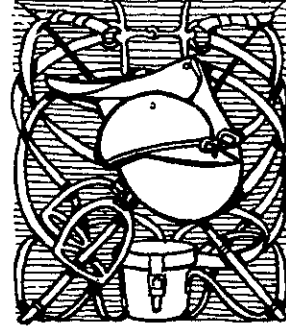


RACING NEWS



RACING FIXTURES, 1918.

June 13, 15—Gisborne R.C.
June 21, 22—Napier Park R.C.
June 28, 29—Hawke's Bay J.C.
July 10, 13—Wellington R.C.
July 25—South Canterbury H.C.
Aug. 29—North Taranaki Hunt

EVENTS REQUIRING ATTENTION.

Thursday, June 13.

Weights second day Gisborne steeplechase meeting, at 8 p.m.
Acceptances second day Gisborne steeplechase meeting, at 9.30 p.m.

Friday, June 14.

Nominations Hawke's Bay J.C. winter, at 9 p.m.
Nominations all events except Trial Plate Wellington R.C. winter, at 9 p.m.

Monday, June 24.

Handicaps Hawke's Bay J.C. winter.

Wednesday, June 26.

Acceptances Hawke's Bay J.C. winter, at 9 p.m.

Monday, July 1.

Handicaps first day Wellington R.C. winter.

Friday, July 5.

Acceptances first day Wellington R.C. winter, also entries Trial Plate, by 9 p.m.

Thursday, July 11.

Handicaps second day Wellington R.C. winter, in morning papers.
Acceptances second day Wellington R.C. winter, at 12.30 p.m.

ENTRIES FOR CLASSIC EVENTS.

A final reminder is given to owners and trainers that entries for now yearlings for the Welcome Stakes (1918), Great Northern Foal Stakes (1918-19), 24th Royal Stakes (1918-19), Great Northern Champagne Stakes (1919), Great Northern Oaks (1919), Great Northern Guineas (1919), 46th Great Northern Derby (1919-20), Great Northern St. Leger (1920), and for yearlings and two-year-olds for the 25th Royal Stakes (1919-20) close by 9 p.m. on Friday, June 14. No money is required at the time of nomination, and entries may be made with the secretaries of the following clubs:—Auckland R.C., Canterbury J.C., Dunedin J.C., Wellington R.C., Hawke's Bay J.C., Hastings; V.R.C., Melbourne; A.J.C., Sydney.

Also on Friday, June 14, by 9 p.m., the following nominations for classic events to be decided by the Manawatu Racing Club are due:—Entries for now yearlings (foals of 1916) for the 13th Palmerston North Stakes (1918), 11th Manawatu Sires' Produce Stakes (1919), 15th Manawatu Stakes (1919); and for yearlings and upwards for the 14th Palmerston North Stakes (1919), and 16th Manawatu Stakes (1920). At the same time entries for sires for the 12th Manawatu Sires' Produce Stakes (1920) will also be taken. All the entries are due with the secretary of the Manawatu Racing Club, and no money is required at the time of entry except for the nomination of sires.

Nominations for yearlings (foals of 1916) for the Hawke's Bay Stakes, of 500sovs., 6½ furlongs, to be decided at the Hawke's Bay J.C.'s autumn meeting, 1919, are also due with the secretary by Friday, June 14. No money is required at time of nomination, and entries by telegram must be confirmed in writing.

IMMEDIATE STEEPLECHASE GATHERINGS.

North Island turf followers, and Poverty Bay sportsmen in particular, are at present occupied with the Gisborne Racing Club's steeplechase meeting, which opens to-day (Thursday) on the Te Hapara racecourse and will be concluded on Saturday. Unfortunately the fields in both steeplechases on the opening day have been materially reduced through unavoidable circumstances, a quartette remaining in each event. The fields in the four flat races to be decided on the opening day are quite satisfactory, however, and include a fair percentage of visitors, so that the club should experience a successful meeting.

The Hawke's Bay Jockey Club's winter meeting follows close upon the Gisborne R.C.'s fixture, June 28 and

29 being the days on which racing will be in full swing at the Hastings racecourse. The Hawke's Bay J.C.'s winter meeting is already attracting very wide attention in view of the splendid jumping events which figure on both days' programme. The Hawke's Bay Steeplechase, of 500sovs., about three miles, and the Hawke's Bay Hurdles, of 300sovs., 2¼ miles, form the principal attractions on the opening day, and there is every indication that both events will induce excellent entries from all parts of the Dominion. On the second day the June Steeplechase, of 300sovs., 2½ miles, and the Turamoe Handicap Hurdles, of 200sovs., two miles, will come up for decision, and both jumping contests are certain to be liberally patronised. Included on the programme are a Hack Steeplechase, Hunt Club Cup Steeplechase, Hunters' Hurdle Race, Hunters' Flat Race, Ladies' Bracelet, hack handicaps and open sprint races, making an ideal winter attraction. Nominations for all events are due this Friday (June 14) with the secretary, Mr. H. S. Moss, Market Street, Hastings, by 9 p.m.

Less than a fortnight after the Hawke's Bay meeting comes the Wellington R.C.'s steeplechase gathering, which will bring the 1917-18 season to

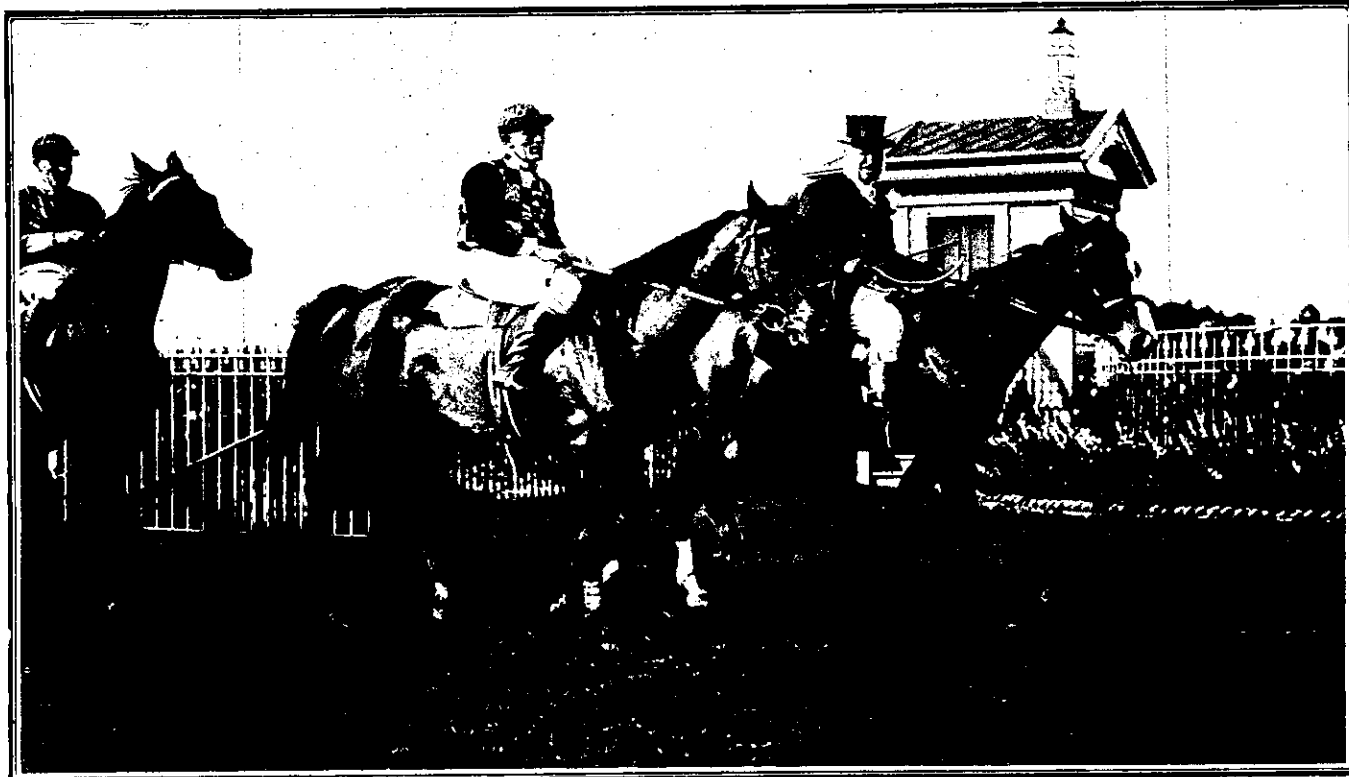
Entries for all events, with the exception of the Trial Plate, are due this Friday, June 14, with the secretary, Mr. A. E. Whyte, by 9 p.m.

POPULAR HISTORY OF THE WAR.

The following letter, which has been forwarded to the Editor by Sir James Allen, Acting-Premier and Minister for Defence, will be read with wide satisfaction throughout the Dominion, the Government's decision to publish a record of the activities of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force in connection with the Great War being of so worthy a nature as to ensure the project receiving every assistance from returned soldiers and their friends, upon whose co-operation it will be necessary to rely in a great measure for the compilation of the history. A large number of relatives of New Zealand soldiers have in their possession many exceptionally interesting letters received from the men at the front—innumerable deeds of gallantry and heroic sacrifice being described therein—and while the majority of these letters have been kept as cherished mementoes from those who have gone forth to fight the Empire's battle or who

"We are living in the midst of the most momentous conflict in the history of mankind. The issue will determine whether the men and women of the future shall live under the shadow of a military despotism or whether the principles of Christianity shall prevail, and nations, like individuals, have their duties as well as their rights. If the world after the war is not more free, and if smaller nations are not protected from aggression, the lives of millions of soldiers of the Allied Armies will have been laid down in vain. In this great struggle New Zealanders have taken an honourable and glorious part. We who are living know the spirit which has animated our soldiers and the sacrifices which they have made, but those who come after us can only learn these things from the pages of history. The time to record the spirit of the war is while the moving scenes of this great drama are before our eyes.

"In addition to the Official Imperial History of the War, which will be prepared under the authority of the Committee of Imperial Defence, the Government of New Zealand have decided to publish a special History of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force, in which the deeds of our soldiers in the 'far flung battle line'



THE GREAT NORTHERN HURDLES WINNER, BON REVE (STAN. REID) AFTER ACCOUNTING FOR THE BIG JUMPING EVENT AT ELLERSLIE. The second horse is SIR FISHER (A. Ward).

a close. The Wellington Racing Club have arranged a particularly strong programme for the two days' winter carnival, July 10 and 13 being the dates of the fixture. The keenest interest will be taken in the Wellington Steeplechase, of 1000sovs., 3¼ miles, which now forms one of the leading events of the Dominion, and can be relied upon to attract the best 'chasers of both Islands to Trentham next month. Another star attraction on the opening day will be the Winter Hurdles, of 600sovs., two miles, while chief in interest among the flat events is the Parliamentary Handicap, of 400sovs., 1¼ miles, a particularly strong entry being anticipated for the latter. On the concluding day the July Steeplechase, of 500sovs., three miles, the Final Hurdle Handicap, of 350sovs., 1¼ miles, and the Winter Oats, of 300sovs., one mile, will take precedence in the eyes of racing enthusiasts. Altogether sixteen events are to be run in the two days and in addition to the leading events named two hack and hunters' steeplechases, two hack hurdle races, the Trial Plate (for horses that have never won a race exceeding the value of 50sovs. at time of nomination), two open sprint races, and three hack flat events go to make up the varied programme which is to be presented to visitors to Trentham next month.

have fallen in the great struggle for freedom, it is realised, in view of the intended compilation of this special history of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force, that the Government's intention to place on record the noble achievements of our boys in Gallipoli, France, Egypt and other battlefronts should be made as widely known throughout the Dominion as possible, otherwise it is feared much valuable information in the shape of letters, diaries, sketches and photographs might be irretrievably lost. Relatives and friends of soldiers who possess suitable information, photographs or sketches should give this worthy project their whole-hearted support by forwarding such to the Director of Base Records, Wellington, as in order to secure reliable and authoritative information at first-hand it is essential that the author should have access to soldiers' private letters, etc., which, after extracts have been made, will be returned intact to the sender. This request should meet with a worthy response from all who are in a position to assist in some small way or other to make the History of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force a complete and representative record of our soldiers' glorious exploits in the different war zones. The following is the letter received from Sir James Allen regarding the subject:

will be written, it is hoped, in a manner worthy of the theme, not from the point of view of the military critic, but with a sympathetic knowledge of the brave spirit in which they met the hardships and sufferings which they were called upon to face.

"Before such a history can be written materials must first be collected. Soldiers in their letters and diaries give plain but vivid pictures of their lives in camp, on leave and at the front. These are especially valuable to a historian as intimate records of the war. An advertisement appears in this issue asking that those who possess letters of special interest would forward them to the Director of Base Records, who will make suitable extracts and return them without delay. I should also be glad if Patriotic Societies and Soldiers' Clubs would interest themselves in this project and endeavour to obtain suitable material for a true soldiers' History of the War."

"The suppression of racing has enormously prejudiced the thoroughbred and the trotter in France. Without racing the market is annihilated, selection is impossible—it is the ruin of the industry. We must not lose sight of the necessity of re-opening our racecourses as soon as the situation permits."—A. Dariac, in the French Chamber.