

Our Sports Summary

DUNEDIN.

The annual presentation of prizes in connection with the St. Patrick's Harrier and Athletic Club took place the other week. In the unavoidable absence of the president (Mr. J. J. Marlow) Mr. L. Marlow presided. In presenting the prizes won during the past season, the chairman referred to the growth of the club from 10 active members two years ago when it was established to 30 at the present time. Two representatives of the club (Mr. R. Monaghan and Mr. E. McIlroy) were contestants in the Port-Dunedin road race, the former being the first man home, and the latter the first novice. The prizes were awarded in the following order: T. McAllen 1st in the 5 and 3 mile championship (prize donated by Mr. J. O'Farrell). E. McIlroy 2nd in 5 mile championship (prize donated by Mr. M. Dawson), also attendance badge (presented by Mr. Dawson). J. Taylor 1st sealed handicap in 5 mile championship (prize donated by Mr. M. Moynihan.) C. Morris 1st novice in 5 mile championship (prize donated by Mr. A. Neill); A. Ramsay 1st in field events (prize donated by Messrs. C. and W. Shiel); F. White 1st in mile novice handicap (prize donated by Mr. E. Rowe); W. Allen 2nd in field events (prize donated by Mrs. M. Walsh); C. Menhenick 2nd in mile novice (prize donated by Mr. W. Hefferman, also attendance badge donated by Mr. T. Cahill); J. Horne 1st hop, step, and jump. An enjoyable musical and elocutionary programme was contributed to by a number of members and friends of the club.

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TAUMARUNUI.

The Labor Day fixture of the Taumarunui Celtic Sports Club held on the Domain, will rank as a record in the history of the club in very many directions (writes our own correspondent).

Carnival days here have been ill-fated as regards weather conditions, and the fact that the torrential rains of the week previous still left inky clouds in the sky all day long kept crowds away. The day dawned accompanied by pelting showers that fortunately slackened in intensity as the morning wore on. The afternoon kept fairly clear, though for some 10 minutes in the middle of the sports there was a tropical shower, visited by a cold snap, that made the lot of the onlooker extremely uncomfortable. The patronage accorded the fixture must, in the circumstances, be deemed very satisfactory, and as a result the expenditure incurred on the day will be straightened and in addition it is hoped to liquidate the existing debts of the club.

Owing to the fact that the bad weather had delayed ground preparations until the last minute, the running track was a bit uneven and with the rains was heavy. The committee had, however, worked splendidly to ensure the best possible going and when all is said and done, the runners had nothing to complain about. The handicapper (Mr. H. Grattan) can be complimented on his work, as some close finishes were seen. The starter (Mr. W. Hawkins), an old athlete himself, carried out his onerous work well.

The chopping events were the most keenly contested of the afternoon, and some very close finishes were witnessed. The different events attracted entries from a good number of outside choppers.

The crowd seemed to get more excited over the tug-of-war for the Kelland Cup than over any other single event. The policemen pulled a bushmen's team. The verdict and the cup easily went to the policemen on the first pull, but to satisfy the eagerness of the crowd a couple of friendly pulls were held. Both of these went to the bushmen's side, but one pull would have been disqualified in competition because of a tail rope supplemented by two or three extra pullers for the occasion, to the great delight of the crowd. The winning team comprised Sergt. J. O'Brien and Constables L. R. Capp, M. McCallum, F. R. Ebbett, and J. Mahoney.

The measure of success attaching to the Highland events is worth very special mention. The club in the past have catered for this section very liberally and yearly the number of Dominion "stars" who perform here increases.

The platform for the events was stationed in a very handy position. As usual the tartan plaid exerted its old fascination and the skirl of the pipes seemed to add an enlivening element to the otherwise "musicless" afternoon. Some highly accomplished dancers from outside centres were seen. The public also witnessed an interesting display of firemen's competitions.

GARDENING NOTES

(By Mr. J. JOYCE, Landscape Gardener, Christchurch.)

WORK FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER.

The Vegetable Garden.—The wet weather experienced in most localities during the greater part of October has retarded gardening operations to a very considerable extent, and, as a consequence, much work will be necessary this month to make up for lost time. With the warmer and sunnier weather generally experienced in November the vegetables required. Peas, broad beans, kidney, or the soil will be in suitable condition for the sowing of all French beans, turnips, spinach, lettuce, and radish should receive early attention, and, if not already sown or planted out, onions, parsnips, and carrots, leeks, vegetable marrows, pumpkins, and cucumbers. The planting of a few tomato plants may be ventured, and at about the middle of the month, when the danger of frosts may be considered past, the main crop should be planted out. This also applies to the main potato crop while the earlier one will require constant moulding up as a precaution against a touch of frost. Asparagus will be in season now, but in cutting it the weak shoots should be left on; these keep up the growth of the plant. A too severe cutting of asparagus weakens the plant for the next season's crop. It is well to keep on sowing a little cabbage and cauliflower seed to supply plants for successive crops, and these should be planted out as required. Brussels sprouts and kale are valuable in providing a supply of vegetables when most other kinds are scarce, and should thus receive attention. This also applies to broccoli. Rhubarb will be plentiful by now, and in gathering it care should be taken to allow some of the stalks to grow on otherwise the strength of the plant will be impaired. It is a mistake to strip the whole rhubarb plant at one time, and clumps which have been covered over during their growth to maturity should now have the covering removed when the supply is exhausted, so that the plants may have a chance to renew their growth. Keep the Dutch hoe constantly employed among the crops when the weather is fine and the soil dry. It is well to be prepared for late frosts by having material on hand to protect tender plants.

The Flower Garden.—Keep planting out the required bedding plants, and sow in patches, but not too thickly, a good collection of outdoor hardy annuals. These latter may be thinned out later. Now is the time to plant gladiolas and dahlias; old plants of the latter require to be dug up, separated by being cut with a sharp spade, and replanted, each clump having a portion of the old stalk attached. A neat stake should be driven down through dahlia plants for the purposes of support. It would be well to attend to chrysanthemums by reducing the clumps and thinning out the shoots where they are growing too thickly. Although most of the spring bulbs will by now have finished flowering, the foliage should not be cut away but allowed to grow, as by so doing the bulb is improved and strengthened. When the foliage of bulbs withers is the time for digging them up and storing them for the next planting season. Flowering shrubs which require pruning may be thus attended to when the flowering has ceased. An early pruning is desirable, as, with renewed growth, the shrub will be in better flowering condition on the following season. Do not allow the weeds to take possession of the beds and borders, but keep the hoe employed on all available occasions when the weather is fine; raking is not necessary, the sun will soon wither up the weeds. Mow and roll the lawn at least once a week; the grass will be growing very fast now so that to ensure a good sward frequent and thorough rolling is essential.

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