



# RACING.



## RACING CALENDAR.

SEASON 1911-12.

### FIXTURES.

Nov. 1 and 4—Auckland R.C. Spring  
Nov. 4, 8, 11 and 12—Canterbury J.C. Metropolitan  
Nov. 22 and 23—South Canterbury J.C. Spring  
Nov. 29 and 30—Feilding J.C. Spring  
Dec. 26 and 29 and Jan. 1 and 2—Auckland R.C. Summer  
Jan. 12 and 13—Whangarei R.C. Summer.

### NOMINATIONS.

Nov. 2—Feilding J.C. Spring  
Nov. 7—South Canterbury J.C. Spring  
Dec. 1—Auckland R.C. Summer  
Dec. 29—Whangarei R.C. Summer.

### WEIGHTS ARE DUE.

Nov. 12—South Canterbury J.C. Spring  
Nov. 13—Feilding J.C. Spring  
Nov. 17—Auckland R.C. Summer  
Nov. 22—South Canterbury J.C. Spring  
Dec. 4—Auckland R.C. Summer  
Dec. 27—Auckland R.C. Summer  
Dec. 30—Auckland R.C. Summer  
Jan. 1—Auckland R.C. Summer  
Jan. 4—Whangarei R.C. Summer.

### ACCEPTANCES.

Nov. 17—Feilding J.C. Spring  
Nov. 17—South Canterbury J.C. Spring  
Nov. 22—South Canterbury J.C. Spring  
Dec. 1—Auckland R.C. Summer  
Dec. 15—Auckland R.C. Summer  
Dec. 27—Auckland R.C. Summer  
Dec. 30—Auckland R.C. Summer  
Jan. 9—Whangarei R.C. Summer.

### FIRST FORFEIT.

Nov. 2—Eighth Manawatu Stakes  
Nov. 2—Fourth Manawatu Sires' Produce Stakes  
Dec. 1—Great Northern Foal Stakes, Great Northern Derby, 17th Royal Stakes  
Jan. 4—W.R.C. North Island Challenge Stakes  
Jan. 19—C.J.C. Middle Park Plate  
March 22—C.J.C. Twentieth Challenge Stakes and Champagne Stakes

### SECOND FORFEITS.

Nov. 2—Sixth Palmerston North Stakes  
Dec. 1—D.J.C. Champagne Stakes  
Jan. 4—W.R.C. Wellington Stakes  
Feb. 23—Fourth Manawatu Sires' Produce Stakes  
Feb. 25—Eighth Manawatu Stakes.

### FINAL PAYMENTS.

Dec. 15—Auckland R.C. Summer (five events)  
Dec. 27—A.R.C. Islington Plate  
Jan. 1—Auckland Plate.

## OWNERS' REMINDERS.

Nominations are due for the Feilding J.C. spring meeting to-morrow (Friday).

First forfeits are due for the Eighth Manawatu Stakes and Fourth Manawatu Sires' Produce Stakes to-morrow (Friday).

J. B. Joel remains the man of the moment in racing. When a man rises to such an exalted position in a sport which is made up of intense competition it is usually for only a brief season. The descent is often as rapid as the ascent. Joel, however, seems to be steadily strengthening the powerful position which Sunstar gained for him earlier in the year, and one must therefore in all fairness assume that his series of successes has passed altogether beyond the domain of flukes to that of just reward for enterprise. Only one who knows the owner of Sunstar at home can gain an idea as to why he is the man of the moment. For instance (says an English exchange) you will find no better-kept estate in the country than that of Childwickbury, St. Albans. The place has undergone many changes in the last ten years. The thoroughbred stud is one of the best in the country, and who but the owner is entitled to the substantial credit for this? Not a manager, as is so often the case with most studs of the day, for Joel is his own manager. He has formed and steadily perfected his ideas. He began with mares of a stout and race-winning strain, and he had the courage to support his horse Sundridge, who started at the stud at an insignificant fee. Joel has most abundantly reaped the reward of his strong belief and faith in him. He has already sired a Derby winner, his fee reached 200 guineas; he was sold to France for close on £20,000, and his fee now is 300 guineas. "One of the great mistakes of my life," said Joel, referring to this sale.

## CURRENT TOPICS.

### THE NEW ZEALAND CUP.

At the beginning of the week Goldfinder still held his position as favorite for the New Zealand Cup, and considering the staunch way Gisborne and Hawke's Bay sportsmen are supporting the son of San Fran, it does not seem likely he will recede in the betting market. Goodwin Park has recently been receiving a good deal of attention, and it is consequently not surprising that he now stands second favourite. Next in favour come Kijosteri, Merrivonia, Vice-Admiral, and Domino. Iranui and Prim have also got a good number of admirers, and it seems probable that the latter will be among the favourites before the big event comes on for decision. Thirteen out of the twenty-one horses now appearing as the contestants of the Cup hail from the North Island. Taking the prospective starters as a lot they can hardly be classed as either a high-class or good-staying assortment; but some of them have at least winning form in recent events to recommend them, and may be expected to make an interesting race.

readers the opportunity of hearing both sides so that the question may be considered on its merits. Pressure on our space this week will only permit of two letters being published, but we will endeavour to give the subject more space in our next issue.

### HANDICAPPER POLLOCK'S EXPLANATION.

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—A par in your issue of the 19th suggests that there is an insufficiency of competent handicappers, and that men holding positions in the Civil Service have had to be called upon by some clubs; this, Sir, is scarcely correct in the case of the Marton Racing Club. In July last the Secretary of the latter club waited upon me, and asked if my services were available for his Club's New Year Meeting. I replied that I was disengaged on that date, and would feel honoured to act as handicapper for the Marton Club's Summer Meeting. Later on during the Club's Spring Meeting I was approached by several stewards, who expressed their pleasure that I was free to act for their club. The Secretary (Mr. Way)

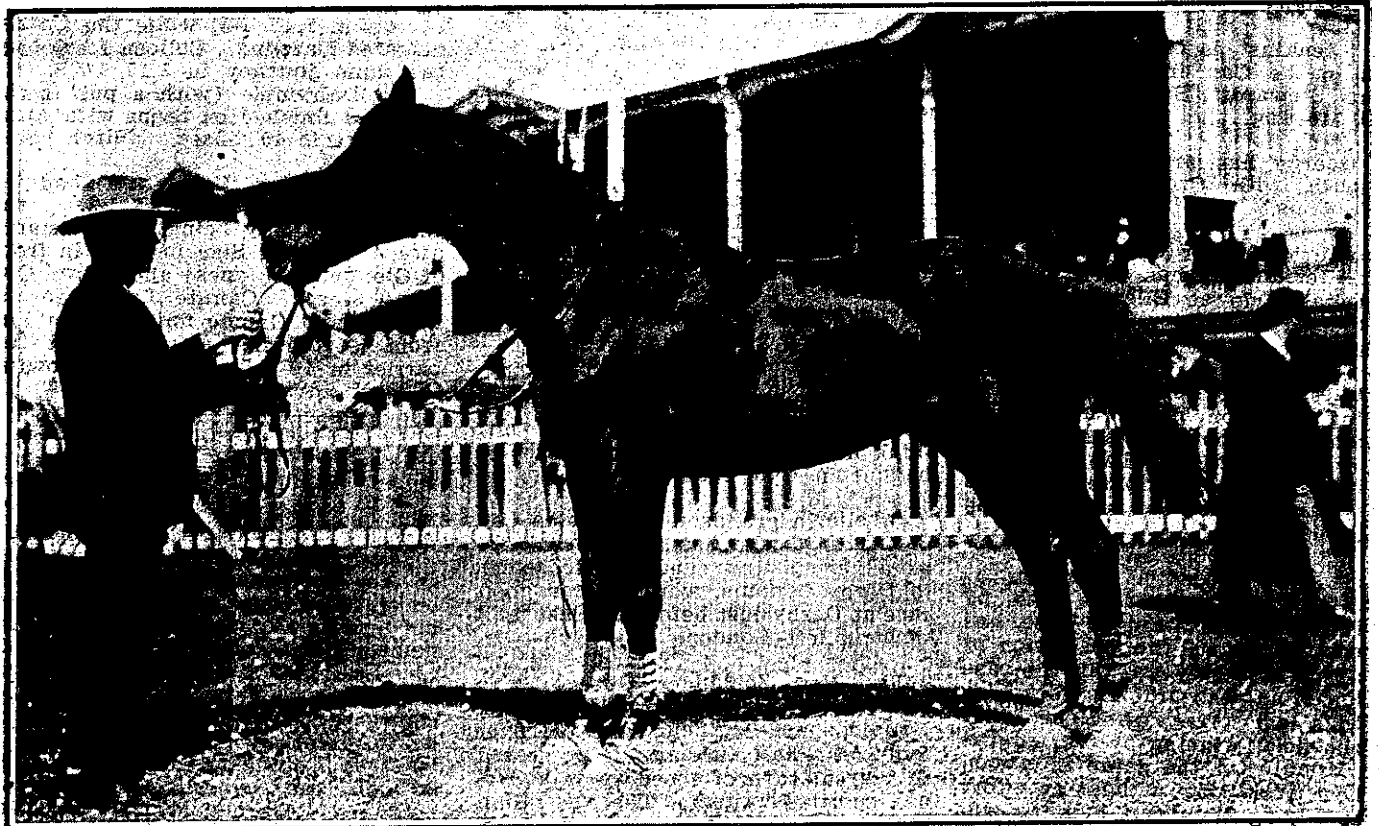
that paid other leading weight adjusters. I disavow any pretence of enlisting sympathy, but facts should be made public; I desire nothing more than that candidates for public positions such as I fill should be judged on their own merits; then I should probably be in a position to make provision for that inevitable day when old age will render me unfit for service. In conclusion I might point out that so long as my time is only partially employed, it is not quite correct to say that there is a dearth of competent handicappers.—I am, etc.,

J. H. POLLOCK,  
Handicapper.

Wellington, October 28.

### "A MOST SCANDALOUS STATE."

Sir,—Your Wellington correspondent deserves the thanks of racehorse owners for his exposure of a most scandalous state of affairs that obtains in connection with the duties of handicapping up the West Coast of the North Island. On apparently purely personal grounds one man has been entrusted with the whole of the handicapping from Marton to New Ply-



Mr H. M. Cornwall's br g HAROLD ABDALLAH, aged, by Blackwood A bdallah.—Creeping Jane, winner of the Ellerslie Trotting Handicap (2¼ miles) at the Auckland Trotting Club's Spring Meeting.

### DEARTH OF HANDICAPPERS.

Our Wellington correspondent, in his dispatch of October 16 (which appeared in the "Sporting and Dramatic Review" of October 19, wrote as follows:—"The dearth of handicappers in New Zealand is again making itself apparent. Through G. Morse being engaged in Auckland, he has found it necessary to appoint a clerk from one of the Government offices in town to adjust the second day's weights at the Marton Jockey Club's summer meeting. Certainly there will not be much room left for any mistakes to occur, but accidents will happen, and some owners are continually complaining at these haphazard appointments, which, as a rule, do not work out satisfactorily or to the well being of racing clubs."

This paragraph has brought forth a number of letters from various parts of the Dominion; and we regret to say that some of our correspondents seem to be under the impression that it reflected in a personal way on certain gentlemen. Such an idea was far from the thought of our correspondent. He merely referred to the circumstance as a topic of general interest, and it is a duty we owe to our readers that such matters should be given publicity. Since the subject has aroused a good deal of public interest we shall be glad to give our

informed me that the matter had been mentioned, and would be finally dealt with after the Spring Meeting. A couple of weeks later a steward of the club, in a somewhat apologetic manner, informed me that their permanent handicapper (Mr. Morse) appeared very reluctant to lose any of his hold on the club, and had urged the club's executive to allow him to frame the first day's handicaps, and permit him to furnish a friend to fix up the weights for second day; the result was that my brother-handicapper got his way, and the Marton Club and horse owners were prevented from having my services, whilst a small addition to my not over large income is denied me.

### SATISFACTORY CREDENTIALS.

Your readers are well aware (and if they are in doubt they can refer to the New Zealand Racing Calendar, that during the past seven years I have followed handicapping as a profession) my efforts have been well received by owners, as witness the fact that acceptances received by clubs for whom I act are the most numerous of any clubs in the Dominion. Leading racing men have admitted that my productions warrant my claim for a fair share of the handicapping fees dispensed by executives of racing clubs, especially as the sum paid me for handicapping is only one-third of

mouth, and also that of all Auckland Clubs; this is certainly not in the best interests of owners as one man's estimate only is obtained of their horses' weight-carrying abilities. When the Marton Racing Club decided to race on the same date as the Auckland Racing Club, I, with other owners, hoped that horse-owners would be treated to a new weight adjuster for the above club, but our hopes were blighted, for instead of obtaining a fresh estimate we are to have Mr. Morse's estimate for the first day, and as second day's handicapper a man, who, although he has had chances, has now lost the few clubs he formerly acted for. This was not surprising, when it is chronicled that this individual allotted that good mare Marguerite 8st. 12lb. for the Rangitikei Cup, and she won and carried 7st 8lb, and established a time record, viz., 2min. 6. 3-5sec. for 1¼ miles; later he allotted Merrivonia 7st. 3lb. for the same event, and she won in a canter carrying 8st 3lb. It is no wonder that his services are not in much request, yet, thanks to Mr. Morse, owners understand that this individual will act both at Marton and Taranaki during Mr. Morse's absence at the A.R.C. Meeting, this notwithstanding that competent handicappers were, it is understood, available.—I am, etc.,

"AN OWNER."  
Palmerston North, October 27, 1911.