia, is now manager of the Bronte surf sheds, Sydney. His real name is Mr. H. Overton Waters.

The N.Z. Bowling Association have presented their president, Mr. M. Casey, with a framed photograph of the Council and a silver bowl.

In the year 1913 Galtee More found his way to Germany, via Russia. St. Gatten was another of their famous purchases.

Wootton states a filly by Sundridge, in his possession, will, in his opinion, be the best of her year and win the Oaks.

Uhlán, world's champion trotter, has sent the American race tracks mad. He turned a mile in 1.55. He had a running mate.

Two Italian cyclists, named Colombatta and Robuschi, have thrown in their lot with the French legion on the battle front.

The picture shows of Melbourne which open on Sunday are computed to have an attendance of about ten thousand.

Lancashire County cricket clubs own their grounds, valued at £24,000, have investments valued at £3160 and liabilities of £12,400.

Norman Brookes, winner of the world's lawn tennis championship at Wimbledon, and the Davies Cup in America, has arrived in Melbourne.

A member of the Boxing Association of Wanganui has volunteered for the front, and the bulk of the local boxers have also gone at their country's call.

Tommy Burns, pugilist and white man, fell off the steps of a Pullman car recently at Wyoming. He had to be taken to a hospital, but sustained only slight injuries.

Winston Churchill is now forty. Behind him lies one of the most remarkable careers ever accomplished within such a short span of time.

The English Lawn Tennis Association have a total balance of £1900. Of this sum £1000 has been invested in war loan stock.

It is computed that there are three thousand couples of hounds in the 131 packs of harriers who run bell-mouthed over the fields of England. They cost £100,000 a week.

It is R. Wootton's intention to return to England again in a few months to assist his sons over the Derby and Ascot before returning to Australia.

John L. Sullivan has again in his possession the belt given him by Boston when he won the heavyweight championship of America in 1883. When hard up he sold the belt, which he has now re-bought for four thousand dollars.

At the meeting of the Irish Football Association held at Belfast, it was reported that Belfast has given over 14,000 recruits to Kitchener's army.



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