

lions in Australia at the present time. Grafton was another shocking roarer sent out from England, and he, too, scored enormously, as, barring his wind, he well might do, being a half-brother (by Galopin) to Polymelus. Peru, by Grafton, won the Champion Stakes, three miles, in 1908. Tartan, a grandson of Prince Charlie, won this race in 1905. I mention these cases not because they surprise me, in the least, but because so many people imagine most illogically that roarers cannot sire stayers."

To this we might add that Lochiel, who is said never to have left a roarer, was got by Prince Charlie. Apremont was a roarer, and left some roarers and thick-winded horses, and he was nearer to Pocahontas than any other sire that reached the Dominion. Musket was a roarer and left a few roarers, as did an odd one or two of his sons. Climatic influences have probably more to do with the disease than anything else, and the lack of knowledge or neglect to

NEW ZEALAND TROTTING CONFERENCE.

IMPORTANT DECISIONS BY DELEGATES.

FRESH CODE OF RULES CONSIDERED.

At the annual New Zealand Trotting Conference, held in Wellington last week—the president's report at which appeared in our last issue—the principal business to occupy the attention of the delegates from the various trotting clubs represented was the consideration of a fresh code of rules prepared by a committee appointed at last year's conference. These rules were adopted with certain amendments.

An important amendment made to the rules was that every owner or lessee racing a trotting horse will be compelled to register his colours before using his horse in a race.

the president. An amendment proposing to leave such power in the hands of the executive was defeated.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mr. John Rowe (Auckland); vice-president, Mr. W. J. Gore; executive, Messrs. E. Roberts, C. Mackay, and C. M. Olivier.

Rorke's Drift's brother, Point Blank, has been entered for the Winter Cup, but may not be forward enough to play a leading part (remarks the Southland critic, "Sir Modred"). However, he looks like developing into a useful horse and has already shown that he can gallop well, with a preference for distances over and above seven furlongs. It has been noticed that he generally stays on well in his races. At the same time, his public displays make him out to be rather too slow off the mark to emerge successfully from a contest for the Winter Cup.

The Southland-owned pacer Matchlight has left B. Jarden's care and will in future be trained by J. Bryce at Oakhampton Lodge.

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SOME OF THE BEST FARMS IN NEW ZEALAND IN MY HANDS.



The photograph on left is of special interest in view of recent developments in Ireland—The late Mr. John Redmond, M.P. (on left), former leader of the Irish party, in company with Mr. John Dillon, M.P., leaving the abortive conference at Buckingham Palace in June, 1914. The illustration on right shows an English bugler boy on board a warship amid two giant shells, each of which weighs twelve times as much as this young naval cadet.

treat colds and influenza in their first stages are responsible for the development of roaring in horses that may or may not be predisposed to the trouble. Few sires really enjoy the distinction of having had many gets without at least an odd one or two failing to remain entirely free from affections of the wind.

Another decision was that the power to appoint judges was left in the hands of the president instead of delegating the power to the executive. Further, it was decided to cast on owners the responsibility of notifying handicappers of the performances of horses.

A further question considered was whether the starting should be by seconds or by yards, and it was decided to leave the question over for a year.

A new rule proposed by the Wairarapa Trotting Club was: "That the provident fee of 5s. must be paid on every horse direct to the New Zealand Association before such horse shall be eligible to be nominated for any trotting race run under the New Zealand Rules of Trotting in the Dominion. Any owner nominating a horse for which the provident fee has not been paid shall be fined £5 for every offence."

The motion was amended to read: "That the provident fee of £1"—and carried.

The following remit was adopted: "That it be a recommendation to the incoming executive to review the permits reduced under war conditions, and if a reduction be necessary for 1920, the reductions be a fair proportion from one-day permits to two-day permits and more."

The following motion was lost on a show of hands:—"That the Westport Trotting Club be granted the 26th and 27th days of December on which to race for the season 1918-19, and that one day be taken from Ashburton; also that in future, during the continuance of the war, Westport and Ashburton race alternately two days and one day respectively year and year about."

It was decided to leave the power of appointing judges in the hands of

A new Bill is to be submitted to the Transvaal Provincial Council dealing with bucket shops. This measure will provide for the establishment of a Tattersalls (not necessarily the present one), in which ante-post and starting price betting will be allowed, but only by those bookmakers who have first satisfied the authorities appointed by the Provincial Executive as to their bona fides and put up the necessary guarantees. Applications for bookmakers' rights in the new establishment will have to be made direct to the Provincial Executive or to the Committee appointed by it, and it is expected that many of those people now controlling bucket shops will be among the applicants. Under the new scheme the Provincial Council will derive fresh revenue in the way of license fees and the tax on betting, and according to those people intimately connected with starting price betting one effect of the new Bill will be to close up the shops which prior to the Betting Act of 1909 were unknown on the Reef. Indeed, the Bill will contain clauses dealing most stringently with any future attempts at shop betting, and the punishment in the event of a conviction will be particularly drastic.

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