

**Personal Paragraphs.**

**L**ADY RANFURLY paid a visit to the Wellington Convalescent Home during last week, being shown over the building by the matron and Mrs Maxwell (secretary), and expressed great satisfaction with all the arrangements, and charmed the patients by her pretty little speeches to each one.

LADY RANFURLY, accompanied by Mrs Skeffington Smyth and Captain Alexander, called on Mrs Seddon last Saturday afternoon. Lady Ranfurly was wearing a handsome black satin gown trimmed with jet and chiffon, fur collar, and black chiffon toque brightened with cerise pink tips; Mrs Skeffington Smyth looked nice in a mauve gown trimmed with figured velvet to match, and large black hat with feathers.

AN unfortunate accident happened to a great favourite round about Whakarewarewa. A young Maori girl, Lucy Ngapuna, of the Tahourangi tribe, fell into a boiling spring last Thursday night as she was coming out of Paul's wharf. She was so scalded that she died in great pain the next morning.

MR GEORGE HUMPHRIES, who, it will be remembered, takes charge of the Press Association interest at the Wakapuaka Cable Station, received a useful recognition of his valuable services prior to his departure from Wellington. The pressmen of that city presented him through Mr J. T. M. Hornsby with a purse of sovereigns. Quite a column of nice little speeches was contributed by Messrs W. H. Atack, R. E. Bannister, J. R. Gibbons, P. J. Nolan and Fred Weston, to which Mr Humphries suitably replied.

Two Christchurch girls have been taking very high honours at the examination in connection with the School of Medicine, Edinburgh University—Miss Ada Wilkinson and Miss Catherine Leach, particularly the former, gaining in one subject 100 per cent., the lowest in any subject being 81 per cent. She also secured a scholarship value £50 with an average of 80 per cent. Miss Wilkinson was educated at the Girls' High School, Christchurch, and matriculated at Canterbury College.

MR A. AUSTIN, who has been absent for two or three years, finishing up his travel with England and the Jubilee, arrived in Onehunga last week. He is a son of Captain Austin, of the 'Glencel,' and has just passed his chief officer's examination.

MISS PEARCK, M.A., of Dunedin, has been appointed assistant mistress at the Girls' College, Nelson.

MRS A. M. CLARK is the guest of Mrs Macdonald, Christchurch, and Miss Alma Clark is staying with Mrs J. J. Kinsey, Merivale.

MRS H. J. MILLER and MISS MILLER, of Oamaru, are staying with Mrs J. R. Jones, Dunedin.

MRS RANALD MACDONALD returned to Christchurch from her visit to Dunedin last week.

MRS (CAPTAIN) DALTON (Picton) has lately been a victim to influenza, but is now on the road to recovery.

MR JOHN DIXON (Jack) of Mount Albert, who is assisting his brother, Mr Clement Dixon, at the Thames, is at present paying a few days' visit to Auckland.

MR AND MRS ROBERT PARKER, of Wellington, have spent about ten days in Christchurch. Mr Parker returned by the 'Westralia,' Mrs Parker is remaining as the guest of Mrs F. Knowles for a week or two.

MR S. MARKS, who has formed part of the United Societies Band, New Plymouth, was presented by its members on September 9th with a handsomely silver-mounted meerschaum pipe as a slight remembrance of them, as he was leaving the district. Band master Cottier made the presentation on behalf of the bandmen, and expressed his regret at Mr Marks leaving them.

MRS R. McRAR, of Wellington, is visiting Mrs J. Aiken, Opawa, Christchurch.

MISS BERTHA ATKINSON has returned to Auckland from Wellington after a very pleasant trip.

MR AND MRS DIGNAN, of Auckland, are staying with Mrs R. B. Smith, Thompson Road, Napier.

MR McDONALD, who for seven years has been head teacher of the Kaimata School (Taranaki), was on September 2nd presented with an address by the pupils of the school, a handsome travelling bag, and a purse of money. Mr McDonald has retired from the teaching profession with a view of starting as a chemist and druggist in Auckland.

SEVERAL Christchurch people are expected back shortly. Mr Isaac Gibbs was quite himself again when the last mail left England, and they are now on their way back to our shores, also Mr and Mrs Robert McDougall.

MR KENT, Chairman of the Auckland Chamber of Commerce, has been on a short visit to Taranaki.

MR H. J. HOWARD, headmaster of the Tui Marina school, has been promoted to Springlands. Mr and Mrs Howard will not be so near to their old Picton homes, nor so often in Picton perhaps, but their friends are all glad to congratulate them, and they will be close to some other near and dear friends at Springlands—Mr and Mrs J. Conolly, and Mr and Mrs J. Mowat.

MR J. GRATTAN GREY, Chief of the *Hanard Staff*, with Mrs Grey, has been making a short visit to New Plymouth.

MRS DOUGLAS MCLAN, of Napier, is on a visit to Wellington.

MISS BUTLER, who for many years resided in New Plymouth, but who left for England some time since, has returned to Taranaki with a view now of settling down there.

MISS NELLIE COTTERILL, of Napier, has returned from a visit to the country.

MISS RATTRAY, of Dunedin, is visiting Dr. and Mrs Thomas at Timaru. She was present at the Waimatai ball last week.

MRS FRICK, of Waipukurau, is staying at the Masonic Hotel, Napier.

MISS MAY WHITELAW, of Auckland, has left Wellington for Napier, where she purposes staying a short time with her brother, Mr Thomas Whitelaw, Manager South British Insurance Company.

MISS H. MUNRO, of New Plymouth, is staying with Mrs Roger Kingdon, Nelson.

REV. H. MASON (late certificated lecturer on agriculture to the Science and Arts Department, London), gave a lecture to the members of the Taranaki Farmers' Club in New Plymouth on Saturday, September 11th.

MRS J. W. HENTON and the Misses Henton returned to Auckland on Monday by the 'Tarawera' after a six months' tour through Queensland and the Australian colonies. They have benefited very much by the change.

MR C. D. WHITCOMB delivered a most interesting lecture on 'Tonga; its Customs and Land Tenure' in New Plymouth. Mr Whitcombe spent many years in Tonga, and held an official position there for some time.

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