

INTERPROVINCIAL

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.)

WELLINGTON.

The Taranaki and Egmont Meetings—Falstaff and Rossini Purchased by Messrs. V. and E. Riddiford—Notes on the Foxton Racing Club's Gathering—R. Brough's Useful Team at Hawera—Intending Contestants at Pahiatua.

WELLINGTON, Monday.

Quite a number of local sporting enthusiasts are planning a trip to the Egmont and Taranaki meetings, which take place early next month at Hawera and New Plymouth respectively. Race gatherings at the centres named are invariably a powerful magnet of attraction with turf followers, and the fact of the approaching fixtures taking place within an interval of but a week separating them is greatly appreciated by visitors, who thus have an ideal opportunity of witnessing four days' racing and also making the sight-seeing trip to Mt. Egmont, which, at this season of the year, presents a very picturesque appearance. Excellent nominations have been received for each meeting, and racegoers are assured of some capital sport. The Taranaki Jockey Club's meeting is to be held on February 4 and 5, and the Egmont Racing Club's fixture on February 11 and 12.

Imaribbon, trained at Spring Creek by A. Rore for Mr. J. J. Corry, the Mayor of Blenheim, won the Foxton Cup on Thursday last from Moutoa Ivanova, who was a firm favourite. The winner returned a nice price, and there is much jubilation amongst Marlboroughites in consequence of the mare's success.

Friends of trainer J. J. Thacker were pleased to see Self Alliance doing him a useful turn at Foxton. The St. Paul gelding is very well just now, and some more successes should come his way in the near future.

The Wellington sportsmen, Messrs. V. and E. Riddiford, have purchased Falstaff and Rossini from Mr. G. D. Greenwood. The former ran in his new owner's colours in the Douro Cup, and although well fancied failed to get amongst the place division.

Import (by Birkenhead—Suratura), from whom big things are expected, got amongst the winners at Foxton, the Birkenhead filly winning very easily from a useful sort in Marble Bar.

Luke, who is trained at Otaki for Mr. C. F. Vallance, ran a creditable race in the Hurdles at Foxton. The gelding returned the largest dividend of the afternoon when he ran second to Goldstream on the opening day. On the concluding day he accounted for the Hack Hurdles in a manner which augurs well for his future engagements over the sticks.

R. Brough, at Hawera, has a useful team in work, the list including Halcyan, a two-year-old full brother to Seasprite (Hallowmas—Sea Spray), the full sister to Rossini (Martian—Grand Opera), and Catalini, by Catmint—Symbolism, which a patron of Brough's purchased for 825 gns., and which so far has proved untrainable. With the horses named, "Dick" Brough should bring off a few surprises before the season is much further advanced.

A. Crawford, the well-known trainer, who relinquished possession of his horses in order to proceed on active service with the Thirteenth Reinforcements, has returned to the Dominion, and has taken up his residence at Featherston, where he hopes to soon get a useful team together. During the time he was training and racing, Crawford was always known for his thorough and painstaking methods in handling the horses under his charge, and this fact should weigh with owners when in quest of a reliable trainer. Crawford, who has acquired a suitable property, should find no difficulty in filling his boxes with some useful gallopers.

F. D. Jones, the Riccarton trainer, was deservedly complimented upon the splendid condition that he landed Amythas at the post for his engagements at Trentham. Since going south the Demosthenes—Gold Treasure gelding has improved out of all knowledge. Some time back Mr. F. S. Easton decided that what Amythas required was a change of climate, and his judgment has been rewarded in no uncertain manner by the recent achievements of the three-year-old,

who will be well up amongst the winners when the present season's statistics come to be compiled.

At Trentham, H. Telford is handling a useful sort in Vindictive (Martian—Miss Birkenhead). This three-year-old is a very speedy galloper, and should soon be breaking his maiden status.

Brackenfield again got his name on the winner's list on the second day of the Wellington Racing Club's meeting last week. The Boniform gelding is in the front rank of sprinters in the Dominion, and but for contracting influenza prior to the Christmas meetings the four-year-old would assuredly have credited his owners with one or more stakes during the holiday racing campaign. The horse has made a complete recovery, and should prove a thorn in the side of his opponents during the next few months.

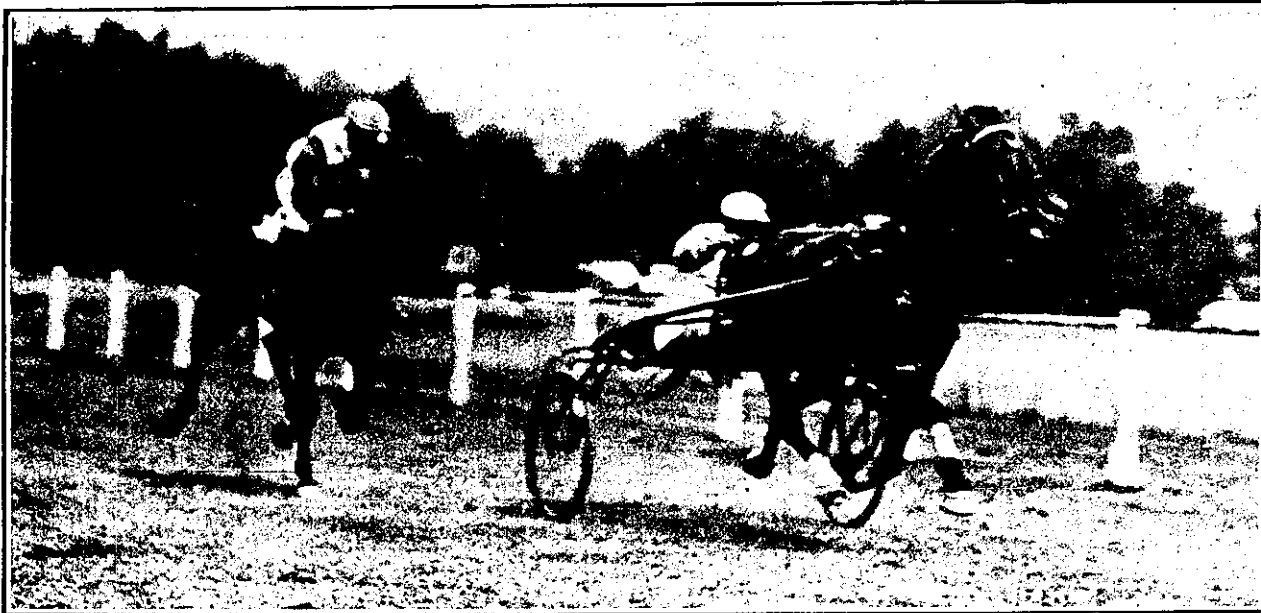
Mosthenes (Demosthenes—Dry Wood) is down to compete at Pahiatua. This juvenile is credited with possessing considerable pace.

F. J. Carmont is taking Lepanto, Gold Problem, American Beauty and Moutoa Camp to Pahiatua. The quartette should pay expenses on the trip.

Asterina is assured of many admirers at Pahiatua. This three-year-old filly is fast coming up to concert pitch.

Matty, who is to compete at Pahiatua, is doing quite all right in her training at Trentham.

Hallowvonia, who is overdue for a win, will be seen out at Pahiatua.



AUTHOR DILLON (B. Jarden) engaged in breaking the Australasian mile grass record of 2min. 11 3-5sec. at the Wellington Trotting Club's annual meeting. He was paced by the galloper RAKAIA, who was ridden by J. Olsen, and got to the end of the mile in 2min. 8sec., thus reducing the record by 3 3-5sec.

This Hallowmas—Merrivonia mare has been considered unlucky on several occasions, but her turn may come in the near future.

During the progress of the local meeting last week, Mr. W. Richmond disposed of Dribble (All Black—Float)—to Mr. F. S. Rutherford, of Canterbury. The Gisborne trainer, C. Morse, took charge of her at Hastings, and she has been transferred to Gisborne, where she will be trained for the future. Dribble has been very successful, and should return a portion of her purchase money at the approaching meetings at Gisborne.

Amythas, who has proved a rare bargain, cost Mr. F. S. Easton 400 guineas as a yearling.

Tropical and Sunny Smile, a pair of the Douglas Estate's two-year-olds, have been turned out for a spell.

Returned visitors from the Foxton meeting speak of the gathering as being very successful and enjoyable, the racing being first class on both days. The starting of Mr. Angus Keith was of a high standard, the send-offs being timed to a nicety, and in this respect Mr. Keith gained many admirers by his excellent work.

After some consideration, L. Wilson has decided to put Reparoa (Sylvia Park—Ustane) to the jumping business. The gelding has been a disappointment on the flat, and may pay his way over the hurdles.

Word from the south states that Mr. Martin, M.R.C.V.S., has removed the splint that was causing that good galloper Fiery Cross to go lame.

SOUTHLAND.

Wairio and Otautau Annual Meetings Both Receive Wide Patronage—Dunedin Forthcoming Racing Carnival Induces Strong Entry From Southland—Bengerop Taken in Hand Again—Riverton R.C. Increase Stakes—Otaitai Steeplechase Eliminated From Second Day's Programme—Dunmuire Changes Hands—Turehana Purchased by Mr. W. Swale—Kilkee Proves a Dual Cup Winner—Notes on the Racing at Wairio and Otautau.

INVERCARGILL, Monday.

During the past week some very fine weather has been experienced, two glorious days falling to the lot of the Wairio Jockey Club and the Otautau Racing Club respectively, with the result that both received extensive patronage for their annual meetings, and the finances benefited accordingly.

About 180 entries from Southland have been made for the Dunedin carnival week, including thoroughbreds and trotters, so it can readily be understood that this part of Maori-land is going to play a prominent part in the forthcoming racing at Forbury Park and Wingatui.

The Wairio Jockey Club's annual fixture on Wednesday last was the most successful in the annals of the club. With interesting racing and a large attendance, the figures were a record for the totalisator returns and other financial results.

At a recent meeting of the committee of the Riverton Racing Club Mr. A. Jones was appointed handicapper and Mr. A. D. McIvor starter for the Eastern meeting, the latter being one of the best-known trainers in the south. He has yet to make his debut as a public starter, but there is no doubt about his ability to send the

current week. Had the club decided to increase the value of the Great Western Steeplechase and retain the Otaitai Steeplechase on the programme they would have won enhanced popularity and probably more profit. The Riverton Club has won high popularity by reason of its encouragement of cross-country racing in the past, and it is hard to understand why the decision referred to has been arrived at.

The well-bred novice steeplechaser Dunmuire, by Glenapp—Remorse, has changed hands, and will in the future carry the colours of Mr. T. Kitt, who has owned many successful jumping horses in his racing career. Dunmuire will remain at Rorke's Drift Lodge, where P. Hogan has a lengthy string of hurdlers and steeplechasers under his control.

The Antagonist—Windwhistle gelding Wild Night is going on the right way in his work, and may be ready and well at the Dunedin fixture.

During the progress of the Otautau meeting on Friday the steeplechaser Turehana (Multifid—Songster mare) was purchased from Mr. W. Kain by Mr. W. Swale, who experienced a profitable time last season with Palladio. The gelding jumped well at Otautau for his new owner, but met with some interference in the race which spoiled his chance.

Eleus has been working along quietly during the past week, and is now bearing a freshened appearance, but his sprinting stablemate Redshire has come in from work once or twice lately nodding his head. This may not mean anything serious, however, as he has often been lame before.

A champion during the current week turned up in the gelding Kilkee, who accounted for both the Wairio and Otautau Cups, the ancient Gunrest acting as runner-up on each occasion. In a way the successes

were very appropriate, as the owner of the Kilbroney—Latchet gelding is a prosperous settler in the district in which the races were decided. In addition to the stakes, Mr. Deegan received a trophy in connection with each race, a neat silver cup for the former event and a very handsome silver tea service for the Otautau race. The winner was one of the outsiders of the field on each occasion. Gunrest, who had been brought to the track in rare shape by the veteran horseman-trainer G. Hope, was unlucky to meet Kilkee with P. Hogan's best polish on. Gunrest's turn came in the final event at the Otautau fixture, when he won the Waikouru Handicap convincingly. There was pronounced cheering when the old fellow came back to weigh in, his owner, Mr. C. Tulloch, being known as a good sportsman from the Bluff, while the public also recognised Hope's part of the performance. The visiting contingent from the Dunedin J. C.'s headquarters, Claverhouse, Borodino and Sedd-el-Bahr were easily beaten in both events under review, but Sedd-el-Bahr's trainer-owner, C. Gieseler, had the satisfaction of leading his representative in a winner after the Wreysbush Welter Handicap at Wairio.

Mr. W. E. Taylor, a leading Invercargill owner, who was a pleased man when Burrangong recently won the Wyndham Cup, has promised the Wairio R.C. a twenty guinea trophy for their big event next season. Trophies are becoming quite a common connection with leading

The stakes for the two principal flat events at the Riverton Racing Club's Easter gathering, the Riverton Cup and Easter Handicap, have been increased by £100 each, and will now be valued at £500 and £400 respectively. The Otaitai Steeplechase has been eliminated from the second day's card, a hack race having been substituted. This hardly seems good business on the claim that there are not enough horses to fill two cross-country events on the one day, when it is noted that fields of eleven and fifteen contested the jumping events at Wairio and Otautau during the

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