

INTERPROVINCIAL

CANTERBURY.

(From Our Christchurch Correspondent)

CHRISTCHURCH, Monday.

With the conclusion of the holiday fixtures trainers are now commencing to bestir themselves. Most of the prominent local stables will be represented at Trentham, as will be a few Otago owners.

Biplane has been a regular attendant on the tracks, and may be shipped to Sydney any day. He has muscled up nicely, so that on his arrival he should be just right to go into solid work. So far he has not shown any signs of lameness.

Kilkee, the disappointing son of Kilbroney and Latchet, changed hands recently at 146 guineas. As a three-year-old he gave considerable promise, but since then has been on the down grade.

Adjutant did not race up to expectations at the Dunedin meeting, and his owner decided not to persevere with him at Invercargill. He is now back at Riccarton being got ready for the Wellington meeting.

After racing at Wingatui the three-year-old Wild Night was sold by Sir George Clifford to an Otago sportsman. Though by no means a champion, the son of Antagonist and Wind-whistle should more than pay his way at the southern fixtures.

Bon Spec's victory on the first day of the Invercargill meeting was well anticipated by those who had seen him in his work at Riccarton. Though always a handful at the post he appears to be settling down with racing experience.

Riccarton-trained horses met with a good measure of success at the Greymouth Jockey Club's meeting, despite the heavy going. On the opening day Oxenhope accounted for the Greymouth Valley Handicap, thereby registering his first success since he won the Flying Handicap at Wingatui, just on two seasons ago. He is now owned by Mr. Clarkson, and trained by J. Pearson, who has effected considerable improvement in the uncertain son of Obligado. Next autumn Oxenhope will again be tried as a jumper, a department of the business at which he should make good. In the Greymouth Valley Handicap he was followed home by Achilles, with another Riccarton-trained one in King of the Valley in third place. On the second day of the meeting the last-named made full amends by capturing the Greymouth Cup, thereby demonstrating his partiality for heavy going. Merton won a race on both days, and, like King of the Valley, is right at home in heavy going.

Nearly all the horses that raced at the southern meetings are back again at headquarters, and are being given a short spell. Of the many Riccarton trainers who took teams to the southern meetings, J. McCombe was the only one to meet with much success. His three representatives, Subterfuge, Bon Spec and Pyjama, between them accounted for five races, besides a fair amount of place money.

During his trip to the West Coast holiday meetings the Riccarton mentor T. H. Gillett captured 10 races with his team. Two of his representatives, Rosevear and Merton, were each successful on three occasions, while Tip Up and Recorder both landed a double.

At Riccarton on Saturday morning Biplane, who is improving fast, got through a sprinting task, showing much of his old dash. Punka and Winter Cherry, who are under orders for Wellington, were given serviceable exercise. Both are in good buckle. G. M. Aynsley gave his two-year-olds their gallop over half a mile, all of them shaping nicely.

WAIRARAPA.

MASTERTON, Friday.

Wairarapa-trained horses won about £2500 during the holiday meetings.

Mr. Kembal has Scornful and Snub engaged in the Wellington Cup, but it is not likely that the former will be a runner.

T. Higgins lost the services of Lady General for the holiday meetings, the daughter of General Latour—Romola having gone slightly amiss.

Torfreda was only started only during the recent meetings. She was not herself, and was brought home after racing in the Fitzherbert Handicap at Manawatu.

Zabism (Hymettus—Witch Hazel) scored her first win at Marton. T. Higgins both owns and trains her,

Although Rebuff did not gain any stake money at Auckland he raced well and should soon win a race for trainer Hawthorne.

Several prominent Wairarapa owners intend being present at the disposal sale of Mr. J. B. Reid's thoroughbred stock next month.

After running second to Jean Laddo in the Pohangina Handicap at Ashhurst, the Featherston-trained Comment came out again and won the Raumai Welter. W. Galbraith has not won out of his turn.

After his good showing at Awapuni Hydrus was well supported locally for the Marton Cup. His penalty found him out, however, and he got no nearer than fourth at the finish.

Momac (Achilles—Momaki) was taken through to the Taranaki and Stratford meetings, but did not run up to expectations.

The Tauherenikau-owned Occasion (Provocation—St. Alma) won a double at Stratford, after unsuccessfully competing at New Plymouth. P. E. Hazleman has Mr. Cobcroft's mare very well just now.

Multaine ran consistently during the holidays, but without winning a race. Ben Nicols had her looking bright and well in trainer Hawthorne's absence.

R. Knox had the bad luck to lose the services of Penury Rose previous to the Marton meeting. At Awapuni he ran second on the concluding day, but pulled up sore, and was brought home to Masterton.

Mr. C. F. Vallance won two races at the Hawke's Bay meeting with the aid of Otago and Tuticorn. The popular president of the Masterton Racing Club has not had the best of luck lately with his horses. Otago is trained by J. Gravestock and Tuticorn by T. Pritchard.

W. Garrett has a liking for the Auckland course. It is seldom that the Opaki trainer comes away without a fair share of stake money, and this year has been no exception to the rule. Red Ribbon ran fourth in the Auckland Cup, and on the third day of the meeting was successful in the Racing Club Handicap, worth £700 to the winner. Sir Solo got into the money by running third in the New Year Hurdles. The son of Sir Laddo and Wepene is now 12 years old, and won the Auckland Cup for Mr. Fred. Dorset in 1913. It was unfortunate that Red Ribbon could not get a race or two before the meeting, although she would have to have been at her best to beat Mascot.

Wairarapa-trained horses won a fair share of stake money during the holidays. Nanna won the Railway Handicap at Auckland, and Red Ribbon was successful in the Racing Club Handicap at the same meeting. At Palmerston North, Affectation and Hydrus were successful, and at Ashhurst Comment scored. Zabism accounted for a hack race at Marton, while Otago and Tuticorn each won a race at Hawke's Bay. Occasion was successful twice at Stratford. In addition to these wins, Hydrus, Penury Rose, Galore, Nanna and Murihiku had a second to their credit, while Sir Solo, Multaine and Tuticorn secured thirds.

WANGANUI.

WANGANUI, Monday.

The Husbandman gelding which T. Long has in work is fining down nicely, and it should not be long before he is ready for racing.

Client is being kept going with a view to fulfilling Wellington Cup engagements, if the weight suits.

Warning, the five-year-old son of Advance—Seagull, which Tilley has in his stable, gives promise of turning out a useful sort of a gelding. He showed a lot of pace in his race at Marton, and will do better the next time he starts.

Wanganui visitors to the Taranaki and Stratford meetings speak highly of Mr. Alf. Morse's starting at both those gatherings. He is said to have got his fields away on very even terms in all cases.

Pennon was very sore after winning at Marton, but this is usual with her after a race or two on hard going. If she throws off the trouble sufficiently she will be taken to Feilding for the Stakes. As a result of her win at Marton she will have a few pounds extra to carry, and her weight will probably be about 8.9. She will, therefore, have to put up a big performance to win, considering that several very speedy two-year-olds will be amongst the starters.

If W. Rayner could only put the work into Pennon and wind her up properly she would prove very brilliant, and there is no reason why she should not stay on. As it is she is badly handicapped, but all the same

she can hold her own with most of them over short courses, and it would be no surprise to see her go near winning next Saturday at Feilding if she is anything like herself.

Zela got into a wire fence and this caused her absence from the Christmas meetings, but Rayner has her in work again now, and she will probably be seen out at the Egmont and Wanganui meetings.

Golden Bubble has grown into a fine looking two-year-old, and is already big enough for a three-year-old. He shows plenty of quality, and promises to develop into a top notch three-year-old; in fact, he looks like a colt that will make an ideal Derby candidate. So far he has not done much fast work, but he shapes encouragingly.

H. Rayner will be taking Starengo and Carmel Arch to Feilding. They both ran well at the Christmas meetings, and should be very fit next Saturday. Starengo has 7.5 in the Flying Handicap, and if he begins well will be handy at the finish. Carmel Arch is engaged in the Apiti Hack with 8.5 and the Cheltenham Hack with 8.6. On his form at Stratford he should win shortly.

Recent form points to Zola and First Line as likely to run well in the Hurdles at Feilding, while Demos (if he starts) will be hard to beat in the Flying. Royal Park, Carmel Arch and Sonnino read well in the Apiti Hack, and Red Signal and Vance in the Trial Plate.

Henry Clay is in great form, and, despite his penalties, he is sure to run a big race in the Manchester Handicap, in which Rose Pink will be dangerous.

The Feilding Stakes promises to be a splendid race, and great interest will be taken in the meeting of Surveyor, Crenides, Croesus, Warplane and the other cracks engaged. There are not wanting those who look to Pennon to run close to whatever wins.

The fact that the Wanganui Cup meeting follows closely on the Egmont Racing Club's summer meeting should benefit both gatherings. The Egmont Club it out with a most attractive programme, and with such valuable prizes to be won at the two meetings, most of the best horses in the land should be attracted here for the handicap events, while there is every prospect of the crack weight-for-age horses being seen out in the rich classics provided for them. In this connection, it is interesting to note that Desert Gold is engaged in the Egmont Stakes, Hawera Stakes and Jackson Stakes, while others which still remain in include Biplane, Gloaming, Surveyor and other crack performers, so that there is a good prospect of these events being contested by remarkably fine fields.

The Wanganui Trotting Club's annual race meeting is to be held on Friday, February 21, the day between the two days' gallops. Phil Green has his team in solid work here, getting ready for the meeting, and judging by the way Inora, The Weaver, Rio Grande and Meritorious are hitting out the local horses should pick up a race or two. There is every prospect of the entries being very satisfactory, as a number of owners have signified their intention of being represented.

WELLINGTON.

WELLINGTON, Monday.

Horses trained on the convincing ground of the Wellington Racing Club at Trentham have fared extremely well during the Christmas and New Year racing campaign. First and foremost the rich Auckland Cup, of 2750sovs, and Summer Cup, of 1000 sovs, were won by Mascot, trained by J. W. Lowe, while other trainers who annexed races for their clients during the holidays were: C. Pritchard, H. Telford and H. Kingan, who were successful at the Manawatu and Hawke's Bay meetings respectively. Friends of F. Higgott, the Otaki trainer, were pleased to see Kiltess doing him some services at the Hawke's Bay meeting. The mare's owner, Mr. J. K. Jackson, of Wainuiomata, is a popular identity, and the success was well received in sporting circles.

R. S. Bagby, the capable light-weight attached to Sam. Jamieson's stable at Opaki, was riding in excellent form during the holidays. At Awapuni his handling of Rienzi, who, by the way, is owned by Mr. H. E. Fuller, was a smart piece of horsemanship. Bagby was also seen to advantage at the Manawatu meeting on Affectation, on whom he rode a splendid race.

Courtfield, owned by a leading official of the Wellington Racing Club

who races as Mr. Loring, and trained by J. W. Lowe at Trentham, broke his maiden status at the Manawatu meeting by annexing the Kelvin Hack Handicap in a convincing manner and returning his supporters a dividend approaching a-quarter of a century. The three-year-old son of Elysian—Lady Gwen was ridden a fine race by Ashley Reed. The same horse-man was responsible for showing excellent judgment in his handling of Bo-Peep, who defeated Croesus in the Palmerston North Stakes.

The New Plymouth horseman, A. Ward, than whom there is not a better judge of hurdling in the country, was mixing his riding during the holidays, for he rode both on the flat and over the obstacles. Albert rode Madam Ristori when the bay mare won the Tikorangi Hack Stakes at New Plymouth, while he steered Polthogue to victory in the Ohura Hurdles at Stratford.

The Wellington friends of Mr. H. E. Troutbeck, who is a frequent visitor to the Empire City, were pleased to see his colours being carried successfully at Hastings last week. The gentleman named was represented by Night Time, who experienced no difficulty in winning the Nursery Handicap, of five furlongs, from a capital field of juveniles, which included Asterina, who is a reputed top notcher amongst the younger racing brigade. The time (1min. 1.5sec.) stamps Night Time as being an extremely promising sort.

Consultation, owned by a keen sporting enthusiast in Mr. Walter Smart, got amongst the winners at Hastings last week, while another horse in Pacific Slope, the property of the same owner, ran third in the Summer Handicap. The popular Willis Street sportsman's luck has been right out for some considerable time, but these seems a reasonable prospect of his horses being seen under brighter aspects during the next few months.

At Ashhurst, the Fordell horseman, C. Price, headed the list of winning riders by piloting two horses to victory. Others to steer their mounts, first past the winning post were: W. Davis, B. Morris, A. Reed, R. Reed, W. Adams and J. Kaan.

P. Brady headed the list of successful jockeys at Stratford by scoring on two occasions. Others to win a race apiece were: F. Johnson, L. Nodder, S. Henderson, A. Ward, K. McDonnell and W. Price.

Riding honours were very evenly distributed at Marton, for no jockey won more than one race. The successful horsemen were: L. Proctor, R. Bagby, W. Bell, B. Morris, P. Rayner, and W. McEwan, while the winner (Sonnino) of the Ladies' Bracelet, for gentlemen riders, was ridden by Mr. M. Short, a son of the popular Parorangi sportsman, Mr. Ernest Short, the win being popularly received. By the way, Sonnino, who ran in Mrs. E. Short's nomination and is by Signor—Helen Portland, is a fine sort of a galloper, who should in the near future win in better company than he beat last week.

A HIGHLY-BRED HORSE FOR AUCKLAND.

By an early steamer from the Old Land it is expected that another thoroughbred will arrive in Auckland to the order of Mr. J. N. Heslop, who imported Polydemon. The colt is Arrowsmith, now four years old to English time. He was bred and raced in England by Mr. J. W. Larnach, a steward of the English Jockey Club, and won the first division of the Linton Plate at two years old at Newmarket, and ran second in the Wyward Plate to Treclare and was fourth in the Dewhurst Plate to My Dear. He was unplaced in several other races at that age, and at three years old unsuccessful in about half a dozen races, and was eighth in the Derby won by Gainsborough. Taking a line through that colt and Prince Chimay, his three-year-old form makes him quite two stone below that of either of those colts. Arrowsmith will go into the stables of J. Lambess at Ellerslie on arrival, and will be given a trial with a view to being raced in New Zealand. If he should fail in the racing department he will be retired to the stud, and being by Chaucer, the successful son of St. Simon and Canterbury Pilgrim, dam of Pilgrim's Progress and other good horses, from Sagitta, full-sister to John o' Gaunt (sire of Swynford, winner of £25,508 in stakes), by Isinglass (winner of over £57,000) from La Flech (winner of over £35,000), he comes from a great running and sire family that gave us Musket, so that on the score of breeding he should be a great acquisition to the stud, his ultimate destination.