

skirt; Miss Chalmers, cream nun's veiling; Mrs Chinnery-Brown, pink blouse, fawn skirt.

This week, I am sorry to say, Mr and Mrs Bush have left us, to take up their residence at the Thames, Mr Bush having received promotion to the Bank of New Zealand office there. They have been residents here for a number of years, and will be greatly missed by a large circle of friends.

DORIS.

**PICTON.**

Dear Bee, March 10.

On Friday Mrs Philpotts gave a large afternoon tea as a farewell to Mrs and Misses Gard, who left for and the Misses Gard, who left for Blenheim last evening. Among those present were Captain and Mrs Baillie, Mrs Robertshaw, Mrs Dobbie, Mrs Stow, Mrs and the Misses Kenny (2), Mr and Miss Greensill, Misses Bourne, Gillfillan, Scott, Hallett, Western (3), Mrs Philpotts, assisted by her daughters, received the guests in the garden. Tea and tennis amused the young people, while the elder folk were entertained in the drawing-room listening to Mrs Baillie's interpretation of the old masters in music.

The Presbyterians had glorious weather for their annual

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TREAT**

for the children, which was held up Esso's Valley on Thursday. Swings and games of all sorts were set going for the youngsters, and the elder people devoted themselves to pleasing the younger ones all the afternoon. Everybody interested spent a glorious time, and are already looking forward to next year.

Quite a number of friends assembled at the railway station to see Mrs and the Misses Gard off yesterday. They will be greatly missed in the place, but we all hope to see them back at the end of the year, if not before. Their tenant takes possession on Saturday. The new hotel improvements are being proceeded with, and are already making a show about the wharf.

The Picton crews to row in the

regatta on the Wairau River on Easter Monday, were chosen at a meeting of the Picton R.C. on Tuesday evening. In all probability the club will compete in every race on the programme, from the seniors down. There will be a change in the personnel of the maidens, one of the former crew having left the district.

**NELSON.**

Dear Bee, March 13.

On Friday evening Mr MacDuff Boyd, of Wellington, with the assistance of Nelson friends, gave a

**POPULAR CONCERT**

in the Theatre Royal. The audience was only fairly large, but those who were present displayed their appreciation of Mr MacDuff Boyd's violin playing by frequent applause. Those who assisted were Mrs Dr. Roberts, the Misses Driscoll, Reeves, Crump, Nina Moore, Edith Kempthorne, Mr Naylor and Mr A. C. Maginnity. Mrs Dr. Roberts wore a plain white muslin evening dress, with frills on the bodice, and skirt trimmed with rows of black bebe ribbon velvet; Miss Reeves, dark terra cotta silk with lace trimmings; Miss Driscoll, black velvet; Miss Crump, royal blue gauze blouse, black skirt; Miss Nina Moore, pretty pink evening dress; Miss Edith Kempthorne, yellow muslin, finished with ribbons of a darker shade. Amongst the audience were Mrs Mules, black silk, white lace cap brightened with pink ribbons; Miss Mules, light evening blouse, black skirt; Miss Edith Mules looked pretty in a cream evening dress; Mrs Vining, electric blue; Mrs A. Mackay, black; Miss Madge Mackay, white, with white opera cloak; Mrs Moore; Miss Moore, white muslin; Miss Robertson, light green silk blouse, black skirt; Miss Poole, white muslin blouse, showered with black spots, black skirt; Miss Trix Atkinson, Miss Ledger, and many others.

The weather was all that could be desired on Wednesday for the

**GIRLS' COLLEGE BLACKBERRY PICNIC.**

when quite a large number of pupils, both past and present, assembled at the Nelson station and proceeded by rail to Belgrove, where a most enjoyable day was spent. Blackberries were plentiful, and those who were energetic enough picked large quantities. Others preferred to sit under the trees and enjoy the fresh air, or wander about the pretty country. Amongst those present were Miss Gibson and her staff of teachers, the Misses Gribben, Pearce, Gallatley and Graham, Mrs Bain, the Misses Robertson, Leggat (2), Sealy (2), Fell, Lightfoot, Trent, Truulove, Bamfort, Mackay, Gilbert, Mules (2), Houlker, Hunter-Brown, Robinson, Crump and many others.

PHYLLIS.

**BLENHEIM.**

Dear Bee, March 13.

Just as though it was for the excursion, Wednesday was a beautifully bright day, sandwiched between two miserably chilly and dull days of southerly weather, and a large number of persons availed themselves of the opportunity of visiting the Boulder Bank offered by the trip of the steamer Opawa to that place. Some were actuated by curiosity to see the new channel through the Boulder Bank, others for the pleasure of an hour or two spent by the sea. The trip down and up again, the winding reaches of the river, bordered by graceful willows, revealing glimpses here and there of prosperous-looking farms, surrounded by well-stocked orchards and clusters of stacks, was very pleasurable and though, when reaching the bar, a good many of the excursionists landed, the majority stayed on board and enjoyed afternoon tea, the materials for which they had taken with them, as the captain announced that, on account of the tide, they could only spend a very short time there. There is little at the Boulder Bank to tempt excursionists, as it is a bleak and barren place, with only a few scraggy gum trees in the

vicinity of the two or three houses; but there is a fascination in the big waves that come rolling in, and the fresh air is delightfully bracing, so, should the Opawa run any more trips there, she will no doubt find plenty of persons desirous of a ramble on the beach. A few of those on board were Mesdames Simson, Tunnicliffe, Griffiths, Temperly, Hardy, A. P. Green, Ching, Foster, F. Litchfield, Carey, Hubbard, E. Penny, the Misses Reid (Wellington), Hubbard (Nelson), Foster, McIntosh (3), and Messrs McIntosh, Temperly, F. Litchfield, Park, C. Carey, Batty, Fathers Goggan and Fahy, and many others.

**THE AUTUMN FLOWER SHOW** was held on Wednesday afternoon and evening, and was a remarkably good one, in marked contrast to the one held in the Spring. There were fine exhibits of fruit and vegetables, though the judging seemed rather eccentric, the first prize being awarded to potatoes that were black in the centre, but the chief interest was centred in the flowers, many of which were very beautiful. For the first time proper perforated boxes were provided for the cut flowers, which were shown to greater advantage in consequence. All of the bouquets were too stiff, the flowers being rammed hard together, but the bridal bouquet by Mrs F. W. Dodson was much the best. A hand-basket of flowers by Miss L. Nosworthy was very tasteful, the colours being harmoniously blended. The flowering begonias were beautiful, and the exhibits of coleus were exquisite. In the first, Mr J. Conolly was the chief exhibitor; in the latter, Mrs S. J. Furness. A lovely gloxinia was shown by Mr Conolly, who took nearly twenty first and second prizes. During the evening Vannini's Band discoursed some lively music.

Mrs Monro has let her horse to Mr Reid and will, for the winter, at any rate, live at 'Bank House,' and Monday was her last afternoon 'At Home' in town, so she had a number of visitors, among whom were Mesdames Duckworth, A. Mowat, Griffiths, Howard, Rutherford (Picton), Carey, and others.

Friday afternoon was hulmy and

**SALE OF KAIAPOI EXHIBIT**

**Auckland Exhibition.**

Having purchased the whole of the **KAIAPOI EXHIBIT**, value £3,000 (at a heavy discount), comprising Blankets, Rugs, Flannels, Dress Tweeds, Suitings, Reversible Cape Cloths, Tailor-made Costumes, Mantles, Capes, Ladies' and Gent's Waterproofs, Fingerings, Boys' and Men's Suits, Shirts, Ties, Gent's Mercery, etc., etc., we are now offering the same for sale at our Warehouse. This being extra to our ordinary stock, every article will be sold at such reductions from current rates as must speedily effect a complete clearance.

EXTRACTS FROM THE "HERALD"

**TEXTILE FABRICS (Sole Judge, Mr James Lillico).**

In his Report on the Woollen Exhibits, Mr Lillico says:—"I have had the opportunity of visiting the Melbourne and all the other Colonial Exhibitions, and consider that this is the finest and most attractive display of Woollen and Worsted Goods ever made at any Colonial Exhibition. I wish to draw attention to the Kaiapoi's really fine display of their goods, which is one of the most attractive in the Exhibition."

**Kaiapoi Woollen Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Kaiapoi.**

**First Award and Special Mention** for General Excellence of Exhibit and Design and Colouring in Rugs and Capes, also a **Special Award** for Ladies' Evening Wraps, White Serge Gown, and Golf Capes. These goods, the Judge remarks, are exceedingly beautiful.

In addition to above we are now showing our First Shipment of NEW AUTUMN GOODS, ex S.S. "Gothic."

**SMITH & CAUGHEY.**