

Personal Paragraphs.

The Rev. J. P. Kempthorne, of Nelson, has exchanged duties with the Rev. H. P. Cox, M.A., of Westport, for a few weeks.

Miss Gibson, Lady Principal of the Nelson College for Girls, returned to Nelson last week after a pleasant holiday in Christchurch with her people.

The Misses Webb-Bowen, Sealy and Gribben returned to Nelson last week after a most delightful trip to Sydney. Mrs. Daubney and her little girl also arrived from Sydney by the same steamer and are staying with Mr and Mrs Fell, "St. John's," Nelson.

Miss Cuthboys, of Sydney, is staying with Mrs Webb-Bowen (Nelson).

Mrs Watts and Mrs Sweet have returned to Nelson after a pleasant trip to the North Island.

Mrs and Miss Duff have returned to Nelson from Dunedin.

Miss Edith Kempthorne, a pupil of the Nelson School of Music, has won the silver medal offered by the Associated Board, R.A.M., and R.C.M.

Miss Hunter-Brown has gone to Christchurch on a missionary tour, and Miss S. Hunter-Brown has returned to Nelson after a pleasant trip in the South Island.

Miss F. Webb-Bowen has returned to Nelson after a short trip to Wellington.

Miss Ida Crump, a pupil of the Nelson College for Girls, has successfully won a Junior Scholarship of the New Zealand University.

Mr and Mrs C. Johnston and family have gone out to live at their residence, "Holmwood," Karori, for some months for the benefit of Miss Johnston's health.

Miss Bell (Nelson) is visiting friends in Wellington.

The Premier left Wellington on Thursday to attend the banquet given to Mr W. H. Field, M.H.R., at Porirua, and proceeded to Wanganui on Friday in order to be present at the departure of the Wanganui and West Coast Riders, from Wanganui, on Saturday, and also to open the new Opera House there on Friday evening. The Premier leaves for Christchurch early next week to take part in the celebration of the departure of the Third Contingent, so will have a tiring week before him.

Miss Howdon (Canterbury) who has just returned from a visit to England, is spending a few weeks in Wellington with Mrs. Medley.

Miss Doris Johnston, daughter of Mrs Charles Johnston, Wellington, leaves for England in the Itabine in order to finish her education in Europe.

Mr George Hutchinson, M.H.R. foratea, leaves Wellington this week on a visit to South Africa, having arranged to contribute a series of letters to a leading London paper on the war at the Cape. Mr Hutchinson intends returning to New Zealand in time to take his seat in the House at the opening of Parliament next session.

Mr C. H. Morrison (Wellington), is to be banqueted at the "Foyer," in Wellington, on Saturday next, by his friends and political supporters, in recognition of his plucky fight for the Oraki seat at the recent by-election. Mr John Duthie is to be chairman on the occasion.

During their stay in Wellington Commander Thibaut and the officers of the French warship *Eure* have been most popular, and also most hospitable, having entertained a large number of guests at luncheon and afternoon tea, and on Sunday last the vessel was thrown open to the public, who were most courteously shown over the ship by the officers.

The Rev. Father Goggan has been transferred from Blenheim to Wellington. The Rev. Father was exceedingly popular in Blenheim, both as a priest and as a citizen, having always manifested a very keen interest in church and public matters, and his departure from St. Mary's Church is keenly regretted by his parishioners at Blenheim.

Miss Stuart, of Wellington, who has been visiting Mrs Holdsworth, of New Plymouth, is now the guest of Mrs Meldrum, of Hunterville.

Mrs Hill, of Wellington, is visiting her sister, Mrs Oswin, of New Plymouth.

Mr and Mrs A. D. Gray, who have been on a visit to Auckland, have returned to New Plymouth.

Miss Bedford, of New Plymouth, has been paying Oraki and Wellington a visit, but has now returned.

Mr J. Mills, manager of the Union Company, and his wife, passed through New Plymouth on their way to Auckland last week.

The Hon. W. and Mrs Rolleston left for England by the Mokoia via Sydney on Friday.

Mr and Mrs Isaac Wilson and Miss Wilson, of Kaiapoi, left on Friday for England via Sydney, by the Mokoia.

The Bishop of Christchurch, Mrs and Miss Julius, returned on Friday from their visit to Norfolk Island, having had a most interesting time. Mr and Mrs G. Julius accompanied them from Australia to Christchurch on a visit.

Miss Jennie West returned to Christchurch on Friday from her visit to Sydney, which she has greatly enjoyed.

Mr and Mrs W. D. Wood are back from Swaycombe, looking better for the change.

Polo is still very flourishing in Cambridge, and always well attended, writes our correspondent. During the season I have noticed on different days Messames Thornton, Richardson, Martin, Cooper, Lawford (Ohaupo), Misses Banks, Cave, Wells, Williamson (Hamilton), Gorrie (Auckland), and Messrs Banks, Thornton, Lawford, T. Williamson, Bullock, Webster, Richardson, etc., etc.

Mr and Mrs W. Thornton, of Maungakawa, Cambridge, have gone for a driving tour to Rotorua in their light little American buggy and pair.

Dr. Roberts' new house in Cambridge is just finished, and is very pretty, being of the Queen Anne style and painted cream, dull green and red.

Our Cambridge correspondent writes:—We are all beginning to think of the hunting again, which begins very early in May.

Mrs Chaytor, Marshlands, Tua Marina, and her sister, Mrs Hursthouse, Motueka, were in Pieton last week, and visited Captain and the Misses Kenny, "The Rocks," Queen Charlotte Sound.

Mrs Andrews and family, who have been spending the holidays in Pieton, returned to Wellington on Friday.

Mr and Mrs J. Bond, Pelorus Sound, have gone to Wellington.

Mr and Mrs Masefield, "Manaroa," Pelorus Sound, are spending a few days in Pieton.

Miss Ethel Sealy, Nelson, is staying with her sister, Mrs Seigwick, at the Viearage, Pieton.

Mrs C. Beauchamp, who has been visiting in Wellington and Christchurch for the past three months, has returned home to Pieton.

Miss Robertson, Christchurch, has come to spend some weeks with Mrs Beauchamp at "Anikiwa."

Miss Allen, Pieton, has gone to stay in Wellington for some time with Mrs F. A. Andrews.

Mr James Embling's successor at the Bank of New Zealand has arrived, Mr Litchfield, from Wellington, who is accompanied by Mrs Litchfield.

Mr and Mrs Melville Jamieson have returned from a trip to England, and passed through Christchurch last week on their way home to Timaru.

Mr and Mrs Alister Clark have come over again to visit their friends, and get a rest from the great heat of Australia. They are at present the guests of Mrs Clark's sister, Mrs Heaton Rhodes, "Otahuna," Tai Tapu.

Mr J. Rolleston, a younger son of the Hon. W. Rolleston, is bound for the Transvaal with the Third Contingent.

Mr and Mrs George Humphries, "Danesbury Rookery," gave the use of their pretty grounds for a garden fete and sale of work for Fendalton Church on Saturday, and a large number of people found it a very pleasant outing.

On Thursday Sumner will be en fete. A gala in aid of the war fund is to be held, and judging from the preparations, and the liberality of the movers a substantial reward should be theirs if only the elements are kind.

Mr and Mrs Richard Grice, of Melbourne, are staying at their "Rotorangi Estate," Cambridge.

Mrs Dr. Murdoch has returned to Cambridge. Mr and Mrs Morgan, of Timaru, are staying with her.

Archdeacon Willis and family have returned to Cambridge.

Mr Empson and family left Cambridge for Rotorua last Monday, quite a host of friends being at the station to see them off.

Mr and Mrs W. Earl have returned to Cambridge after spending their honeymoon at Taupo.

The sudden death of Mr John Hoggard, chief clerk at the Wellington Post-office, came as a great shock to his multitudinous friends. In his official capacity at the Distribution Department of the P.O., Mr Hoggard's capacity for hard work was only equalled by his courtesy and good nature. He will be much missed.

Mr Ronson (Auckland), manager of the Westport Coal Co., is enjoying a holiday in the South. Mr W. A. Flavell, of Wellington, is relieving officer in Mr Ronson's absence.

Mr Moore, who is leaving Messrs Court Bros., of Auckland, to take up a position for a large wholesale house, was presented with a gold chain and pendant, as a mark of respect from the employees.

Mr M. A. O'Calaghan, of New South Wales, is visiting Christchurch.

The retirement of Captain Grant from the position of Adjutant for the Auckland district, is widely regretted. The Devonport Coastguard Artillery have, through Captain Napier, written to Captain Grant, expressing their sorrow.

Mr G. Hutchinson, M.H.R., who has gone to Sydney, will be away some few weeks.

Professor Carrollo, the well-known Auckland gymnast and athletic instructor, who has been spending a holiday in Sydney, returned home on Sunday by the Mararoa.

The Rev. J. T. Warlow Davies, formerly Congregationalist pastor in Auckland, and under whose charge the Beresford Street church was built, is with his wife on a visit to Auckland. Mr Davies is now the valued pastor of the Congregational church, Newtown, Sydney.

Mr John Maxwell, Tauranga, is at present on a visit to his brother in Brisbane.

Dr. and Mrs Knight, who with Miss Knight have been down South on a trip, have returned to Auckland.

Earl Beauchamp, the youthful Governor of New South Wales, is enjoying his New Zealand trip with characteristic ardour. He joins Lord Ranfurly at Waikiki.

Mrs D. J. W. Lake has left for Tahiti by the Ovalau after an enjoyable stay in New Zealand.

Mr James Mills of the Union Steamship Company, was in Auckland during the week.

Mr Mestayer, the expert engineer reporting on the Auckland water supply and drainage, has been excessively busy since his arrival in Auckland. Mr Mestayer—the Council are finding out—is a glutton for work.

Judge Mair left Auckland last week to join his colleague, Judge Mackay, at a sitting of the Native Appellate Court.

Mr P. Hansen has returned to Auckland from his recent visit to Wellington, in the interests of the Electric Tramway Company.

Mr R. Angus, of Thomas Cook and Son, will take up his new position in Auckland at an early date. So far as the past is concerned, the Auckland office of Messrs Cook and Co. is one of the best managed in their whole agency. The management is excellent, and those who have done business in the office always go back.

The Rev. Father Ryan and the Rev. Father Mulvihill were in Auckland last week, having come up the East Coast by the Flora.

The Rev. Andrew Doak, M.A., of Free Trinity Church, Aberdeen, is paying a visit to New Zealand, accompanied by Mrs Doak. They are at present in Auckland, but return shortly to Scotland, taking Japan en route.

Mrs F. W. Macbeth, of Auckland, has returned from her visit to Dunedin.

The Rev. Father Salvador, of the R.C. Church, Lyttelton, has been succeeded by the Rev. Father Franklin.

Mr A. Thompson, of the Education Department, was in Auckland last week.

It is said that Mr J. A. Hanan, new member for Invercargill, will move the address-in-reply. Mr Hanan is one, if not the youngest of the new members.

Mr H. Lamb, of Paeroa, who has been transferred from the P.O. there to Wanganui, will be much missed at the goldfields metropolis. He was a universal favourite.

Mr H. J. Simmonds, of the Thames, proceeds to England at an early date on urgent private business. He has received six months' leave of absence from the Thames Borough Council.

Mr H. Pittar, the owner of the successful yacht *Rainbow*, has returned to Auckland from Sydney.

At Invercargill North the other day Miss Ridlands was presented by her fellow-teachers and the scholars of the school with a handsome gold brooch and satin-lined work-basket. Miss Ridlands, who has received a superior appointment, was warmly liked at Invercargill North, and will be much missed.

Dr. and Mrs Charles Haines, of Auckland, have left this city for England. They are accompanied by Miss Kate Isaacs.

Mrs L. D. Nathan, of St. Keven's, Karangahape Road, Auckland, accompanied by Miss Dolly Davis, has left Auckland for a trip to the Old Country.

Speculation is naturally rife as to who will receive the position of Surveyor-General. Mr S. Percy Smith retires as stated in June next. The "probables" are Mr Barron (Under-Secretary for Lands), Mr Marchant, (Commissioner for Crown Lands, Wellington), and Mr G. Mueller (Commissioner for Crown Lands, Auckland). Mr Barron is perhaps the most likely one of the trio to get the position.

A young lady, who accompanied a driving party from Canterbury to the West Coast recently, had a narrow escape from what would have proved a serious, if not fatal, accident. One of the party had taken her bicycle with the intention of indulging in a little cycling. The young lady in question, feeling "done up" after walking up the hill leading to Porter's Pass, essayed to ride down. Before proceeding far, however, she found that the grade was too steep, and, being without a brake, could not maintain control of the machine. As she was being carried downwards—with a drop of some 200ft if the machine happened to swerve from the track, and a rushing mountain torrent at the bottom—she called to her sister, who was in front. Her sister's quick perception took the situation in a glance, and, on appealing to one of the male members of the party, he caught hold of the flying cyclist as she passed him, and dragged her off in a state of collapse, thus averting a serious accident.

Mrs Lusher, of City Road, Auckland, gave a children's party on Thursday

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