

Society Gossip.

AUCKLAND.

Dear Bee,

February 18.

Socially we have been very quiet this last week; people are saving their energy for the forthcoming weddings, several of which eventuate during the next week or two. Mrs. Gorrie and Miss Pearl Gorrie, who are spending the summer months at "The Mount," Devonport, gave a delightful

AFTERNOON TEA.

as a farewell to Miss Georgie Denniston, who is to be married to Mr. Holbrooke Chatfield next week. Mrs. Gorrie was gowned in a black and white flowered peau de soie gown; Miss Pearl Gorrie wore a beautifully embroidered white Indian muslin frock with a white satin ribbon ceinture; Mrs. Harold Bagnall was also in white with a pretty chine ribbon ceinture; Miss Denniston was charmingly frocked in a pretty striped summer tweed Elton costume, with pale blue cloth facings, white Valenciennes vest threaded with pale blue ribbon, and a pale blue hat to match; Miss Miles (Wellington), reseda green striped summer cloth costume, becoming burnt straw hat with green velvet and electric blue wings; Miss Stubbs, white inserted muslin, white hat with black bows; Mrs. Donald MacCormick, navy blue tailor-made with white blouse, navy erinoline, straw hat toned with velvet ribbon and red berries; Miss J. Richmond, pretty creme serge costume, Tuscan hat; Miss Cotter, white muslin and Valenciennes lace with heliotrope ceinture, large white picture hat, with ostrich feathers; Miss Stevenson, dainty white lawn inset with insertion threaded with pale blue, creme hat garlanded with pink roses; Miss Dargaville, blue and white pin-striped taffeta frock, with guimpe of Irish guipure lace, hat brightened with clusters of pink roses; Miss Carey (Sydney), pale grey silk with embroidered insertion, outlining the net, and lace vest; large grey picture hat; Miss Buckland, dainty white inserted lawn and white hat; Miss Nora Gorrie, lime green taffeta, spotted net vest and sleeves, navy hat wreathed with rose; Miss May Hesketh, pretty white muslin, pale blue hat; Miss Marion Frazer, blue and white pin-striped chiffon taffeta with gathered net vest, Leghorn hat with shaded blue ostrich feather; Miss Douglas wore white muslin, with a white hat; Miss Richardson (Cambridge), white cambric with a small Tuscan hat; Miss Gillman, pink and white striped cambric frock banded with insertion, Tuscan hat draped with an Oriental scarf; Miss Upton, white muslin with a pretty white hat swathed with green tulle; Miss Lusk, white halshower muslin and a black hat; Miss Marjory Towle looked charming in a white book muslin, finished with insertion threaded with white satin ribbon, Tuscan and black hat; Miss Lorna Towle, pretty pink and white striped taffeta, brown hat with clusters of pink banksia roses; Miss Nathan, very pretty fine white muslin, inset with Valenciennes insertion, white cloche hat.

The summer season is usually synonymous with all that is socially dull, so it is not surprising that fashionable records lack local interest. The heat of the past week has been intense, therefore one is more inclined to lounge about than frivo. However, the Herbert Flemming Co. have opened their season, and next week I shall chronicle some of the lovely frocks worn by Miss Beatrice Day. They are, I believe, beautiful creations of Faquin. Society's interests are at present centred in two fashionable weddings; this week, namely, that of Miss Georgie Denniston to Dr. Chatfield, which took place on Tuesday afternoon, and too late for this week's issue; and the nuptial ceremony of Miss Zoe George and Mr. Riddiford takes place on Monday, 2nd March, at St. Mary's Cathedral. Miss George is to be attended by eight bridesmaids, and the wedding promises to be a very pretty one.

Miss Beswick, of Dunedin, who came up to Auckland to organise the Society for the Protection of Infant Life, left for the Thames on Monday for the purpose of advancing the cause in that district. She states that the infants treated in Auckland with the humanised milk have done splendidly, and the mothers

appreciate very much what has been done. The response to the call for subscriptions to the Society is not, however, encouraging. A good deal of expense will be involved in maintaining a trained nurse and in carrying on the operations of the society. Additional help for this worthy cause is earnestly solicited. Nurse Beswick leaves for Wellington upon her return.

CAMBRIDGE.

Dear Bee,

February 17, 1908.

Cambridge was again "en fete" on Saturday, the occasion being the opening of the new Post Office by the Premier (Sir Joseph Ward). The town was gay with bunting, and there was a large gathering of town and country people. Sir Joseph and Lady Ward and party arrived by motor, and were met by his Worship the Mayor (Mr. W. F. Buckland), who escorted them to the Post Office. They were accompanied by the member for the district, Mr. Greenslade, and Mrs. Greenslade. The Premier addressed the assemblage, giving the history of the old Post Office from its infancy, and declared the new Post Office open for business, and for inspection by the public. It certainly has long been needed, as the old office and private residence attached are more like Maori whares than anything else. After the opening an adjournment was made by the ladies to the Tennis Club in the Domain, where Lady Ward was the guest of the afternoon. She was escorted to the lawns by the Mayor (Mrs. W. F. Buckland), Mrs. Isherwood, wife of the president of the club, Mrs. Hammond, and Mrs. W. Coates. There was a large and fashionable gathering present and a delicious afternoon tea was dispersed by the ladies' committee, assisted by other members of the club. Amongst the dresses, I noticed Lady Ward wearing a tabac brown coat and skirt, brown toque with a touch of pale blue, and pink shaded roses; Mrs. W. F. Buckland, navy blue soft silk trimmed with silk applique, and cream silk vest and under sleeves, navy blue motor cap and veil; Mrs. Greenslade, navy blue gown, fawn and blue dust coat, black toque, with deep pink roses; Miss Leckie (Wellington), white silk blouse, pale grey tweed skirt, white Sicilienne dust coat trimmed with green silk, small hat trimmed with berries; Mrs. (Dr.) Roberts, white embroidered muslin, white and black tulle toque trimmed with white and black plumes; Mrs. A. H. Edmunds, white embroidered linen, brown tie, white linen hat, with brown veil; Miss Brigham, white muslin, white hat with floral scarf; Mrs. A. Souter, white linen coat and skirt and white hat; Mrs. (Dr.) Edmunds, grey tweed Elton coat and skirt and white hat, with green veil; Mrs. Hammond, grey costume with cream vest, black hat; Mrs. Isherwood, cream gown, white dust coat and brown toque; Mrs. W. Coates, white linen skirt, white silk blouse, and white hat; Mrs. A. H. Nicoll, white embroidered muslin, black picture hat with black and white plumes; Mrs. Lundon, green and white checked tweed coat and skirt and black hat; Mrs. E. Souter, white embroidered muslin and black picture hat; Mrs. R. J. Roberts, grey muslin trimmed with white lace, white painted chiffon scarf, black hat; Mrs. C. Hunter, white embroidered muslin, white hat trimmed with white chiffon and white daisies; Mrs. McCullagh, white linen coat and skirt and black toque; Mrs. J. Ferguson, black silk voile, black hat; Mrs. H. Ferguson, pink muslin, black toque trimmed with sweet peas; Mrs. Ferguson, pink muslin, white hat; Miss P. Ferguson, white silk, white hat; Mrs. Clark, black costume, black and white bonnet; Miss Clark, pink cambric, with white embroidered zone, and white hat; Mrs. A. Bell, blue and white striped gown and blue hat; Mrs. J. Stone, grey costume trimmed with black lace, and black hat; Mrs. Cox, black costume, with cream vest and under sleeves, and black hat; Miss Cox, white linen skirt, white silk blouse and white hat; Mrs. C. Penke, white and green delaine and white hat; Miss Jeffries, white muslin frock and white hat; Miss Lundon, pink muslin, and white hat trimmed with pink; Miss Gwynneth, pale grey coat and skirt and hat, to

match; Miss Brooks, halstose muslin and white hat, with blue scarf; Miss Roberts, white muslin and white hat; Mrs. H. Nixon, green print and white hat; Miss Nixon, cream frock, and white hat; Miss Hally, heliotrope frock and white hat; Mrs. Bunyard, white frock, white dust coat, white hat and veil; Miss Hay (Hamilton), white embroidered muslin and white hat trimmed with black and white; Miss Stone, white muslin and white hat; and others.

In the evening

A SOCIAL.

was held in the Alexandra Hall in honour of Sir Joseph and Lady Ward, at which there was a large and representative gathering. The hall had been decorated with bunting, while small tables and chairs were arranged about the hall to make it appear less stiff, Lady Ward and Mrs. Greenslade were received by the Mayoress (Mrs. N. T. Buckland) and Mrs. Hammond, and the Premier by the Mayor and Messrs. Hammond, and Lundon. The Cambridge band played in front of the hall until the entertainment began, and the Cambridge Orchestra, under the leadership of Mr. McDermott, played the opening pieces. After this the Mayor gave a short and humorous address. Then the Premier responded, after which there was more music. Mrs. Isherwood and Miss Watt sang a duet, Mrs. Isherwood also sang a solo, for which she was encored, and Messrs. Northcroft and Soyars also contributed vocal items. The supper was catered for by Mr. Boyce. A pleasant evening was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem, cheers were given for Sir Joseph and Lady Ward, and three more for the Mayor. Lady Ward was wearing a handsome black silk chiffon taffeta with kimono bodice over a bodice of white tulle; Mrs. Buckland, black silk gown with cream vest and sleeves; Mrs. Greenslade, ecru lace dress over yellow silk, bodice trimmed with frills of the silk; Mrs. Hammond, black silk, cream lace on the bodice; Mrs. Brooks, black silk; Mrs. (Dr.) Roberts, cream cascade silk trimmed with silk Maltese lace, crimson roses on corsage; Mrs. A. H. Nicoll, white silk chiffon taffeta, skirt made with padded hem, headed with French knots, bodice made with transparent yoke of embroidered net and bretelles of the silk trimmed with French knots; Mrs. A. H. Edmunds, white embroidered muslin; Mrs. R. J. Roberts, black silk with yoke of black lace; Mrs. McDermott, white muslin gown; Mrs. Isherwood, black net evening dress trimmed with narrow black satin ribbon; Miss Watt, white muslin with black muslin; Miss Gwynneth, black silk, bodice of spangled chiffon and silk Maltese lace; Miss Clark, pink silk trimmed with cream lace; Miss Brigham, white muslin; Miss Brooks, white silk; Miss Hally, white crepe de chine, bodice trimmed with French Valenciennes lace; Miss Hill, white silk with bretelles of floral ribbon; Miss Ferguson, pink silk blouse and black skirt; Miss P. Ferguson, white silk; Miss Jeffries, cream voile frock; Miss Nixon, white silk; Mrs. Pilcher, black evening dress; Misses Doris and Margery Ritchie, white muslins; Mrs. Hall (Devonport), brown gown with lace front; Miss Hall, white silk blouse and black skirt; Mrs. Forest, black gown; Mrs. Watt, black gown.

ELSIE.

WANGANUI.

Dear Bee,

Feb 14th.

Last Saturday there was a very large attendance at the

CROQUET COURTS.

During the afternoon several of the combined doubles and also the championship tournaments were played. Afternoon tea was provided by Mrs. Reaney. Mrs. Allison and Miss Kinnin. Amongst those present were Mrs. Pharaayn, who wore a brown and cream figured muslin gown with cream lace, sash and shoulder straps of the same material, pale grey chiffon bonnet with tiny pink roses and foliage; Mrs. Greig (Auckland), grey-blue linen costume with kimono sleeves, fancy straw hat with ribbons and flowers; Mrs. Inlay Saunders, dainty white embroidered linen gown, pale green straw hat with shaded green ribbons and green and pink roses and foliage; Mrs. Levein, white muslin frock with sash and belt of black ostrich ribbons, cream straw hat with wide black glaze bows; Mrs. J. C. Greenwood, pale heliotrope and white striped muslin with vest of lace and straps with kimono sleeves, cream hat with ribbons; Mrs. John Anderson, pale

green linen gown, pretty green hat with heliotrope flowers and foliage; Mrs. Allison, white linen gown, green straw hat with tulle to match and spray of flowers; Mrs. Reaney, white linen frock; white hat with blue and white scarf; Mrs. Patterson, white embroidered linen frock, large cream straw hat with wreath of tiny crimson roses and foliage; Mrs. Renell (Auckland), wore a beautiful sapphire blue chiffon taffetas gown, with yoke of cream lace, with pink and blue silk applique flowers on it, fancy straw hat with chiffon and ostrich feathers in it; Mrs. H. Bayley, white muslin frock with lace, cream straw hat with two large black chiffon rosettes at the side, Miss Hawken, white embroidered linen gown, becoming white hat with crown composed of wide white ribbon, white coque feathers edged with black; Mrs. Stewart, black and white muslin gown, black straw hat with chiffon and pink and crimson roses; Mrs. Stevenson, white muslin frock with lace, pretty cream straw hat with black glaze ribbons and wreath of pink shaded roses; Miss Mason, pale heliotrope and white striped cambric gown, white linen hat with scarf; Mrs. Izard, white embroidered linen gown, cream straw hat with golden brown ribbons and wheat ears; Miss Stanford, rose pink floral muslin frock with lace, fancy straw hat with pink roses and foliage; Miss Gresson, white muslin, the bodice was embroidered in pastel blue silk, white hat with scarf; Mrs. Lomas, pale green and white striped muslin gown, black chiffon hat with feathers; Miss Skeet, white muslin frock with lace, straw hat with shaded ribbons.

Last week Mrs. John Stevenson gave an enjoyable little

PICNIC ON THE RIVER.

Amongst those present were Mrs. Patterson, Mr. R. Stevenson, Miss Broad (Patna), Miss O. Stanford and others.

This week two small afternoon teas have been given

FOR MRS. GREIG.

of Auckland, who has been visiting friends in Wanganui—one last Tuesday by Mrs. H. Bayley, of St. John's Hill, and the other by Mrs. Pattle Izett, on Tuesday afternoon.

HULLA.

GISBORNE.

Dear Bee,

February 13.

At last we have had rain, most welcome rain, so it is to be hoped our season of drought is ended.

THE POLLARDS

had a most successful season, though personally, in the "Isle of Bong Bong," played on Thursday and Friday night last, I did not think them up to their usual standard of excellence. They were more successful in "His Highness the Bey," played on Saturday. However, as I said before, they played on each occasion to good houses. Amongst those present on Friday night were: Mrs. Willock in a black silk gown trimmed with cream silk lace; Miss Willis, primrose glaze silk trimmed with lace; Mrs. Symes, green accordion-pleated crepe de chine trimmed with tuscan coloured lace applique; Mrs. Stephenson, champagne satin, chiffon and champagne sequin net over dress, touches of black velvet on the corsage; Miss Tucker, crimson satin gown; Miss L. Tucker, white silk and lace dress; Mrs. W. Barker, white silk trimmed with strappings of pale blue passementerie, with this was worn pretty pale blue broche opera cloak; Mrs. F. Barker, black spangled net trimmed with full blown pink roses; Mrs. P. Murphy, soft black silk, pink roses on the bodice; Mrs. MacLean, black silk, berthe of real Maltese lace; Mrs. Black, black silk; Miss Black, soft white silk and lace; Mrs. B. Black, pale grey crepe de chine, trimmed with lace insertion; Mrs. Stock, white broche satin and chiffon; Mrs. Pyke, black silk with white touches; Miss Pyke, cream satin and chiffon; Mrs. Tomblinson, black silk and lace; Mrs. Glasford (Waimate), white satin; Mrs. Branson (Waimate), black silk and lace embroidery.

Saturday, the day fixed for

THE LAWN TENNIS MATCH

between Whatanupo and Kaiti Tennis Clubs, was beautifully fine. The hostesses for the day were Mrs. Kels and Mrs. Clark, the other lady members of the Whatanupo Club assisting by bringing cakes, fruit, etc. The table was very prettily decorated with high vases containing pale yellow Iceland poppies mixed with the feathery foliage of the