

RACING NOTES

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RACING CALENDAR.

FIXTURES.

- August 26—Amberley Steeplechase
- August 26—Egmont-Wanganui Hunt
- September 1—Marton Jockey Club
- September 2—Rangitikei Hunt Club
- September 8—Dannevirke R.C.
- September 9—Dannevirke Hunt Club
- September 9, 10—Ashburton Country
- September 15, 18—Avondale J.C.
- September 18—Otago Hunt Club
- September 23, 24—Geraldine J.C.
- September 23, 25—Wanganui J.C.
- September 27, 28—Otaki Maori R.C.
- September 30—Horowhenua J.C.
- September 30 or Oct 14—Kurov J.C.
- Oct. 2—Napier Park R.C.
- Oct. 8, 9—Dunedin J.C.
- Oct. 8—Hawke's Bay J.C.
- Oct. 14—Masterton R.C.
- Oct. 21, 23—South Canterbury J.C.
- Oct. 23, 25—Wellington R.C.
- Oct. 25—Waverley-Waitotara R.C.
- Oct. 25—Waipawa County R.C.
- October 25—Walkato Hunt
- Oct. 25, 26—Gore R.C.
- Oct. 26, 27—Greymouth J.C.
- Oct. 28, 29—Poverty Bay T.C.
- Oct. 30—North Canterbury and Oxford J.C.
- November 3, 6—Auckland R.C.
- November 24, 27—Takapuna J.C.
- December 1—Waipa R.C.
- December 11—Bay of Plenty J.C.
- December 27, 28—Thames J.C.

EVENTS REQUIRING ATTENTION.

The programme of the Avondale Jockey Club's spring meeting will require the attention of owners on Friday, August 27th, when nominations for all the handicap events and final payments for the Avondale Stakes and Avondale Guineas are due.

On September 3rd nominations will be taken by the undermentioned clubs for their classic races:—

Taranaki Jockey Club: Taranaki Stakes, 1917, of 500sovs., for horses two-year-olds and upwards at time of starting.

Manawatu Racing Club: Palmerston North Stakes, 1916, of 500sovs., for now yearlings and upwards; Manawatu Stakes, 1917, of 500sovs., for now yearlings and upwards; Manawatu Sires' Produce Stakes, 1917, of 600sovs., for now yearlings.

Wellington Racing Club: Wellesley Stakes, 1916, of 750sovs., for now yearlings; Wellington Stakes, 1917, of 750sovs., for now yearlings and two-year-olds; North Island Challenge Stakes, 1917, of 750sovs., for all ages; and New Zealand St. Leger, 1918, of 550sovs., for now yearlings.

Fellding Jockey Club: Eleventh Fellding Stakes 1916, of 500sovs., for now yearlings and upwards.

Hawke's Bay Jockey Club: Hastings Stakes, 1916, of 250sovs., for now yearlings; Hawke's Bay Stakes, 1916, of 500sovs., for now yearlings; Hawke's Bay Stakes, 1918, of 500sovs., for now yearlings.

The Avondale Jockey Club: Avondale Stakes, of 300sovs., and Avondale Guineas, of 300sovs., for now yearlings.

The Wanganui Jockey Club: Wanganui Guineas, of 500sovs., and Jackson Stakes, of 500sovs.

The Egmont Racing Club: Egmont Stakes, of 500sovs., and Hawera Stakes, of 400sovs.

AUSTRALIAN RACING STATISTICS.

The annual statistics published in Australia, where so many horses owing their descent to New Zealand-bred stock are racing, have something more than ordinary interest for breeders and racing men in the Dominion, as they have for those in the Commonwealth, a large continent, which provides the best market in the world for bloodstock at the present time, absorbing as it does many thousands of horses every year. The list of sires that have produced winners is an extensive one, running into surprising figures, something like 1000 of them taking in the winnings of all classes. The total amount won in stakes runs out to £751,497, according to "Milroy" in the "Sydney Mail," which he takes to be a world's record, adding:—It is certainly a long way ahead of Great Britain, and still farther ahead of the best France has shown, and in Europe France comes next to Great Britain. I cannot speak for the United States of America, not knowing anything about that country personally, and having no books of record to guide me; but the European countries publish exhaustive annual statistics in respect of racing. In the published and unpublished records for the past year there are 959 stallions in the "Mail" books, and these

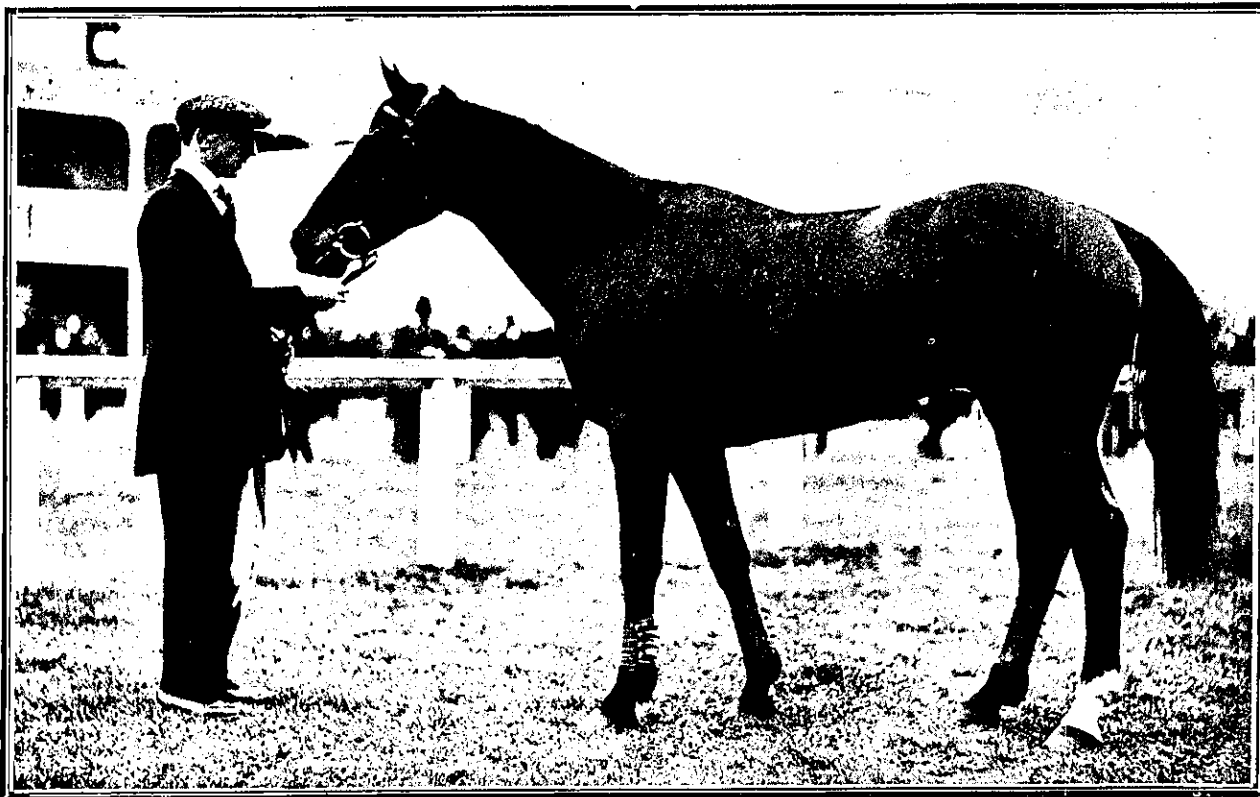
rush (£2843), De Gama (£2837), Traquette (£2679), Alecomer (£2525), Naxbery (£2325), Giru (£2279), Dollar Dictator (£2295), Barlow £2192), Tom Castro £2115), Juan Fernandez (£2080), Flash Jack (£2219), and Lochano (£2254)." Of this lot Carlita and Di Gama were bred in New Zealand.

A SPORTING BRIGADE.

An attempt is being made in Sydney to raise a sporting brigade for the front, according to "Milroy," who thus writes:—Among those already at the front there are enough for two brigades, already educated in the art of Turk-baiting. One of the promoters of the "sporting brigade," I hear, is Mr. J. J. Smith, the principal owner of Victoria Park. He could get a goodly number of healthy young men from among his patrons—young men who know how to take care of themselves, and are not likely to give either Turk or German a walk-over when there is anything to be won or lost. Sport in any form is some test for nerves and courage; but, of course, the more strenuous field games naturally improve the condition of the muscles and wind; therefore football-

NEW ZEALAND CUP.

The weights for the New Zealand Cup are framed on lines that should ensure a good acceptance. Warstep is entitled to her place at the head of the list, but has been rated higher than any one of her age and sex in the past, and has consequently been paid a high compliment. She is probably more fancied than anything else, for the reason that she proved herself a good mare last season. Backers who like to get in early are many, and evidently they don't all realise what a task it may be for a mare to win under 9.5 over two miles in the spring of the year. Mares win comparatively few of these long-distance events at any season of the year. Warstep will certainly set the seal on her fame if she should win under that impost. There are already people talking about the weakness of the field. Is it a weak field? It may be so on the day, but it usually takes something pretty good to win, and there are some proved good ones in the eight stone and over division, which comprise Sea Pink, Pavlova, Colonel Soult, Sinapis, Bonny Helen, Rinaldo, Rewipoto, Indigo, and Kooya, any one of which if landed fit at the post must trouble the top-weight. The between eight stone and seven stone division has also a number of pro-



Mr. P. P. Neagle's b g DIAVOLO, aged, by Wehikore—Heavenly Twin, winner of the Sydenham Hurdle Race (1 3/4 miles).

are represented by 4047 winners. It may be added that a few of these winners scored in New Zealand, and the amount of money won there is included in the grand total; but it does not amount to £20,000. A feature in connection with the winning statistics are the principal winning horses. Mountain Knight heads this list with six races and three places, which brought in £10,359; but he was not the only good winner turned out by a lifelong friend, Harry Rayner, during the season. The veteran also trained Malt Mark (£2023), and Del Monte—who, like Mountain Knight, is by Mountain King—won his stable £2245. The astute Isaac Foulsham should be about second to Harry Rayner on the list of money-winners unless Kelso occupies that position, for Isaac trained Kingsburg (£8050) and Woorak (£3792). Kelso trained St. Spasa (£5647), Flash of Steel (£1800), and a number of smaller winners. Next to Kingsburgh on the winning list comes Carlita (£6618); then follows St. Spasa, who is succeeded by Cetigne (£5456), Ulva's Isle (£5300), Blague (£4965), Red Signal (£4843), Scotch Artillery (£4626), Uncle Sam (£4275), Sir Alwynton (£4080), Two (£3977), Garlin (£3576), St. Carwyne (£3507), Lemplere (£3334), Spurn (£3013), Port-

ers surely make the best of infantry. But it may surprise city folk to learn that good horsemanship requires perfect condition. Nothing affects the muscles so much as a hard day in the saddle, and for that reason bushmen make tip-top soldiers on horse or foot. A jockey out of condition is useless. Somebody has written to a Sydney paper protesting against some fearful language used by a batch of jockeys in one of the recruiting sheds at Liverpool. There are no professional jockeys at Liverpool just now, and there is no reason for supposing the jockey class hold a monopoly of profane words; but it would appear that any stick is good enough to beat a racing dog with. The wool industry is the backbone of Australia. Woolly sheep are not much use unless you find shearers to shear them, and shearers (so I have heard) can hold their own when it comes to swear words. If those people who so frequently, and always tamely, attempt to disparage racing for very minor reasons were consistent, they should move the powers that be to stop the breeding of sheep because shearers swear awfully, and they also play two-up and poker, and occasionally get drunk and fight each other with a vigour that would brighten even the adequate pen of Mr. Ashmead Bartlett.

bles, whose ages range from three to six years old, of which it is safe to say the best has not been seen; and who will say that there are not still further down the list some very likely ones at their imposts? There are a few practically unknown quantities engaged, and some that have no form to recommend them for a race of this description, and though the number of horses entered is not so large this year as for some years past, there is every reason to anticipate that the material will be on hand for a good race, and that there will be a pretty good response from owners when the first acceptance falls due. Those we would select at this stage are Pavlova, Bonny Helen, Colonel Soult, Rewipoto, Rinaldo, Sea Pink, Indigo, John Barleycorn, Lord Multifid, Blackall, Banksia, Slogan, and Plunder. The probabilities are that we have not seen the best of Bonny Helen, and that Pavlova, as fit as she was when she won three races at Trentham, including the Wellington Cup, is little inferior to Warstep. Colonel Soult has good form to recommend him over a distance, and on recent form Rewipoto should be ready to play his best card in November. Rinaldo has run some good races up to a mile and three-quarters, and should go one better. Sea Pink has