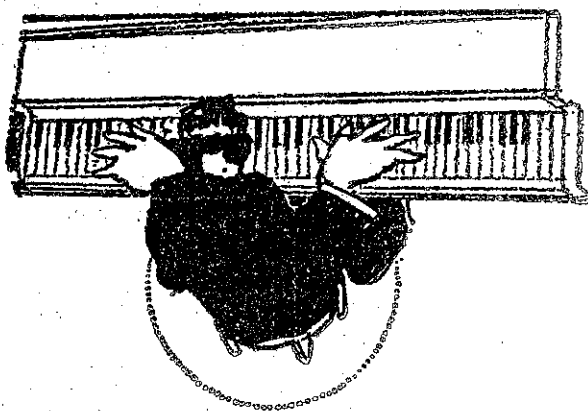


Christchurch Goes

Gay

Next Week



*"If wishes were horses
Beggars would ride..."*

Yes, and if wishes were radio sets every impecunious admirer of horseflesh in the Dominion would be taking advantage of the Broadcasting Board's great national link-up to keep the whole of New Zealand in touch with the stirring events at the great racing and trotting carnival of Grand National Week in Christchurch. All the world and his dog will want to be there

*...Bettin' on the horses when they've never seen
a horse...*

Some of them'll be betting on the Judgment Day.

If you can't be there in the flesh you can see the races vividly by courtesy of your radio—perhaps so vividly

*You'll see your horse
Take forty winks upon the course.*

You'll capture some of that glorious panorama of the flying colours, the broad rainbow of the dresses on the greens, the jostle and rush of the crowds and the persistent jangle of the totalisator bell, the bright faces and the long faces of those who

*have risked their
resources
With courage serene
On various horses
They never have seen*

The Grand National Steeplechase on the first day, Tuesday, August 8, of the Canterbury Jockey Club's Grand National three-day meeting, is recognised as the supreme jumping test of the winter racing campaign, and the course is acknowledged as the stiffest steeplechase country in New Zealand. The records of this race show that none but really good horses have ever survived the stern elimination to win this event. So if your favourite falls you may console

yourself with A. P. Herbert that

*"... Though your horse fell
And you're robbed of your packet,
You knew very well
You were dead right to back it."*

The Winter Cup, also on the first day, is recognised as the most difficult mile race in New Zealand. In the language of the experts, anything might happen and

*Some exceptional chance
Which none could foresee
Might delay the advance
Of your excellent gee.*

What owners and trainers regard as the "second leg" of the Grand National double, the Grand National Hurdles, on the second day's racing, invariably sifts out a jumper and a stayer of the highest class in the winner, as it is the longest hurdle race in New Zealand—two miles and a half.

The New Zealand Metropolitan Trotting Club is invariably granted the honour of starting the new trotting season, which opens on August 1, with its national meeting at Addington. On the first day, August 5, the August Handicap is the first big handicap race of the new season in the Dominion. It is for tight-class horses, over two miles. The International Handicap, a fast class mile, is also on the first day.

The King George and the Speedway Handicaps, of two miles and a mile and a quarter respectively, are the star items of the second day.

All the trotting events focus the attention of followers of form as, being the first events in the new season, they give a definite guide to horses likely to be in top form for the big spring meetings.

Next week, too, Christ-
(Continued on page 46.)



Absent-minded listener hastens to correct a bad case of "howling."