

Johns, turquoise blue, and cream insertion costume, pale blue hat; Miss Stanford, white and black costume; Misses G. and O. Stamford, white; Mrs. J. Wilson, black and white blouse, dark skirt; Mrs. Owen, white muslin, black picture hat; Mrs. A. C. Hill (Wellington) black and white costume; Miss Mackay, pale blue silk blouse, dark skirt, "Country Girl" hat; Mrs. Robertson (nee Walker), white silk, veiled in black net, hat to correspond; Mrs. Wright, holland costume, floral hat; Mrs. T. Avery, tussore, black and mauve topper; Miss G. Avery, white silk, with pale pink belt, black feathered hat; Mrs. Robinson, (Eltham), white muslin, sage green belt, black hat; Mrs. Valentine, pale green and cream costume, hat en suite; Miss Testar, cream silk blouse, holland skirt; hat trimmed with pink; Mrs. Mackenzie, tussore costume; Mrs. Broad (Inglewood) dainty white muslin, lettuce green belt, black hat; Mrs. G. Keblett (nee Cottler), pretty pale blue color, trimmed with cream, hat en suite; Miss George, pale blue; Miss Skinner, white muslin, black hat; Miss Kent (Auckland), cream and pale blue; Miss W. Kent, pale blue veiled in white muslin, hat to correspond; Mrs. Brewster, holland costume; Mrs. Gibbons, pale blue and white; Mrs. Home, mauve and pink floral delaine, black hat; Mrs. Christie, (Wanganui), pale blue voile trimmed with cream, hat en suite; Miss Lawson, white muslin; Mrs. Morrison, tussore; Mrs. W. Wilson, turquoise blue and cream costume, black hat; Miss K. Wright (Cambridge), pretty white silk, trimmed with Paris coloured insertion, black picture hat; Mrs. Alexander, Miss Broad, Miss Kirkby, Mrs. A. Avery.

NANCY LEE.

WANGANUI.

Dear Bee, January 27.

Most of our holiday-makers are returning home again, and Wanganui is becoming gay again from a social point of view. The camping out parties have returned from Castlehill and the Kai Iwi Beach, after having spent a de-

lightful holiday, bathing and fishing. Mr and Mrs H. Y. Lebbidge, with their family and party, are still at the Wangaehu Beach, where they intend staying for a few weeks longer.

On Tuesday afternoon Mrs. J. Anderson gave a farewell tea in honour of her sister-in-law, Miss Anderson, from England, who has been visiting friends and relatives in New Zealand for the summer months for the benefit of her health. Their pretty residence at Kaitake No. 1 line, with its bright borders of flowers and green tennis and croquet lawns, was most inviting after a hot and dusty drive from town. Amongst those present were—Mr and Mrs. J. Anderson, Mr and Mrs W. D. Anderson, Mr and Miss Mason, Mrs and Miss Moore, Mrs. Gregg, Mr and Mrs. A. Cameron, Mrs. Ewen Campbell, Misses Owen, Anderson, G. Earle, Brown, Messes R. Dunn, Anderson, Burnard-Brown and others.

HUIA.

WELLINGTON.

Dear Bee, January 21.

Mrs. Babington gave a very enjoyable little afternoon tea on Thursday last. The large rooms were charmingly decorated with flowers. The tea table had an effective arrangement of sweet peas and feathery green, and was spread with every kind of dainty things. It was a delightful day, and the guests enjoyed sitting on the verandah or strolling in the pretty garden. Mrs. Babington wore an elegant gown of tucked crepe de chine, with lace and diamond ornaments on the bodice. Among the guests were Lady Cherriside and Mrs. Lawson, from Australia, who are the guests of Mrs. Babington, also Mrs. Parayan, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. and Miss Richmond, Mrs. and Misses Williams, Mrs. Tripe, Mrs. and Miss O'Connor, Mrs. Longman, Mrs. Arthur Russell (Palmerston), Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. Pearce, Mrs. Newman, Mrs. Menzies, Mrs. Tallurst, Mrs. Somerville, Mrs. and Miss Duncan, Mrs. A. Duncan, Miss Johnston, Mrs. and Miss Brandon, Mrs. and Miss Fell, Miss Cooper and others.

The weather was beautiful to-day for the first day of the cricket match, North Island v. South, which is being played on the Basin Reserve. The attendance was not large to-day, but on the last days there will no doubt be more interest.

There are numbers of visitors in town for the races, which take place to-morrow and Saturday. The fine spell of weather shows signs of breaking, and it will be indeed a disappointment for all if Anniversary Day is wet.

OPHELIA.

CHRISTCHURCH.

Dear Bee, January 20.

We are having another smallpox scare, and having it very badly, the doctors would say, for they are kept hard at work at vaccination from early morning till late at night, hundreds being operated on daily. Measures have been so strict and so prompt that there cannot be much fear of the epidemic getting any foothold with us. Unless, if any members of the family is ten minutes late for luncheon it is immediately surmised that, as a contact, he has been removed to Bottle Lake.

Some good polo was played on the club's ground, Hagley Park, on Saturday. Afternoon tea was provided by Mrs. T. Cowlishaw. Among those present were—Mr and Mrs. A. E. G. Rhodes, Mr and Mrs J. Gould, Mr and Mrs J. H. Beswick, Mr and Mrs Wardrop, Mr and Mrs J. D. Hall, Mr and Mrs Turnbull, Mr and Mrs G. Gould, Miss Cleveland, Miss Cowlishaw, Miss Butler, etc.

Mrs. J. Gould gave an enjoyable tennis afternoon at her pretty residence, "Merivale," last week, when some of those present were Mrs. H. E. Wigram, Mrs. Elworthy, Mrs. Bond, Mrs. Reeves, Mrs. Blunt, Mrs. J. C. Palmer, Mrs. G. Lee, Mrs. Woodroffe, Mrs. Beswick, Misses Reeves, Elworthy, Lee, Williams, Cleveland and several gentlemen.

Others I have heard of giving small tennis or luncheon parties are Mrs. Wood, Mrs. H. P. Hill, Mrs. H. O. D. Meares and Mrs. Wardrop.

A very painful sensation was caused by the death of Mr Heaton Rhodes Parkinson, which took place at his residence, "Matlock," Biscarton, after about a week's illness, which mystified the doctors very much. Mr Parkinson had been visiting friends in the country, and was taken ill on his journey home, and in less than a week was dead. An inquest was held but adjourned till the end of this week. Mr Parkinson, at the time of his death, was master of the Christchurch hounds, and had made many friends in Christchurch, who always received the greatest kindness and hospitality from him. About a year ago Mr Parkinson met with a serious loss by fire at "Matlock," innumerable treasures collected in his travels having been swept away, never to be replaced.

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