

able addition to the small army of hurdlers.

Himitangi has been responsible for some excellent schooling work on the Foxton course during the last week, and the gelding is expected to show up prominently in future hurdle events.

Mr. J. H. Pollock's adjustments for the first day's racing of the Otaki Maori Racing Club's meeting are due to-morrow (Friday), and acceptances close on Monday night next at half-past eight o'clock.

A. Goodman, the Trentham trainer, has White Lie well forward in view of coming events, and he intends doing his utmost to pick up a stake before the season draws to a close with the aid of the black mare.

Mr. R. A. McDonald, the Levin owner-trainer, will have two promising performers in Hermia and Ascalon to represent him at the Otaki meeting. After the pair's good showing at the Hawke's Bay fixture they will have many friends in their coming engagements.

The Opaki-trained colt First Consul, who so far this season has been a dismal failure, is to be given an opportunity to make some amends for his previous bad displays, and with a view to giving him a chance, he will be found amongst the runners at the Otaki meeting. A win for Mr. W. D. Watson would be well received in Wairarapa sporting circles.

Lady Medallist has been turned out for a spell, and after her excellent display this season she has well earned a respite from activity.

Mr. J. Macara, one of the veteran sportsmen of the Wairarapa, is keeping his mare Skye moving along at Masterton with a view to competing at the Otaki Maori gathering. This old-time coach-driver and proprietor has been very fortunate in years gone by on the Otaki course, and the approaching meeting may be no exception to the general rule if Mr. Macara makes the trip.

Mr. R. T. Turnbull, the local sportsman, received a tempting offer for Laius recently, but after consideration "Bob" decided to hold on to the full brother to Tumut, with a view to finding out if he is as good as his illustrious brother.

## HAWKE'S BAY

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

NAPIER, May 23.

Punauanga has joined the active brigade under the direction of A. Raynor at Greenmeadows.

Centaur is fast recovering from the injuries he received at Waipukurau last Easter Monday.

Multiple, who was recently acquired by J. McLaughlin, is being pushed along in his tasks, and, all going well with him in the meantime he is sure to be seen out at the winter venture of the Auckland Racing Club.

The mishap that Full Cry met with has not proved so severe as was at first anticipated, and this week it is intended to give Reynard's son a go over the country to just see how bad or how good he is. Nothing like finding out quickly what is the matter has always been a maxim of J. McLaughlin's, one of whose students Full Cry is.

Golden Water still continues to do good work over the small sticks on the preparing grounds at Napier Park.

The elder full brother to Kohinoor and Star and Garter, Cullinan, is doing all that is asked of him in a satisfactory style over the circuits at Napier Park. A big, bold fellow, who knows how to gallop, he should with credit carry the navy blue and gold of the Squire of Okawa in the near future.

The rising two-year-old half-sister to Mahutonga and Kopu by St. Ambrose is shortly to be sent down from Te Mahanga station to J. Munn at Hastings. The young 'un is a rather plain sort of a filly to look at, but viewing her from behind she shows plenty of lifting power.

Dorando, a son of Ruby's by San Fran, is galloping in a very pleasing style over the tryout at Hastings.

Mr. Wi Pura, the native sport at Arapawanui, has got Donald in active commission once more, and the ancient son of Virginia Water's is hitting out in a hearty manner. With the weight adjustment favourable he is a sure runner at Hastings next month.

J. Lagor has Pumoana and a rising two-year-old filly of San Fran and Waihu in work at Te Aute. The pair present a healthy, hearty condition, and if they do not fly too high will probably place a stake or two to the credit of their native owner ere many moons have passed.

All Trumps, who has lately been schooled over the hurdles, has gone amiss, and as a result The Officer's daughter has been retired.

Owing to another horse having the first claim to the name of Nero, the Turquoise gelding who used to race in this name will now figure on the card as Oren, which is Nero reversed; not much originality, forsooth, in the cognomen of Mr. Twist's gelding.

The veteran Needlework is acquitting himself satisfactorily in his lepping tasks on the circuits at Hastings.

One of the most improved horses over the battens at Hastings is Captain Jingle, whose fencing is of an artistic nature.

## COURSING.

The North New Zealand Coursing Club will hold the second meeting of the season on Saturday and Thursday next, when a Maiden and an All-aged stake will be decided. Entries for both events close with the secretary, Mr. C. R. Tapper this (Thursday) evening.

Judging by the successful day's sport provided at Middlemore Park at the opening meeting, there should be a good attendance present on Saturday and Thursday next.

The Canterbury Coursing Club hold a meeting on June 9 and 11. The Maiden Cup is a 64 dog event, with an entry fee of £2 2s, winner £60 and cup, presented by W. A. Clav, Esq., runner-up £20. The open sweepstake is for an unlimited number of dogs at £2 2s. Entries close with the secretary on June 7th.

An unfortunate incident occurred at the Gore Coursing Club's last meeting. It appears (says the "Standard") that when Mr. Pope's dog Golden Ree, which had been showing somewhat good form, was brought out of his kennel to run off his semi-final heat with Fusee, he was noticed to be unwell. However, he was slipped and ran some distance behind Fusee, when he lay down and expired. It was soon ascertained that the dog had been poisoned. The dog during the day occupied the same kennel or box as Mr. Mapletoff's Quartercaste, but nothing occurred to the latter. Another dog showed symptoms of poisoning during the day, but after treatment recovered. Dr. Matthews examined the contents of the stomach, which gave strychnine reaction.

The night was fierce and dark;  
The rocks were close, the sea was rough;  
The skipper—"lost his bark."  
If we wish to "steer" clear from the  
rocks of this life,  
The ills and the chills we endure,  
Let us "set a true course" by timely re-  
course  
To Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.



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## BOXING.

### TRICKS OF THE HAND BANDAGES.

### ALL FIGHTERS PROTECT THEIR HANDS AND SOME HAVE CLEVER DODGES OF THEIR OWN.

When Jeffries and Johnson enter the ring in "Frisco" in July their hands will be encased in bandages but before the gloves are drawn on these knuckle protectors doubtless will be carefully examined. It is a habit with practically all pugilists to bind the hands in adhesive tape or sticking plaster to prevent broken bones or severe bruises, but it seldom occurs that a fighter allows his opponent to pull on the mits before these bandages have been inspected.

In a recent fight in the western States of America it was said that Hugh McGann, the Smoky City slugger, used aluminum knuckle pads under the bandages in order to beat his antagonist, Mike McDonald, into quick submission. When the fight was over McGann's seconds hastily removed the gloves and bandages, so that there was no physical evidence of sharp practice. But the rumour as to the aluminum knuckles was so persistently circulated that many at the ringside hooted the Pittsburg man out of the ring.

Fair minded handlers of pugilists have declared many times that soft cotton bandages should be tolerated but that anything of a harder substance should be barred. Jeffries said some time ago that a fighter who wore hard bandages ran a greater chance of breaking his hands than one who wore no protection at all. After the second mill between Jeffries and Fitzsimmons the Cornishman was accused of wearing plaster paris bandages which ultimately broke both hands. Jeff had one eye closed, his nose was broken and his face was a mass of bruises when he stepped out of the ring. He was so badly battered by Fitz's punches that Billy Delaney was asked afterward if he believed Robert had anything on his hands.

"I don't know for sure," replied Delaney, "but from the appearance of Jeff's face Fitz must have had something besides his fingers and a good wallop in those mitts."

### LEAVE SHARP RIDGES.

Some fighters have been known to wrap the bandages about their hands in such a manner as to leave sharp ridges. Then by removing the padding from the knuckles of the gloves blows that cut like a knife could be delivered. It is a ring tradition that fighters once slipped a horseshoe into the right hand glove, but this may not be the truth.

When Kid McCoy knocked out Tommy Ryan at Maspeth years ago the latter was literally cut to pieces. Every time McCoy landed his left in Ryan's face it seemed to slash like a keen edged razor. Ryan could not understand it at all and after the mill he insisted that McCoy must have worn brass knuckles or had some hard substance in the glove. But McCoy refuted the charge by showing his hands as soon as his glove was drawn. His fist was tightly bound with adhesive plaster and so much of it had been used that he could not move fingers or thumb. In fact his hand was as hard as a mallet and the bandage over the knuckles showed a ridge that had evidently done the work.

Joe Walcott once insisted that Mysterious Billy Smith had a horseshoe in his glove. He had fought Smith on several previous occasions but had never received such tremendous smashes. Walcott appealed to Referee Hurst, but the latter refused to listen and ordered the fight to proceed. Smith was hot under the collar when the charge was made by Walcott and offered to tear off the gloves for a fight with bare knuckles. It developed later that Smith wore a fingerless glove which had a ridge of cement over the knuckles, the entire affair being concealed by a bandage.

Tom Sharkey always wore bandages and so did Jim Corbett. But Sharkey knew a way to harden his hands by steeping them in some secret preparation. On various occasions he showed his mawleys to friends who were willing to bet that they were covered with light leather, but it was a fact that they had simply been toughened so that it was impossible to split the skin.

### FIVE YARDS FOR MAHER.

When Choynski was knocked out by Peter Maher at the Broadway A.C., with Theodore Roosevelt among the

spectators, it was asserted that the Irishman wore five yards of adhesive tape around each hand. Choynski protested when he saw those extremely thick bandages and said that he wanted to have them removed so that he could see them wound on again himself. But he was notified that the tape was there to stay and that if he did not like it he could quit. So Choynski was knocked out, but he always insisted that it was due to the knuckle guards worn by his adversary.

Kid Lavinge, former lightweight champion of the world, was an exception to the rule for awhile. He scorned bandages, saying that nature's weapons were good enough for him. But when he broke one of his hands on Walcott's head at Maspeth in one of the most sensational fights on record he was forced to protect his knuckles in future events.

Stanley Ketchel, one of the hardest hitters in the ring, did not wear a bandage until the fight with Joe Thomas, which he won in 32 rounds. Although Ketchel's hands are comparatively small he could deliver a terrific blow with an ordinary five ounce glove. He was advised after the Thomas mill, however, to protect his hands because of his brilliant future at that time. But in spite of heavy cotton tape which he wound around his fists for his last battle with Bill Papke, Ketchel broke both hands and also sprained his wrist. When he tackled Jack Johnson the bandages were as hard as flint and each wrist was encircled by a leather strap.

Nelson and Wolgast both wore extra heavy bandages in their 40-round battle in California. They expected a long fight and were unwilling to take chances with their hands. So there was no protest from either corner.

### DID THE TOUR BENEFIT JEFF?

#### A MATTER FOR DUBIETY.

The settling down of Jim Jeffries to do hard training for his coming fight with Jack Johnson has been a decided relief to the many thousands of fight fans who pin their faith on the ability of the big fellow to win back the championship says "The Champion of Fairplay" of March 1, 1910.

Despite all the assertions of Jeffries' astute manager and clever press agent, Samuel Berger, to the effect that Jim had benefited greatly by his work with Gotch, the world's wrestling champion, and several other members of the troupe, it has proved a hard matter to convince the public that playing one night stands throughout the country is an invaluable aid to a veteran who wishes to get into top notch condition for what promises to be the toughest and most trying of his career.

Late, irregular hours, badly cooked meals, fly by night whirls across the country and consequent strain on nerves and temper make up a combination calculated to upset the physical stamina of a bull elephant, and Jeffries, Hercules though he may be, is only human, after all.

That he is far from being in shape even to box at a fast clip is the opinion of fistic experts in every big city where he has appeared. His bouts with Berger on the stage have always been conducted in a leisurely fashion and have proved rather a disappointment to those who expect the Jeffries of old days forcing his opponent into a rattling pace and showing the vim and dash of an athlete who thoroughly enjoys his work.

For it must be conceded that the big fellow sparred very much in the style of the man who had a disagreeable task to perform and was heartily glad when it was finished.

Yet when it is remembered that Jeffries has not participated in a ring encounter since the fateful night of August 26, 1904, when he put a stop to the inspirations of Jack Munroe by effectively squelching the Butte miner in two rounds, there is scant room for wonder at his failure to display any astonishing amount of speed in his preliminary warming up gallops.

Five years of absence from the squared circle must inevitably slow down any fighter, even if he has led a life of Spartan simplicity during the interval. And the world at large, at least, the sporting portion of it, knows that Jeffries has not done so. The big fellow was never known to deny himself any comforts of existence. He lived well, drank as much as he thought fitting and, in a word, enjoyed himself thoroughly, as a man may be expected to do who never intends to pick up a challenger's gauntlet and engage in warfare for the championship crown.