

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.)

### WELLINGTON.

C.J.C. Grand National Meeting—J. Ayres' Trio of Winter Cup Candidates—Foxton-owned Amythas to be Trained by F. D. Jones—Death of Coronet Gelding, Crown Head—R.
A. McDonald's Team at Levin—A. Jackson Now Training Horses at Feilding—F. Watson's Trio at Ashhurst.

### WELLINGTON, Monday.

Matters in connection with the C.J.C. Grand National meeting are exciting considerable attention in sporting circles. A number of horses, including Bon Reve, Waimai and Master Strowan for the Steeplechase, and Omahu and Rewi Poto for the Hurdles, have been well supported in doubles, while Rebekah's prospects in the Winter Cup are highly assessed. The horses named have some excellent credentials to their credit, and the future should find them getting amongst the winners.

It appears that Gang Awa' slipped and fell on the flat after safely negotiating an obstacle during the running of the steeplechase at the recent Canterbury Hunt Club's meeting. Luckily the horse escaped injury, but unfortunately jockey H. Lorrigan got one of his feet twisted, the mishap preventing him riding at the Manawatu Hunt Club's meeting last week. His injuries are not serious, and he will pilot Master Strowan and Multive in the Grand National Steeplechase and Hurdles respectively.

The Trentham stable of J. Ayres shelters three useful Winter Cup candidates in Battle Array (10.4), Astinome (9.9), and Sonnino (9.0). All three horses are very forward, and it would occasion no surprise to find them getting amongst the winners at next week's meeting at Riccarton.

All going well in the interim, C. Emerson will probably ride Battle Array in the Winter Cup.

J. Decrey will pilot Bon Reve and Rewi Poto respectively in the Grand National Steeplechase and Grand National Hurdles.

Mr. F. S. Easton, the well-known Foxton sportsman, has sent Amythas (Demosthenes—Gold Treasure) down to F. D. Jones at Riccarton to be trained for the future. The horse should fare well in his contests in the South Island, for his galloping powers are of a high order. Moutoa Ivanova, the full-sister to

Moutoa Ivanova, the full-sister to Sasanof, has been entrusted to Dug Webster, of Otaki, to be prepared for her future racing career.

Mr. "Sam" Brewer, of Takapau and formerly of Waverley, lost a valuable horse in Crown Head (Coronet— Mirthful) a few days ago. The gelding was being qualified for hunting races, and while following the hounds struck a fence, which he safely cleared, but after going on a few yards suddenly broke a blood vessel and dropped dead. A vet, was called in, and after an internal examination it was found that the horse's heart was practically broken in two. Crown Head gave promise of developing into a good sort, and his loss is a severe one to Mr. Brewer, who had intended starting him at the Manawatu Hunt meeting last week.

Utuwai credited his owner, Mr. W. McKegg, of Shannon, with a popular win at the Manawatu Hunt gathering last week. The Glenapp gelding was turned out in fine fettle by Trainer F. J. Carmont, who was complimented on the horse's smart showing. R. A. McDonald, at Levin, has a nice little team in work, the list including Sir Wallace, a two-year-old filly by Birkenhead from Matiri (Mahaki-Waitiri), and a five-year-old mare by Gold Crest from Matiri. In addition to these he has a splendid type of a juvenile in a yearling filly bf All Black from Hermia, who is built on unmistakable galloping lines. With the horses he has in hand "Rod," as he is familiarly called, will be a busy trainer during the coming season. Albert Jackson, who will be remembered as the trainer of such wellknown performers as Roosevelt, John, and Coromandel, is now settled down at Feilding, where he has a few useful horses in work. Jackson's list comprises Metallum, a four-year-old gelding by Guianforte from Tarinaconsequently a half-brother to Tirana, who paid his way well last seasonand a three-year-old filly by California. The trainer named is known for his honesty of purpose in racing affairs, and as he has the happy knack of landing his horses at the post fit and well, some successes should come his way during the 1919-20 racing year.

The Ashhurst Racing Club's racecourse is in fine condition for training purposes, and with the increased volume of racing that is looming on the horizon the tracks should be largely availed of by trainers in the future. At present F. Watson is the only mentor conducting training operations at Ashhurst, and he speaks highly of the excellent state of the tracks, which are thoroughly firstclass. Watson has in training Square Deal, Diamond Nap (Glenapp—Raumai), and a four-year-old gelding by Projectile from Coralie who will race as Hamaki. The three horses mentioned are fast coming up to concert pitch, and should be ready for several of the early spring fixtures.

Amongst the visitors at the Manawatu Hunt meeting last week was Mr. Arthur Way, the popular secretary of the Marton Jockey Club, whose "many friends will regret to hear that he has to enter a private hospital shortly for the purpose of undergoing an operation for an internal complaint. Fortunately, no serious complications are expected, and sportsmen generally will wish Mr.

## SOUTHLAND.

Local Tracks to be Opened—First Officer Joins G. McLean's Team— Kilmeedy Now Under J. Hymers' Care at Riccarton—Additions to H. J. Searle's String—Kilkee's Winter Cup Engagement.

# (Telegraph-Southland Correspondent.)

INWERCARGILL, Monday. The Southland Racing Club's tracks will open this week for moderate exercise, but meantime the frosts have not improved the state of the galloping surfaces.

First Officer, the useful five-year-old gelding, has joined G. McLean's team. The son of Glenculloch—Office Girl is a useful gelding, and creates the impression that it might be possible to develop him into a useful performer over the battens. He takes after his dam, and is a proved stayer and c'ever jumper when tried out in private. His granddam, by the way, Tomboy, ranked as a half-sister to the brilliant steeplechaser, Norton.

Gunrest will in future be trained at Invercargill, where he will be under the care of the veteran, G. Hope. It is more than likely the son of Calibre will be schooled at hurdle racing. Hope still walks carefully and slowly, the result of an accident whereby his leg was broken some months back.

The useful Kilmeedy has been placed with J. Hymers at Riverton. As the seaside mentor gets on well with delicate or highly-strung mares it is quite likely that Kilbroney's descendant will improve under the veteran's care. Mrs. W. D. Cowie's mare has now reached the years of discretion when it will not be too ceiving close attention, as he is expected to race next season. He is a sturdy horse and already has displayed promise of producing galloping ability. Of Mr. W. F. Hazlett's yearlings the Kilbroney—Simper filly is doing particularly well, while the Kilbroney --Directoire youngster is thriving, tut the filly by Kilbroney from Sprig of Erin (imp.) is not progressing as her owner would like.

The appointment of Mr. A. K. Hanlon as president of the Dunedin Jockey Club is very popular in the south. It is widely realised that this follower of the legal profession and the turf strongly favours the club pursuing a progressive policy, and taking every advantage of the tide of prosperity at present following in the direction of Wingatui as a galloping location.

It is announced that the Mystification gelding Burrangong will again carry Mr. J. E. Emslie's colours, arrangements having been completed to that effect. He is to remain in Mr. W. Stone's private establishment in the meantime until the present railway restrictions are relaxed, when he will be sent on to Riccarton. On reaching the Canterbury Jockey Club's headquarters, Burrangong will become an inmate of F. D. Jones' stables as a companion to Bore, Post Haste, Euripos, and other well-known performers.

The withdrawal of Calma from the Grand National Hurdles caused some disappointment among local backers, as the Calibre mare had been supported for a fair sum from here. Her stable companion, Kilkee. is going to carry substantial backing from Southland in the Winter Cup, his connections being satisfied that the Kilbroney gelding will improve as a result of his recent racing at Wellington



WINNER OF THE WELLINGTON S TEEPLECHASE (3½ MILES) LAST MONTH, WHO IS A CANDIDATE FOR GRAND NATIONAL STEEPLE CHASE HONOURS ON TUESDAY NEXT.—Mr. W. B. Clarkson's br g VASCULAR, aged, by Vasco—Pellicule. F. Gray in saddle. Trained by J. B. Pearson at Riccarton.

Way a speedy return to good health. Mr. Walter Dobson, the genial secretary of the Dannevirke Racing Club, was a visitor to the Manawatu Hunt meeting last week. Mr. Dobson recently suffered a severe illness, but has now regained his customary good health.

Arthur Oliver signalised his return

much to expect her to settle down and do her best as a racehorse. She is a rare galloper when in the humour.

Owner-trainer H. J. Searle is going to start the new season with horses other than those of his own which he has under his charge. In addition to Lady Pallas (Pallas—Kitty O'Shea) and his subsequent galloping activity at Riccarton. Dardanelles is admitted to have a jumper's chance in the Grand National Steeplechase, and most followers of form fully expect the Battlefield gelding to get a place in the big cross-country event.

to New Zealand after a strenuous time at the war by riding Sir Fanciful to victory in the Waikanae Handicap at the Manawatu Hunt meeting last Wednesday.

Owner-trainer Mr. G. West, of Palmerston, had bad luck with his horse Glentour at the Manawatu Hunt meeting last week. It is alleged that the gelding was badly interfered with during the running of the Te Maitai Handicap. Glentour was hardly able to keep on his feet on returning to the enclosure, and the services of Veterinary Surgeon Crossley were requisitionod in consequence.

Mr. Angus Keith was in splendid form at the Manawatu Hunt meeting last week, his starting being exceptionally good and gaining for him high praise from those present. Mr. Keith's services are much sought after, and he has been reappointed starter for the Dannevirke Racing Club for the present season. he has already taken in hand a nice six-year-old mare by Comedian (sire of Magdala) from Eva, by Seaward, son of Hillarious.

Ex-Jockey A. Mackay is not going to commence work as a public trainer empty-handed, as Staff Officer and Marching Order already occupy quarters in his establishment, while Orderdown will probably find a way there in the immediate future. The lastnamed is now the property of Mr. H. Cunningham, of Winton. who raced Buff Gauntlet, Matilda, and a number of other speedy gallopers successfully.

When entries for Southland's solitary classic event, the Winton Stakes, controlled by the Winton Jockey Club, are made up, it is fully expected that the entrants will prove the best collection ever entered for the November contest. A number of the three-year-olds will probably rank as the progeny of imported mares. Trainer W. Gardiner is exercising

Trainer W. Gardiner is exercising Dorian and Mazama in view of the early resumption of track work. The Danube—Directoire gelding is also re-

### WAIRARAPA.

Mr. C. F. Vallance's Horses on Easy L'st—Training Activity at Opaki— Rebuff and Missgold to Join Mr. Kemball's Team in Australia—Preparations for Marton Meeting— Kilbroney—Grey Linnet Filly's Promising Track Essays—B. Nicol's Team at Lansdowne Progressing Favourably.

MASTERTON, Thursday.

Wairarapa owners have responded well to the entries for the Royal Stakes, to be run at the 1919-20 meeting of the Auckland Racing Club. Mr. A. McDonald has eight engaged, Mr. W. R. Kemball seven, and Mr. W. E. Bidwill two.

Mr. C. F. Vallance's horses are at present on the easy list, and will not be seen out at Riccarton. Sturdee, Torchy and Tuticorn will be taken up again shortly.

It is expected that there will be between 40 and 50 horses in training at Opaki from now on, including a large number of youngsters. J. T.