

BLENHEIM.

Dear Bee, February 4.
Mrs C. J. Griffiths and Miss Belle Griffiths entertained a large number of guests by means of a

GARDEN PARTY

at their residence, "The Barton," on Wednesday afternoon, when a very happy time was spent in playing croquet and strolling round the sheltered prettily-laid-out garden surrounding the home-stead. A very dainty afternoon tea was dispensed during the afternoon. Mrs. Griffiths received her guests in a pale grey voile relieved with white, and a black hat; and Miss Griffiths looked very charming in a white embroidered linen dress, and large hat with black trimmings. Others present were: Mrs L. Griffiths, cream serge costume, hat with roses; Mrs Waddy, white linen, hat with roses; Mrs McCallum, stylish black and white spotted muslin, embroidered with pink, black hat with ostrich feather tips; Mrs Adams, heliotrope muslin, hat to match; Mrs Horton, black costume, black and white hat; Mrs Scott-Smith, grey figured muslin, relieved with black velvet, and black hat; Mrs J. Mowat, blue figured muslin, hat with blue; Mrs Neville, grey bengaline relieved with cream; Mrs R. Bell, white men costume, brown hat; Mrs W. Bell, black costume; Mrs Bennett, cream striped voile, made Empire style, white hat with cerise geraniums; Miss Lucas (Christchurch), brown checked voile, brown hat with roses; Miss Anderson, white linen, brown hat; Miss Clouston, cream delaine, black hat; Miss Goulter, navy blue costume, hat to match; Miss Rogers, cream serge, pale blue hat; Miss Neville, cream voile, and hat with wreath of roses; Miss R. Horton, grey striped cloth costume, relieved with white and brown hat; Miss Bell, white embroidered muslin, white hat with ostrich feathers.

DANCE.

A small dance was held in the Orange Hall on Thursday evening, given jointly in honour of Miss Griffiths and Mr K. Moore, the former being about to take a trip home to England with her parents, while the latter has recently left the staff of the local branch of the Bank of New Zealand, and is joining his brother at Waipapa, where he will take up station life. Dancing commenced at 8.30 p.m. Some of those present were: Mrs Griffiths, Mrs Waddy, Mrs Adams, Mrs Walker, Mrs L. Griffiths, and Mrs Hulme, Misses Griffiths, Horton (2), Maclaine, Harley, Neville, Clouston (2), Lucas (Christchurch), and Curry, Messrs K. Moore, Griffiths (2), Hodson, Churchward, A. Adams, White (2), Scott-Smith, McShane, and Drs. Bennett and Adams.

AFTERNOON TEA.

On Wednesday afternoon Miss MacLaine entertained a number of friends at "York Terrace" in honour of their guest, Mrs Reid (Wellington) by means of an afternoon tea. During the afternoon tennis and ping pong were played, and consequently a happy time was spent. Some of those present were: Mesdames Reid (Wellington), Duckworth, Horton, MacLaine, Hulme, Walker, McCallum, J. Mowat, Puffine (Auckland), Misses J. Horton, R. Horton, Horne, Harley, Rogers, Puffine (Auckland), Griffiths, and Lucas (Christchurch), Messrs White (4), Lucas, etc.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

Miss R. McEae (Nelson) is the guest of Mrs J. Mowat at "Springlands."
Mr and Mrs D. Strachan are visiting friends in Wellington and Nelson.
Mr A. J. Cooper and Master Arnold Mills (Wellington) are the guests of Mrs S. Neville, "Fairview."
Miss Oll (Wellington) is the guest of Mrs R. Bell, "Riverlands."
Miss Ita Willis is staying with Mrs K. Mowat, at Fairhall.
Mr S. O. Batterby has left for Dunedin. Before taking his departure he was presented by the staff of the local branch of DeLacy & Co. with a handsome rug, he having been a member of that firm here for the past few months, during which time he made himself very popular.

JEAN.

PALMERSTON NORTH

Dear Bee, February 5.
The Cherniavskis, the Russian instrumentalists, gave concerts at the Opera House on Friday and Saturday of last week. Seldom do you find an opinion universal, but all agree these musicians are wonders. Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Plunket, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Waterfield, Miss Hill and Mr. Joyce, occupied the vice-regal box. Others included in the audience were Mr. and Mrs. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Gunter, Dr. and Miss O'Brien, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Thompson, Miss Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Sommerville-Brown, Mr. and Mrs. J. Pascal, Mr. Harman, Mr. A. Barrard, Mr. and Mrs. Bagnall, Mr. and Mrs. Rogers, the Misses Park, Mrs. Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Seifert.

POLO.

On last Wednesday a polo match was played on the Hokowhitu grounds between teams representing Rangitikei and Manawatu. A number of ladies were present and took keen interest in the game. Mrs. R. S. Abraham and the Misses Abraham, Mrs. Alan Strang, Mrs. W. Strang, Mrs. Gifford Moore, Mrs. R. Levin, the Misses Wilson (Rangitikei), Mrs. F. Pratt, Mrs. H. N. Watson, Mr. and Miss O'Brien, Miss Snow, Miss T. Russell, Mrs L. A. Abraham, Miss Monro, and others, were looking on.

TENNIS.

The weather has been glorious lately, and tennis is reviving. The tournament, which was to have been finished before Christmas, has nearly reached its weary end, only the finals in the men's doubles and combined doubles are now to be played. On Saturday, I hear, we are to be visited by a team from Feilding, six men and two ladies. Perhaps I will have more to tell you next week. Mrs. W. L. Fitzherbert, Mrs. F. S. McCrae, Mrs. Adams, Mrs. A. D. Thompson, Mrs. Pickett, Miss Lord, Miss Warburton, Miss Porter, Miss Waldegrave and a few others, have been practising during the last few days.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Mr and Mrs C. Smith and family, Bank of New Zealand, have gone to the seaside at Foxton for a month. Also Mrs W. Harden and her two little daughters, and Mrs Fuller and her children.
Mrs Warburton and Miss F. Waldegrave have returned from a short trip to Wellington.
Miss F. Randolph is back from Napier.
Mrs Oliver, Wangaiti, is visiting her daughter, Mrs F. McPherson.
Mrs Barnicoat and family, Union Bank, have returned from a three weeks' stay in Napier.
Mrs J. P. Innes is back from Wangaiti.

VIOLET.

WELLINGTON.

Dear Bee, February 5.

Thursday was extremely hot, but it did not prevent all the guests from enjoying

THE RECEPTION AT MRS. WILLIAMS.

It is long since the hospitable house has been opened for entertaining, and there was a great gathering of relations and friends—Mr. and Mrs. Guy Williams, and Mr. and Mrs. Q. Williams came from the Wairarapa, the Misses Russell (Mrs. Williams' granddaughters) from Palmerston North. Miss Una Williams' friends were pleased with the opportunity of meeting her fiancé, Mr. Hoare, who has just come out from England, and with her he goes back directly after the wedding. Mr. Hoare has a delightful baritone voice, his singing of several songs, notably "Mull-samde," was enjoyed by everyone. It is only a week since Miss Maud Williams returned from her long absence in Europe, so she was soon surrounded by people glad to see her again, and to hear how her work was progressing. It is pleasant to learn that after Miss Eila Williams' marriage she will be living in Wellington for a while, as Mr. Reed's duties as M.P. for the Bay of Islands will bring him to the capital for the session. It was a great occasion for the display of beautiful dresses, and many

well-known people who had just returned from Home were present, so their toilettes were regarded with much interest. Of course the clinging Princess or semi Directoire gowns prevailed, particularly charming examples being worn by the Misses Harcourt and Miss Brandon, while the beautiful Venetian rose point lace on Mrs. W. Barton's ivory satin was the envy of every woman present. A Directoire gown of intense peacock blue souple satin with heavy guipure was worn by a girl who has not been long back from England. Mrs. Williams wore a very handsome dress of amethyst

chiffon velvet draped with beautiful old Brussels lace, her ornaments being pearls and amethysts; Miss Maud Williams was wearing a draped Princess dress of a vivid hue of red, the long mitten sleeves being of lace dyed the same shade; Miss Una Williams had a very graceful gown of diaphanous black over white chiffon, a cluster of Malmaison carnations being tucked into the delicate lace which gowned the rest and sleeves, she wore her fiancé's gift of an exquisite pearl and diamond necklace, an upstanding ornament of the same jewels in her hair; Miss Eila Williams was in pastel

Preliminary Announcement



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