

LATEST RACING NEWS

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS

WELLINGTON.

Sinapis Retired from Racing—Suspension of Croesus and his Connections—Notes on Horses in Training.

WELLINGTON, Monday.

Chatting with R. (Dick) Johnson, the well-known Taranaki trainer, at Wanganui last week he informed the writer that it was his intention to start Rewi Poto in the Wellington Cup. If Johnson's present ideas are carried out it is unnecessary to state that his splendid galloper is assured of many admirers provided he lines up at Trentham. The son of Maniapoto is a brilliant sort, and his exploits during the next few weeks are anxiously awaited by quite a small army of sporting enthusiasts.

Capital nominations have been received by the Foxton Racing Club for their annual meeting, which takes place on the 22nd and 24th inst., the horses engaged being thoroughly representative of stables on the west coast of this island. Mr. Henrys' weights for the first day's events are due to-day.

The win of Taringamutu in the Wairarapa Cup of a mile and a-quarter was full of merit, and proves that the filly is more useful than many people gave her credit for. Her owner, Mr. G. Nash, is under the impression that she will give a good account of herself at the Wellington Cup meeting.

The New Zealand Cup winner, Sinapis (St. Ambrose—Prologue) made her last appearance in the capacity of a racer on the racecourse at the Wairarapa meeting at New Year time. Last week Mr. A. R. Durrant made arrangements for his mare to be mated with Mr. E. J. Watt's imported horse All Black, and she will be sent up to Hastings immediately.

Master Moutoa, who put up such a good fight in the Manawatu Cup, is furnishing into an ideal stamp of a galloper under D. McCauley's guidance at Foxton. The gelding is thought susceptible of making a bold showing at the local meeting this month.

The weights for the Wellington Cup meeting have caused quite a flutter in local sporting circles. The opinion generally expressed is that the handicapper, Mr. H. Coyle, has done his work admirably and there should be a capital response from owners and trainers when acceptances fall due on Friday next, the 14th inst.

Mr. J. J. Corry, the Mayor of Blenheim, journeyed over Cook Strait to see his horse Heeltap (Achilles—Zealandia) in action at Tauherenikau. The five-year-old gelding ran very creditably by finishing second to Braemore in the Maiden Hack and returning his lucky supporters a substantial two-figure dividend. Heeltap is a decent sort, and gives one the impression of turning out useful. He is trained by Alf. Rore at Spring Creek.

The Blenheim trainer, B. Keeper, has, contrary to expectations, fared badly with Eron Boy, who has competed at several North Island meetings without earning a winning bracket.

Marsinah (Martian—Black Bess), owned by a popular Wellington medico in Dr. Herbert, got amongst the winners at the Wairarapa meeting. The mare, who is a member of Sam Jamieson's team at Opaki, can gallop fast, and the future should reveal her as a very capable performer.

J. Farmer, at Awapuni, has Red Book (True Blue—Lady Mary) fast getting into racing form. It would occasion no surprise to find this gelding, who belongs to a popular Wanganui identity racing under the name of R. Narelle, getting amongst the winners before the present month has run its course.

Mollyhawk (Advance—Seagull), owned by Mr. J. Colvin, M.P., of the West Coast, is now being trained by C. Pritchard at Trentham. The mare has been a disappointment, but a change of training establishments may be followed by the proverbial change of luck.

M. Hurley, the son of the well-known Feilding owner of that name, has taken out a gentleman's riding license for the present season. Mr.

Hurley had a couple of rides at the Stratford meeting, where his capital horsemanship was a theme for admiration amongst sporting enthusiasts. Certainly Mr. Hurley should have a prosperous career as a gentleman rider.

Arrahna, who created a surprise by winning the Uukia Hack Handicap at Tauherenikau, is now being trained by the veteran Wairarapa trainer, R. Knox, at Opaki, and no one was more surprised than old Bob himself to see the chestnut mare come streaking home and returning her supporters a two-figure dividend. It is hoped that some additional successes will come Arrahna's way during the present season.

Glorify, owned by a popular Marton sportsman, who races as F. Preston, and who in his time has won a New Zealand Cup, is getting into capital racing trim under J. Farmer's guidance at Awapuni. The gelding is thought capable of getting amongst the winners in the near future. Certainly the chestnut's display at Tauherenikau gives rise to this contention.

The suspension of the Stewards' Handicap winner Croesus and owner Mr. G. F. Hardy and trainer J. S. O'Neill by the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club has been a subject much discussed in local sporting circles, as the parties are all well known on the turf. The people mentioned may have been unlucky, but there is no denying the fact that some of the racing that has been carried on during the last few months has been positively impudent, and how some of the jockeys concerned have had the temerity to return to the birdcage to weigh in is past comprehension. In chatting with a deputy stipendiary steward recently he stated that he was making a special report to the Racing Conference on some of the glaring instances with regard to malpractices that had come under his notice on the racecourses during the course of a couple of weeks. What is needed in New Zealand is a stricter supervision over racing, but who is to decide when a horse is pulled up or otherwise. Certainly there are many loop holes of escape, but some drastic action is necessary to purify the turf from its present unsatisfactory state.

Trickery (Charlemagne II.—Cute) is hitting out very attractively at Trentham, and there is every prospect of this fine galloper, who carries Messrs. V. and E. Riddiford's colours, getting on the winning list in the near future. Certainly the gelding is the makings of a good sort.

Mr. W. E. Bidwill's horses Probation (Downshire—Culmination), Determination (All Black—Stepfeldt), Elation (Elevation—Intelligence) and Deviation (Elevation—Wallethe) all stripped well at Tauherenikau, and much praise was extended to trainer P. E. Hazleman on the capital appearance of the horses. The quartette give indications of carrying their popular owner's colours with some distinction before the present racing season draws to a close. Their names, which are strikingly suggestive, should be the means of urging them on to success. Mr. Bidwill still has a book full of names finishing with "ation," so the list is not yet nearly exhausted.

Braemore (Sir Laddo—Tubirangi), owned by a popular Hawke's Bay sportsman in Mr. Keith White, of Porangahau, and trained by J. Farmer at Awapuni, showed up very conspicuously at the Wairarapa meeting by winning the Maiden Hack Race and acting as runner-up to Marsinah in the Mokai Hack Welter, both efforts being carried out on the opening day. The mare is possessed of some galloping powers, and some more successes should come her way during the present season. Certainly Farmer has her in capital condition.

Franbonnet (San Fran—Sunbonnet) owned by Mr. W. Cooper, of Te Ore Ore (Masterton), is fast getting into racing condition under Sam Jamieson's guidance at Opaki. The writer selects this galloper to give a taste of her sprinting powers at some of the country meetings to be decided during the next couple of months.

Prior to the running of the North Otago Cup last week, Peronilla, who was formerly trained by F. Higgott at Otaki, bolted twice around the course prior to the start of the race. This took the steam out of Mr. W. Nidd's mare, and she finished outside of a place.

P. Gibbons, a lightweight who came out from England a few years back and who rode with some success in the South Island, has thrown in his lot with the Trentham trainer J. Ayers, where there should be ample opportunity for him to display his riding talents.

Black Lupin was ridden by his trainer T. George when he won at Marton. Naturally Tom's friends were pleased to recognise the fact that he had not so far forgotten how to fight out a good finish when the occasion arrived for him to take the mount.

Mr. F. O. We'ne, of Constable Street, Wellington, was a buyer at the recent Auckland sales when he purchased for 150 guineas a colt by Robert the Bruce—Puhī. The youngster is built on galloping lines, and if appearances count for anything it should develop into a decent sort.

CANTERBURY.

Wellington Cup Fancies—Local Candidates for Telegraph Honours—Equivoal's Career Ended—Two Prominent Juveniles at the Southern Meetings—Scarcity of Feed in North Otago District—Mishap to San Sebastian—A Busy Stipendiary Steward—Racing Contributions for Patriotic Purposes.

(By Telegraph—Christchurch Correspondent.)

CHRISTCHURCH, Monday.

All the Riccarton horses that went abroad for the holiday meetings are back home, and matters at headquarters are livening up again. Warstep stood the journey down from Auckland very well, and is at present on the retired list. So far her trainer has formed no definite programme as to her future doings.

A big contingent of Riccarton-trained ones is being got ready for the Wellington Cup meeting. In the big event Snub finds a good deal of favour, and a repetition of his Auckland Cup form should leave him with a rare chance. Any useful three-year-old should be taken into consideration at 10lb. less than weight for age, especially in an event where the race is sure to be solid from start to finish. First Glance does not read at all well compared with Chortle, and it looks as if Mr. Coyle has been over-influenced by the pair's running in the Stead Memorial Cup at Riccarton, when the gelding was not at his best. Bee may find the distance rather far, but Wishful has nothing to complain of at 7.10. Taking a line through her recent form, Specialform can have little chance even under such a favourable impost as 7st., and she may not go North. Amongst the lightweights hailing from Riccarton, Adjutant looks to be best placed.

In the Telegraph Handicap Bimeter, Flying Start and Wishful have all been given fair chances, but it looks like being a particularly hard race to win.

Equivoal ended her career at the North Otago meeting by breaking one of her fetlocks, she having to be destroyed.

Daytime failed to race up to expectations at the Southern meetings. He had been showing brilliant form prior to leaving home, but let his party down badly with the colours up.

Tip Up, who showed splendid form at the West Coast meetings, was sold in Oamaru last May by Mr. John Brown, late of the Steward Settlement, to Mr. James Beban, of Otira. Tip Up is a three-year-old by All Red from the well-known mare Fairy Rose, a mare that was very successful.

Medley appears to have gone right off of late, and she may be given a spell.

A one-time well-known Canterbury horseman in W. Holmes goes into camp at Trentham this week.

Since his return from Auckland H. Cutts has recommissioned a number of Chokebore two-year-olds.

Two Riccarton-trained juveniles in

Kilboyne and Don Pacifico, trained respectively by M. Hobbs and Cutts brothers, stood out as easily the best of their age that sported silk at the Southern New Year meetings. Don Pacifico showed winning form at Wingatui, where he beat Kilboyne, but the latter turned the tables on him on the second day of the Dunedin fixture. At Oamaru Kilboyne again demonstrated his superiority, and the honours of the contests rest with the son of Kilbroney.

On the second day of the Karamea meeting, on the West Coast, Angelina, who won the Oparara Trot, had not a single ticket taken out on her chance. Under the extraordinary circumstances the stewards decided to pay all the money out on the second horse.

In consequence of the continuous drought in the North Otago district, Mr. Bruce Christie is making arrangements to ship his stock to the south until his own paddocks are carrying sufficient feed. The district round about Oamaru looks bad at present, and feeding stock has become a serious item.

Moidant and Ardenhor did not return to Riccarton with the balance of F. Holmes' horses, and the pair will in future be trained by C. Giesler at Wingatui.

Subsequent to his surprise win in the Greymouth Cup The Cornet put up another good race in the Hokitika Handicap, but just failed to concede Glenogly 16lb. The latter has shown good form at Reefton and Greymouth, and is evidently a greatly improved horse.

The two chief events at the Amuri Turf Club's meeting were appropriated by Waterspray, but the lot that opposed him were anything but high class. Another dual winner at the fixture was Riga, who showed to advantage in the Pahau Hack Handicap and the Ladies' Bracelet.

The three-year-old San Sebastian got cast in his box a few days ago at Chokebore Lodge, one of his legs being rather badly damaged.

St. Ewe has rejoined H. Thompson's active brigade, and Kilmeny has been taken in hand again by F. Christmas.

Madrad has thrown a splint, and will have to be cared for for a few weeks.

Though Warstep does not show any signs of lameness when walking, her trainer despairs of her ever standing another preparation, and she may go to the stud next season.

Scotch Melody is still in a rather bad way as the result of her breakdown when competing at the Southland Racing Club's meeting.

The South Canterbury Jockey Club has decided to reduce the events on both days of its autumn meeting from eight to seven, and as a result both steepchase events will be cut out.

During his visit to the West Coast holiday meetings, deputy-stipendiary steward Mr. C. H. Gorton had a very busy time. In nearly every race on the second day of the Hokitika meeting he had to have something to say to some of the boys, while the general business took up a deal of his time, in addition to which the alleged assault committed on jockey Wasley, which is evidently a serious affair, stood a lot of enquiring into, and finally was adjourned. Mr. Gorton has also been busy trying to unravel the reports in connection with the horse Samoa, who won the last event at the November meeting of the Inangahua Trotting Club. He has made three visits to Runanga to try and get a glimpse of the animal, but without avail.

Some weeks ago the committee of the South Canterbury Jockey Club sprung a great surprise by calling a meeting of members with the object of petitioning the Conference to stop racing during the continuance of the war. At the general meeting the proposal of the committee was turned down, but it was decided to forward a resolution to the chairman of the Conference, urging him to call a meeting to consider the advisability of reducing the amount of racing till the cessation of hostilities. In a letter to the club, Sir Geo. Clifford replied as follows:—"Very large sums have been voluntarily dedicated to patriotic purposes by the racing and trotting clubs of New Zealand. The absorption of