

WELLINGTON.

Dear Bee, February 12.

Everyone was so pleased and interested to hear of the arrival of a little son to their Excellencies the Governor and Lady Plunket, more especially as this is the first of their eight children to be born in New Zealand. The new baby's five sisters must be pleased with another brother, as girls are rather out of proportion in the family.

Mrs. Walter Johnston's charming house in Hobson-street was the scene of

A DELIGHTFUL "AT HOME"

on Thursday afternoon. The rooms have been recently redecorated, and the effect is most artistic. Red carnations and sweet peas were used to decorate the tables in the dining room, where the walls harmonised with the colour of the flowers. Pink and mauve sweet peas gave fragrance to the drawing-room, with its subdued rose and ivory hues, while the morning room was a delightfully cool retreat. Mrs. Johnston received her guests in a lingerie gown of filmy lawn and lace, with the daintiest embroideries en creux. Two small children who were of much assistance in handing round ices, etc., were Poggie Turnbull, in a frilly lace and muslin frock, and the little son of the house, who looked very bonny in his white duck sailor suit. Mrs. W. Turnbull, who is just back from England, was gowned in faint amethyst ninon de soie with a good deal of beige Irish lace about it, her mu-broom hat of mauve was massed with shaded fly-drangea; Mrs. Williams wore black tulle, with a handsome lace coat and a bonnet of purple chiffon; Miss E. Williams, Wedgwood blue eolienne, the lace yoke finished with gold tassels, pale blue hat with white plumes; Mrs. Martin, Saxe blue Shantung, the coat elaborately braided and buttoned in the same hue, black hat with blue feathers; Miss Johnston, grey blue cloth, smartly braided with white, black hat with pink roses and tulle ruche; Mrs. Spratt, black tulle, and Chantilly lace; Miss Harcourt, ivory marquise, the Empire bodice having cross-over bands of handsome guipure edged with ball fringe, blue hat with shaded roses; Mrs. G. Harcourt, ciel blue eolienne, with ivory guipure yoke and sleeves, white coque boa, black hat wreathed with white roses and their foliage; Mrs. V. Liddford, pale pink cloth, the coat smartly braided and embroidered, pink picture hat with black wings; Miss Goales, navy tulle, with lace guipure, black and navy hat; Mrs. Hadfield, shrimp pink Shantung, hat with roses; Mrs. Larmach, grey crepe de chine and lace, hat with wreath of flowers; Miss Nathan, amethyst crepe de chine, with guimpe of Valenciennes lace, mauve hat; Miss G. Nathan, white ninon de soie with silk and silver, embroidered white hat with cow-slips; Mrs. Miles, white ninon with a mauve floral design, mauve toque; Miss Miles, pink Shantung, and hat with roses; Mrs. MacTavish, black crepe de chine and lace. Miss MacTavish, pale blue eolienne and black hat; Mrs. Chattfield, white and black foulard, and black hat; Miss Cooper, Wedgwood blue cloth and black Directoire sash, blue hat with black wings; Mrs. Stowe, black tulle; Miss Stowe, pale blue cloth, blue hat with white wings; Miss Duncan, pastel cloth, eoru hat with emerald green wings; Mrs. Alger Williams, grey and white striped tweed, corse hat with black wings; Miss Harding, ivory Shantung torsead with pale blue guimpe, white hat wreathed with Mrs. Von Zoeltz, Saxe blue striped voile, and black picture hat; Miss Hislop, white ninon hemmed and embroidered with pale lilac show together greenw. Jealous pale blue guimpe, hite hat wreathed with wild flowers.

On Thursday the Kellburne Kiosk was the scene of

A VERY CHEERY LITTLE TEA,

the hostesses being Mrs Houston and Miss Blackett. It was a most pictur-

esque day, and the panorama of land and water visible from the verandah windows was a delight to the artistic eye. Sweet peas decorated the tables, which were many in number, and most of the guests came early and stayed late, clear proof of success. Good wishes for a pleasant voyage and all kinds of good luck and prosperity were bestowed on the hostesses, who left for England next day. Their programme includes a long stay in Italy and other places on the Continent.

Mrs Houston wore grey marquise, with guimpe and sleeves of grey guipure, white hat wreathed with black, white and yellow marguerites; Miss Blackett, black tailor-made, smartly braided, smart hat with clusters of violets. The guests included Mrs Burnett, in black embroidered ninon over ivory glaze, black and white toque; Mrs M. Burnett, pale green tweed tailor-made, white hat swathed with blue and green tulle; Miss Richmond, amethyst cloth tailor-made, and purple hat; Mrs Fell, black tulle, black and white toque; Mrs Leonard Reid, black chiffon voile, guipure lace yoke, black and white toque; Miss Baber, brown Shantung, eoru net yoke, brown hat with yellow roses; Miss E. Richmond, brown tailor-made, green coque boa, brown swathed hat; Mrs M. Richmond, navy tailor-made, and black hat; Miss Turner, black and white chiffon tulle, and black hat; Miss M. Turner, navy tulle, lace yoke, blue hat with roses; Miss Harding, green coat and skirt, with wine coloured velvet facings; Miss Ashcroft, dark blue tulle, and black hat; Miss Edwin, grey tailor-made, and Saxe blue hat; Miss Lysight (Hawera), navy blue foulard, and blue hat; Miss Burnett, white serge tailor made, with touches of gold braid, green hat with flowers; Miss Powles, navy tailor-made, and dark blue hat; Mrs Campbell, blue cloth tailor-made, green hat with foliage and roses; Mrs T. Atkinson, black serge, and black hat with wings.

AN INDEFATIGABLE TRAVELLER.

That indefatigable traveller, Miss Holmes, is off again on another delightful journey. This time she takes with her a niece, Miss White, and they travel by the Kaikoura as far as Tenerife. From there their wanderings begin, and they are fortunate in having no formal route to follow, and no time-table dates to keep, so there is an enchanting prospect before them. A short time ago Miss Holmes received a presentation from a literary society of which she is president, and as her friends always take a keen interest in her doings, she has promised to keep in touch with them by means of a special series of letters and notes. Mrs Wilford, who is a niece of Miss Holmes, gave a farewell tea in her honour a few days ago. Mrs Wilford wore white lawn, with lace and embroidery; Miss Holmes, brown tweed, and brown hat; Mrs Scobie Mackenzie (Dunedin), was in black armure, braided and worn with a black and white toque; Mrs Bland Holt was in a smart tailor-made, with a braided fillet and a hat with outstretched wings.

A MORNING TEA.

Mrs Simpson's morning tea on Thursday was in honour of Lady Stout, who, with Sir Robert and their little daughter, leave for England very shortly. Lady Stout is always a leading figure wherever she chances to be, and her absence—even for a short time—will be felt throughout New Zealand. One of her favourite schemes is to bring Maori girls into closer touch with white women, and at the coming Maori meeting it is probable that this matter will be taken up more vigorously than hitherto. It is in Sir Robert Stout's house that Mr and Mrs Simpson are now residing, and on Thursday the pretty drawing-room was bright with montretreas and gudioli. The hostess wore chiffon voile with lace yoke and sleeves; Miss Simpson was in white lawn and lace; Lady Stout's cloth tailor-made was worn with a lace blouse and a smart hat.

Another of the travellers to England this season is Mrs Milward, for whom a farewell tea was given on Wednesday by Mrs Beauchamp. Mrs Milward wore mauve tulle, with net sleeves and vest, and a mauve hat with lace. The hostess wore reseda Shantung, with a guimpe of lace; Miss Beauchamp, purple tulle, banded with velvet; Miss C. Beauchamp, white and pale blue floral muslin, hemmed with lace.

The many friends of Miss Iva Fitzherbert, who has been Mrs Andrew for

the past two years, will be interested to hear that her husband is now private chaplain to the Duke of Buccleugh.

Mrs Bland Holt was the guest of honour at a small tea given by Mrs Quick. Mrs Holt wore a pale ale cloth, the Directoire coat showing a vest of lace and net, toque of forget-me-nots and roses; Mrs Quick wore black brocade, and Miss Quick was in ivory Shantung, with a lace yoke.

OPIHELIA.

A number of tournaments are being played, and members are much keener than at the beginning of the season. Amongst those in the courts were Mrs Greenwood, Mrs Levin, Mrs Fairburn, Mrs Izett, Mrs Richie, Mrs W. Meldrum (Hunterville), Mrs Howarth, Mrs Gordon, Miss Gresson, Mrs Lomax, Miss Burgess, Miss Brown, Mr Sarjeant, Mr Richie, Mr Goodwin and others.

The Welsh Choir Singers had a two nights' season and sacred concert in the Opera House last week. They were not as well patronised as their concerts deserved, but this was probably due to the very large number of good musicians that have recently visited Wanganui. Amongst those present were Mrs Greenwood, Mrs Hughes Johnston, Mrs James Watt, Mrs Jones, Mr Wray, Miss Williams, Mr Neame, Mrs D. Meldrum, Miss Frankish, Mr Saywell, Mr Enderby and others.

Wanganui music lovers were very fortunate in having the three

RUSSIAN BROTHERS CHERNIAVSKI

for a two nights' season in the Opera House. They are a marvellous trio. Amongst the audiences, I noticed Mr and Mrs H. Lethbridge, Mrs Sorley, Miss Lethbridge, Mrs Sarjeant, Mrs Sherriff, Miss Moore, Mrs Barnicoat, Miss Richmond, Mr Johnston, Mr and Mrs D. Lethbridge, Mr Wray, Mrs Kitchen, Miss Willis, Mr and Mrs Foster, Mrs Dodgshun, Miss Dodgshun and others.

Mrs Sarjeant gave a very enjoyable croquet party last week. Amongst those present were Mr and Mrs Goodwin, Mrs James Watt, Mrs and Miss Barnicoat, Mrs Mason, Miss Lambert (Wellington), Mrs James, Miss Scott (Gisborne), Mrs Izett, Mrs and Miss Stewart, Mrs Pharyzyn, Mrs Lewis, Mrs McMurdo (Auckland).

WANGANUI.

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Last week several enjoyable picnics were given on the river. Amongst those present at one in the launch were Rev. and Mrs Jacobs, Rev. A. O. Williams and Mrs Williams, Mr and Mrs Ashcroft, Mrs Sheriff, Rev. Watson (Wairarapa), Mrs Watson and others.

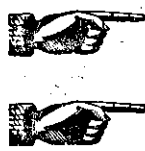
On Saturday there was a very jolly river picnic in some of the club rowing boats. Amongst those who went were Mrs Paterson, Miss Richmond, Miss Ashcroft, Miss Stanford, Miss W. Anderson, Miss Humphreys (Palmerston North), Miss Gresson, Messrs Anderson, Fletcher, McLean, Baddeley, Stronts.

Last week Mrs Colin Campbell gave a bridge party. There were four tables. Amongst those present were Mr and Mrs A. Lewis, Mrs Riddell (Napier), Mr Harper, Mrs Barnicoat, Miss Inlay, Mrs Inlay Saunders, Mr Allan, Mr Butterworth, Mr Lomas.

Afternoon tea

AT THE CROQUET COURTS

on Saturday was given by Mrs S. Gordon, Mrs P. Jotling and Miss Gresson.



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