

CHRISTCHURCH.

stage with a glittering badge, in addition to their "points."

Tennis is with us always, and cricket too, though good cricket takes a back seat in Marlborough.

The members of the Garrison Band, who have been camping at Ship Cove, Queen Charlotte Sound, returned to Blenheim on Wednesday. In addition to a delightful outing, good sport, and beautiful recreation, the band did a good deal of improving practice.

The Salvation Army held a "Blackberry Picnic" on Wednesday last at Para, going out in covered trucks by train, with musical instruments, parambulators, hampers, etc. A grand day's outing, not to mention the quantities of blackberries they brought home with them, made them all happy. The outing is an annual one, as it is with many others, and it would be a real trouble if blackberries were condemned with other noxious weeds.

The Abortis from Waikawa, Picton, camped out for several days at Para, and obtained such quantities that they did not know what to do with them. To the amusement of everybody in Picton they called at several houses to ask for the loan of preserving pans and jam jars. All Picton had gone a-blackberrying, too, so their requests were not couped with.

Lieut. Colonel Wolfe has been in the district inspecting the volunteers, who are looking to war to compensate them for their patient years of drill and obedience to orders.

The tennis craze has caught on properly in Picton. Every day the votaries of that athletic exercise are to be seen at the public and private courts, playing to the best of their ability and drinking afternoon tea. That and the blackberry picnics are the only events to chronicle this week.

The Horticultural Show is to be held on Wednesday, and we are looking forward to a pleasant time.

The Blind Musicians perform in Blenheim on Tuesday, and in Picton on Wednesday.

MIRANDA.

Dear Bee,

February 23.

As usual with us, the time of Lent is spent very quietly, and if not actually in sackcloth and ashes, there are very few frivolities to chronicle. No one goes to the theatre much, but they could not if they would just now; it has been condemned, so it is a very good time to have it altered. The Canterbury Hall has also been chalked out for alterations, which is surprising, seeing it is only about four years old, which does not say much for its up-to-dateness.

Several small farewells have been given for those who are leaving, or have left, for the Old Country. Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Stead, "Strowan," gave a dinner party for Mr and Mrs A. E. G. Rhodes before their departure, when, beside the guests of the evening, Captain and Mrs Heaton Rhodes, Mr and Mrs Alister Clark, Mr G. Palmer, and several others were present.

Mrs J. C. Palmer gave a luncheon party at her residence, Gloucester-street, for Miss Cowlisshaw, who is leaving for a trip to England this week. Among the guests were Mrs Palmer, sen., Mrs and Miss Lee, Mrs Wardrop, Mrs J. D. Hall, Mrs Alister Clark and Miss Cowlisshaw.

Mrs W. B. Cowlisshaw gave a very enjoyable afternoon tea at her residence, Fendalton, when a number of friends were able to say a number of friends were able to say good-bye to Miss Cowlisshaw. Among those present were Mrs Palmer, sen., Mrs J. C. Palmer, Mrs Ogle, Mrs and Miss Lee, Mrs J. M. Turnbull, Mrs W. Fox, Mrs E. M. Turrell, Mrs G. Gould, Mrs J. H. Beswick, the Misses Hill, Turnbull, Denniston, Stead, Fitzgerald, Mrs and Miss Helmore, Mrs L. Harley, Mrs T. Cowlisshaw, Mrs F. Cowlisshaw, Mrs Wardrop, and others.

Mrs. G. G. Stead gave a large children's party at Strowan last week, when she was ably assisted by Miss Stead and a number of adult friends, including Mrs. Fyne, Mrs. Ronald Macdonald, Mrs. Pat Campbell, Mrs. J. Gould, Mrs. G. Gould, Mrs. Palmer, sen., Mrs. J. C. Palmer, Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Ogle, Mrs. Nancarrow, Mrs. Woodroffe, Mrs. Wigley, Mrs. J. M. Turnbull, Mrs. L. Harley, Mrs. H. Wood, Mrs. Bond, Mrs. Dalgety, Mrs. J. D. Hall, Mrs. Beswick, the Misses Hill, Cowlisshaw, Cleveland, Tabart, Moore, Moorhouse, Denniston, etc.

Mrs. J. M. Turnbull gave a farewell afternoon tea for her sister (Miss Cowlisshaw) during the week, when a large number of friends assembled to wish her bon voyage. Among those present were: Mrs. W. B. Cowlisshaw, Mrs. J. D. Hall, Mrs. F. Cowlisshaw, Mrs. T. Cowlisshaw, Mrs. J. C. Palmer, Mrs. Wardrop, Mrs. Alister Clark, Mrs. Ogle, Mrs. and Miss Lee, Mrs. J. Gould, Mrs. Blunt, Mrs. Ronald Macdonald, Mrs. Kettle, Mrs. Randall, Mrs. E. M. Turrell, Mrs. J. H. Beswick, Mrs. H. Wood, Mrs. W. Fox, the Misses Hill, Cleveland, Wells, Helmore, Reeves, Wynn-Williams, M. Williams, Cotterill, Fitzgerald, etc.

Mrs. Andrew Anderson and her daughters had a delightful tennis afternoon at their pretty home, "Merchiston," Opara, for a few of their young friends last week, when among the players were: Mr.

and Miss Wilding, Mr. and Miss Nancarrow, Mr. and Miss Kitson, the Misses Cook, Lyon, etc.

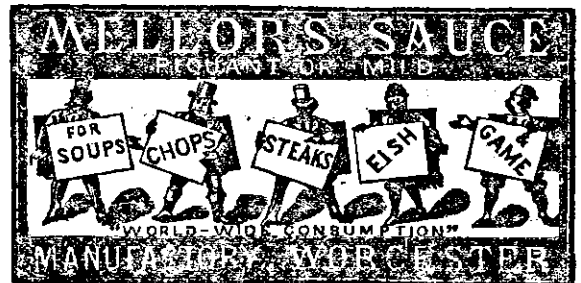
"Strowan" was a busy scene on Thursday, when the Children's Aid Society held its annual fete there, the grounds having been kindly lent by Mr. G. G. Stead. All kinds of attractions were provided, motor rides, bicycle races, water races on the ornamental water, two bands in attendance, and various other things. About £30 was realised, and this would have been more but for the rain which came on rather early in the afternoon.

Mrs. J. J. Kinsey gave a pleasant little evening last week, when among the guests were: Dr. and Mrs. Chilton, Mr. and Mrs. H. Nelson (Wellington), Mr. and Mrs. Webster, Mr. and Mrs. Wastney (Nelson), Mr. T. Gariard, Mr. G. W. Hill, etc.

Mrs. C. H. Croxton has organised a croquet tournament among her friends, which is being played off on Saturdays on their beautiful croquet lawn at "Thorpe," Springfield road, and giving much pleasure to all.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Anderson are giving an "At Home" next week at their pretty residence, Bryndwr, to say farewell to Mrs. Anderson's sister, Miss Fia Bullen, of Kaikoura, prior to her marriage.

DOLLY VALE.



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