

## PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

**HIS EXCELLENCY LORD HAMPDEN**, Governor of New South Wales, the Hon. Dorothy Brand, Captain Fiehlen, A.D.C., and a large party, arrived in Wellington on Tuesday from Wanganui, and are the guests of His Excellency the Governor of New Zealand, and the Countess of Ranfurly at Government House.

Mr W. Von Sturmer, B.N.Z., Hamilton, has gone for a well-earned holiday. Mr J. J. Iyrie (Auckland) takes his place meantime.

Rev. Mr and Mrs Walker, who have been to Auckland on account of the Synod, have returned to New Plymouth.

Miss Monroe, who has been visiting friends and relations in Blenheim and its vicinity, left for New Plymouth last Monday.

Miss Hudson (Wanganui) is in Auckland at present, staying at Sonoma, Princess-street. Next week she goes up to Mr McMillan's country residence to join the very merry New Year's party arranged by Mrs McMillan.

Rev. and Mrs Boyes, who have been on a visit to Auckland for the Synod, have returned to their home in Stratford.

Among the many New Zealanders who returned from England by the Gothic, were Mrs H. D. Crawford, of Miramar, and Miss Ethel Duncan, the daughter of Mr John Duncan, of Levin and Co.; Mr John Roberts, of Messrs Roberts and Co., Dunedin, and Mr Nat Kettle, of Messrs Williams and Kettle and Co., Napier, and Bishop and Mrs Neville were also passengers by the same boat.

Mr T. Wallnutt, Union Bank, Auckland, was in Hamilton for a few days last week.

Mr F. M. Wallace has been very seriously ill, but is now at the Convalescent Home, and great hopes are entertained that he will now be able to conduct the 'Messiah' on the 21st.

Miss Kathleen Hewitt, a probationer at the Wairau Hospital, Blenheim, has received the post of nurse at the Masterton Hospital. Miss Alice Neville has filled the vacancy made by Miss Hewitt's departure.

Mrs and Miss Duncan, Hokitika, passed through Nelson last week. The latter is just returning home after a most delightful trip to England and the Continent.

Mr and Mrs Wilson, who have just been lately married in Auckland, are spending their honeymoon trip in New Plymouth.

Mr and Mrs W. E. Clouston, of Blenheim, left hurriedly for Nelson on Saturday morning, to attend the funeral of Mr Clouston's sister, who died last Friday, after a lingering and painful illness.

Mr E. Trevor-Gould will be much missed in athletic circles in Auckland, as he has left that city to take up an appointment he has received in Dunedin.

Mr Gordon, of the N.Z. Ex. Co., remained only three weeks in London. He is at present in America on his way to this colony.

Dr. Menzies, formerly of Wyndham, who studied at the Otago Medical School, found himself on arrival in London too late for the classes there in the F.R.C.S. degree. However, there was an examination for the M.B.C.M. degree just coming off in Edinburgh. This he at once entered, for and passed with credit. He is expected immediately in New Zealand.

Miss Chapman, daughter of Mrs G. G. Chapman, Devonport, arrived from home last week, after a prolonged visit to her relations in Scotland. Her nephew, Master Reid, had an adventure with runaway cab horses, as he was waiting for his aunt at the Queen-street Wharf. The animals bolted, but the boy pluckily kept his seat on the box (alone) till they were stopped by bystanders.

Miss MacLymont is returning to her home in Port Chalmers, after a year's visit to Auckland. With her is Miss Salmon, who is going to stay with Mrs Gibson Turton, Dunedin.

Miss Ivy Ruddock, of Remuera, Auckland, went to Gisborne by the special Saturday Southern boat.

Messrs C. A. Harris, Seymour Thorne George, Dunlop, and Moresby were returning from the Mahara Royal Mine at Taupo, when the horses of their carriage took fright and bolted down a steep hill. The gentlemen were thrown out, Messrs Harris and Dunlop escaping with a severe

shaking, whilst Messrs George and Moresby were bruised about the legs and head. The driver was insensible for ten minutes.

Dr. Scott, of Onehunga, arrived in Auckland by the Waihora. He is in excellent health.

Mr and Mrs Frank Stopford, Napier, are in Christchurch for a wedding.

Mr Gresley Lukin, of Wellington, has been elected President of the New Zealand Institute of Journalists.

Mr Lance Lane is in town on a visit to Captain and Mrs Hutton.

Messrs Johnson and Edger, of the Native Lands Court, are in Auckland at present. They return to Opatiki on January 14. The business there will be a land appeal case lodged by Mr W. Pere, M.H.R.

Mr and Mrs Malet have taken rooms at the Residence, Amnagh-street W., Christchurch. Mr Leonard Malet's marriage with Miss Stopford takes place this week, and they will reside at Clearwell.

Mr C. H. Merritt, son of Mr C. Merritt, of the Auckland Gasworks, has returned to Auckland.

The Hon. S. Larke, Commissioner for Canada in Australasia, Mr Robert Grayson, of Huddart, Parker and Co., and Mr Wark left Wellington for Sydney last night by the Warrimoo

On private business and pleasure the following gentlemen passed through New Zealand, en route for Sydney: Lieutenant-Colonel S. Hughes, commander of the Victoria regiment; Mr Lindsay, of Canada, who is M.P. for North Victoria in the Canadian House of Commons; and Sir Ralph Thompson, K.C.B., late permanent Under-Secretary to the British War Office.

Mrs Waddy, Blenheim, spent a few days with Mrs Fell in Picton this week.

Mr Ralph Catley has returned to Nelson after a short trip to the Hot Lakes for the benefit of his health.

Mrs Renwick, who has been making a short visit to Nelson, returned to Blenheim last Saturday.

The Judge and Mrs Denniston are house-hunting, having to leave their present residence, 'Pendleton,' Christchurch. It comes at a very unfortunate time, the gardens there being well stocked with most beautiful roses, of which flower the Judge is a great lover.

Mrs T. Mowat, Feilding, is visiting Mrs Scott, in Picton.

Mr Walton and Mr W. Cousins, from Auckland, are on a short visit to New Plymouth. They came down especially to sing in the 'Messiah.'

Miss Downes, Dunedin, is visiting her cousins, the Misses Greensill, at Brooklyn, Picton.

Miss Hilda Moorhouse returned to New Zealand by the Monowai last week, and is at present in Dunedin, where she is the guest of Mrs Williams, at Anderson's Bay.

Mr H. J. Williams, Grand Superintendent Acting Grand Master, was engaged at Feilding on Thursday afternoon in the pleasant occupation of laying the foundation stone of the Feilding Masonic Temple.

Miss Corsby, Christchurch, is visiting Miss Harris, Picton.

Mrs Broad, of Nelson, is staying with her sister, Mrs Grace, at the Parsonage, Blenheim.

The Misses Buckley had a boating party on the river on Friday evening, the guests afterwards returning to Park Terrace, Christchurch, to supper.

Dr. Lindsay has returned from the South after a welcome holiday. His many Auckland patients are glad to see him home again.

Miss McAlpine, from Hawera, is spending a few days in New Plymouth, and she came purposely to sing in the 'Messiah.'

Mrs Chaytor, Marshlands, who has been visiting Nelson and Motueka, returned to Blenheim last week.

Miss Frances George left Auckland last Saturday in the Te Anau for Wellington, on a visit to Mrs Clarke-Johnson.

Mrs J. Welford Shannon has arrived in Picton to spend Christmas with her mother, Mrs Scott.

Mrs Brett has returned to her residence at Lake Takapuna, Auckland. She has been visiting her daughter, Mrs Walcott Wood, in Christchurch.

The ordination of the Rev. Joseph Croke Darby, son of Mr Darby, Pongsonby, to the priesthood, took place in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Auckland, last Sunday morning. The music on this occasion was beautiful. After the celebration of Mass Bishop Lenihan gave a dinner at his palace, the guests being the local and visiting clergy, the Very Rev. Father Grogan (Provincial of the Passionists, Australia) being amongst the number, also, Mr Darby, sen., and sons.

Mr A. Glasgow (Nelson), whilst endeavouring to hold a runaway horse, was knocked down, and sustained injuries to his leg which will necessitate his remaining in bed for a week or two.

Mrs and Miss Mildred Fell have returned to Picton from a visit to the Empire City.

At Mrs Griffiths' (Blenheim) last Friday, the following ladies spent an enjoyable afternoon. Mrs Arthur Farner, Mrs Carey, and the Misses Livesey, Gillingham, M. McLauchlan, Ferguson, Gillin, and others.

The Right Rev. Bishop Wilson, accompanied by the Ven. Archdeacon Palmer, Rev. L. P. Robin, and Dr. Williams, of the Melanesian Mission, arrived in Auckland by the Southern Cross from the Islands on Sunday.

A narrow escape from drowning happened to little Miss Zaidee Nathan in Wellington last week. She was swimming in the Thorndon Baths, and sank in about six feet of water. She was rescued in an unconscious state by Mr Bertie, the custodian. The little girl is 11 years old, daughter of Mr Walter Nathan.

Miss Ethel Carey, who has been keeping house for her aunt, Mrs Fell, during her absence in Wellington, has returned to Blenheim from Picton.

Mrs and Miss E. Poole (Nelson) have gone to spend a few weeks in Greymouth.

Dr. DeLisle, of Napier, is paying a visit to Gisborne.

Mr R. McNab, lately an M.H.R., is now in Dunedin, making arrangements, it is supposed, for a by-election which will eventuate shortly.

Dr. and Mrs Lindsay, of Auckland, stayed with Mr and Mrs Corford whilst in Napier.

Mr and Miss Wilson-Smith, of Pongsonby, Auckland, left by the Te Anau for Geraldine, where they propose spending the Christmas holidays among their numerous friends in that town.

Dr. and Mrs Newman, Wellington, returned to New Zealand by the Wakatipu, having thoroughly enjoyed their trip to England.

Miss Arkwright is staying with Lady Douglas, in Wellington.

Mrs Allen (Picton) was one of the judges at the recent Flower Show, in Blenheim.

Mr J. A. Scott has given up his editorship of the 'Tablet,' in order to practise as a solicitor in Dunedin.

Father Cleary, of Ararat, Victoria, succeeds him in his editorial work. The new editor has had a good deal of journalistic experience.

Miss Campbell, of Wellington, came up to Auckland by the Takapuna on a visit to her sister Mrs T. Peacock, Shelly Beach Road.

Last Saturday being Mrs F. Greenfield's day at home in Blenheim, a pleasant afternoon was spent by Mrs Rees (Wellington), Mrs MacShane, Mrs Carey, Miss Fergusson, and others.

Miss Ada Stevenson returned to Auckland by the Mararoa from South.

Mr and Mrs Slater (Christchurch) and three daughters are going to England by the Oroya early next year. Mr Slater retires on a pension, and as Miss Slater's health has been so far from satisfactory for a long time, they have decided to get the best advice at home.

Mrs Harry Rattray, of Invercargill, is in Auckland with two children. For the present, she is staying with Mrs Rattray, in Grafton Road.

Mrs and Miss Nora Allen, Picton, have been staying in Blenheim for a few days. Mrs Allen with Mrs Mucalister, and Miss Allen with Mrs Dobson, in Alfred-street.

Mrs A. Cuff is in Christchurch on a visit, where her old friends are glad to welcome her once more.

Mr Lushington, of Mahurangi Heads is about to visit London. He will be accompanied by Mr Frank Noakes.

Miss Belle Allen (Picton) took the prize for the best bouquet of native flowers and grasses at the Flower Show in Blenheim.

Colonel Pole Penton, Commandant of the Forces of this colony, is at present in Auckland.

Sir John and Lady Hall have returned to Wellington from their visit to England.

Miss Peacock, of Pongsonby, Auckland, has returned from Wellington by the Takapuna.

## WHAT WILL THE NEW YEAR BRING?

Now, as the final is nearing,  
Just ere the curtain comes down,  
And as we hesitate, fearing  
Whether to smile or to frown,  
Let us our record go over,  
And as we tally each thing,  
Think, as each fault we discover,  
What will the New Year bring?

Ere on each New Year we enter,  
What resolutions we make!  
But at the finish our mentor  
Shows us the vows that we break.  
Now, once again, let us query  
(Doubts to the winds let us fling)—  
Shall ever rest soothe the weary?  
What will the New Year bring?

Ever that commonplace story,  
Ever that wearisome vow:  
And, as our figures grow hoary  
Wrinkles appear on our brow.  
Full well the end we can picture,  
Memory flies on the wing,  
And we can tell without stricture,  
What the New Year will bring.

ALEX. B. MCCREADY.

Christchurch.

A young woman, said to be pretty as well as clever, has been called to the pastorate of the Universalist Church at Hamilton, Oregon. It will be interesting to see if her advent will cause as much of a commotion among the bachelors and widowers of the flock as happens among the spinsters in the case of a young parson of the other sex.

Women in Germany seem to take up many extraordinary occupations. According to recent statistics there are in the happy fatherland three lady chimney-sweepers, fifty-three female slaters, seven women workers in armoury, nineteen clockmakers, fifty rodmakers, 147 tinsmiths, 370 blacksmiths, 309 masons, and 2,000 marble workers. There are even some who work in quarries and sewers.