

# RACING NOTES

## RACING FIXTURES, 1916-17.

May 9, 10—Egmont R.C. Winter  
 May 16, 17—Manawatu R.C. Autumn  
 May 24, 26—Wanganui J.C. Winter  
 June 2, 4, 6—Auckland R.C. Winter  
 June 2, 4—Dunedin J.C. Winter  
 June 4, 5—Otaki Maori R.C. Winter  
 June 14, 16—Gisborne R.C. Steeplechase

## EVENTS REQUIRING ATTENTION.

### OWNERS' AND TRAINERS' DIARY.

#### Friday, May 11.

Weights first day Wanganui J.C. winter, on or about.  
 General entries Auckland R.C. winter, at 9 p.m.  
 Acceptances Great Northern Hurdles, Great Northern Steeplechase and Cornwall Handicap, at 9 p.m.

#### Friday, May 18.

Weights first day Otaki Maori R.C. winter.

#### Monday, May 21.

Acceptances first day Wanganui J.C. winter at 8.30 p.m.  
 Acceptances first day Otaki Maori R.C. winter at 8.30 p.m.  
 Weights minor events first day A.R.C. winter and also for Hunt Club Cup (second day).

#### Thursday, May 24.

Weights second day Wanganui J.C. winter, at or about 8.30 p.m.

#### Friday, May 25.

Acceptances minor events first day Auckland R.C. winter and also for Hunt Club Cup Steeplechase (second day) at 9 p.m.  
 Final payments Great Northern Hurdles and Cornwall Handicap, Auckland R.C. winter, at 9 p.m.  
 Nominations all events Gisborne R.C. Steeplechase meeting at 9 p.m.  
 Acceptances second day Wanganui J.C. winter at noon.

#### Friday, June 1.

Weights first day Gisborne R.C. steeplechase meeting.

#### Saturday, June 2.

Weights minor events second day Auckland R.C. winter at 8 p.m.  
 Acceptances second day Auckland R.C. winter, and final payments Carbine Plate and Great Northern Steeplechase at 9 p.m.

#### Monday, June 4.

Weights second day Otaki Maori R.C. winter at 8 p.m.  
 Acceptances second day Otaki Maori R.C. winter at 9 p.m.

#### Tuesday, June 5.

Weights third day Auckland R.C. winter (in morning paper).  
 Acceptances third day Auckland R.C. winter at 12 noon.

#### Friday, June 8.

Acceptances first day Gisborne R.C. steeplechase meeting at 9 p.m.

#### Thursday, June 14.

Weights second day Gisborne R.C. steeplechase meeting at 8 p.m.  
 Acceptances second day Gisborne R.C. steeplechase meeting at 8.30 p.m.

## THE GREAT NORTHERN AND CORNWALL HANDICAPS.

Weights for the Great Northern Hurdles, Steeplechase and Cornwall Handicaps were declared on Monday by Mr. H. Coyle, and have provided racegoers with something to talk over, and to do business over if they feel inclined to run after illusive doubles and trebles. The fact that acceptances are due on Friday, however, is causing many pre-post bettors to stand off until they see the first declaration of the intentions of owners, which we should prefer not attempting to anticipate. That there will be a good all-round response goes without saying, but that there will likewise be a good weeding out seems very probable, as a large number of the horses do not appear to have much chance of succeeding. In each of the three events there are horses engaged which, on any form, can be written out, while there are some that have no form whatever to recommend them for the particular races for which they have been entered.

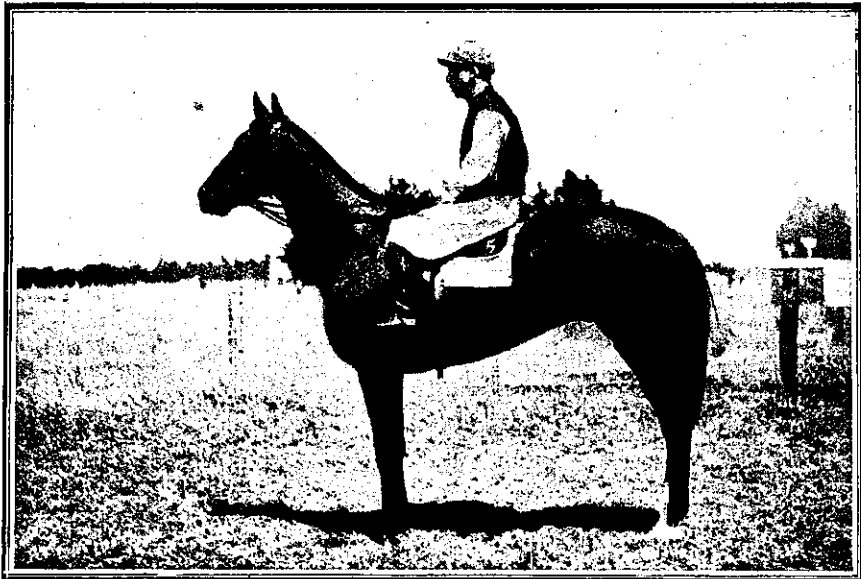
El Gallo heads the list in both jumping races, which he has captured two years in succession, and there will be found plenty of admirers for his chance of again succeeding in the same two races, and more than ever if he does a bit more schooling than previously in the interval, for he has now been set harder tasks. He is, however, well treated in the Cornwall Handicap, which it is just as well for backers to remember, and specially prepared from now on for this or any one event as he is very well, we would like his chance, but we would hardly expect his schooling to be continued if he were wanted on the flat.

Though he has been set the hardest task comparatively with those also entered for both events, save Waimai, who he meets 5lb. better in the steeplechase than in the hurdles, in the steeplechase he might not meet with such solid opposition as in the hurdle race. There are, however, a few horses in each of the events, if they can be brought to the post fit and as well as we have seen them, that should prove very troublesome to dispose of.

Before dealing with each race separately, it may well be asked why twelve horses engaged in both races should be handicapped so differently, relatively. Te Onga comes out best in the steeplechase with a drop of 2lb. below his hurdle weight, while the others go up as follows: Arlington 1lb., Art and Hereford each 2lb., Morecambe 4lb., Diavolo and Spalperion each 5lb., St. Elmn 7lb., El Gallo 10lb., and Waimai no less than 15lb., while Tararu Jack and Kurapai have the same weight in each race. These are necessities in weight adjusting that need explaining. If Te Onga has a chance in the hurdle race with the horses named, he would have a still better chance over the country were it not that he does not like the little water jump, which has to be got over twice, and which proved his undoing last year. If 14lb. is a fair estimate for the hurdle race between El Gallo and Waimai, who are both good sons of Spalpeen, why is there only 9lb. be-

hurdle event, and is nicely treated with 10.2.

To take the Great Northern Hurdle Race first, Colonel Soult and Hopfield would have friends were it a flat race at the weights, but neither have been schooled and neither will start in the event. El Gallo, Art, Tararu Jack and Hylauss are those between 12st. and 10st. that appeal to us just now, but Sir Solo (9.11) may be very hard indeed to dispose of if he is as forward as he should be and has done any really fitting work. Golden March is a possible, and Sir Fisher and Fisher are a pair on the same side of the handicap that cannot be overlooked, and both have raced recently, but they are both in a sense chance horses, not too solid. Of the hitherto unperformed horses over country, Record and Art are horses that commend themselves as likely to take to the game. Gluepot is to receive a special preparation for the country alone, and Ranza Mist is going to be useful this season. There are possibly others, Czaronus for one, but such horses as Braeburn, Morecambe, Waimai and El Gallo, while they are kept in the race can be assumed to have good fighting chances against promising, though inexperienced, or at least much less experienced, candidates. So many fail for the want of judicious preparations, being mostly schooled the last few weeks. Unless



Mr. J. McDonnell's br g PAPATERE, aged, by Papakura—Martini, a well-known competitor over hurdles in the North Island. D. McMullan in saddle.

tween them in the Great Northern Steeplechase, and why, if Morecambe and Waimai are entitled to meet on equal terms in the hurdle race, should Waimai have to meet Morecambe 11lb. worse in the steeplechase, and why should El Gallo meet him 6lb. worse in the one race than in the other? El Gallo has not raced over obstacles since he won the double last year. He finished up giving Waimai 3lb. and a hundred yards beating, which might have been more. Waimai won the New Zealand Grand National Steeplechase two months later, and has won a race over hurdles since.

Morecambe has not raced over a country since he broke down a long way from home in the Great Northern Steeplechase of 1915, and was then only gathered up from the last hurdle home by El Gallo, who was receiving 13lb. from him. Morecambe was a superior horse at the weights on that day, and if he can be anything like as good now it will require El Gallo to be a vastly improved horse to present the Hon. J. D. Ormond's representative with 20lb. the difference being 33lb. as compared with their previous essay. Art, who claims a double engagement, we hold in respect for whatever he may compete in, but we like them to have had previous experience, in training or in public, of cross-country work. The other horses to which reference has been made have no previous steeplechasing form in public upon which to judge them, and there are a few others, notably Record, albeit a good sort, who has not been entered for the

exceptionally good and leniently treated horses they are unlikely to be successful under such conditions. We often wonder that horses are not being prepared longer ahead for such good prize money.

The Cornwall Handicap has some very useful horses engaged, and with the exception of Bisogne (the best horse engaged) and Soldier, they have all been racing during the past few weeks. If Bisogne is himself he will stand in need of some beating, and so should Hopfield and Bedford, and perhaps St. Francis, of the Auckland division, but, as before stated, El Gallo is well used if reserved for this event and kept from the jumping, and we take Bisogne and Hushman to be likely ones of the expected visitors.

## GREAT NORTHERN HURDLE RACE of 1250sovs. Two miles and a-half.

st lb	st lb
El Gallo ... 12 0	Luperino ... 9 11
Colonel Soult ... 11 8	Fisher ... 9 8
Art ... 11 3	Black Heart ... 9 6
Waimai ... 11 0	Golden March ... 9 4
Morecambe ... 11 0	Patronymic ... 9 4
Tararu Jack ... 10 10	Diavolo ... 9 2
Hopfield ... 10 10	Trance ... 9 2
Te Onga ... 10 9	Spalperion ... 9 2
Tenacious ... 10 4	Cast Iron ... 9 0
Hylauss ... 10 5	Combustion ... 9 0
Bon Reve ... 10 4	Trus Gun ... 9 0
Marconi ... 10 4	Sir Fisher ... 9 0
Cladful ... 10 2	St. Elmn ... 9 0
Hereford ... 10 2	Yellow and ... 9 0
Guiding Way ... 10 0	Black ... 9 0
Arlington ... 9 13	Yankee Doodle ... 9 0
Sir Solo ... 9 11	Deeside ... 9 0
	Penniless ... 9 0

## GREAT NORTHERN STEEPLECHASE of 1400sovs. About three miles and a-half.

st lb	st lb
El Gallo ... 12 10	Record ... 10 2
Waiwai ... 12 1	Arlington ... 10 0
Braeburn ... 11 8	Ranza Mist ... 10 0
Art ... 11 5	Ulster ... 9 13
Morecambe ... 11 4	Idealism ... 9 9
Troublesome ... 10 12	Impositor ... 9 9
Styrax ... 10 10	Czaronus ... 9 7
Tararu Jack ... 10 10	Diavolo ... 9 7
Bonnie Jean ... 10 9	Spalperion ... 9 7
Te Onga ... 10 7	Kiwiata ... 9 7
Kurapai ... 10 7	Nita ... 9 7
Tararo ... 10 5	Slipshot ... 9 7
Fagot ... 10 4	St. Elmn ... 9 7
Hereford ... 10 4	Ruatangata ... 9 7
Gluepot ... 10 2	Mawson ... 9 7

## CORNWALL HANDICAP of 650sovs. One mile and a-quarter.

st lb	st lb
Toa Tere ... 10 11	El Gallo ... 8 8
Bisogne ... 10 9	Red Ribbon ... 8 7
Colonel Soult ... 10 8	Sir Francis ... 8 7
Shrill ... 10 8	Fionnuala ... 8 6
Hopfield ... 9 12	Meltchikoff ... 8 6
Bedford ... 9 6	Loyal Arch ... 8 4
Sunbird ... 9 5	Alteration ... 8 0
Hushman ... 9 4	Aif. Delaval ... 8 0
Lady Penury ... 9 2	Thrace ... 8 0
Hendra ... 9 1	Dancecastor ... 8 0
Jack Delaval ... 9 0	Campeador ... 8 0
Soldier ... 8 12	Uncle Ned ... 8 0
Housewife ... 8 11	Gold Fran ... 8 0
Kauri King ... 8 9	

## COMPARATIVE NOTES.

El Gallo is only giving Waimai 6lb. for the hundred yards beating he gave him in the last Great Northern Steeplechase. Waimai has improved a good deal.

Morecambe, who has not raced since he pulled up lame when El Gallo beat him half a length in the Great Northern Steeplechase, 1915, has now a pull of 33lb. as compared with that encounter. Styrax, who made a poor showing in that event, and has not raced since over country, has gone up 9lb.

Hereford was set to give El Gallo 31lb. in the Great Northern Hurdle Race of 1915. Now El Gallo has been set to give him 28lb. Morecambe was set to give El Gallo 22lb. in the same race, and was third. El Gallo is now set to give 14lb. to Morecambe.

Te Onga, who made such a good showing with El Gallo last year in the Great Northern Hurdles, meets him 13lb. better this time. Tararu Jack, an improved gelding, and who was third last year, meets him 14lb. better.

Spalperion only received 7lb. from a horse like El Gallo last year in the Great Northern Hurdles. This year he has a 40lb. allowance.

Bon Reve (10.4), a dual Derby winner, if he keeps sound, and Sir Solo (9.11), an Auckland Cup winner, read well at their actual imposts in the Great Northern Hurdles.

Mawson is a roughie in the Great Northern Steeplechase with a chance.

## WANGANUI JOCKEY CLUB.

### WINTER MEETING.

The Wanganui Jockey Club's winter meeting is but a fortnight off and with its near approach there is renewed activity among trainers throughout the North Island. The weights for the first day of the meeting, which takes place on May 24 and 26, will be declared on Friday next (May 11) by Mr. H. Coyle, who has been entrusted with the framing of the handicaps owing to the severe illness of Mr. George Morse. The appearance of the weights are awaited with keen interest by racing enthusiasts, for with a number of the horses engaged in the Century Hurdles and Wanganui Steeplechase also claiming engagements at the A.R.C. Great Northern meeting the form displayed at the Wanganui fixture will make it possible to judge fairly accurately as to the prospects of these candidates in the principal jumping events at the Ellerslie meeting. The record nominations received by the Wanganui Jockey Club augur well for the success of the approaching gathering, which is assured of the loyal support of a wide circle of owners and trainers, while the number of visitors who contemplate making the trip to Wanganui for this popular steeplechase meeting promises to be well up to the standard of previous years.