

of the local club, and it must be remarked that his nomination was a happy inspiration.

During the forthcoming season the Gore Racing Club's presidential chair will be filled by Mr. D. Macara, one of the proprietors of the Mataura "Ensign," an enthusiastic supporter of many sports and pastimes, and a real friend to both trotting and galloping games.

Local backers are inclined to favour Recharge for the Grand National Steeplechase, as far as the southern candidates are concerned, but Thistleton has always had trouble with the son of Renown and may thus find it impossible to land him at the post in a condition to give of his best. Fit and well on the day he will prove a hard horse to leave behind over the long journey, but in the meantime Heatherlea will be retained on the side of the writer, despite the fact that he is hardly good enough to win across the flat, while Recharge can gallop fast. There is no representative from Southland in the Grand National Hurdles, but a few close observers from here will favour the Otago-owned Rongahere, who is now trained at Wingatui by C. Geiseler. The Sarto gelding was trained for a lengthy period at Riverton, where he was schooled to cross hurdles, and thus he has friends in this part of the world. A northern critic inquired the other day as to the staying ability of Rongahere, having probably overlooked the fact that he ran a fair race in the New Zealand Cup of 1914, when the judge was unable to separate Warstep and Indigo. The Sarto horse has improved a great deal since the race referred to.

Messrs. Broad and Goodall returned from their visit to Hamilton on the occasion of the recent Waterloo Cup fixture greatly pleased with their treatment. Mr. Broad says that the meeting was the best he has ever assisted at and speaks in glowing terms of the design of the northern plump-ton, the state of the competition area and the quality of the greyhounds slipped. As the secretary and slipper of the Southland Coursing Club has had experience of the game outside Maoriland, this is high praise indeed.

WANGANUI.

Mr. J. Bull's Trio for Grand National Meeting—Golden March's Grand National Hurdles Engagement—Wanganui Track Notes—Fordell's Sole Representative—Wanganui J.C.'s Annual Meeting.

WANGANUI, Monday.

Mr. Jas. Bull's horses, New York, Awahou and Golden March, have been in Wanganui for a few days in order to have a gallop or two on the good tracks here. The three look very fit indeed, and it is safe to say that between them they will gather in some of the stake money to be distributed at the C.J.C. Grand National meeting. New York has run consistently well in all his races this season, but it is probable that he will register his best performance at Riccarton. He only needs a bit of luck to do so, as he is perhaps fitter than ever. His owner is very sanguine that this gelding will yet prove himself quite a top-notch, and is hopeful that he will place the big cross-country event to his credit.

So far as appearances go Awahou is in great form, and he must be given a second-to-none chance in the Winter Cup. He had a couple of fast gallops here over six furlongs, and there is no doubt he made many friends amongst those who saw him moving here.

Golden March has not done much to justify the belief that he can win a race like the Grand National Hurdles, but for some time past he has been receiving solid support from a number of punters who are usually fairly shrewd. He is in splendid fettle, and Mr. Bull makes no secret of the fact that he expects the son of Advance to be very hard to beat. The double—New York and Golden March—is much fancied, and it is quite evident that the Taihape sportsman is hopeful of landing at least one, if not the whole three, of the big events at Riccarton.

Marton and New York were to have jumped the big fences together on Thursday, but the former went lame and New York had to go round by himself, which he did in a very attractive manner, jumping cleanly and well, though he was not at top pace.

Golden March shaped well in a spin over the hurdles with Vladian, the pair jumping well throughout, though they were not under high pressure.

F. Tilley has abandoned the idea of sending anything South in com-

pany with Leonta, and the Conqueror gelding will be the only representative of the Fordell stable at Riccarton. The Grand National candidate is in splendid fettle, and it is more than likely that he will put up his best effort to date over the small sticks at the meeting, but whether he will prove equal to landing the big event remains to be seen. It would be a popular win if he did succeed in his third attempt, seeing that in his previous essays he finished third and then second.

The spring meeting of the Wanganui Jockey Club will be held on Thursday, the 21st, and Saturday, the 23rd September. The programme has been drawn up on the same lines as that for last year's meeting, the stake money being identical.

The annual meeting of members of the Wanganui Jockey Club was held last Friday evening, when there was a good attendance, the president (Mr. E. A. Campbell) occupying the chair. The report submitted showed that the club had had a most satisfactory season, the net profits on the three meetings totalling £2576 10s., the whole of which amount has been donated to patriotic purposes. During the year considerable improvements have been made to the course proper and training tracks, and to the lawn entrances and drives. The retiring committee—Messrs. H. M. Speed, R. Russell, C. G. Russell, and H. E. Good—were re-elected. Mr. H. V. Harrison was elected patron, Mr. E. A. Campbell re-elected president, and Mr. A. Cameron was elected vice-president, the other officials being appointed as heretofore.

Three members of the committee of the Wanganui Jockey Club—Messrs.

ation is sure to leave him backward for his engagements at the National meeting.

Visiting horses are now commencing to arrive at Riccarton, but so far none of them have been extended. During the next few days a big contingent from the north is expected, and their presence should liven up training operations.

All doubt as to Braeburn's presence at the meetings have been set at rest by accommodation having been booked for him at H. Thompson's. From what can be gathered the Sir Laddo gelding has done a fair amount of work at Hawke's Bay, but an interrupted preparation is not encouraging to win such a severe race as the Grand National on.

The South Canterbury-trained Yes, by Finland from Proposal, won a double at the Brackenfield Hunt meeting, this marking his third successive victory. He is just the stamp to make good at hurdle racing, and it is quite probable that he will be put to that branch of the sport next autumn.

Trireme followed up his Timaru success by appropriating the Hack Hurdles at Amberley. As a matter of fact Cast Iron beat him by a length, but registered such a deliberate cross when the pair were turning into the home straight that the stewards had no option but to award the stake to Trireme. Redmond, the rider of Cast Iron, got off very lightly in only being fined £5 for his part in the business.

Rorke's Drift's withdrawal from the National Hurdles created no surprise, for the gelding had done no schooling either before leaving Inver-

At Riccarton on Saturday morning a good deal of interesting work was got through. Jeannot created something of a surprise by finishing in front of Rorke's Drift and Multifual at the business end of six furlongs. Rorke's Drift is not a good track worker, and Multifual's display was disappointing.

Fagot, who looks very well, went pleasingly over a circuit of the sand.

Recharge, Heatherlea and Debonaire set out together at the sod wall, and all three got along safely till the first fence of the double was reached. Here Debonaire refused to jump and unseated her rider. Heatherlea and Recharge fenced well, the former particularly so. Recharge was subsequently worked on the tan, but there fell.

Flying Start has been responsible for some solid track work, and should the going be firm he will run a good race in the Winter Cup.

Master Regel has done no jumping since his arrival at Riccarton, but the son of Regel has gone pleasingly in a couple of working gallops during the last week.

Rather disquieting rumours were circulated regarding the South Canterbury-owned hurdler Crib. Evidently there was little amiss with the Sant Hario gelding, for he has been paid up for in the Grand National Hurdle Race, and is stated to be a certain starter in that event.

The only notable withdrawals from the Grand National Steeplechase are El Progreso, Daylight Bill, Immensity and Marton, though it cannot be said that their defections come as unexpected. It is in the ranks of the light-



FRENCH INFANTRYMEN MARCHING TO THE ALLIES' STRONGHOLD UPON ARRIVAL BY TRANSPORT AT SALONIKA.

H. M. Speed, J. C. Paterson, and Russell Grace—have enlisted, while the following active members of the club are either at the front or have enlisted for service abroad: Messrs. A. M. Campbell, A. H. Coe, P. M. Edgar, H. H. Enderby, R. C. Earle, W. S. Glenn, J. Harrison, D. Kennedy, A. H. Lewis, G. F. Moore, J. D. W. McBeth, A. E. T. Dixon, and E. H. Whiteman. Of the above lot Messrs. Speed and Enderby have both been wounded, and Mr. Glenn, who is now a lieutenant, has been granted the Military Cross. It will thus be seen that Wanganui racing men are playing their part well in the great war.

CANTERBURY.

Banian Makes Good Recovery—Braeburn to be a Certain Starter in G.N. Steeplechase—Brackenfield Hunt Meeting—Darby Paul and Gluepot Arrive at Headquarters—Interesting Work at Riccarton—Grand National and Winter Cup Horses on Track—Principal Fancies for Steeplechase, Hurdles, and Winter Cup—Kooya's Riccarton Engagements—Kilboy Much Fancied for A.J.C. Derby.

(By Tele.—Christchurch Correspondent.)

CHRISTCHURCH, Monday.

Heavy rain during the past week has interfered with training operations at Riccarton, the tracks being altogether too heavy for fast work. The weather has now cleared, and visiting trainers should have excellent opportunities to put the finishing touches on their candidates' preparations before the National meeting comes round.

Banian has made a good recovery from the damage he sustained at Wellington and is now almost right again. The stoppage in his prepar-

cargill or since his arrival at Riccarton. The Winter Cup is his especial mission, and he promises to play a very important part in its decision.

When Dunure and Melford were doing their preliminaries for the Waipara Handicap at Amberley on Thursday they collided. F. Holmes, junr., who was on the former, was shot out of the saddle, but was well enough to take part in the race. Melford was badly hurt, apparently in the stiffler, and had to return to the paddock very lame. At the time of the mishap a good deal of money had been invested on Melford, but under the present rules of racing this could not be refunded, as the horse was in the starter's hands.

The class of horses seen out at the Brackenfield Hunt Club's meeting was lamentably weak, especially in the two cross-country events, which only attracted seven competitors between them. Mawson, who won the Brackenfield Plate and ran second to Kingsway in the Hack Steeplechase, is a useful sort, by Euroclydon. As yet he is inclined to take risks with his fences, but with more experience promises to develop into a fine jumper.

Sam Pan gave a very poor showing in the Brackenfield Plate, being well beaten a long way from home. He seems to be unsound in both his fore legs, and his chance of pulling off a race at the National meeting look remote.

Two recent arrivals at Riccarton are Darby Paul and Gluepot. The latter looks to have got through a very solid preparation, but Darby Paul could be improved on.

The Riccarton mentor F. D. Jones has received a couple of maidens, both by Hymettus, the more promising of which is owned by Mr. H. A. Knight.

weights that the heaviest falling out has taken place, only half of the horses handicapped at 9.7 being paid up for.

Judging by present indications Waimai is likely to start favourite for the Grand National Steeplechase, while Braeburn, Wirokino, Bransfield, New York, and Idealism have plenty of supporters.

Despite his poor showings at Treatham, Crown Pearl bids fair to start favourite for the Grand National Hurdles. Leonta, Te Onga, Purse-filler and Harbour Light are others that find much favour with early speculators.

Since the declaration of the acceptances the most favoured candidates for the Winter Cup are Multifual, Gold Sout, Rorke's Drift, and Sedd-el-Bahr. Others that claim considerable attention are Flying Start, Seadown, Goldenlyte and Aurore.

The fact of Kooya being engaged in the Trial Hurdles on the opening day of the C.J.C. meeting suggests that she may not be a competitor in the Winter Cup. Should she succeed in the first-named event it will necessitate her putting up an 8lb. penalty in the Grand National Hurdle Race.

At Riccarton on Monday Darby Paul (B. Wormald) and Fagot (Tutchen) went out for a school over the big fences. Fagot got through his task in great style, not putting a foot wrong all through the journey. Darby Paul refused at the sod wall, evidently realising his task. He looks well, but was sore both before and after his exertions.

It would seem that Kilboy is already one of the most fancied candidates for the A.J.C. Derby. Last week a Wellington admirer of the colt wired across to Sydney with the idea of backing him for the blue ribbon, but the price quoted was so ridiculously short as to preclude any business being done.