

The reason of Nero's withdrawal from the Wellington Steeplechase is that his off fore tendon is gone. The gelding is to be taken back to Hastings and blistered and an endeavour will be made to get him ready for Rangitikei.

The Glasgow Handicap, decided at Wellington yesterday, was won by the Auckland-owned Dogger Bank, with Advantage second.

Word from the South is of the effect that none of Mr. G. D. Greenwood's horses will be taken to Australia in the spring.

Phaetonitis carried 10.13 and finished fourth in the Dingley Steeplechase at Moonee Valley, Victoria, on June 29.

Goldbeater, by Clanranald—Gold leaf, finished last in a race at Aspendale Park, near Melbourne, last month.

The following horses have been sold out of the King's stud of racers:—Perrier, 5yrs by Persimmon—Amphora, 2000 guineas; and Slim Lad, 6yrs, by St. Simon—Loadamia, 630 guineas. Both horses have been bought for export to Buenos Aires.

Artillerie is doing useful work at Randwick in view of engagements during the spring.

Those who contended that California would have won the Parliamentary Handicap had he left the mark with the others had their argument substantiated when California won the Waterloo Handicap yesterday. Sir Frisco, upon whom Hatch was stated to have ridden with poor judgment on the opening day, was California's nearest attendant yesterday.

Not only in the Wellington Steeplechase did Auckland horses shine, as the Vittoria Hurdles saw Master Paul and Kremlin, who both hail from Auckland, run first and second.

Auckland-owned horses played a prominent part in the decision of the Wellington Steeplechase yesterday, as first and second places were filled by Capitol and Red McGregor respectively. A coincidence is that both horses are of the chestnut colour and are full brothers, while they have each won the Great Northern Steeplechase.

The popular and clever Australian rider James Barden has decided to retire from the saddle and take out a license as trainer.

tion arises whether Mustapha has deteriorated or Bachelor's Double is a much better horse than the critics give him credit to be. Probably the latter is the case. It looks as though the three best four-year-olds running in England are Bayardo, Sir Martin and Bachelor's Double, and it was sheer bad luck for the latter that going amiss at Doncaster prevented him finishing second or third for last year's St. Leger.

A southern writer says that Oiyoi's next mission is the New Zealand Cup, and followers of the stable have taken all the long prices about him obtainable in the Dominion. Owing to his reported intended departure for Australia, the odds were good. The sale of the Stepniak—Hermosa gelding has not been completed, owing to the fact that, like almost all Stepniaks, the gelding has faulty hocks. The vet. was perfectly satisfied at the time of examination, but told Mr. Evans, the owner, that he would have to send a description of the hocks, although, as far as he (the vet.) was concerned, he was sure they would not at any time interfere with the gelding's racing career.

The victory of the American colt Sir Martin in the Coronation Cup, run at Epsom in Derby week, has set race-goers thinking whether he or Bayardo is the best horse in England. Sir Martin's time was 2min. 35 1-5 sec., the same as Lemberg's record Derby time. I think it may be concluded that Sir Martin would have about won last year's Derby but for falling. But what about Bachelor's Double, who finished second a length and a half behind the winner? In the City and Suburban he defeated Mustapha, who was giving him six pounds, by half a length. Here he had to give Mustapha 13lb., and beat him by at least six lengths. Now, the ques-

M. Halbronn, one of the leading authorities on racing in France, and who is fairly conversant with English as well as Continental racing, stated in a recent letter to the London Sportsman that France has seven or eight jockeys capable of rivalling Maher or Frank Wotton

Alawa, who figures as top-weight in the important spring handicaps, is doing easy work on the track at Miners' Rest (Ballarat). He is moving along nicely, and exhibits no sign of the lameness which troubled him last season.

As was only to be expected Master Paul, with 10.0 in a hack hurdle race, would be well supported, and there was considerable coin for the Wai-kato horse in Auckland yesterday for his Wellington engagement. The good thing duly came off.

In his references to the handicaps for the big sporting events, the Sydney writer "Milroy" is of opinion that the New Zealanders are all handicapped up to their best form and a bit over. In the Epsom Master Soult will have to be as good as Bobrikoff, he thinks, to have a chance. "Also I would gladly subscribe to the opinion," he writes, "that any man who would back Aborigine to beat Parsee at level weights over a mile should be put under restraint and not allowed out without a minder. Aborigine is called upon to give Martine a pound. I think I can see him doing it."

There are 113 horses in work at Riccarton in view of the Grand National meeting.

The New Zealand Metropolitan Trotting Club paid away £14,750 in stakes during the past year, and of this amount owners subscribed £4004 15s in nominations and acceptances. These figures read against the owner, who pays rather dearly for his sport when the matter is looked at from a general point of view, and it is not astonishing that the club can afford to give big stakes when such a proportion of the prize-money is supplied by the owners.

The thirty-sixth Kentucky Derby, of £1200, was run at Louisville last month, and was won by Donau, who cut out the mile and a-quarter in 2min 6 2-5sec. There were 25,000 people present, and betting was done through the totalisator, the tickets being five dollars each.

AUCKLAND RACING CLUB'S PROGRAMMES.

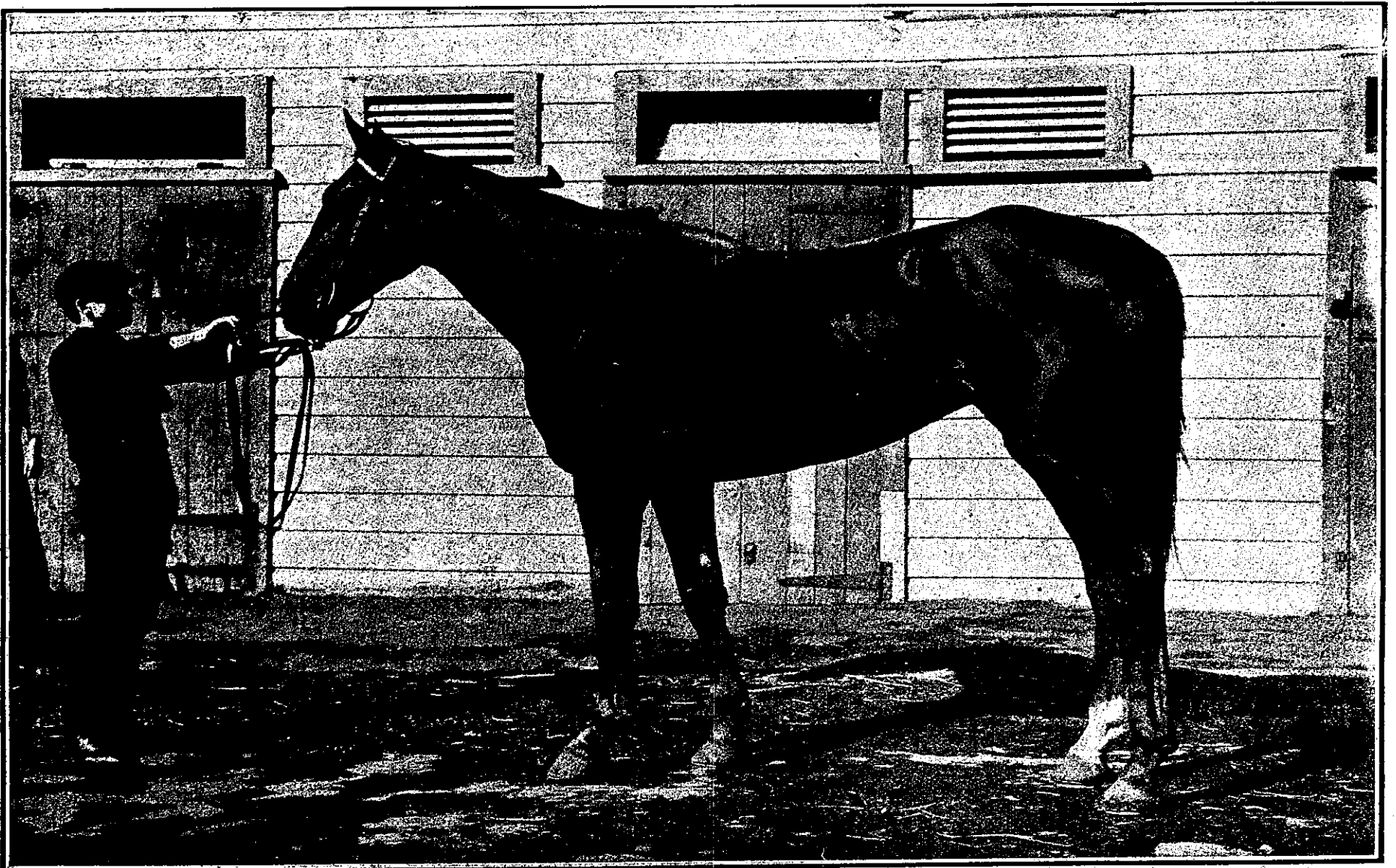
The committee of the Auckland Racing Club have thus early framed and passed the programme for next season's racing at Ellerslie, and that they view the situation in an optimistic spirit may be gathered from the fact that for the 13 days' racing which it is proposed to hold, no less a sum than £29,815 has been allotted. This shows an increase of £600 compared with the sum allotted last season. Most of the additions made are in connection with the classic events,

which had previously been decided upon. For instance, the Great Northern Guineas goes up from 550sovs to 650 sovs, the Great Northern Foal Stakes being increased from 650sovs to 750 sovs, the Great Northern Campaign Stakes from 650sovs to 750sovs, and the Great Northern Oaks from 350 sovs to 450sovs. The value of the Great Northern Hurdle Race has been increased by 250sovs, and now figures at 1000sovs, 200sovs being allotted to the second horse and 100sovs to the third. The committee also decided to make a further addition to the stake for the Great Northern Foal Stakes, the two-year-old race of 1911-12 being raised to £1000. Of this sum £600 is to go to the winner, £200 to the second horse, £100 to the third horse, and £100 to the breeder of the winner, provided that he is also the nominator. In the event of this condition not being fulfilled it is provided that the £100 go to the first horse. Altogether, it can be said that the programmes submitted by the committee of the A.R.C. demonstrate very clearly that it is their intention to further strengthen and popularise Ellerslie with horseowners.

THE DOMINION SCOUT.

Opening with a fine portrait of His late Majesty, King Edward VII., the June number of that excellent little publication, "The Dominion Scout," contains a newsy budget of interesting matter, appropriate and up-to-date. The Boy Scout movement is firmly established all through New Zealand now, and the doings of the various corps occupy a prominent position in the journal, and help to bring all the districts within touch of one another. The subject of "Our Portrait Gallery," which is one of the features of the "Scout" is Inspector Horace Stebbing, chief scoutmaster of the Northcote Battalion, Mr. Stebbing having the distinction of erecting the first Boy Scout hall in the Dominion. Amongst the attractive features are the Scout yarn, "Condemned to Death," "How to Box," by an ex-champion of the world, "While the Billy Boils," a short story; prize competitions, jokes, scrap-book, and a host of other good things interesting to scouts, young and old, not to mention "Good Turns Done by Scouts."

The annual subscription to the "Dominion Scout" is merely nominal, 1s 6d post free. Mr. C. A. Wilkins is the editor, sufficient proof of the high standard of excellence characterising this journal.



MR. D. TWOHILL'S CH G CAPITOL, BY LEOLANTIS—JEAN, WINNER OF THE WELLINGTON STEEPLECHASE AT TRENTHAM YESTERDAY.