

## ELLERSLIE ITEMS.

On Thursday morning some useful work took place, and some schooling over the battens was indulged in.

Messrs. C. Casey, W. Casey and W. Patterson and the Waikato stud-master Mr. James McNicoll were present to see their rising two-year-olds sprinted.

J. McHugh has the Wairiki—Volee gelding Manukau putting in medium pace work near Onehunga. He is also keeping a maiden candidate doing useful tasks. The latter is occasionally brought to the Ellerslie track.

Sir Rosa and Royal Regal ran a mile on the sand. The former then flew a couple of the pony battens with a lead from Kerry. The Carl Rosa gelding looks like being useful over the timber.

Messrs. Tom Stewart and Ike Hardley were on the course to see their horses work. Kerry was again requisitioned to give Dancaster a lead over two of the pony battens flat on the ground. The pair also went over five of the big schooling hurdles, pleasing the onlookers.

Fisher and First Call jumped two of the small battens and five of the big schoolers. The pair gave a very promising display over the timber for such green horses, Fisher especially so.

The two-year-olds Empire, by General Latour—Lady Musket, and Vestal's full brother, sprinted a couple of furlongs on the sand track, where most of the work was done.

F. J. Macmanemin's five juveniles sprinted down the straight in two lots. Messrs. J. McNicoll and the Casey Bros' colts showed pace in a two furlong scramble. Messrs. W. Patterson's and F. J. Macmanemin's fillies put in a like task. The quintette are very forward in condition.

The two-year-olds by Demosthenes—Pearl Shell and the Rokeby—Hope Diamond youngster fluttered down the straight on the sand track.

Marconi and Soutikoff put in a sand circuit at top, the former again finishing in front, running the last miles in 1min 53sec. The pair were entrained for Wellington on Friday at mid-day.

E. Pope is at the present time confined to his home through an accident to one of his feet. Genevieve and Dewy Morn, two of his charges, put in easy tasks on Thursday morning. They both look a bit above themselves. The Merriwee mare Wee Olga is thought to be in foal to the Sout horse Elysian.

A quintette of F. Stenning's charges in Gold Necklet, Soutlane, Mullingar, Lady Winsome and another strode round the track at good half-pace.

The three juveniles Empire, Persian King and Vestal's full brother ran home as above from the head of the straight.

A pair of equine babies also on a sprinting mission were Flagship and the Bardolph—Carmine filly. They ran down the straight in company.

Silver Lupin and the rising three-year-old White Star registered fair time over a sand half mile. Silver Lupin had the most to say at the finish.

Kidderminster had all the best of her stable companion Parsimony over the same course, putting up fairly good time.

Fisher (Scott) and First Call were companions over five of the big battens. The Maniapoto gelding shapes like a veteran over the timber and looks like coming to hand early in this department of the sport.

S. Henderson will have the mounts on Marconi and Soutikoff in their southern engagements.

Tragedy King was sent south during the week, and the commanding Sout gelding will not be without supporters when he steps on to the course at Trentham with the colours up.

The Spalpeen gelding Crispeen is circling the track again, with his trainer (L. Coleman) in the saddle and seems all right again after his Gisborne trip.

It seems a great pity that Te Onga was not sent to the Wellington meeting, as he is simply jumping out of his skin. On Saturday the son of Regal registered a fast three furlongs with a feather weight in the saddle.

C. Coleman has taken Prince Sout in hand. The brown is very fat now and will take some fining down.

The writer, while strolling along Greenlane, recognised an old equine friend munching oats in a paddock on One Tree Hill, who, on close inspection, proved to be the little Gluten gelding Goldsize. The hardy little chestnut looks well, and the blistered ligament has nearly fined down.



BILLY LE BRUN, whose impersonation of "The Horse" in J. C. Williamson's "Mother Goose" pantomime is an astonishingly humorous effort.

Kerry assisted the Sout gelding Worcester over a couple of the big battens. The novice jumped the first two in good style, but stuck at the third and after getting over jumped the other two. It seems only a matter of a bit of schooling to put the brown gelding right.

P. Jones, the successful trainer of many double winners, is now a landed proprietor, having purchased the cottage and stables from Mr. F. J. Macmanemin near to the Ellerslie course.

Royal Irish has again been taken up, and at the present time is being led about the roads and the centre of the course. He is in the rough.

The Regal—Investment mare Toka Toka has gone into A. Morrow's stable to be prepared for next season's racing.

H. French now has Harlestone in training besides the two useful fillies Marble Star and Lady Glen.

Mr. Alf. Coleman, who formerly raced Dingo and other horses when a licensed bookmaker under the A.R.C. aegis, left for Sydney last week, where he intends settling.

St. Omer, the Moral—Energy filly, who scored at the Hawke's Bay meeting on the opening day, cost the S.P. merchants quite a quantity of good gold.

J. Williamson is away at the Northern Wairoa pheasant shooting. His team, Lady Penury, Pendoon, Guiding Way, Royal Loop, Royal Irish and others, are all doing well and are looking big and full of heart.

On Saturday morning, with a southerly wind fast drying the course, a lot of useful work was indulged in.

Six of F. J. Macmanemin's two-year-olds worked in couples, striding along at a good three-quarter pace from the head of the straight on the sand, where most of the work was done.

The Celt had his first three-furlong spin since going into W. Sharpe's care. The white-faced chestnut showed plenty of pace, and is fast coming back to form.

Takanini was indulged in a fly over the big battens. Preston's charge put plenty of ginger into his schooling lesson.



JACK MACK, comedian, with Bert Le Blanc's Revue Company, whose appearance at the Auckland Opera House is awaited with much interest.

The Parliamentary Handicap will be decided at Trentham this afternoon (Wednesday), when Ringform, who is well fancied in some quarters, will be ridden by J. O'Shea. Deeley will be on Multifal, F. E. Jones on Flying Start, C. Carmont on Lady Louisa, R. Brown on Orleans, H. Goldfinch on King Chiara, S. Reid on Harbour Light, J. Buchanan on Hygia, H. Lowe on Merrie Gain, O. McArdle on Maid o' Gowrie, and W. Bell on Haumakaka.

W. Young will have the mount on Kooya in her Wellington engagements.

Though Merrimax is trained by F. McGrath at Handwick, his trainer did not go to Melbourne to see the gelding take part in the Grand National Hurdle Race on July 1. Merrimax is at present in T. Dempsey's stable at Mordialloc, and will remain there until after the Australian Hurdle Race is decided at Caulfield.

Tim Doolan is reported to be recovering from his recent leg trouble, and it is expected that he will be thoroughly fit to take part in the Australian Steeplechase at Caulfield.

Merrimax was not mentioned in the running in the V.R.C. Grand National Hurdles, and started at a liberal price. He got away last and disappointed his owner and connections.

## THEATRICAL NOTES.

Super-scenic display is said to be one of the several attractions of "Mother Goose." The two acts and sixteen scenes comprising the J. C. Williamson pantomime will include the following attractive features and specialties: The Children's Soldier Ballet; the wonderful Golden Goose; the beautiful Bon Bon Ballet; the gorgeous illuminated swings; the novel Balloon Parade; the glittering Hall of Gold; the marvellous comedy acrobats; the spectacular hunting scene; the comical donkeys and the horse; the fascinating Flower Ballet; the alluring Allies Ballet; the stirring Boy Scouts Parade; the entertaining educated horse and the wonderful ship scene; the quaint little Dream Girl; the Ballet of Copper, Silver and Gold; and Gooseland, showing the glittering capital of the feathered kingdom, and grand goose procession, introducing an astonishing array of "Gooseland" citizens. The humorous, it is said, is a big feature, the "book" being full of comedy and the comedians having plenty of scope for unlimited fun-making. Much music that charms is another important item. Mr. Victor Champion has succeeded in securing the most alluring song successes, whilst the ballet and incidental music has been specially composed for the pantomime. The scenery is again one of the most brilliant phases of the production, the 17 gorgeous scenes being from the brush of Mr. W. R. Coleman and assistants. A special feature of beauty will be doubtless found in the ballets, marches, and spectacular ensembles, which comprise some of the most striking effects in the production. It is claimed that thoroughly cosmopolitan, and the very latest in novelty and brilliancy and beauty, is the costuming. London, New York, Paris and Australia are all represented in the design and execution of the work.

Master Reginald Newberry, the boy soprano, who won the Daisy Jerome competitions at the Auckland Opera House recently, has been meeting with marked success in Sydney, making his first professional appearance over there at the Town Hall. The lad, who is now playing on the Fuller circuit and creating a most favourable impression with his phenomenal voice, has just signed a contract with the firm for 24 weeks in Australia, with the option of another 20 weeks, at an advantageous figure.

A particularly strong cast will handle "To-night's the Night," and in some cases the versatility of the Williamson Company will break out in a new vein. For example, Miss Connie Ediss plays a French maid with a roving disposition, and Mr. Workman is a middle-aged gentleman with an austere wife and a gay eye for the ladies. In musical comedy the two abilities usually go together, and who shall say they do not in real life as well? Mr. Alfred Frith has a typical "Grossmith" part with some excellent numbers, while Mr. Fred Maguire rejoins the company for another of those youths who are not quite so simple as they look. Miss Dorothy Brunton may be expected to give the very best account of herself in a part which by singing, acting and dancing offers her as many opportunities as any one past.

"Too many Cooks," a most laughable farce touching humorously on the dual ills of a wife's relations and labour troubles, is listed for early production by the Hale Hamilton-Myrtle Tannehill Company in Sydney.

Sara Allgood and Cecil Brooking, who respectively play Peg and Alaric Chichester in the great J. and N. Tait success "Peg o' My Heart," have had the rare pleasure of appearing in Masefield's much discussed tragedy entitled "Nan." Miss Allgood appeared as Nan in one of the first productions of the play in England, and she considers the character to be one of the most dramatically effective that she has ever undertaken. Mr. Brooking, who yields to no one in his admiration for John Masefield, was also cast as Drew at the premiere of "Nan" at the London Haymarket. Subsequently he played Drew during an English provincial tour, and was such a success that he was further engaged for the same character during a season of "Nan" in Canada and the United States. Cecil Brooking has played Drew many times and regards the part as an excellent example of Masefield's careful character drawing.

Melbourne playgoers are eagerly looking forward to the first production of J. and N. Tait's "Peg o' My Heart" at the King's Theatre on the 22nd inst. Aply described as "The Supreme Success of Successes," the wonderful little comedy has taken Sydney by storm, and promises to repeat in Australia its unbroken run of triumphs in Great Britain and America. The play is merely a delightfully human love story, but its quaint fun, its sentiment, and its telling illustrations of the lighter side of Irish character make it an entertainment that will set the gloomiest pessimist smiling gaily. The piece is interpreted by a brilliant cast, among whom the celebrated Sara Allgood takes first place in the part of Peg. Other members of the company are: Miss Doris Gilham, Miss Beatrice Yaldwyn, Gerald Henson, Cecil Brooking, and Ernest Ruston. The producer who is responsible for the artistic stage effects is E. W. Morrison, the experienced actor, who is already well known to Australian audiences.

In "Romance," which was put on for the first time in Australia on Saturday night, July 8, at the Royal, Melbourne, Edward Sheldon, known to Australians as the author of "Salvation Nell" and "The Nigger," breaks fresh ground entirely. In place of the realism of these two pieces he has built up a delightfully realistic story of love, in which emotions are powerfully studied, and there is a fine and searching study of character and its development, all set in the romantic atmosphere of "the sixties," when "all the world was young."

Writing to the "Sporting Review" from Zeist, Holland, a Belgian prisoner of war states that in order to render his captivity more agreeable he has commenced the collection of different used stamps. He writes that he will be happy to send a war keepsake of the Belgian camp in exchange for some stamps for his collection. Letters containing stamps should be forwarded to Alex de Roeker, 5th Belgian Infantry Regiment, 3-3, Zeist, Holland.

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