

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

His Excellency the Governor and the Countess Ranfurly have consented to be present at a dramatic performance by Hutt and local amateurs in the Theatre Royal at Wellington in aid of the Society for the Protection of Women and Children and the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The performance is to take place early in November next.

Mrs Gibson, who is leaving Wellington, has been presented with a beautiful clock in recognition of her valuable services in connection with the Wellington Women's Christian Temperance Union.

The R.M.S. Miowera brought Wellington on Sunday quite a number of distinguished visitors: Lord Brassey, Governor of Victoria, Lady Brassey, and Lady Ellen Brassey, the Hon. Spencer Lyttelton, Colonel the Hon. Sackville West, and Lieutenant-Colonel Gorton.

Lieutenant Wilson, R.N.R., late second officer of the Union Company's steamer Mararoa, is taking a year's training on board H.M.S. Mildurn at Sydney.

Mr R. B. Cranwell, of Auckland, has been successful in passing his dental examination at Dunedin. Mr Cranwell has just finished his three years' service with Mr A. W. Chatfield, Queen street, Auckland.

The Rev. R. Ferguson, Devonport Presbyterian Church, Auckland, has just declined a call to be a candidate for the Presbyterian Church at Mornington, Dunedin. Mr Ferguson also declined quite recently a call to St. Paul's, Napier. Evidently Mr Ferguson has a staunch affection for his Devonport congregation.

Mr James Muir, the well known member of the Auckland Board of Education, has consented to stand for the Manukau electorate at the next general election.

Mr Charles Curteis, of Auckland, is visiting Christchurch at present. He is now travelling through the colony in the interests of the Auckland Institute for the Blind.

The Christchurch representatives of the fire insurance companies gave a present to Mr A. Baddeley (late of the Palatine Insurance Company, Christchurch), on the occasion of his leaving the southern city for Auckland.

Mr A. W. Gellatly, the resident partner in New Zealand of Messrs Briscoe, McNeill and Co., left Auckland for Sydney by the Westralia on Monday, en route for England.

Mr and Mrs Holdship, formerly of Auckland, but now resident in Sydney have been on a visit to Auckland, and returned by the 'Westralia' last Monday.

Miss Nellie Owen, of Ponsonby, Auckland, left this week by the 'Elimita' for Napier.

Mr and Mrs Morrin, of Auckland, have been staying in Napier, at the Masonic Hotel.

Mrs Arthur Siley, of Dunedin, is paying a visit to Mrs Davidson, of the Bluff Hill, Napier.

Mr and Mrs Jago, of Napier, have gone for a trip to Melbourne and Sydney.

Captain Russell, M.H.R., came up from Wellington to be present at the Hastings races and the show.

Mr and Mrs Stead, of Christchurch, have been visiting Napier.

Mr T.E. Taylor, M.H.R., was presented with a testimonial in the Opera House, Wellington, on Saturday night in recognition of the public services rendered by him to the colony in connection with the Police Commission. There was a large number of people present, and Sir Robert Stout, who was in the chair, and others spoke eulogistically of Mr Taylor's services. Mr Taylor was presented with a cheque for £210, to be followed by a handsome secretaire, and Mrs Taylor received a valuable gold brooch.

The Rev. W. A. Sinclair, Superintendent of the Helping Hand Mission, Auckland, has been the recipient of two calls to other spheres of labour. The first call invites him to be the successor of the Rev. S. J. Serpell, in the Thames Wesleyan Church next year, and the second, coming from the Durham-street circuit, Christchurch, invites him to take charge of the St. Asaph-st. Mission in the City of the Plains. He has accepted the first invitation.

Mr F. Le Cren, manager of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company at Timaru, passed through Auckland last week with his wife and son on his way to Rotorua.

Mr Rotherham, Locomotive Superintendent New Zealand Railways, arrived in Auckland last Wednesday and proceeded next morning by train to the Hot Lakes district.

Mr J. M. Hickson, Clerk of the Court at Te Aroha, has received promotion, and is leaving Te Aroha for Masterton. Mr Hickson's departure will be regretted by the many friends whom he has made at Te Aroha.

The Wellington Rowing Club holds its annual Club picnic at Day's Bay on the 29th inst.

Mr McKay, Government Geologist, intends soon going to Rotorua for a course of baths for the rheumatism from which he suffers. In the meantime he is in Auckland busily preparing and classifying the Government's geological exhibits for the Exhibition.

Lord and Lady Ranfurly gave a dinner party at Government House, Wellington, on Saturday last, the following guests being present: The Bishop of Wellington and Mrs Willis, Colonel Williams, M.P., Mrs Williams and Miss Williams (England), the Hon. W. C. Walker and Mrs Walker, Sir Robert Stout and Lady Stout, the Hon. H. C. Butler and Mrs Butler, Hon. W. Oliver and Mrs Oliver, Captain Barclay and Mrs Barclay, the Hon. A. Cadman, Lady Berkeley, Miss Butler, Mrs Rhodes, the Rev. J. Patterson and Mrs Patterson, and the Hon. W. Holt and Mrs Holt.

Miss Williams (Dunedin) is the guest of Mrs Ferguson at 'Linda,' Wellington.



OPENING OF THE TIMARU BOWLING CLUB.

Ferris. Photo. Timaru.