her dress being black and red; Miss Garrett, a pretty red frock; Miss Hawnil, white costume; etc., etc.

THE MOUNT ALBERT SOCIAL

took place last Friday in the hall of the district. The attendance was not quite so large as usual, but dancing was kept up with great zest until past the hour of midnight. Light refreshments were provided by the ladies. The gowns I have described on previous occasions. Amongst those present were Mrs Kerr-Taylor, Mrs Sellers, Misses Sellers (three), Dixon (two), Dawson (two), Wilks (three), Martin, Trevithick, Shaw, Ledingham, Payne, James, Jones, Wright, Millar, Phillips, Minnie Taylor, also the Messrs Martin (three), Motion (two), Thompson, Sellers, Dawson (two), Taylor, Wright, etc.

HITHER AND THITHER.

Mrs (Dr.) Haines and Miss Isaacs returned from Wellington on Saturday.

The Onehunga Private Subscription dance takes place next Friday, September 13th, and the juvenile dance the next night (Saturday).

The Hunt Club Ball takes place on Wednesday, September 25th, in the Choral Hall. Ladies' meetings are now being held to bring this event off successfully.

PHYLLIS BROUNE

HAWERA.

DEAR BEE, SEPTEMBER 6.

There is a great deal of dancing here t'is winter—football, fire brigade, and farewells, so many going away, some to England, some to Sydney, and some to other parts. Really these socials are becoming very popular, and people are asked to sing till it becomes rather a tax, especially as there are only a limited number of singers; and at this time of the year, when sore throats and colds are so prevalent, I wonder the ladies and gentlemen are able to comply with all demands. One of our well-known business men Mr W. Cowern, has left for England by the Talmai on important business; some of the business, I hear, about money in chancery. We wish him success and a pleasant trip.

Mr Thomson, of Manutahi, who is very popular,

WAS FAREWELLED

at a dance last Wednesday, numbers of people being invited from Patea and Hawera. He was also presented with a gold pencil case by his scholars.

The Rivals (football) held

A SOCIAL

here, which was a great success. Mrs H. Baker sang 'Sweet Marie' very nicely, receiving rapturous applause. Mrs Major sang 'The Link Divine,' and looked very charming in black velvet, the square cut bodice and puff sleeves being of pale blue velvet. Miss W. Cowern sang 'Never to Know,' and was encored. Miss Cowern, Mr Warden, and Mr Foster also sang, and they were very well received. The supper table looked simply perfect; they do these things very well in Hawera.

Miss M. Jollie is to arrive by the Gothic. She has had a very gay time at Home. Everyone will be pleased to see her back in Patea.

THE FOURTH ASSEMBLY

at Patea was very successful, a number of visitors from Wanganui and Hawera adding to the gay crowd. Amongst them were Mrs Hole (Wanganui), in violet moiré with real lace, and her two sisters, the Misses Taylor, one in white satin, the other in heliotrope silk; Miss Kemp, heliotrope silk and velvet; Miss W. Cowern also wore heliotrope; Misses Wyburn, Symes, and Tester wore red; Mrs Moaro, blue crepon and chiffon; Mrs Kemp, shot silk; Mrs W. Wilson, black silk and white lace; Mrs C. C. Harper looked very nice in cream silk; Miss Bremer, also in cream; Mrs Gus Bremer, black and white muslin; Miss Turner, black; Miss Nellie Turner, pink cashmere and green moiré; Miss A. Turner, pink silk and velvet; Mrs Christie looked exceedingly handsome in yellow bengaline beautifully trimmed with jet and chiffon; Miss K. Wright, pink and green; Mrs Gibbons, Mrs W. C. Symes, Mrs G. D. Homerton, Mrs Peacock, black; Miss Blakiston, pink; Misses Hunter, white; Miss Peacock, yellow gauze and silk; the Misses Shields, Gower, Brewer, Cleary, Hamilton, Newlands, Campbell, etc. Some of the gentlemen were Messrs Kemp, Hole, Wilson, Shields, Walter Jones, G. D. Hamerton, Symes (three), Mair, Hirst, Wiggins and Buchanan (Hawera), Cornwall, Jollie, Horner, Newton, Lattey, C. C. Harper, Cowern, Thomson and Walkington.

MARA

WELLINGTON.

DEAR BEE, SEPTEMBER 5

The town seems to have been alive with footballers for the last few weeks, and I think none of them leave our town without a certain feeling of regret, for we have entertained the visitors right royally—dances, suppers at the Trocadero, and drives, given them in lavish style, and everything done to make their visit an enjoyable one.

On Monday evening there was a delightful

JUVENILE DANCE AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

given by the Hon. James Boyle to his College chums from Wanganui, and including all the local young people as well; that is to say, those youthful enough to come under the heading of children. A few grown up people were present to assist in the amusement of the little guests, and for three hours the vast corridors and reception rooms at Government House were filled with diminutive white-robed figures, and rang the while with childish laughter. The great feature of the evening was the Cotillon, which was really a pretty and amusing sight, and created much merriment. Lady Glasgow wore a lovely gown of rich pompadour silk, profusely trimmed with lace and bunches of pink flowers; Lady Alice Boyle looked very well in a pretty white figured silk with soft chiffon frills; Lady Dorothy wore a simple white muslin dress with lace; Mrs Menteath wore a handsome black silk gown with jet trimmings; Miss Buller, a white silk gown striped with alternate satin stripes; Mrs W. Johnston, a rich shot gown, with full velvet sleeves of crimson shot with green; Miss M. Williams was in black satin; Miss Miller, in green silk veiled in aeophane of the same shade; Mrs Williams was handsomely dressed in black velvet with jet edging; Mrs Arthur Russell, a pale grey satin gown. Most of the little girls were dressed in white muslin or soft silk with coloured sash and ribbons, and very well they all looked. Among the boys Eton suits seemed prevalent, though a few were dressed in velvet, and one or two looked sweet in Little Lord Fauntleroy suits. Among them were Misses Levin, Harding, Edwin, Menteath, Coleridge, Werry, Hislop, Richardson, Reid, FitzGerald, Williams, Bell, Hutchison, Baker, Brandon, Grace, Rawson, Elliott, Powles, Joseph, Higginson, Wilson, Riddiford, Martin, Butts, Gore, Quick, Haseldean, and Messrs A. Cooper, Butler, Willis, Williams, Montgomerie, Johnston, White, Peake, Wilson, Haseldean, H. Cooper, Higginson, Fitzherbert, Cornford, Menzies, Hutchison, Newman, Riddiford, Rawson, Beetham, and crowds of others.

THE BREAD AND BUTTER BALL

in aid of the Kindergarten School is to take place on the 13th inst. in Thomas' Hall. It promises to be a great success. The committee of management have been fortunate to enlist the sympathy of His Excellency and Lady Glasgow, and the ball is now advertised under their patronage.

Mrs C. Johnston and Mrs Newman left for Auckland last Friday *en route* for Rotorua, where they intend to spend a few weeks. This visit was taken for the benefit of Mrs Johnston's youngest daughter, who has not been strong for some time.

Mrs and Miss Miller have gone to the Wairarapa to pay a few country visits before finally leaving for their southern home.

The exhibition of the designs for the new issue of Stamps opens to-day in the Academy of Fine Arts.

I hear the Fancy Fair is doing very well, and the evening concerts have been of a very high standard and well worth the very moderate sum charged for admittance. I hear the proceeds have already amounted to over £330.

Mr Maughan Barnett is rapidly coming to the front as a composer, there being quite a number of his works now in the market, including nursery rhymes, intermezzos, serenades, and a book of 'Chansons Sans Paroles.' Mr Barnett intends to give a concert next month in conjunction with the gifted Herr Halling from Nelson, and the two friends will probably visit Wanganui and Napier on a musical tour.

Apropos of music I may mention the success achieved by the members of the Liederkranz on Monday evening in their opening performance, which went by the name of an

'AT HOME.'

It was held in the Art Gallery, which was most artistically decorated with ferns. Madame Mertz proved herself a most able directress, and she may well be proud of her pupils, chief among whom are Miss Parsons and Miss Mee. The former is the gifted daughter of a gifted mother, and possesses a voice both sweet and powerful. Miss Pownall's rich voice was also heard to advantage, and I have heard much in praise of Miss Ross' sweet and sympathetic rendering of two of Goring Thomas' songs, for which she received hearty encores. The evening came to a happy conclusion in light refreshments and genial conversation.

Miss Noeline Baker has issued a number of invitations to a dance in the Art Gallery next Thursday. This is the first time I have heard of that room being used for dancing, but I have no doubt it will be found most suitable for the purpose, as it lends itself so well for decoration, has no awkward corners, and has also smaller rooms adjoining which will easily be converted into supper and cloak rooms.

I was sorry to hear that Miss Lambeth, sister of Mrs Janisch, who is here on a visit, met with a nasty accident while out driving on Saturday. The horse shied, swerved against some railings, and thus upset the occupants—Miss Lambeth and Miss Malcolm. The former is suffering much pain in the arm and shoulder from a sprained muscle. The latter, fortunately, escaped almost unhurt.

A very fine collection of narcissi is being exhibited in a room on the Quay, also a number of hyacinths, and several lovely pot orchids. The narcissi is by far the finest collection ever shown here, and has been drawing crowds of flower-lovers ever since it was opened.

The amateurs who played

'OUR BOYS'

so successfully at the Lower Hutt last week gave a performance last night at the Upper Hutt. Next Wednesday they favour the residents of Petone, and I hear the citizens of the town are loud in request for the company to appear in the Opera House and give us a chance of seeing what has been accorded such warm praise.

Mrs Gavin gives a progressive euchre party to-morrow evening, to which those invited are looking forward with keen anticipation, a euchre party being quite a *rara avis* this season.

Mrs E. J. Riddiford gave a most

DELIGHTFUL DANCE

on Tuesday evening in the Oddfellows' Hall, Lower Hutt, in honour of the football team from Wanganui. Besides the usual dancers in the Hutt, there was a large contingent from town, and all seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves. Those present included Mesdames Riddiford, Humphries, Fitzherbert, Purdy, (Dr.) Purdy, M. Riddiford, M. Fitzherbert, Misses Riddiford, Hislop, Humphries, Lee, Rawson, Hector, Sladden, Williams, Higginson, Fitzherbert, Hodmin, Jackson, Wilford, Brandon, Bell, Baker McLean, Parker, Holt Messrs Riddiford, Jackson, Bunny, Willis, Johnston, Hector, Montgomerie, Cooper, C. Cooper, Cornford, Peake, White, Fitzherbert, and many others.

Miss K. McLean has returned to her home in Dunedin.

Mrs H. Hadfield has also returned home, taking with her Miss (Captain) Rose for a few weeks' visit.

Miss Hawdon is staying with Mrs Levin, who will probably give a small dance shortly in her honour.

Next week there are several afternoon teas, Mesdames Stafford and Gavin being two of the prospective hostesses.

MEYE

DEAR BEE, SEPTEMBER 5.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S BALL

at Government House was very enjoyable. The cotillion charmed all, and many pretty gifts were received by each little guest. The mantelpiece in the ballroom was very effectively decorated with white broom, pink and white camellias, and pots of ferns. In the corners of the reception room were huge pots of bamboo. There were several ladies helping to entertain the children, among whom were Miss Williams, who wore a black accordion gown; Miss Miller, pale green crêpe trimmed with black velvet bows; Miss Johnston, green striped gauze with jewelled embroidery and violets; Mrs A. Russell, grey satin trimmed with velvet of a darker shade; Mrs Empson (Wanganui), black silk and white lace. Among the young folk I noticed a number of little girls wearing pretty white muslin frocks trimmed with lace and finished with coloured sashes. Others were the Misses E. Levin, cream silk trimmed with black velvet ribbon; C. Higginson, pretty cream wolling frock with honey combed yoke; C. Higginson, pale green silk frock with collar of white lace; N. Baker, cream crepon trimmed with white lace; — Haseldon, pale blue crepon; E. Hutchison, pale blue silk and white lace; — Butts, pink velling trimmed with white lace; D. Werry, white satin Empire frock trimmed with lace; G. Joseph, pretty white silk frock; — Powles, black velvet; — Sprott, pale blue Empire frock. A great many of the Wanganui College boys were also present.

On the same night

THE WELLINGTON LIEDERKRANZ

gave a large 'At Home' in the Art Gallery, which was comfortably filled with guests, both ladies and gentlemen, and the pretty music was greatly appreciated by all. Songs were sung by Mrs Parsons, Miss Mee, Miss Maude Ross, Miss Pownall, and Miss Parsons, several of which gained hearty encores. During the interval light refreshment in the shape of delicious hot coffee, cakes, and home-made sweets were handed round. The stage decorations were exceedingly pretty and artistic. Here and there were pots of nikau palms, etc., each draped with flags and decorative paper, and at the back of the stage was a huge gold harp standing out from a background of scarlet cloth. Madame Mertz is the conductress, and she certainly deserves great credit for the way she has filled that capacity, the choruses being extremely well worked up, and her pupils as soloists, have come to the front in a wonderfully short time. Most of the chorus ladies on this occasion wore pretty white dresses, Madame Mertz wore tomato red silk trimmed with wide black lace. Among the audience I noticed Mrs W. H. Levin, who is president of the Society, and who was wearing a handsome black gown and opera cloak bound with black and white ostrich feather trimming; Miss Hawdon, who was with her, wore a pretty salmon pink cloak trimmed with white fur; Mrs Stafford wore black silk trimmed with lace, and flowers on the corsage; Miss Stafford, pale pink and white lace; Lady Stout, handsome black brocaded cloak, the cape of it edged with cocks' feather trimming; Miss Pearce, black gown trimmed with lace; Mrs (Dr.) Fitchett, pretty pale lemon silk blouse and dark skirt, grey opera cloak bound with brown fur; Mrs Foche, white silk evening blouse and black skirt; Miss Gwen Davies, pretty black gown brightened with jet; Miss Gibson, white accordion silk gown; her sister wore a pretty white fur-trimmed black cloak; Mrs Hall, crushed strawberry gown prettily trimmed with black lace; Miss Frankel; Miss Rose, pale heliotrope silk; Mrs Courtney, handsome black brocade gown and pale blue cloak; Mesdames Butt, Tuckey, Barber, Dowling, Kirkcaldie, Williams, Haines, Smith, and the Misses Richardson, Halse, Reid, B. Gibson, Gore, Tuckey, Simpson, Reynolds, Grady, etc.

The Scandinavian Society gave their

ANNUAL BALL

in the Princess Theatre last Friday night, when there were nearly a hundred and forty couples present, who appeared to be thoroughly enjoying themselves. There were several Consuls among the guests, including Mr Edward Pearce (Norway and Sweden), Mr George Fisher (Italy), and Mr H. D. Bell (Denmark). Others were Mr and Miss Duncan, the latter wearing a pretty gown of light mauve satin with frill of white lace on the bodice; Miss Pearce, black silk, with sleeves and bertha of deep white lace; Mrs H. D. Bell, black watered silk, with stripes of jet on the skirt and soft cream frilling on the bodice; Miss Seddon, pretty white silk trimmed with lace; her sister wore cream; Mrs Paterson wore a pretty yellow silk gown relieved with white lace; Mrs H. Crawford, lovely cream silk, the skirt and bodice trimmed with white chiffon caught with red velvet bows; Miss Johnston, bright blue satin trimmed with handsome lace; Mrs Fisher, handsome black gown trimmed with lace and jet; Mesdames H. Petersen, Levey, Lamburg, Taylor, Fielder, Harris, Johnston, Hansen, Ingram, Brown, Collins, Dixon, and the Misses Hansen, Ritson, Abraham, Levey, Wright, Wood, Johnston, Lee, Young, etc. Captain Campbell-Preston and Mr Gathorne-Hardy were also present. During the evening some national dances were danced, and proved another source of interest to the onlookers. The pretty little theatre was decorated very nicely, and hung with flags, etc.

There was a very pleasant

AFTERNOON 'AT HOME' AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE

to-day. Some of the guests were Lady Hector, who wore a black serge costume faced with silk, small black bonnet trimmed with tip and violets; Miss Hector wore a dark skirt and pretty blouse of sage green silk, large hat to match; Mrs G. Hutchison, very stylish black silk gown trimmed with jet, pretty bonnet trimmed with wings of ecru lace and pink and cream tulle rosettes; Mrs Quick, black gown and mantle handsomely trimmed with jet and lace, and jet bonnet trimmed with red and black pom-poms; Miss Quick, pale heliotrope corduroy gown with velvet cape and collar of violets, toque to match trimmed with violets; Mrs A. Pearce, black gown, and lovely sealskin jacket, small black velvet bonnet with jet ornaments; Mrs Menzies wore a black costume; Miss Menzies, dark blue gown, black and white straw hat trimmed with lace and black roses; Mrs Harding, black gown, and handsome jetted mantle, pretty mauve and black bonnet; the Misses Harding, neat black costumes, fur boas, and very stylish black hats trimmed with pink and green flowers; Mrs Clement Kirk, light brown flecked tweed costume with cape, soft felt hat; Miss Moorhouse, black gown, and black hat with large pink bow; Mrs and Miss Ashcroft, Mrs and Miss Mason, Mrs and Miss Holt, Mrs Paterson, handsome black mantle, and violet and jet bonnet; Mrs and Miss Kennedy, Mrs (Dr.) Henry, grey tweed costume, small black velvet bonnet trimmed with violets; Mrs Maxwell, handsome black gown, and velvet mantle trimmed with fur and jet; Mrs Meeteyer, the Misses Morrah, Hamerton, Nunnerly, Mrs and Miss Hislop, the latter wearing a pretty black costume trimmed with jet and Gobelin blue silk.

Mrs John Duncan gave

A VERY ENJOYABLE DANCE

on Thursday night. The decorations were particularly pretty, and consisted chiefly of heaps of violets and narcissus. Our hostess wore black brocade with handsome panel of white satin veiled with black lace and jet embroidery; Miss Duncan wore a pretty grey satin gown trimmed with chiffon and pink flowers on the shoulders. Among the guests were Mrs Levin, in black brocade with long train, and trimmed with folds of white chiffon; Miss Levin made her *debut*, and wore a very pretty white merveilleux gown trimmed with chiffon and wreathes of white heather; Mrs Arthur Russell, lovely cream brocade; Mrs H. D. Crawford, very handsome cream brocade of a large pattern, and trimmed with quantities of pretty white lace; Mrs Bell, pale green and yellow brocade slightly trimmed with moss green velvet; Mrs Johnston, black satin brocaded in a red and green design, rainbow sleeves of velvet to match; Miss Johnston, old gold brocade; her sisters wore pretty white silks with full bodices of accordion chiffon; Mrs A. Pearce, very pale heliotrope brocade trimmed with lovely lace; Miss Pearce, lovely oyster satin brocaded with pink and blue flowers, and trimmed with cream chiffon frills; Mrs Baldwin, pink pompadour; Lady Alice Boyle, white satin veiled with figured chiffon and further trimmed with ecru lace; Mrs Empson, handsome black silk; Miss Williams, pretty blue satin gown with small frills of white lace; her sister also wore blue satin; Miss Dransfield, pink moire with jet ornaments; Miss Richardson, becoming black silk gown with sleeves of chiffon; Miss Grace, cream merveilleux with lace and yellow roses; Miss Friend, black satin; Miss Cooper, pink silk with bows of black velvet; Miss L. Cooper, very pale pink silk; Miss Reynolds, deep cream pompadour silk trimmed with chiffon; her sister wore heliotrope silk; Miss Hawdon, cream silk brightened with bows of red velvet; Miss Tolhurst, white silk and lace; Miss A. Gore, pretty orange velvet gown with revers of white openwork lace; Miss Williams (Hawke's Bay), pretty black gown with rainbow chiffon trimming; Miss Harding, pretty white pompadour silk; Miss Acland, white sarah silk with berthe of white lace. Among the gentlemen I noticed Captain Campbell-Preston, Messrs A. Russell, Gathorne-Hardy, Williams, Higginson, Turnbull, Coates, Morvah, Gore, Minnitt, Dymock, Webster, Jackson, Roberts, Pearce, McLean, Cooper, C. Cooper, Dransfield, Kebbell, Empson, Fitzgerald, and Reid. A excellent champagne supper was delightly served in the dining-room. King's band supplied the music.

Mrs W. H. Levin is giving a dance next Tuesday.

Quite an

EXHIBITION OF FASHION

was made at the well known drapery warehouse, Te Aro House, on Friday evening. The entire establishment from top to bottom was brilliantly lighted and beautifully dressed with the very latest fashionable novelties, and was thrown open to the public from 7.30 to 10 p.m. It is estimated fully 4,000 persons availed themselves of the opportunity of inspecting some of the most charming goods that have ever been seen in Wellington. Particularly admired was the magnificent show of Parisian millinery, which was really superb. A suite of rooms in the upper flat was utilised to display a wonderful lot of Japanese goods of all descriptions, while every department of the main warehouse had its own show of the latest fashionable importations. King's band played selections during the evening, and every visitor who entered the house was supplied with a hand-somely got up programme of the musical items. Taken altogether, the exhibition was a brilliant success.

OPHELIA.

CHRISTCHURCH.

DEAR BEE, SEPTEMBER 4.

The concert given by the

MUSICAL UNION

last week was quite crowded out of my brain, for I know I even forgot to mention it, and it was a most enjoyable one, the music of a mixed but principally light character. The orchestra played several selections, Cowen's suite, 'Language of Flowers,' being beautifully and daintly played, the 'Intermezzo' from Cavelleria Rusticana being encored, as usual. The soloists were both comparatively new, only being heard, I think, once before—Miss Venie Flower, of Ashburton, and Mr G. Marsh. Miss Flower charmed the audience with her magnificent contralto voice. She has an extensive register, every note being of the finest quality, her upper notes particularly full and pure. Mr Marsh sang for the first time for the Musical Union, and created a very favourable impression. He is quite young, but possesses a fine baritone voice, and with some of our veteran Mr Millar's experience will be a great acquisition. The unaccompanied glee singing and some choruses with orchestral accompaniments were equally enjoyable. Miss Flower looked well in cauldron brocade with velvet puff sleeves, and among the large audience, which almost filled the Town-street Hall, were Judge and Mrs Denniston, Mrs Westmacott, Mrs and Misses Julius, Mrs Embling, Mr and Mrs L. Gibbs and Mrs Cooper, Mrs and Misses Meares and Mrs Connon, Mrs and Miss Gibson, Captain and Miss Anderson, Mr and Mrs G. Roberts, Mr and Miss Hargreaves, Miss Hewings, Professor and Mrs Cook, Mr and Mrs Walcot Wood, Mrs F. M. Wallace, Mrs J. Aiken and Miss Britt (Dunedin), Mr and Mrs Roger, Mr and Mrs H. Wood, Miss Hardy-Johnston and Mr Meredith, Mrs Marston, Mr, Mrs and Miss Wilding, Mr and Misses Bonnington, and many others.

THE OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION

on Thursday evening, was celebrated with great *eclat*, if crush is anything to go by. The avenues were so densely packed that one wondered what we were all there for. Of course, it was impossible to see anything while the atmosphere in the concert hall, where the actual opening ceremony took place, was something over 100deg. Fahr., I should say. At any rate, many were quite ill after it. The Mayor, in the absence of the Governor, had the honour of declaring the Exhibition open, and the Mayoress was the recipient of a lovely bouquet, the gift of Nairn and Sons, and presented by Miss Kirk, daughter of the President, and another from Mr Dimblebt, presented by Miss Corlett. The National Anthem was sung by a choir of children, Miss Billens, Miss D. Thompson, and Rev. A. Mitchell singing the solo parts. Later the anthem 'Zealandia' was sung very effectively, the Rev. A. Mitchell being very successful in the solo. Of the Exhibition itself one cannot speak too highly considering it is almost entirely