



To Our Young Readers.

Our young readers are cordially invited to enter our wide circle of cousins, by writing to

COUSIN KATE, "The Weekly Graphic," Shortland Street, Auckland.

Cousin Kate is particularly desirous that those boys and girls who write should tell her whatever it interests them to tell, about their games, their pets, their holidays, or their studies. Their letters and Cousin Kate's replies will appear in the "Weekly Graphic," in the Children's Pages.

All cousins under the age of fourteen are accounted Junior Cousins, all above that age Senior Cousins. Cousins may continue writing until quite grown up, and after, if they wish to do so; for we are proud to number among our cousins some who have passed out of their teens. A badge will be sent to each new cousin on the receipt of an addressed envelope.

COUSINS' CORRESPONDENCE.

Dear Cousin Kate, - As it is two months since I sent you my last letter, I think I ought to write. Frank came down for his holidays on the 1st inst., June 15, and stayed nearly a month. I am going to town to a boarding school after New Year. Four of my real cousins will also be there, and I am sure I shall like it. I made a dress for my little doll. Mother cut it out, a big rat got into the coop and took two chickens. We have a pet sparrow, and we call him Dicky. One day he hopped right into the scullery. Terence is two and a half years old. He loves jumping over mats and things lying on the ground. He helps Phil to bring in wood, and keeps the wood-box full. From Cousin FIEDLA.

Dear Cousin Freda, - I am so glad to hear from you once more, and to know that you had such a good time when your brother came home. I should think you will have a very happy time at your school. But you must be prepared to miss the lovely freedom of pretty Waiheke a little. Give little Terence my love. - Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - I always read the Children's Page in "The Weekly Graphic," and would very much like to become one of your many cousins. I live in Papanoa, but do not care for it very much, as I am used to the town. I have no pets to tell you about, as we have just come here, but hope to have some later on. I am 11 years old, and in Standard IV. Cousin MIRO.

Dear Cousin Miro, - I am very pleased to welcome you as a cousin. I hope our correspondence will help to brighten up the country life for you. But it will be more interesting to you at Papanoa when you get more used to it. - Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - I have just been reading the cousins' letters. I was out this morning looking over the paddock, then we rode through one paddock, then we had to tie our horses up and walk - we could not get through the gate. It was too boggy. We saw one little lamb that could not find his mother, and a sheep kept bumping him over. We have one pet lamb, and if he is not tied up he will run after everybody. I rode to town yesterday for my music lesson. With lots of love to you and the other cousins. Cousin RITA.

Dear Cousin Rita, - I am glad to see that you know how to live country life. I should not have thought a sheep could be so unkind as to butt over someone else's lamb. Your pet lamb must be as friendly as a pup. - Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - I was quite pleased to see my first letter in print. I will be able to write often now, because we are getting the "Graphic" every week. We have started a new school, and I like it much better than the old one, for there are a lot more

children going. I have a little friend who says she is going to write to you. I do not come from Home, but father and mother both do. With love, Cousin AMELLIE.

Dear Cousin Amellie, - I am so pleased to hear you are getting the "Graphic" every week. I will be so much nicer to see it every time, won't it? One seems to lose interest when they do not see a paper regularly. I am so glad you like the new school, and expect you will have to work harder there are more in your class. You ought to get on well. The bank Papanoa must be a very nice place to live - plenty of fruit and sunshine. I shall be pleased to hear from your little friend. With love from Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - My sister Ethel came back from her holiday last Tuesday. My birthday was on July 21st, and I was thirteen. Do you like the moonlight on the water, Cousin Kate? I do. I went to the Winter Show at Hamilton, and my sister went into Katarua summer Casino and into the laughing gallery, and to see the snake charming. We are only milking seven cows, but at the end of this month we will have about 40 cows on milk. With lots of love to all. Cousin LENA. P.S. - My pet cow has got a little red and white calf. Will you give me a name for it, please, Cousin Kate? - C.L.

Dear Cousin Lena, - What a lovely long holiday for Cousin Ethel. Forty cows sounds like business; but I think you little cousin folks have a good time, don't you? The Winter Show would be far more interesting to you country cousins than us town-folk. Call you calf "Blossom." - Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - I went for five weeks holiday, and I enjoyed it very much. It is best in the country, because there is more room to play. While we were at New Plymouth, we went to the Recreation Grounds, and fed the swans and ducks, and saw some peacocks and guinea fowls and Russian geese. We went to the beach and saw the waves come in, and gathered shells. With lots of love to the cousins and yourself. - From Cousin ETHEL.

Dear Cousin Ethel, - I am glad you had such a nice holiday. New Plymouth Recreation Grounds are very fine, and the beach is very pleasant. - Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - I have been reading the "Cousins' Letters" for a long time now, and the elder cousins' letters especially have always interested me very much. I have not noticed any of Cousin Hilda's letters for a good while now. I go to St. Hilda's College, and am exceedingly fond of school. I think I enjoy dancing more than anything else in the way of games. We had a parrot that would say almost anything, but it ate some poison one day and died. We were so sorry, because it brought it up from a baby. - Cousin LENNIE.

Dear Cousin Lennie, - I am pleased to welcome you as a cousin; and I hope that you will write again and tell us more about your interests. What subjects do you like most at school? It is a long time since Cousin Hilda wrote, but I hope that she will find time to send us another letter soon. Cousin Ethel too, we should be glad to hear from again. I hope she will not make us wait until she has another holiday. I am sure she is one of those who can find matter in life's everyday round. How sad about your parrot. - Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - May I become one of your cousins, please? I am very fond of reading the children's letters in "The Graphic." I play hockey, and think it is a very nice game. I am eleven years old, and in Standard V. We are going to have a concert here on September 1, given by the boys and girls of the school. I have five fowls and 10 chicks, a dog, and a cow, and it is hard to say which is the greatest pet. - Your loving Cousin ZELLA.

Dear Cousin Zella, - Certainly you may become a cousin. You are very well on at school for your age. I hope the concert went well off. - Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - We have had to close up our school for scarlet fever, and we are going to have a whole month's holiday. We were only able to have three exams, so we will have the rest when we go back to school next term. I have been going down to the skating rink, and I have learned to skate. I think it is just lovely fun, but I have had some accidents. I have a riddle for you, Cousin Kate: "When is water not water?" Have you ever read a book called "The Little Shepherd of Klugdom Comed"? It is so nice. Last week I

was staying at one of my friend's places. On Saturday afternoon we hired bicycles and went for a long ride. We both made some toffee one night, but it didn't turn out a success, because when we were straining it, it all went hard in the cloth. What a lot of new cousins join each week, don't they? With much love for you all. - From Cousin MARJORIE.

Dear Cousin Marjorie, - The closing of your school gave you time to write me, which was a good thing for me. I think tumbles on a rink must really hurt more than tumbles on ice, and they are quite hard enough. Is your answer "When is dripping?" I have not read that book. I enjoy Ralph Connor's books very much. What a lovely time you must have had. I wish many of you to try to strain toffee. - Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - May I become one of your cousins? I am ten years of age and in Standard II. I have no pets, but my brother has a cat. I have to walk one mile to school. Isn't Buster Brown funny? Love from your affectionate Cousin MAUD.

Dear Cousin Maud, - It seems to me to be fairly raining Nelson cousins. I am pleased to have another. I should be glad, however, if my new cousins would remember about sending me an addressed envelope. Sometimes they forget. Yes, Buster is funny. - Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - Thanks very much for my badge. We have had an exciting week on account of the musical competitions, which were held in Auckland. What a lot of cousins you have. I have been reading the letters with much interest. I think the only cousin I know is Cousin Marjorie. I think in my last letter I forgot to tell you that I learn to play an organ very fond of it. I love reading. The books I like most are those of Ethel Turner. Now, I will close with a riddle for the cousins: "Why is the Prince of Wales like a cloudy day? With love and all good wishes. - From Cousin MILDRED.

Dear Cousin Mildred, - You would find the musical competition very interesting. There were some illustrations in "The Graphic" in connection with them. Yes, Cousin Mildred, there are a lot of cousins. I am glad you love music. Ethel Turner has a sister writing now. - Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - May I become one of your "Graphic" cousins? I am very fond of like to see the pictures of Buster Brown. There is going to be a society at our school on the 27th of this month, and all the children have to recite and sing. We had our examination about a month ago, and I got the competency certificate. Our fowls are subject very well now, but our ducks are not laying yet. We have one dog named Jack, and he is as old as my youngest brother. With love to all. - From Cousin HATTIE.

Dear Cousin Hattie, - I am always glad to have a new cousin. Well done! In what subjects did you especially shine? Are you recite or sing, which? Probably your ducks are laying by now. - Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - I am sorry to say that I have not received my badge. I have a little cripple brother, six years old. Dear Cousin Kate, I have a little brother like Buster Brown. He is always into mischief. My bulbs are coming into flower now. I have been making a vegetable garden all the week. I've had a doll three years. Please will you give me a name for her. We have to send her to school, but I am not forgetting myself. - From Cousin MAGGIE.

Dear Cousin Maggie, - I am so sorry that your badge is unrecd. I have posted you another. Your poor little brother. It is a comfort to remember that some of our greatest men have been sufferers. You must always encourage him to look forward to a useful life. Call your doll "Cinderella." - Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - May I join your happy band, please? I have been reading the cousins' letters for a long time now, and somehow I never could pick up enough courage to write, although now I do not feel as if it wants such a lot. You have not seen any cousins' letters in this week. What have you done with them all? I hope they have not deserted you. I am fifteen years old, and have left school two years ago, when I went to the High School. I was teaching at a week before I left, while the head teacher was away. It was rare fun. I hope I see the debates next time. With love to all the cousins, also yourself. - Ever yours, "Cousin E."

Dear Cousin E., - Indeed, I am not at all formidable, and I am glad that the

gress whom you have conjured up has, at last, been laid by your commensure. I am glad to say that the senior cousin has not deserted us, though when they first cross the boundary line into seniorhood, perhaps the readers would not detect the advance. Still, I like the Seniors to take themselves a little seriously, and tell me what they are reading, or what plans they have with regard to recreation or self-improvement. - Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - May I become one of the "Graphic" cousins? I enjoy reading the cousins' letters, and I will be glad to see mine in the paper. I am ten years old and am in Standard V. I have a pet calf, and its name is Molly, and I can ride it. Love from Cousin ELSIE.

Dear Cousin Elsie, - You certainly may become a cousin. I am glad you like the letters of J.L. Doesn't your calf mind? - Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - May I become one of your many cousins? I go to the convent school, and like it very much. I am nine years old and in Standard II. We have a parrot called Jim; he can talk, but sometimes will not say anything for days. I have one sister and three brothers. Father has taken the "Graphic" for books, and we all like Buster Brown, and look to see what mischief he is up to. I was down in Auckland in June, and had a lively time. - From Cousin THELMA.

Dear Cousin Thelma, - Welcome to our "Cousins' Society." I am glad to hear you like school, that will help you to get on. Does your parrot talk? Auckland is a pretty place for a holiday. - Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - I was very pleased when I saw my letter in the "Graphic." I will send you a photo of the school. I go to Brother takes photos. We send the "Graphic" to my cousin in Australia every week. We are going to a concert next week, in aid of the unemployed. Diabolo is all the same now; I like it very much. With love to all. - Cousin JESSIE.

Dear Cousin Jessie, - I should be much interested in that photo, if you can really spare me one. Would your cousin join our Society, or any of your Australian friends? I hope the concert was a success. - Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - We like the "Graphic" every week. I would be delighted if you would accept me as one of your cousins. I am thirteen years old, and in standard IV. I have two brothers, and one sister. We can see the smoking mountain from our house, and it looks very nice indeed. When it was in eruption the smoke was very black, but now the smoke is white, as the mountain is quiet. - From Cousin KAKAHU.

Dear Cousin Kakahu, - I am pleased to welcome yet another new cousin. I do not think I should care to live where I could see a smoking mountain. I shall be glad to hear again. - Cousin Kate. P.S. - I hope you are better. - C.K.

Dear Cousin Kate, - May I become one of your many cousins? I am Thelma's brother. I am in Standard III. I have two brothers, and two sisters. My little baby brother has been very ill, but is getting better now. I was down in Auckland in June for a fortnight, and I enjoyed myself very much. I like riding in the trams. Mother took us over to Cheltenham Beach, and we had a paddle in the water. - From Cousin DICK.

Dear Cousin Dick, - Welcome to our society. You must be very glad your baby is better. - Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - I received my badge safely, and I was very pleased with it. Last week we had a snowstorm, and the hills all round were covered with snow, which looked very pretty. Have you ever been to Stoke? It is a very pretty place, with the sea in front of it, and the hills behind it. I like riding in the trams. The Nelson freezing works are also in Stoke. I went to a concert which the blue jackets of H.M.A. Encounter gave, and I enjoyed the comic songs very much. We are moving to a new house, and we will enlarge the hall. I like hockey, football, and cricket. I go into the Technical School to learn woodwork. With love to all. - Cousin VINCENT.

Dear Cousin Vincent, - What a splendid lot of interests we have. I do not know Stoke, though I know Nelson. The first time I saw the snow capped mountains it almost took my breath away. Aren't sailor's songs breezy? I used to play hockey, and, when I was a child, I had short frocks, cricket, which I thought good fun. I am much interested in wood work. - Cousin Kate.

Dear Cousin Kate, - Just to let you know how pleased we are to see your suggestion. No one has given one like it, and I think my teacher will have it carried out. Some people here have been star-gazing, and trying to see ships, but have not succeeded. - From Cousin Kate. I am afraid you do not find my letters very interesting, but never mind, I will try to make them better each time. Our headmaster says that our banner is going to beat all others ever had