

to see out the mile, but though in the race she momentarily shone out as a winner just after entering upon the last furlong, she died away at the end, and it has been the same with her in a couple of races since. When she first arrived in Australia some of the New Zealand division contended that she had no particular liking for anything beyond six furlongs, and it would seem that they were correct. Anyhow, as giving a line to how our horses compare with N.Z. sprinters, some interest will attach to the way she shapes soon after her return. She is in excellent trim, and unless very rough weather is encountered, the short voyage to New Zealand should not do her any harm."

The annual meeting of the Dunedin Jockey Club was held on Monday. The Hon. Sir G. McLean was re-elected president and Mr. James Hazlett vice-president. Referring to the Racing Commission, Sir G. McLean said if Parliament, instead of passing hasty legislation, had waited to see how many of the non-totalisator clubs would cease out of the 106 who were not to receive a license, they would have found that the number would have been reduced by more than the 50 required by the law. It was to be hoped now that so many clubs which had been supported by bookmakers had been dropped out, some of the clubs which had been doomed to lose their totalisator licenses would get them back. He also mentioned that improvements totalling £2200 are to be effected at Wingatui.

Herb. Price, the well-known mercer and tailor, 54 Willis Street, Wellington, intends giving two more 18ct. gold chronometers to the most successful jockeys over the fences and on the flat for the season 1910-1911.*

At a meeting of the A.R.C. Committee on Tuesday the following transfers were approved of:—M. Wells to W. T. Carr, Iridescence; G. L. Stead to W. G. and G. L. Stead, Snowstell filly; W. G. and G. L. Stead to E. S. Luttrell, Aphaea; E. S. Luttrell to W. G. and G. L. Stead, Bluewater filly and Prelude filly; W. G. and G. L. Stead to Lance Wood, Khamsin; Sir Geo. Clifford to W. K. Amberiod, Muircock; Sir G. Clifford to W. Smart, Big Blast. Mr. J. Twohill's protest against the winner of the Tamaki Steeplechase (Pleiades) on the ground that the horse was ridden by a jockey whose name was on the forfeit list was dismissed. The programmes for next season, with stakes totalling £28,915, were approved. It was decided for future years to make the Welcome Stakes a two-year-old classic race of 500sovs., nominations to be taken the first Friday in September.

ENCOURAGING RACING.

Despite the fact that the Auckland Racing Club has had two days racing docked off its permit for the ensuing season, as the result of the Racing Commission's recommendations, it will be most gratifying to sportsmen in the northern province—and for that matter throughout the Dominion—to note that the club has had the enterprise and courage to increase the stakes to be divided at both Summer and Winter meetings. The actual amount to be allocated for prize money next year by the A.R.C. has been fixed at £28,915, for eleven days racing, which is only £900 short of the amount distributed last season on thirteen days racing. The comparative figures are as follows:—

Meeting.	1910-11	1911-12.
	£	£
Spring	5,125	4,150
Summer	12,150	13,250
Autumn	6,800	5,325
Winter	5,740	6,190
Totals	£29,815	£28,915

From this table it will be seen that the increase for the summer meeting will be £1100, and for the winter meeting £450. As both the spring and autumn fixtures are to be of two days instead of, as hitherto three, the stakes to be distributed (namely £4150 and £5325 respectively), although less than for the same meetings last year, cannot be regarded in the light of reductions, because the number of events to be decided will naturally be less. As a matter of fact the stakes have been increased all round. For instance, in future the Great Northern Guineas, at the spring meeting, will be worth £750; while the Easter

Handicap, the chief event at the autumn fixture, has been raised to £1000.

Perhaps the most gratifying feature about the liberal distribution of stakes by the Auckland Racing Club is that it is sure to still further enhance the prestige of the northern city as a racing centre. There can be no question that during the past decade Auckland has out-paced all the sister provinces in the advancement of racing. This unfortunately was a point, we venture to say, that the Racing Commissioners failed to fully appreciate; otherwise Otago would not have been allotted seven days more racing than Auckland, and Hawke's Bay been pampered with an equal number, although only boasting of a little over a-quarter of the population of the Northern province. However, the generous distribution of prize money by the Auckland Club is sure to have a very beneficial effect on racing in the North and will, no doubt, afford a very strong argument to support Auckland's claims for a more liberal allocation of racing days during the season of 1912-1913.

WELLINGTON STEEPLCHASE ACCEPTORS.

It cannot be said that owners were in a generous mood in regard to the

for the next in order to him on the list, Lull, is in receipt of 36 pounds from him. When the latter ran second in the Napier Steeplechase (about 3 miles) he had the best of Te Arai as regards weight allowance to the extent of 39 pounds. In this instance Te Arai was a poor third, but there is no disputing the fact that had he not got into the sod wall half-a-mile from the convincing point in the last circuit, that a difference light would have been thrown upon the debate. Another argument that must be taken into consideration in favour of the top weight, is that when he was beaten in the Napier Steeplechase he was rushed to the front quite seven furlongs from the winning post, and this action seemed to be suicidal, for with three pounds short of 13 stone in the saddle, it would have shown more judgment had his pilot waited on his field until the last three furlongs and then put in his run. From this point of consideration I should certainly say that wherever Lull is in the Wellington Steeplechase at the right end, so assuredly will Te Arai head him off. The only other one engaged at Trentham who met Te Arai at Napier Park is Xavier, the difference between them there being 36 pounds in favour of the latter. In the Wellington Steeplechase Davis' gelding has a further pull of an additional three

sate, clever fencer, but he certainly did not show any great amount of talent in that direction at Hastings. Pleiades has late winning form to recommend him, for he was successful at Kulerslie last month over 2 1/2 miles with four pounds more than he is set to carry at Trentham next week. Hoanga had nothing to beat at Napier Park, where he secured the Park Steeplechase (about 2 1/2 miles), with eight pounds more in the saddle than will be the case in the Wellington Steeplechase. In the event he won he was allowing Rosegrove three pounds. There is now 16 ounces between them in the latter's favour. On the running at Napier Park, it looked as if, with a stand up, that Rosegrove would have proved the master of Hoanga, and I do not think that he will stay as well as the ancient son of Forest Rose, so I give him a preference over the Auckland-owned gelding. Sunray is unreliable, and on that account does not require to be taken into consideration. Prospector is reported to be getting through his tasks in a satisfactory fashion, and in his favour it has to be recorded that he was the only other one beside Audax to complete the course in the Hawke's Bay Steeplechase of last year. Ribstone Pippin showed a brilliant turn of speed over the little sticks, but there is a vast difference between winning a hurdle event, and successfully getting to the end of a 3 1/4 miles over country. St. Amelia has given flashes of ability in the past, but nothing of sufficiently strong merit to enrapture her prospects at Trentham. L'Nil certainly won the Poramate Hurdle Race at the Napier Park Winter Meeting in good style, under the same weight as he is asked to carry in the Wellington Steeplechase, and should be able to clear the big obstacles as cleverly as he gets over the small sticks, he must be labelled dangerous, he looks just the sort that would stay on well. The Plough is only ordinary, but it can be said in his favour that he is a faultless fencer, and can stay well. As there is often a big element of luck in the frays over the timber, that is where The Plough will come in if the good portion of it comes his way.

A LEADING LIGHT IN THE WORLD OF SPORT IN ENGLAND.

THE EARL OF DERBY.

This celebrity, not only in turf circles in the Mother Land, whose brace of horses, Swynford and King William, ran first and third in the Princess of Wales' Stakes at the Newmarket July meeting, is the senior steward of the English Jockey Club, and during the present reign had the honour conferred upon him of having His Majesty's horses running in his name, during the period of mourning which followed the death of King Edward. For generations the Earls of Derby have been connected with the sport in England, and their association with the recreation has been of a beneficial nature to racing, for although severity in dealing with offenders was one of the long suits from which they played, they were all imbued with a spirit of fairness, and whether the suspicious practices were indulged in by one of high degree or low estate, wherever the Earls of Derby were in the position to sit upon the cases, the offenders, if the charges were proved against them, met with the same punishment. The owner of the winner of the Princess of Wales' Stakes was in the Grenadier Guards for four years, and at the expiration of that period became aide-de-camp to his father, who was then Governor-General of Canada—this was in 1890. The Earl of Derby has an up-to-date training establishment at Newmarket, his horses being educated by the Hon. G. Lambton, who as an amateur horseman in days numbered with the past, was considered one of the finest horsemen in England.

The brood mare Sceptre (by Per-simmon—Ornament), was offered by auction at Newmarket, London, on Monday, and at 7000 guineas fell to the bid of the Messrs. Tattersall. Mr. R. S. Sievier purchased Sceptre at the sale of the Duke of Westminster's blood stock in 1900, for 10,000 guineas. She won for him amongst other races, the Two Thousand Guineas, One Thousand Guineas, Oaks and St. Leger, and stake money to the extent of £30,000. Sievier subsequently quitted the bay mare to Sir William Bass for 25,000 guineas.

WON'T BITE! There are no terrors for the novice in "Royal Standard" Tobacco, while the satisfying flavour will please the old hand. Strange, but perfectly true. Try it!



MISS RITA BRENNAN (Kate) and MISS MAY EDWARDS (Edith), in "The Pirates of Penzance."

invitation of the executive of the Wellington Racing Club, in connection with the call for acceptances for the leading event from a financial point of view in the Wellington Steeplechase, for out of 31 horses weighted, but 15 have signified their intention to so far carry out their contracts. And as eight of these are engaged in the Hunters' Steeplechase on the opening afternoon, it seems quite reasonable to predict that a further thinning out will take place ere the day of decision arrives. The top weight, Te Arai, has stood his ground, notwithstanding the fact that he has got the heavy impost of 12.8 to shoulder, and it must be allowed that the field that are ranged up against him cannot be characterised as of a "classy" order,

pounds. The running at the Park did not help to elucidate the question of the capabilities of the pair, for Xavier toppled over early in the contest, and why he should be allowed three pounds for falling by the weight adjuster to me reads peculiar. Paritutu was going well in the Great Northern Steeplechase until he got into trouble, and as mistakes will occur to any equine, no matter how proficient they may be, Paritutu must not be passed over for a solitary blunder. His pace is of a superior grade, and given that he makes no mistakes, his prospects appear to stand out in a good light. The most recent form displayed by Mahara is not of an entrancing nature, and he will have to improve greatly to have his chances appraised in a favourable light. Don Carlos, with a stone more than he has got to lump in the Wellington Steeplechase, ran off in the Havelock Steeplechase at the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club's winter meeting. He certainly does not look like a weight-carrier, and under a light scale of poundage should run well, if the distance does not prove beyond his tether. He is said to be a

"I've an affection," said the youth,
The maiden fluttered, coy—
"This is so sudden, Mr. Snookes,
But ma will jump for joy!"
He stammered, Woods' Great Peppermint
Cure,
She fell upon his breast,
He braced himself—"It's only an
Affection of the chest!"

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