

Bishop and Mrs Wallis returned to Wellington from Nelson a few days ago after a short visit.

Miss Lily Fell is back in Nelson after a short visit to her sister, Mrs Daubeny, of Sydney. She is looking much better for the trip.

Mr Andrew Collins left Wellington by the Wakatipu for Sydney, where he intends joining the Orient liner Cuzco for England, and a large number of friends went down to the steamer to wish him bon voyage. Mr Collins will probably be absent from the colony for about six months.

Mrs Wason, Corwar, has been spending a few days with Mrs G. G. Stead, Strowan, Papanui Road, Christchurch.

Mr Robert O'Connor, of Fountain Hill, Wellington, leaves Wellington for Vancouver by the Warrimoo on the 23rd for a trip to Europe, extending over six months.

Mrs Griffiths is once more home again in Blenheim, having enjoyed her visits to Christchurch, Ashburton, Wellington and Carterton very much.

Mr I. Gibbs, Christchurch, went up to Wellington on Saturday, in the Kaikoura, and is returning in a few days.

Mrs Orr, of Blenheim, is making a short visit to Wellington.

The Hon. Morgan Grace, M.L.C., accompanied by Mrs and Miss Grace, returned to Wellington from their trip to Sydney by the Talune on Monday last.

Miss Vickerman, of Auckland, is staying at Warwick House, Nelson. Her many friends are delighted to see her so well after her serious illness.

Mr Burnes arrived in Wellington by the Kaikoura on Monday last, to assume the duties of Wellington manager of the New Zealand Shipping Company, the general manager of the company, Mr I. Gibbs, being also a passenger by the same steamer, on a short visit to the Empire City.

Miss Speed and Miss Mackenzie, Picton, are visiting Mr John Duncan, at the Grove, Queen Charlotte Sound.

The Hon. T. Thompson, accompanied by his private secretary, arrived in Auckland on Saturday. He addresses a public meeting this week.

Miss Emily Beeve, of Auckland, is not going to tour Australia as originally intended. She remains in the northern city.

Mr Arkle will probably contest Wai-hemo at the next general election. The Hon. Mr McKenzie says he does not intend to stand again for this seat.

The Messrs McCorquodale (father and son) have severed their connection with the Northern Roller Mills, Auckland.

Mr J. T. Garlick, of Auckland, says he has been suffering much from bronchitis, and is longing to exchange the cold climate of England for the bright sunshine of Auckland. He may be expected back shortly.

Mr and Mrs Dalgety, of Grassmere, are at present staying in Dr. Elm-slie's house, Litchfield-street, Christchurch.

If Sir Maurice O'Rourke stands again for the Manukau electorate, Mr Frank Lawry says he will again contest Parnell, Auckland, at the next election.

Mr H. W. Divy, who was the manager of the Feilding branch of the U.F.C.A., has resigned his position, and will in future reside in New Plymouth.

Mrs (Captain) Kenny, The Rocks, Queen Charlotte Sound, and Miss Nora Kenny, were staying in Picton for a few days this week with Mrs Edward Kenny, Waikawa Road.

The Premier and Mrs Seddon returned to Wellington from Picton and Nelson by the Tutanekei on Wednesday morning, and probably proceed on business to Christchurch on Saturday.

Miss Marchant has returned to Wellington after a lengthy visit to the South Island.

Miss Whitelaw is staying with her sister-in-law, Mrs T. Whitelaw, of the Hillf Hill, Napier.

Mrs C. C. Corfe has returned from her visit South, and is at present the guest of Mrs Izard. Her stay amongst us is an unlimited one, but it will need to be a long one to see all her Christchurch friends.

Captain and Mrs Russell have taken the residence of Mr and Mrs W. R. G. Brown, in Tinakori Road, for the season.

Mr D. P. Maitland, a well-known journalist who was formerly on the Sydney 'Bulletin' staff, is at present in New Plymouth, collecting information for an illustrated work entitled 'The Industries of New Zealand.'

Mrs Gascoigne, of Nelson, is paying a visit to her son, Major Gascoigne, of Hastings.

Miss Adams, Blenheim, is visiting Mrs MacKenzie in Picton. Other visitors to the place just now are Miss Hallett, at Mrs Robertshaw's, and Miss Cotterill at Mrs A. P. Seymour's.

Mr F. W. Blakey, of Auckland, at one time engineer of the Warrimoo and then of the Aorangi, has accepted an appointment with the Broken Hill Proprietary Company, where his engineering capabilities will be of great service to him and to the company.

Miss Elliott, who has been staying at Palmerston North for some time, has returned to her home in Wellington.

Mr G. Tindall, the eldest son of Mr Tindall, of Springlands, has just returned to Blenheim, after an absence of twelve years, part of which has been spent in the Philippines, as a member of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company's staff. He had been stationed in the island of Cebu, which is 250 miles distant from Manila and left the day after the declaration of war. He is only home on leave of absence.

The Bishop of Wellington and Mrs Wallis spent a few days in Nelson last week. They were the guests of the Bishop and Mrs Mules. On Trinity Sunday Bishop Wallis preached at the Cathedral both morning and evening to large congregations.

Mrs C. B. Shanks, Christchurch, has returned from a trip to Sydney, and is very glad to be safely back, as they met the specially named storm Mr Wragge sent us and did not have a happy time.

Mr and Mrs W. Trollove drove from Kaikoura to Blenheim, leaving after staying a day or two, for Nelson on Saturday morning.

Mr W. H. Turnbull, the popular manager of Messrs Butterworth Bros., business in Wellington, has just entered into partnership with Mr O. S. Watkins as auctioneers, land and estate agents and sharebrokers; and the new firm, being already so well known in business circles in Wellington, are sure of a very large measure of support in their new venture.

Mr Richard Cameron, Manager of the Auckland Savings Bank, proposes to return to the colony in September. Both Mr and Mrs Cameron have been in London, Devonshire, and are going on to Scotland.

Mr Irwin W. W. Hunter, of Otago, has passed the examination of the Royal College of Physicians, London, and is now at liberty to practise physics.

Several musical people from the colonies are now in England. Miss Fitchett, of Dunedin, who is going on to Europe; Miss Janet Smith, Christchurch, who is making a study of novelties in music; and Mrs and Miss Pursons, of Wellington.

Among the passengers on Monday by the Rototoi from Auckland for the South were Dean Fitchett, of Dunedin, Sir Arthur Douglas, Under-Secretary for Defence, and Mr Warren, agent for the Public Trustee.

Mr J. W. Bain has been elected Chairman of the Southland Building and Investment Society and Bank Deposit for the thirteenth time.

On Sunday last Mr A. E. Consterdine, late of Waanganui, took up his new duties as choirmaster at St. George's Church, Thames.

Mr Ingall, of Auckland, has been spending some days with Mr W. J. Lavington and party at Rotorua.

That Picton people begin to believe that the future has something more substantial than elusive hope to sustain on Blenheim, and indeed, all Marlborough, are joining now in the cry for extension of railways.

That H.M.S. Dart has just undergone an extensive overhaul. Lieut. Commander John F. Parry is in command, and was well pleased with her trial trip outside Sydney Heads last week. We are evidently not going to show the white feather in the colonies in case of war.

SOCIETY ON DITS.

That His Excellency the Governor last Friday laid the foundation stone of the Victoria wing of the Southland Hospital. There was every element for a successful gathering, perfect weather, eight thousand people, processions of all sorts of volunteers and societies, and the Vice-Regal party. Two out of the four thousand required was subscribed at the Jubilee.

That Mrs Patterson, Curran Street, Pongsonby, gave a very enjoyable afternoon tea on Friday last.

That there was a good attendance at an enjoyable meeting of the Hawke's Bay Highland Society, held last week. An interesting part of the proceedings was the reading of the copy of a letter sent to Colonel Mathias, in which a sum of more than sixteen pounds was enclosed, a subscription raised for the three brave pipers who were in the Dargai charge. A paper describing the life and character of the ancient celts, which was read by Chieftain Hector McKenzie, was listened to with great interest and attention. The latter part of the evening was pleasantly spent in music and dancing.

That the young people of Picton are going in for literature this winter. A meeting is called by some young men for the purpose of forming a debating society for the benefit of both sexes.

That a pleasing ceremony took place on Monday in the shape of planting trees on Mill Island, Hereford-street, Christchurch, under the auspices of the Christchurch Beautifying Association. The work of planting was carried out by the Mayor and lady members of the Christchurch Beautifying Society. The island was decorated with flags, and from two large willows hung the Union Jack and the Stars and Stripes side by side. Trees were planted by Mrs Louission, the Mayor, Mrs E. J. C. Stevens, Mrs Deans, Mrs Izard, Mr A. E. Rhodes (for Mrs Rhodes), Mrs R. D. Thomas, Mrs Waymouth, Mrs Irving, Miss Jekyll, Miss Cabot, Dr. Irving and Mr Cockayne. The thanks of the Christchurch citizens are due to this society for the many pretty glimpses along the banks of the river and some waste places about the city during this summer, for in place of looking like a wilderness they have been gorgeous flower beds.

That the committee of ladies who worked up the Volunteer Ball intend holding a social about the end of next month to try and pay off the debt of the former.

That the proprietors of the Theatre Royal, New Plymouth, intend lighting the building by electricity, and have obtained estimates of the costs from the electrician to the Pollard Company.

That as usual the Premier has been working very hard, visiting all the secondary towns possible, and either popularly lecturing or publicly speaking. At all events he was always much in evidence.

That a football team went out to Farndon from Napier on a recent Saturday afternoon to play a match against Clive, but that they were unexpectedly and unfortunately beaten by twelve points. Some of those representing Napier were Messrs Hallamore, Barclay, Cornford, Munro, Miller, Cameron, Woods.

That boarding-house terms are very high in Christchurch as a rule.

That the whaling season has commenced and several whales were sighted the other day outside Tory Channel by a passing steamer.

That on Saturday a golf match, in which only men took part, was played at the Petane links between Petane and Napier, and that the former proved easily victorious.

That heavy frosts have been experienced in most parts of the North Island, and snow in the South.

That there was a very large Napier attendance at the farewell tea given in St. Paul's Schoolroom to the Rev. J. G. Paterson, who will soon leave Napier for Gisborne, and at whose departure much sorrow is felt by the Napier people. The evening passed very pleasantly, and speeches, in which regret was expressed at Mr Paterson's removal to Gisborne, and at the same time good wishes for his future happiness were delivered by Mr J. W. Craig, the Rev. G. D. Cox, the Rev. W. G. Parsonson, Messrs Morrison, H. Miller and others.

That Mrs Rabone, an old Picton resident, is being congratulated on receiving a legacy amounting to several hundred pounds.

That Mrs Rhind, Wellington, and family have moved to the house in Hill-street, lately occupied by Sir Arthur Douglas, and that the large house on the Terrace which Mrs Rhind has left is taken by Miss Malcolm.

That at the Napier Recreation Ground on Saturday afternoon Clive was badly beaten in a football match by Te Aute, and that the victors won by about twenty points.

That preparations are already begun for the Marlborough Lawn Tennis Club's ball, which is to take place on June 10, and which it is expected will be largely attended.

That Mr and Mrs C. C. McMillan, Remuera, Auckland, are about to give a ball for the coming out of their youngest daughter, Miss Kathleen McMillan.

That the second annual ball of the Hawera Cycling Club, recently held at Hawera, was a pronounced success. Between fifty and sixty persons were present and dancing kept up to an early hour in the morning.

That Mr Andrew Collins, Wellington, was entertained at a banquet at the Post Office Hotel on Saturday evening by the leading members of the Liberal party, prior to his departure for England. The Hon. W. C. Walker presided, and the Hon. T. Thompson, J. Carroll, and J. Rigg, M.L.C., were also present. A telegram was received from Mr Seddon, who was absent from Wellington, apologising for his non-attendance and expressing his great pleasure that Mr Collins' services to the Liberal party were being so fittingly recognised. The Hon. Mr Hall-Jones also sent an apology for his absence.

That the health of the guest of the evening was proposed by the Chairman (Hon. W. C. Walker) and enthusiastically honoured by the company. It was suitably responded to by Mr Collins, who was then presented with a purse of sovereigns as a slight mark of esteem and the high estimation in which his services to the Liberal cause are held by the Liberal party. After many other toasts, including 'The Queen,' 'Our Colony,' 'The Legislature,' 'The Liberal Party' (proposed by Mr H. J. Williams, and responded to by the Hon. W. C. Walker), 'Labour,' 'Absent Friends,' and 'The Ladies' had been duly honoured, the gathering dispersed shortly after midnight, Mr E. Wilson being much complimented upon the excellent menu provided for the banquet.

That the social held in St. Mary's Parish Hall, Farnell, Auckland, last week, to celebrate the recent addition thereto, was well attended, and Mr R. Leslie Hunt's musical arrangements were much appreciated.

That in the Napier Railway Library on Saturday a very pleasant little concert was held. All present spent an enjoyable time, and the evening was brought to a close with the singing of 'Auld Lang Syne.'

That the winter classes for first aid in connection with St. John Ambulance Association, Auckland centre, commence with a large ladies' class to-night (Wednesday). Dr. Parkes kindly consenting to be lecturer. The men's central class requires only a few more names to enable these lectures also to begin.