

CHRISTCHURCH.

DEAR BEE. MARCH 21. It is not with ordinary feelings of regret that the announcement of...

THE DEATH OF MRS JOHN ANDERSON, SENIOR. Interest will be read by hundreds of people. The sad event was not unexpected, for the deceased lady was overtaken by serious illness some time ago...

GARDEN PARTY. The day was all that could be desired, a still nor-wester prevailing. Tennis and croquet were played in the afternoon. Delicacies of the afternoon tea, etc., were dispensed about the garden.

THE EASTERN ENGAGEMENT promises to be very successful this year. The various companies have been working hard at the new drill, and a large attendance in camp is expected.

THE CHRISTCHURCH LIEDEKRANZCHEN, or Society of the 'Song Wreath,' is in a flourishing condition. It held its second annual meeting last week, Mrs Julius, the president, being in the chair.

QUESTION OF PROHIBITION. Great present in everyone's mouth, and to-morrow is the momentous day for casting in our vote with one side or the other. The State of Maine is quoted as being in a very interesting position.

DOLLY VALE. A number of beautiful gowns were worn by the ladies, among whom I saw Mrs Iowl, the eldest daughter of Mr Pearce, who has just arrived from Home, wearing a pale terra-cotta gown trimmed with pale biscuit lace...

WELLINGTON.

DEAR BEE. MARCH 22. The members of the Wellington Club intend giving a large picnic to Rear Admiral Bowen-Smith...

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with bands of blue and biscuit insertion, black hat with flowers; Mrs Rhodes, handsome black silk gown; Mrs Buck, black; Mrs Barron, brown; the Misses Barron, fawn gowns; Mrs Reid, tabac brown corduroy with pale green moire-train; Miss Brown, a black and green striped gown with black and white yoke and sleeves...

AT THE CRICKET MATCH, which took place on the Basin Reserve between a team arranged by Mr Werry and a team of the club, the latter being there were present Captain Lang, Captain and Mrs Gibson, the latter in black; Mr Werry, Miss Medley, Mrs Travers, in blue serge; Miss Coleridge, Mrs Barclay, in black; Mrs T. C. Williams, in blue...

OUR PEOPLE. The wharf was crowded to-day, on the occasion of the departure of the Tarawera for Australia. Mr and Mrs Jellicoe and Miss Lister will sail with her for a visit to England, and Mrs S. M. Thompson, who has been visiting Mr and Mrs Krull, of Wanganui, and Mrs Mantell, of Wellington, also left by her, returning to her home in Australia.

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Mr and Mrs York go south shortly. They will be much missed. Miss Cara Russell has returned from Wellington.

Mr Tyreman is wearing a pretty fawn gown with black bands, Amazon hat; Mrs Howard looks well in a pretty pink gingham gown, black hat with black feathers; Mrs Lean looks nice in a heliotropes striped crepon gown, black hat with white roses; Miss Allan wears a pretty pale pink gown, cream hat with red poppies; Mrs Loughnan is stylish in a dark gown, brown cloak with large wings bound with fur, sailor hat; Mrs Crose, grey gown, small cape, black bonnet with yellow flowers; Mrs J. S. Williams wears a handsome black gown with white piping, black bonnet with white roses; Miss Cara Russell, pretty cream gown, black flat hat and blue flowers.

PICTON.

DEAR BEE. MARCH 20. The tennis match PICTON VERSUS BLenheim. We were all so sorry for the girls who had worked like Trojans to put the court in order, to practise for the coming tug-of-war, and in preparations to receive the visiting team in a suitable manner...

WAITOHOI FOOTBALL CLUB. It was resolved that, owing to the unforeseen blow of circumstance, which had removed some of the best leather-kickers from the town, the match should cease to exist. The silver cup won by the Club some time ago was presented to Lieutenant W. J. Baillie, President of the Club, who has always been an enthusiastic supporter of all athletic functions here and elsewhere...

PEOPLE IN GENERAL. Mrs (Captain) Temple (Christchurch), Miss Neave, and Miss Stack are visitors of Mrs Mellich. Miss Howard has returned home, much improved in health after three months' sojourn in Kalkoura and Wellington. Mr Paton, E.A., and Mrs Paton have been spending a few weeks in Picton, visiting all our 'show spots' and sketching. They are so charmed with Picton that they are leaving now with the intention of returning to settle here.

MISS SCHERFF, of 'Glenalvon,' Auckland, is engaged to Mr G. Ford, of the Bank of New Zealand. The marriage will shortly eventuate. The engagement is announced of Mr H. P. Stark, assistant manager of the Bank of New South Wales, Grahamstown, Thames, to Miss Meta Kenrick, of Parawai, Thames.

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'MADAME FAVART.'

A PART from those who are immediately concerned in the production of an opera, the public know little and trouble themselves little as to the amount of labour or expense involved. They expect to see a creditable production and to get value for their money. The risk, in fact, is with some few enterprising spirits, who, for the love of the thing, provide amusement for all. The Auckland Amateur Opera Club in their production of 'Madame Favart,' commencing at the Opera House on Tuesday, April 10th, will stage an opera entirely new to Auckland. It will probably cost over £600 to produce, the dressing being an exceptionally heavy item, and it is hoped the Committee and all concerned may be amply rewarded by a lengthy and prosperous run.