

**WAIRARAPA.**

**Red Ribbon on Easy List**—J. T. Jamieson's Team Still Held up at Riccarton—Sir Walter to be Put into Work Shortly—Slight Mishap to Master Boris—Death of Wairarapa Sportsman.

MASTERTON, Saturday.

Red Ribbon has been having an easy time since returning from Otaki, and it will probably be the spring before she is asked to race again.

Mr. H. A. Blake, of Trentham, has been appointed caretaker of the Wairarapa Racing Club's course at Tauherenikau.

The Woodville District Jockey Club has decided to support the Dunedin Club in regard to their endeavour to have the minimum for flat races increased to 7.0.

The Opaki trainer J. T. Jamieson, who took Mr. McDonald's horses to the South Island six weeks ago, has returned to Masterton, but the team is still held up at Riccarton on account of shipping troubles.

T. Higgins is working Destiny, a half-brother to Sir Knox by Conqueror. The other active members in the stable are Timidity, Lady Witchet, and Scornful. The latter has recovered from the severe cold which laid him aside some time back.

It is not likely that Wishful will be persevered with, and at present he is being used as a hack. The gelding has been more or less unsound for a long time.

The two-year-old Sir Walter, a member of W. Garrett's team, is to be brought in shortly and put into work. The youngster was not over-raced this season, and should turn out a useful three-year-old. Sir Walter is by Absurd from Electrum, and races in the colours of Mr. Fred Dorset, owner of Red Ribbon and Vitella.

The veteran Opaki trainer R. Knox had Penury Rose and Sir Wai racing at Otaki, and nearly brought off a surprise with the former in the Huiia Handicap on the second day, being beaten by another Opaki-trained animal in Red Ribbon.

The course improvements at Opaki have been delayed on account of the continued wet weather, but it is hoped to have the new inside track completed early in the spring.

Things are quiet at Tauherenikau just now, and the removal of Mr. H. W. Brown's horses (Kilrush, Arrow-smith, and Loyal Arch) to Riccarton takes away a lot of interest in morning work. Most of the trainers are only giving their charges light work, but they will be sent along shortly in view of the Wellington and Grand National meetings.

It would appear as if Mr. Kemball has an eye on this year's Grand National Hurdle Race, as at the Auckland sales he paid 1500 guineas for the two hurdlers Mill o' Gowrie and Rekanui. The local sportsman has now eight jumpers to carry his colours.

Negambo has not been a success since coming to New Zealand, and the grey son of Positano and Paradenzia has so far failed to win a race. He has shown a lot of pace in the early stages of his races, but does not see a journey out over hurdles. W. Hawthorne has the gelding back in flat races at Napier.

Master Boris was to have gone to Auckland with Sir Solo and Ohiti, but he struck himself on the second day at Wanganui, and has been under the veterinary surgeon since his return to Masterton.

By the death of Mr. I. Freeth, which occurred recently, one of the best-known trainers of the Wairarapa in earlier years has been removed. Among the horses trained by the late sportsman were Greyhound, Revolt, Rebellion, Revolution, Rebel, and Waituru. Most of these were owned by Mr. Freeth. He also owned the fine sire Treason. Twenty years ago there was not a more popular trainer in the Wairarapa than Mr. Freeth, and his colours were successfully carried in many races throughout the province. Until about three years ago the deceased resided at Tauherenikau, when he removed to Wanganui. The late sportsman was looked upon as a fine judge of the thoroughbred, and was always willing to impart his knowledge to the younger trainers, and many of the latter have in a large measure to thank the late Mr. Freeth for friendly advice given earlier in their careers.

Of the Masterton-trained horses taken up to Auckland for the winter meeting none were successful in winning a race, although place money was earned by Trespass and Old Mungindi. However, Mr. Kemball purchased Mill o' Gowrie and Rekanui during the progress of the meeting, and the former accounted for the Campbell Hurdles on the concluding

day. Sir Solo was only started once and failed to show any form, but the gelding will probably do better later on, as it was his first race this season. Ohiti, another member of W. Garrett's team, was heavily supported by local sports in his two starts, but he failed to get into the money. In all £800 was won at the meeting by Masterton-owned horses, which is not a large amount considering that seven horses were competing. It will, however, cover racing expenses.

At the monthly meeting of the stewards of the Masterton Racing Club on Saturday the treasurer reported a debit balance of £383 1s. 5d. The Rangitikei Racing Club wrote forwarding dates applied for by them for their autumn meeting. The New Zealand Racing Conference wrote acknowledging receipt of objection by the Masterton Club against the dates applied for by the Rangitikei Club. Mr. A. T. Fauvel wrote stating that the Wellington Racing Club would not sell any old racks. The Conference forwarded a list of racing dates applied for by the different clubs for the season 1920-21. The Dunedin Jockey Club wrote asking the club to support its notice of motion, to be moved at the next Racing Conference, that the minimum weight be altered from 6.7 to 7.0. After some discussion the meeting decided to comply with the request, the majority present being in favour of the proposed change.

**TURF GOSSIP.**

The Wellington Racing Club has donated £100 to the New Zealand Olympic Team Fund.

Friends will regret to hear that Mr. Monte McCallum, the well-known sportsman, entered a private hospital on Monday, a painful operation being deemed necessary.

The Auckland chasers Oakleigh, Peneton and Waimai have been entered for the Hawke's Bay Steeplechase, to be run on Wednesday next. Notability, who is now trained at Hastings, also figures among the entries for the big cross-country event.

The ex-Aucklanders Mill o' Gowrie and Rekanui have been nominated by Mr. W. R. Kemball for the hurdle events at the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club and Hawke's Bay Hunt meeting, which takes place next week.

Will Comfort, who is topweight in the V.R.C. Grand National Hurdle Race, with 11.6, won the same event last year with 10.8. Sir Prim, who leads the V.R.C. Grand National Steeplechase imposts with 12.3, scored in that race last July with 11.0.

The Sea Prince—Tenterhook gelding Tenterfield, which was recently purchased in Australia by the Masterton sportsman, Mr. W. R. Kemball, raced with bad luck in the Commonwealth, not having secured a win in three seasons' racing, though he has earned £1500 in minor place money.

Wolaroi is returning to Sydney at an early date in order to be trained for the spring meetings (says the "Referee"). The leg that brought about his retirement is seemingly sound again, and his owner is hopeful he will stand another preparation.

Kennaquhair (10.9) heads the list of horses engaged in the Prince of Wales Gold Cup (one mile and five furlongs), to be decided on the concluding day of the Australian J.C.'s meeting in honour of the Royal visitor, which takes place at Randwick this Thursday (June 17) and Saturday. Three ex-New Zealanders are engaged in the race in question, the trio being British Arch (7.7), Silent Way (6.12) and Finmark (9.5).

Last month the Victorian sportsman Mr. E. A. Connelly sold his good-looking imported horse Cyntoi to Mr. John Hay, a New Zealand studmaster, at a high price. Cyntoi is reported to possess plenty of galloping ability, but so far has not proved reliable. Mr. Connelly gave 1000 guineas at auction in Sydney for Cyntoi, who has a rare pedigree, seeing that he is by Santoi from Lady Cynosure, a sister to Polymelus, and he may prove a success at the stud.

At the Queensland Turf Club's autumn meeting at Brisbane on May 29, Countess Acrasia (Powhatan—Acrasia) won the Hamilton Handicap (nine furlongs) in 1min. 51½sec., thus clipping a quarter of a second off Gloaming's Australasian record for that distance. Countess Acrasia's dam, Acrasia, won the Melbourne Cup in 1904. At the same meeting the ex-New Zealander Bunting suffered defeat by a length in the King's Plate (1¼ miles), which was won by Had-i-wist.



**AUCKLAND RACING CLUB.**

GREAT NORTHERN MEETING.

THIRD DAY.

**SLOWCOACH WINS WINTER STEEPLECHASE.**

Again the luck in the matter of weather was with the Auckland Racing Club, and the Great Northern meeting of 1920, and the last totalisator meeting of the season in the province, came to an end under most favourable conditions. There was a large attendance and good fields, good racing, and plenty of money still in evidence, as revealed by the totalisator turnover for the day. This amounted to £73,032, as against £68,664 last year, bringing the grand total up to £220,391 for the three days, as against £205,868 last year for the same number of days racing. There was, however, one race more this year than last, so that the average increase per race was not very large. The meeting passed off pleasantly, and though there were grounds for holding an enquiry over the last race of the day the stewards were not called together, and evidently saw nothing requiring their attention. Mr. Spence (secretary) and staff and the totalisator workers, Mr. A. Hill (the caretaker and manager of the grounds), the starter (Mr. O'Connor), handicapper (Mr. Macmanemin), clerk of the course (Mr. Selby), and judge (Mr. R. B. Lusk) all got through their tasks with satisfactory results, and the stipendiary stewards, Mr. A. Gordon associated with Mr. Murchison, had comparatively light duties. The first-named acted on the first and second days and then proceeded to Gisborne.

The public were right in installing Oakleigh favourite for the first race, the Tamaki Steeplechase, and the son of St. Amans led practically from end to end after jumping the first fence. Totara Jack, the second favourite, fell, and though Monopole, the topweight, ran a good race considering that it was the first time he had got to the end of a steeplechase journey, he had to strike his colours also to John Bunny, whose condition was the more seasoned. Maira finished, as also Southland and Peria, but a long way back, as they were eased up.

Backers were again on the spot when they selected Deviation to win the Orakei Hurdle Race, making that hitherto unlucky gelding a £1000 better fancy than Keystone, who fell while fighting it out with the winner and Kerehona, who carried just about half as much as did Deviation and was third selection. There were a lot of other falls. Ohoreka, Golden Petal, Gladwyn, Mentmore, General Stephen, the last-named quartette coming down in front of the press and stewards' stand. It was up to Deviation to have a win at Ellerslie. Mary Bruce was some distance away, third, and Ma Copper, who has the Captain Webb trait for jumping, was fourth. Ma Copper might get a win amongst the hunters.

The York Welter was sorted out as a good thing for Hyllus, who had been twice unlucky at the meeting with W. Ryan up. Hector Gray had the mount owing to the absence of Ryan at the meeting with owners in Wellington, and he only just got the son of Hymettus home from Arran after a hard race. Arran has been seen to the best advantage in soft going, and though now an aged gelding and on the minimum mark has never run better since he sprung a surprise defeat on Desert Gold in the A.R.C. Champagne Stakes. With two fourths and a second to his credit he was unlucky at the meeting. Parisian Diamond had had two hard races and he did not run up to the expectations of those who made him second favourite, giving away as much as three stone to some of the runners. Mangamahoe, now racing in the nomination of Mr. F. Potts, did not show up, nor did Trespass and the recently-sold Rockfield, who was not himself. Gold Kip ran a good race, and Demoiselle and Archie were running on. The last-named has not recovered his earlier-in-the-season form, and Te Oro and Waituta are a pair that were racing below their best.

The Winter Steeplechase was a good betting race, but the winner,

Slowcoach, on whom Fielding had the mount owing to Turner being incapacitated, was over £2000 ahead of Omahu, the second selection, and they finished first and second after a good race, in which First Call and Peneton made the early running, the first-named being headed off by Old Mungindi, who, however, tired under his weight and pulled up sore, First Call securing third place, though nothing had a chance with Slowcoach and Omahu, the last-named being over-matched when it came to racing home.

Mill o' Gowrie, who changed hands on the day preceding, carried the colours of Mr. Kemball and was ridden by Rennie and made favourite for the Campbell Hurdle Race, a useful-looking gelding called Ore Ore (by Signor from The Brook), who should see a better day, being made second selection. Pendoon and Gluetanus being next in demand. Thrace, who had started second favourite in the Renown Hurdles, and Cynic, second favourite in the Great Northern Hurdles, were the least backed. Mill o' Gowrie was in front all the way and won easily by three lengths and a-half from Thrace, who, staying on, beat Ore Ore a length and a-half for second place, though most people would be found picking the last-named to improve on his showing as the season advances. Cynic continues sore, and neither Gluetanus nor Pendoon ran up to form. The last-named hit a hurdle and he is not solid at best.

King Abbey was favourite for the sixth race, the Visitors' Handicap, but it was sufficient that five favourites on end had won, and it was left to the second favourite, Tama-a-roa, who was carrying about half as much as Hannon's gelding, to score. This he did from the big outsider Emerald Hill (by Marble Arch), a three-year-old. He, however, only had half a length to spare. Asterina, another three-year-old, was a neck away, third, and Crowhurst fourth. Ring Lupin, the fourth favourite, was only good enough to lead part of the journey, and Golden Bubble, like King Abbey, found the weight and going against him.

The Fitzroy Welter Handicap, in which there were nineteen runners, served to show Royal Abbey in a still more favourable light, and the public made him favourite with 12.3 on his back, and they were not far out in their judgment in selecting Tuipa to give him most trouble. A big outsider in Nunerrant, however, split the pair, and even she might have been defeated by Some Fashion and North Loburn had the last-named not pursued an erratic course, interfering with Some Fashion badly right along in front of the stand to the judge's box and after passing it. Royal Abbey was one of the most useful sorts that ran at the meeting, and it was perhaps a good thing for his owner that he did not pass the vet. the day before when offered for 800 guineas. A number of the runners should improve on the form they displayed.

- The results were:—
- TAMAKI STEEPLECHASE** of 300sovs; second 70sovs, third 30sovs. About two miles and a-half.
- 1—G. and F. Peach's b g Oakleigh, 6yrs, by St. Amans—Jean, 11.9 (Warner) ..... 1
  - 6—W. H. Windsor's b g John Bunny, aged, 10.4 (Henderson) ..... 2
  - 3—A. Brown's b g Monopole, 6yrs, 11.12 (Roach) ..... 3
- Also started: 2 Totara Jack 10.4 (Rennie), 5 Southland 10.4 (Wood), 4 Maira 9.7 (Packer), 7 Peria 9.7 (Rowe).
- Totara Jack fell. Won by three lengths, a similar distance between second and third. Maira was fourth. Time, 5min. 12sec.
- ORAKEI HURDLE RACE** of 275sovs; second 50sovs, third 25sovs. One mile and three-quarters.
- 1—A. Murdoch's br g Deviation, aged, by Elevation—Wallethe, 11.0 (Warner) ..... 1
  - 3—J. Hanks' b g Kerehona, aged, 11.2 (Roach) ..... 2
  - 6—A. Mitchell's br m Mary Bruce, 4yrs, 9.0 (Rennie) ..... 3
- Also started: 2 Keystone 10.10 (Marchant), 9 Otara 9.13 (Preston), 8 Lady Energy 9.12 (Fletcher), 11 General Stephen 9.2 (McSevery), 7 Ma Copper 9.0 (Phillips), 13 Multiplane 9.0 (Williams), 4 Golden Petal 9.0 (Clarke), 10 Middlemark 9.0 (Conway), 15 St. Carl 9.0 (R. Manson), 16 Toby 9.0 (Rowe), 14 Gladwin 9.0 (Golding), 12 Ohoreka 9.0 (Howden), 5 Mentmore 9.0 (Preston).
- Ohoreka, Multiplane, Mentmore, Golden Petal, Gladwin, General Stephen, and Keystone fell. Won by three lengths, two lengths between second and third. Ma Copper was fourth. Time, 3min. 31 3-5sec.
- YORK WELTER HANDICAP** of 750 sovs; second 150sovs, third 75sovs. One mile.
- 1—W. J. Irwin's ch h Hyllus, 6yrs, by Hymettus—Marty, 10.4 (H. Gray) ..... 1
  - 9—J. McNicol's br g Arran, aged, 9.0 (C. Reed) ..... 2
  - 4—H. S. Keesing's ch g Gold Kip, 5yrs, 9.8 (Sinclair) ..... 3
- Also started: 2 Parisian Diamond 12.0 (Oliver), 5 Mangamahoe 10.13 (H. Robinson), 3 Rockfield 10.4 (Anderson), 3 Trespass 10.4 (McFlinn), 11