roses and silver aigrettes; Mrs G. Campbell, fawn cloth gown trimmed with gold passementerie, becoming toque to match; Mrs Dr. Rawson, navy blue tailor-made costume, red and blue toque with wings. Others present were Mrs Watson, Mrs and Miss Blair, Mrs Brandon, Mrs Pharazyn, Mrs Fitchett, Mrs Hadfield, Mrs H. Rawson, Mrs and Miss Percy Smith, the Misses Coleridge, Morrah, Campbell, Williams (Dunedin), Tuckey, Fancourt, Inglis, etc.

ANOTHER TEA.

Mrs Rhind entertained a few of her friends in the same way on Friday afternoon. Mrs Rhind received in a black silk skirt, becoming yellow silk blouse trimmed with lace. Among her guests were Mrs and Miss Trimnell, Mrs and Miss Tolhurst, Mrs Larnach, Mrs Watson, Mrs and the Misses Izard Mrs and Miss Williams, Mrs Rhodes, Mrs C. Izard, Mrs Field, Mrs Werry, Mrs McKenzie, the Misses Brandon, and others. During the afternoon several of the guests sang, while Miss Holt played some pretty violin solos.

The Messrs John and Alfred Hill gave another of

THEIR PUPILS' CONCERTS

in the Exchange Hall last Saturday afternoon. There was a very large audience, and most of the items on the programme were encored. Among other items was a song sung by Miss J. Hall, 'In Sweet September,' which was sung exceedingly well, it suiting the singer's sweet voice perfectly. Miss Pownall sang 'Wilt Thou be My Dearie' very nicely, and Mr Nicholls also sang well. Those who played in the orchestral pieces were the Misses Kennedy, Holt, Moran, Pender, Barbor, Gore, Hirchberg, Riley, Campbell, and the Messrs Williams, Robertson, Prouse, Pulsey, and others. Among the audience I noticed the Misses Reid (two), Simpson (two), Pender (two), Mee, Rose (two), Saunders, Prouse, Leathem, Newton, Moran, Kirkcaldie, Griffiths, Stewart, Mrs and Miss Ritchey, Mrs Habittle, Mrs Hill, Mrs Robertson, Madame Cope, and others.

A private theatrical entertainment is being got up just now to be given in aid of the Wellington Hunt Club, and to make the performance more attractive it is to be given in the ball-room at Government House. Two nights at the end of next month the performance is to be given, and I hear that the tickets are to be 5s each. The piece chosen is that well-known but popular little play, 'Our Boys,' and those taking part in it are Dr. and Mrs Purdy, Miss Grace, the Misses K. and L. Wilford, Mr Butler, Mr E. Hadfield, and Mr — Rolleston.

The Misses Burnes and Pickering are giving a concert at the 'Wellington Kiosk' next Thursday evening. A large number of tickets at 2s each are being sold.

OPHELIA.

DEAR BEE, JUNE 25.

There are more dinners than any other entertainments at present. Small and sociable, they are really more enjoyable than the formal functions into which they developed when undertaken on a large scale.

A very sociable little euchre party was given on Wednesday night by Mrs A. H. Miles in honour of Miss Handyside (Hawke's Bay), who is staying with her. Amongst the guests were Mr and Mrs Gray, Misses Campbell, Griffiths, McKellar, Reid, Rowlands, Rose, Stafford, Simpson, Tuckey, Messrs Abbott, Cox, Dighton, Holmes (two), Johnson, Hulme, Miles, Menzies, Reid (two), Wiggins, etc. The prize-winners were Miss Campbell and Mr Gray. At the conclusion of the game the guests adjoined to the dining-room, where a most *recherche* supper was laid in tempting profusion, and ample justice to the good things provided, music and songs brought the evening to a happy ending.

There were three *débutantes* at the Government House on Friday who were not expecting to enter the world of gaiety till Mrs Pharazyn's ball, viz., Misses L. Atkinson, E. Harcourt, and Williams (Invercargill), all dressed very daintily in white. There are, however, several young ladies still left to make their *debut* this evening.

MEYE.

CHRISTCHURCH.

DEAR BEE, JUNE 25.

In spite of the bitterly cold night the ladies made a brave effort to appear in evening dress at the

LIEDERTAFEL GEMISCHTER ABEND

on Thursday evening, but it is impossible to sit without a warm wrap, and some very pretty opera mantles were worn. Among the audience were Judge and Mrs Denniston, the latter in a pretty terra cotta silk blouse; her sister, Mrs Buchanan, was with her; Mrs W. D. Meares, black evening dress and velvet cape; Miss M. Meares, bright green silk, square cut bodice, and fawn cloak; Miss N. Meares, pale pink gown, white cloak with beaver trimmings; Mrs Ogle, black evening gown; Miss Palmer, black gown prettily trimmed with white satin, crimson plush cloak; Miss Lee, all black; Mr and Mrs George Bennett, the latter in white with very pretty white fur-trimmed cloak; Mr. Mrs, and Miss Acton-Adams, the latter wearing pale grey cloak with deep tabbed collar of pink ruched round with chiffon; Mrs and Miss Hallamore Dr. and Misses Nedwill, Dr. and Mrs Jennings, Mr and Mrs R. D. Thomas, Mrs I. Gibbs, Miss Griffiths (Wellington), Miss A. Martin; Miss Kinsey, in a long electric blue cloak lined with pink, the collars edged with Thibet fur; Mrs Embling, black velvet; Mrs Wilding, dark gown and terra cotta cloak embroidered with gold; Mrs Wallace, dark silk gown, crimson cloak; Mr and Mrs H. Meares, the latter in a very pretty pale fawn cloak with feather trimming; Miss Martin, black skirt, and heliotrope blouse with bands of black lace insertion; Mr and Mrs Cammon, the latter a very pretty grey cloak with feather trimming; Misses Julius, Hardy-Johnston, Russell-Webb, Mrs Chrystall, Mesdames Hill, Nelson (looking very pretty in a sweet pink blouse), G. Merton, J. Anderson, Lewin, Mr and Mrs Waymouth, Mr and Mrs de Vries, Captain Meryon (H.M.s. 'Katoomba'), Mrs and Miss Buller, Mrs Manneering, Misses Connal, Godfrey, Reeves, Cowlishaw, Webb, Marchant (two), Way, Ainger (two), Mesdames W. Stringer, Appleby, R. Brown, etc., etc.

At the Theatre Royal on Friday the Amateur Company who so successfully produced a

'SCRAP OF PAPER'

in aid of St. Mary's Home, repeated it for Herrick's Home, and were rewarded by a bumper house. Among the audience were Dr. and Mrs Anderson, Mrs Morton Anderson, Mr A. E. G. Rhodes and Miss Studholme, Mrs Mathias, Mrs Fortescue Dalgety, Mr and Mrs Quane, Mrs Gibson and party, Mr and Mrs George Bennett, Mr and Mrs Dilworth Fox and Miss Lean, Misses Julius, Mr L. Gibbs, Miss Griffiths and Miss C. Lean, Mrs T. Garrard, Mr F. Rose, Mr and Mrs Bourne, Mr and Mrs F. Waymouth, Misses Helmore and Hennah, Mr Styche, Mrs F. Thompson, Mrs J. Wood, and others.

During all the foggy, wet week how glad we have been for several

LUNCHEON PARTIES AND AFTERNOON TEAS.

Mrs (Dr.) Jennings gave a large afternoon tea on Thursday for Mrs and Miss Meeson, when between thirty and forty were present, Mrs I. Gibbs, Mrs G. Bennett (who sang very charmingly), Misses Griffiths, C. Lean, and Kinsey being some of them.

Mrs R. Macdonald had a luncheon party the same day. Among her guests were Mrs Duncan Cameron, in a becoming green cloth gown with white jewelled cloth vest and fur trimming, bonnet to match; Mrs Ogle, in black, her silk blouse trimmed with jet, black and white ribbon at neck and wrists, becoming toque with violets; Mrs Overden also wore black; Miss G. Overden, dark skirt and blue silk blouse, toque *en suite*; Mrs Denniston and Mrs Pitman.

On Friday the Misses Buckley had a luncheon party. Miss Buckley looked extremely well in fawn cloth with white vest, and her sister a very pretty grey trimmed with fox fur. Among the guests were Miss L. Murray-Aynsley, in a pretty combination of brown and green, large black hat with green bows; Miss Wynn-Williams, navy blue serge, black velvet picture hat; Miss G. Cowlishaw, also in dark blue; Miss Rose Tabart, Miss Malet, and one or two others.

Mrs Cowlishaw and her daughters entertained a few friends at luncheon on Tuesday, and as usual the arrangements were perfect. Among those present were Mesdames Burns, Wilding, Secretan, Stead, F. Dalgety, etc.

Mrs Haultain, Mrs E. Garland, and several ladies in Opawa gave a

DANCE

on Thursday evening, which I believe was a great success, a good many people going from town by special coach, but the ever attractive Lindertafel proved too much for me, and the dance being out of town, I could not do both. I hear several officers from H.M.S. 'Katoomba' and 'Rapid' were present, and their presence always puts our dancing men on their metal.

Mrs Palmer, 'Woodford,' gave a

JUVENILE PARTY

last week on the occasion of her granddaughter's sixth birthday, little Miss Ogle. The day was hopelessly wet, and many sorrel friends did not arrive, but those who did had a glorious time. Games of all kinds were indulged in, and oceans of birthday cake and numerous other delights.

The Art Gallery has had a very successful season, having been open a month with an excellent average attendance. This week sees the close, when the bonnes of the winners of the art union prizes will be the. The day was hopelessly wet, and many sorrel good musical programmes are arranged for the closing week, and we shall miss this favourite resort.

DOLLY VALE.

DUNEDIN.

DEAR BEE, JUNE 22.

On Saturday afternoon

A LARGE AFTERNOON TEA

was given in the Girls' High School Studio by Miss Marchant. Miss Wimperis and the Art Students to welcome back the Misses Fitchett, and to show the work that Miss Daisy Fitchett had accomplished whilst studying in the art studies of Dresden and Paris. All her work shows great ability and originality, and was very much admired by the art critics of Dunedin. Delicious tea, coffee and cakes were kept going all afternoon, and the tea tables were most artistically decorated with large bowls of holly and small vases of spring flowers. Holly was also largely used in the decorations about the studio. Miss Marchant was stylishly dressed in a close-fitting blue tweed trimmed with velvet to match, small black bonnet also trimmed with velvet; Miss Wimperis, black crepon trimmed with black corded silk, black chip bonnet; Miss Fitchett, heliotrope silk blouse, black crepon skirt, stylish fawn braided cape, black chip hat trimmed with roses; Miss Daisy Fitchett wore a green velvet blouse and dark green cloth cape and skirt, large green velvet hat. Amongst the numerous guests I noticed Mr and Miss Wilson, Dr. and Mrs Hocken, Mrs James Allen, Mrs Joachim, Miss J. Wimpires, Mr and Mrs C. C. Graham, Professor and Mrs Ulrich, Mrs Webster, Professor Gibbons, Mr Hamilton, Professor and Mrs Sale, Mrs Shand, Mrs and Miss Napier Bell, Mrs Lindo Ferguson, Mrs Tower, Mrs Wesley Turton, Mrs W. Maitland, Mrs Barron, Mrs Pentlethwaite, Mr and Miss Hodgkins, Mrs Bartleman, Miss Dunlop, Miss Ulrich, Miss Bartleman, Miss S. Bartleman, Miss Patrick, Miss Roberts, Miss MacLaren, Miss Hepburn, Miss Graham, Miss MacLeod, Mrs Park, Miss Parker, Mrs Woodhouse, Mr, Mrs and Miss Bathgate, Mrs Salmond, Miss Browning, Miss Alues, and many others.

On Monday evening the visitors evening of the

LADIES' SAVAGE CLUB

was held at Mrs Graham's (Heriot Row). As it was a frightfully wet night, not nearly the number of visitors came that were expected. Mrs Sinclair Thomson was in the chair, and her programme was an exceptionally good one. A few original remarks which Mrs Thomson made herself about 'Happiness' were listened to with pleasure. Mrs Graham was handsomely gowned in black moire trimmed with lace and jet; Mrs Sinclair Thomson, gray silk, sleeveless bodice of magenta silk veiled in gray chiffon; Mrs Fenwick, black striped silk blouse, black crepon skirt; Mrs Cachemaille, black corded silk prettily trimmed with passementerie, real cream lace yoke and cuffs; Mrs Gilray, peacock blue silk blouse, black silk skirt; Mrs (Bridgeman, black silk; Miss Graham, pale green silk blouse trimmed with pearl passementerie; Miss S. Graham, pale blue brocade blouse with knots of cherry-coloured ribbons on the shoulders; Misses Bathgate, Cargill, Webster, Rattray, T. Rattray, L. Rattray, Cargill, A. Cargill, Farquhar, N. Farquhar, E. Ulrich, Bartleman, S. Bartleman, Ford, Driver, Roberts, and L. Roberts.

On Monday afternoon Mrs Perston gave a

SMALL AFTERNOON TEA

in the cottage behind the Bank as a farewell to Miss Roberts. As there was no piano there was no music of any kind, but nevertheless the afternoon was a very pleasant one.

A very enjoyable

MUSICAL PARTY

was given on Tuesday evening as a farewell to Miss Roberts by Mrs Willie Neill (Walker-street). Songs were contributed by Miss Neill, Miss MacNeil, Miss R. Reynolds (whose brother accompanied her on the violin), Mr Clowes (Sydney), and Mr Harris. Miss Gwen Roberts played two pianoforte solos. After the music supper was partaken of in the dining-room. The table looked extremely pretty with large pots of white primulas swathed with pink silk. After supper dancing was kept up in the large hall until a very late hour. Mrs Neill wore a handsome dress of black silk, white opera cloak; Mrs Bridgeman, black silk; Mrs Denniston, black moire; Miss Roberts, terra cotta silk covered with black chiffon; Miss Reynolds, yellow pompadour silk; Miss Gwen Roberts, heliotrope merveilleux trimmed with pearl passementerie; Miss Neill, cream silk trimmed with cream lace; Miss T. Stephenson, blue satin trimmed with red roses and cream lace; Miss K. Stephenson, black satin; Miss MacNeil, yellow brocade with an underskirt of heliotrope silk; Miss E. Ulrich, blue silk blouse with white chiffon fichu, black velvet skirt; Miss Maude Sise, black brocade trimmed with coffee lace and jet; Miss Bartleman, cream satin trimmed with cream lace. Messrs Reynolds, Clowes (Sydney), Cheeseman, Harris, Jackson (Auckland), Mitchell, Tapley, Chaffey, Denniston, Bridgeman, Neill, Roberts, Macassey, and many others were present.

AILEEN.

NAPIER.

DEAR BEE, JUNE 26.

Last night

THE STEEPLECHASE BALL

was held in the Gaiety Theatre, and the Ladies' Committee and the secretaries, Messrs Kiely and Barron, are to be congratulated upon having got up one of the best managed and most successful balls ever held in Napier. The theatre was effectively decorated with mirrors and graceful bamboo fronds drooping over them. The front of the dress circle was very pretty with cabbage trees, palms, ferns and lanterns suspended. Under the gallery hung flags and banners, and easy chairs and lounges were placed up the staircase, while the stage was arranged as a drawing-room. Clarke's band supplied the music, extras being nicely played by Mrs Coleman. Misses Balfour and E. Williams (Frimley). The supper-room was prettily decorated with flags, the supper being laid upon one long table and eight small, the decorations being white daisies, jonquils and foliage. The ladies present were Lady Whitmore in black silk and handsome diamonds; Mrs (Captain) Russell, black silk, becoming cap; Mrs Ormond, black silk with lace fichu; Mrs Coleman, black silk, handsome jewellery; Mrs Logan, black silk with accordeon pleated bodice; Mrs Tanner, black with Puritan cap; Mrs F. Gordon, pink silk with black lace; Mrs C. Gordon was very much admired in her wedding gown of white satin; Mrs Carlile, handsome pink corded silk; Mrs Milne Thomson, becoming black silk with gold; Mrs Menzies, black silk; Mrs Lusk, white silk with turquoise velvet ribbons; Mrs Tabuteau, handsome pink satin; Mrs J. N. Williams, wide black and white striped silk (very handsome); Mrs Dymock, black crepon; Mrs Donnelly, black and yellow; Mrs Russell Duncan, black; Mrs Norman, black silk; Mrs Sydney Johnson, yellow silk; Mrs Wood, green silk; Mrs P. McLean, black silk with red; Mrs Gore, turquoise blue velvet and tinsel; Mrs Paul Hunter, black silk; Mrs Barker, black velvet and white lace; Mrs Fenwick, black silk dress, panel of jetted lace over yellow; Mrs Joe Rhodes, pink silk; Mrs Kinrose, white and pale olive green silk; Miss Tanner was greatly admired in a beautiful yellow satin gown with lace; Miss St. Hill, yellow silk; Miss A. St. Hill, pale blue silk with pearl trimming; Miss Ormond, white and magenta; Miss Watt, yellow corded silk; Miss G. Watt, blue brocade; Miss Dymock, handsome yellow and white striped silk, with hanging sleeves of sparkling sequin net; Miss J. Dymock, the same only pale green instead of yellow; Miss Mabel Rhodes, black skirt, pink and black bodice; Miss Balfour, white silk with pink; Miss Heath, white with pearl trimming; Miss Lusk (Auckland), a pretty white satin gown; Miss Spencer, pink silk; Miss E. Spencer, peacock blue shot silk; Miss L. Mason, handsome pale blue silk; Miss Campbell, white; Miss Marden, white silk; Miss Grachy, white silk; Miss M. Kennedy, pale blue; Miss Begg, black and yellow; Miss Donnelly, becoming sea de Nil silk with pink roses; Miss Shaw, white satin with glittering passementerie; Miss M. Shaw, white; Miss Inglis, white silk; Miss Glendinning, pink silk; Miss Matthews, black; Miss Wallace, white silk; the Misses Williams (Frimley), black silk; Miss E Cotterill, yellow; Sydney Johnson, Wood, Campbell, McFarlane, Saxby, Ludbrook, C. Coraford, Dinwiddie, J. Hughes, Johnson, Kiely, Barron, Clarke, Mair, Kennedy, Frost, Guthrie, Smith, Burke, Gore, Gardiner, Chambers, P. McLean, Warren, Griffin, Cooper, etc., etc. Dancing was kept up with great spirit till about half past one in the morning.

On Tuesday, the 23rd inst., the

AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB

gave a very good representation of 'A Scrap of Paper' in the Theatre Royal before a crowded and appreciative audience. Messrs Kennedy and Milne Thomson, and Mrs Carlile were deserving of special mention, but when all were so good, it seems invidious to particularise. The ladies one and all received quite an ovation, accompanied by a number of bouquets. In the first act Mrs Carlile wore a handsome crushed strawberry dress with black lace insertion and black ribbon velvet; in the second beautiful turquoise blue velvet with black and yellow silk vest, bow at back with sequin trimming; and in the third a brown silk shot with yellow, white lace on the bodice. Mrs Fenwick wore first pretty white silk with a lace fichu, second, pretty pale pink muslin blouse, black skirt; third, black silk with yellow. Miss Wilkins looked well in a bottle green riding habit, and afterwards appeared in a becoming white muslin frock, white tulle hat with pink roses. Miss G. Watt wore a handsome chine flowered silk with blush rose silk covered with lace, and afterwards a handsome cream evening dress with draped front. Miss Balfour was admired in her black gown with becoming white cap, apron, and cuffs.

CICELY.

PICTON.

DEAR BEE, JUNE 23.

Last Wednesday Mr and Mrs H. C. Seymour gave a very jolly

EUCHRE PARTY

at 'Cam House.' The ladies' first prize—a very handsome photo frame—was won by Miss Sophy Philpotts, and the gentlemen's first prize by Mr F. Seymour. The boobies were won by Miss (A. P.) Seymour and Mr Riddell. Mrs Seymour was in black crepon trimmed with jet, and shot silk collar; Miss Mary Seymour, dark skirt, red blouse; Miss K. Seymour, tweed skirt, pink blouse; Miss Isabel Seymour, fawn tweed skirt and red blouse; Miss E. Seymour, fawn skirt and pink blouse; Miss Seymour, black crepon skirt and heliotrope-pink silk blouse with white lace fichu; Miss Fell, dark skirt, white silk evening blouse trimmed with jet; Miss Mildred Fell was dressed like her sister in black and white; Miss May Western, dark skirt, cream blouse with red; Miss F. Western, striped blue and white crepon with large collar; Miss Hay, dark skirt, heliotrope-pink silk blouse with white lace; Miss E. Greenslit, fawn and cream; Miss Nora Allen was in a red dress; Miss Philpotts, dark skirt, red blouse with black lace; Miss Conolly, green cloth skirt, pretty pink blouse; Miss S. Philpotts, tweed skirt, cream silk blouse; Miss Scott, tweed skirt, cream silk blouse; Miss M. Philpotts, navy skirt, white blouse; Miss Balfour, dark skirt, red blouse; Mrs Allen, black grenadine with black lace; Mrs Howard (Tua Marina), dark tweed costume; Mrs Seely, dark skirt and cream blouse; Mrs McNab, navy blue costume. The gentlemen were Messrs H. C. Seymour, F. Seymour, Rutherford, Simpson, Howard, Harper, Kelsoll, Middleton, Greensill, Wiggins, Western (three).

On Friday evening the children of the Presbyterian Sunday-school, assisted by friends, gave

AN ENTERTAINMENT

in the Sunday-school in aid of their library. In addition to various hymns sung by the children there were some instrumental duets by Mrs James and several of the children, also songs by Misses Maggie Lloyd, S. McCormick, E. Lloyd, C. Smith, H. Peek, and Mr Brown, who received a perfect ovation for his rendering of 'The Holy City.' Even when he sang the last verse over again the audience were not satisfied, and only that the chairman (the Rev. Mr Ainsworth) did not agree with encores at all, prevented his being recalled again and yet again. Some readings by Mr McIntyre, the Rev. Mr Robb (Blenheim) and Mr Jones completed a very successful evening. During an interval coffee and dainties of all descriptions were handed round and much appreciated, and as the room was crowded, a nice little sum went to the library fund.

On Monday evening a

SURPRISE EUCHRE PARTY

was held at Mrs McNab's in Broadway, and a very jolly evening was spent. Miss Mary Seymour and Mr Harry Western won the first prizes, and Miss Millington and Mr E. Kenny the boobies. Those present were Mrs McNab and Miss Moira McNab, whose birthday was thus celebrated, Mrs Rutherford, Mrs John Duncan, Mrs Allen, Mrs H. Howard, Mrs H. C. Seymour, Misses Speed (two), Allen (two), Greensill (two), Philpotts, Millington, Seymour (four), Western (two), Scott, Conolly, and Messrs Rutherford, Duncan, Simpson, Middleton, Kelsoll, Riddell, Greensill, Western (two), Moore, Kenny (two), etc. During supper much pleasant conversation was indulged in.

JEAN.

BLENHEIM.

DEAR BEE, JUNE 22.

There is very little to chronicle this week, or to be accurate, I should say very little has taken place since I last wrote, for really this week will be unusually gay, but that will be after post time to-morrow. The functions for this week are the Choral Concert to-morrow night, the Masonic ball on Wednesday, and Mrs Waddy's Cinderella dance on Friday.

Last Friday Mrs Cleghorn gave a most delightful

FANCY DRESS DANCE

for children. It began at four o'clock and ended at eight, though all the children were reluctant to leave when the time came. The curtains were drawn and the lamps lighted when the small guests arrived, though it was still daylight outside, but the evening closed in early, as it was dull and showery, though I don't think the bad weather kept any of those who had invitations away.

Last Tuesday Miss May Ewart entertained a number of young friends at

A DANCE

given to celebrate her birthday. Dancing was kept up until 2 a.m. Before separating the guests partook of a sumptuous supper, which was set forth in a most tasteful manner.

We are delighted to think that the shortest day is past, and that we are returning to the sun. Autumn always seems to me a sad season, typical of decay and old age, but spring, so fresh, so gay, we are always glad to welcome. Even now adventurous forguils are out in flower in sheltered spots, though the willows have not shed all their leaves.

FRIDA.