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## ENGAGEMENTS.

The engagement is announced of Miss Flossie Williamson, second daughter of Mr Charles Williamson, of Takapuna, Auckland, to Mr Percival B. Brett, of London, son of Mr K. B. Brett.

## Personal Paragraphs.

Miss Hislop, Wellington, has returned from her lengthy visit to Auckland.

Miss Bourne, Nelson, has returned to England by the Gothic, which left Wellington on September 13th.

Mr and Mrs Newman (Naugitikei) and their little daughter have gone for a trip to the Old Country in the Gothic.

Mrs Wardrop, Christchurch, is staying with Mrs Hwaton Rhodes in Wellington.

Miss Quick, Wellington, has returned to her home from Nelson.

Mr and Miss Nisbit, Australia, who have been in Wellington for the last two or three months, left by the Mokoia for their home last week.

Mrs McPherson, England, is paying a visit to her old friends in Hawke's Bay before leaving New Zealand again.

Mr James Muir, hydropathic specialist and meteorological observer to the Government, Te Aroha, has been offered and accepted an important position as travelling representative in the colony, for the New Zealand Rug and Export Co. Previous to studying hydropathy, Mr Muir had two years' experience at the hand-loom weaving in Kibbarchan, and six years' in the manufacturing of woollens in Glasgow. Mr Muir proceeds from Auckland to Wellington next week to the Wellington Woollen Mills in connection with his appointment.

Mr. and Mrs. Firth, Wellington, are spending the holidays in Nelson, where they are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Littlejohn.

Bishop and Mrs. Wilson arrived at Christchurch last week on a brief visit, and are the guests of Bishop and Mrs. Julius.

The Misses Townsend, of Christchurch, joined the Gothic in Wellington last week, going Home by her for a trip to Europe.

His Excellency the Governor opened the Wellington Academy of Fine Arts on Saturday, at the East Gallery in Whitmore-street. The pictures are very numerous, and the exhibition is unusually interesting.

The admirers of Lieut.-General Baden-Powell in the Wellington district, are sending him an 18-carat gold cigar case, in memory of his gallant defence of Mafeking. The case is very beautifully chased, and represents Baden-Powell in the trenches at Mafeking, directing the defence of the garrison, and the words "Twas nobly fought," are inscribed above. The case was manufactured by Messrs Littlejohn and Co., and reflects great credit on the firm.

Mrs Hattray (Dunedin) is staying in Wellington with Miss Izard.

The Wellington Star Rowing Club are to open the rowing season on the 29th inst., and His Excellency the Governor and Lady Ranfurly have promised to attend the opening ceremony.

Miss Douglas, daughter of Sir Arthur Douglas, Wellington, is the guest of Lord and Lady Ranfurly at Government House.

Mr James Mills, general manager of the Union Company, is paying a visit to Wellington from Dunedin.

Mr Arthur Duncan has won the championship of the Wellington Golf Club, Messrs Jackson and D. Pryde being the runners-up.

The boys of Nelson College have erected a tablet in the College to the memory of Gunner Mueller and Troop-

per Poole, who were old Nelson College boys. The tablet, which is of brass, is a very handsome one, and was designed and executed by Mr W. Bock, of Wellington.

A most interesting lecture on "Schiller," was delivered at the Girls' High School, Wellington, by Mr J. W. Joynt, M.A., on Tuesday evening. Lady Constance Knox and the Hon. Hill-Trevor were among the large and fashionable audience.

Captain G. C. B. Wolfe, who has been engaged for the last two sessions as Committee Clerk at the House of Representatives, has resigned his appointment, having been appointed Commanding Officer of Volunteers for the Nelson District. His colleagues of the Parliamentary staff presented him with an address, and a case of silver mounted pipes, as a parting souvenir.

The Rev. W. Gray Dixon, of St. David's Presbyterian Church, Auckland, has returned from Sydney, whither he went to get married. On Thursday last a social of welcome was given in honour of his bride at the St. Sepulchre's schoolroom. The room was very beautifully decorated. Speeches of welcome were made and replied to, and a very excellent musical programme was gone through. The Ven. Archdeacon Dudley was amongst those present, and with his usual charm of manner welcomed the Rev. Mr Dixon and his wife to the neighbourhood. The event of the evening was the presentation of a handsome marble clock and splendid silver salver from the congregation. The presentation was made by Mr Patterson, who presided, during the evening. Mr and Mrs Dixon may well feel proud of their popularity, as evidenced by the enthusiasm shown at the social.

Mr A. L. Smith, who has left Dunedin for South Australia, was, before his departure, the recipient of a handsome presentation from the employees of the Massey Harris Co., whose head traveller he has been for years. The presentation consisted of an address and a case of pipes, with a dressing case bag for Mrs Smith.

Mr G. Dunnet, French Consul, Auckland, returned from Sydney by the Ellingamite last Monday.

Mr James Kirker, manager of the South British Insurance Company, Auckland, left by the Zealandia on Monday for Sydney.

Mr and Mrs Robert Frater, and Miss Frater, of Takapuna, were passengers by the Zealandia from Auckland for Sydney. After visiting the principal cities in Australia they will return via the Bluff.

Among the passengers who left Auckland by the Zealandia for Sydney were Mr and Mrs Isidor Alexander and Miss Alexander.

Mr W. G. Wood, of Napier, who is leaving there for Wanganui, was prior to his departure presented with a handsome travelling rug by Mr George Marshall, on behalf of the United Cricket Club, for which Mr Wood has for some time past been a most able secretary.

Mrs Lines, of the Bank of New South Wales, Napier, is leaving there for a visit to Turipapanga.

The many friends of Miss Hilda Hitchings are delighted to see her back in Napier again after her long residence in England.

Dr. and Mrs Ronald, of Napier, have left for a visit to Sydney.

Mr W. H. Cooper, of Napier, is leaving for Wellington. Last Saturday he was presented with a set of razors from his fellow clerks in the firm of Messrs J. Vigor Brown and Co.

Mr. Mrs and Miss Boulton have arrived from Auckland. They are staying with Mrs Bannehr, of Hastings, and intend giving a grand concert in the Athenaeum Hall, Napier, to-night.

Mr Tuke, of Waipukurau, has left for Napier to take charge of St. Augustine's Church there.

Owing to her approaching marriage with Dr. Irving, of Christchurch, and late of Napier, Miss Tutin has resigned her appointment as matron of the Napier Hospital.

Miss Perry, of Masterton, who has been paying a long visit to her sister, Mrs McKay, of Napier, returned home last week.

Mrs Sidesy, of Dunedin, has left her aunt, Mrs Davidson, of the Bluff Hill, Napier, and has gone to stay with her mother, in Auckland.

Miss I. Goldwater from Auckland is spending her term holidays with her parents in New Plymouth.

Mr Noble, of the Auckland Post Office, has been on a short visit to New Plymouth, but has now returned.

Mr Pridham, of New Plymouth, on account of ill health has gone for a trip to Auckland and Rotorua.

Miss Walker, of New Plymouth, has gone for a trip to Auckland.

Mr and Mrs Burgess, who have been on a visit to Wellington, have returned to New Plymouth.

Last Thursday evening at the Criterion Hotel, New Plymouth, a number of friends assembled to bid farewell to Mr Garry, conductor of the Town Band. Mr Dockrill (Mayor) after making an appropriate speech, presented him with a purse of sovereigns. Mr Garry suitably responded. Captain Tautou, on behalf of the Guards, also presented Mr Garry with a very handsome silver-mounted cane and cigar case, as a souvenir of their appreciation of his assistance at several of their socials held at the club.

The numerous friends in Christchurch of Mrs Howie will be glad to hear she is on her way back to New Zealand. It was considered probable at one time that she would proceed to England.

Mr and Mrs F. M. Wallace have returned to Christchurch after a very enjoyable week in Wellington, the first part of which they spent with Mr and Mrs Embling, the remainder with Mr and Mrs John Prouse. On Tuesday Mr Wallace put in rehearsal "The Ode," composed by Mr Maughan Barnett, of Wellington, the words by Mr O. T. J. Alpers (Christchurch), for the opening day of the Exhibition. The chorus numbered over 200, and all seemed greatly pleased with the music.

Mr and Mrs T. W. Stringer, Christchurch, had a pleasant week in the Empire City, and returned on Sunday.

Mr and Mrs John Anderson are making a short visit to Wellington.

Mr and Mrs Joseph Palmer are back at "Woodford," Papanui, after spending the winter at Sumner.

Mrs J. Deans, Riccarton, in recent letters from her husband and daughter, bears they are spending a delightful time in Scotland, and greatly enjoying the scenery there.

Mr and Mrs J. A. Randall, after spending a week or two at Clearwell, came up to Christchurch, and are staying with Mr and Mrs Malet, Armagh-street, until they leave for England by the Gothic.

Mrs J. Hyme returned from Wellington recently, and has been staying with Mrs G. Merton, Park Terrace. The late news from South Africa must make her feel hopeful of very soon seeing her husband back.

Miss Wilson (Dunedin) is on a visit to her sister, Mrs R. Brown, Holly Road, St. Alban's.

Mrs J. H. Hall and the Misses Hall, of Riccarton, are at Sumner for a month.

Mr and Mrs Bloxam and family are spending the holidays at Sumner.

Miss Mills (Dunedin) is visiting her sister, Mrs J. H. Beswick, at Fendalton.

Miss Ollivier has returned to Christchurch, and will take charge of the housekeeping at Christ's College for Mrs Andrews' beginning her duties at once. She is looking remarkably well, and all her old friends are glad to welcome her back.

Bishop Wilson, of Melanesia, is paying Christchurch a short visit, and is the guest of Bishop and Mrs Julius at Bishopscourt. However, it is not all holiday with him. He preached to crowded congregations at St. Michael's on Sunday morning, while at the Cathedral in the evening many were unable to obtain admission. On Monday evening he lectured at St. Michael's schoolroom on mission work, and especially in connection with the Melanesian Islands.

Deep sympathy is felt for Mr A. S. Collins, of Nelson, and late of Kaikoura, whose daughter (Mrs Wilson-Smith), husband, and child perished in the recent fire at Martinborough. Also for Mr J. Collins, one of the masters at Christ's College, a brother of Mrs Wilson-Smith's, and who has many friends in Christchurch.

## Why Are Coals Dear.

The increase in the price of coals has touched the householder's pocket to such an extent that he is asking the reason why. Unusual demands owing to the South African war and the shutting down of several large Japanese coal mines, together with the increased winter trade, are among the causes, but a new light has been thrown on the subject by an intelligent N.S.W. collier.

From his statement it appears that a collier's work is often stopped by long spells of illness, for which the exertion and exposure to damp are to blame. The "Leichardt Standard" is responsible for the following information gathered from Thomas McCann, a collier, of 12, Cambridge-street, Miller's Point. Mr McCann says:—

"As the result of a neglected cold I fell into a low, feverish state. Bronchitis came on and nothing benefited me. I had to give up work and take to bed. My lungs seemed raw, and every fit of coughing exhausted me. I lost my appetite and became so exhausted that when I left bed and tried to get about my friends said I looked like a dead man trying to walk. I grew astonishingly thin, and my doctor said I would never get over the bronchitis unless I regained strength. A friend induced me to try Dr. Williams' pink pills. Even the first few doses brightened me up. I continued with them, and after using several boxes was able to return to work. My lungs are now sound, and I have no fear of the winter. I have a good appetite, and am so strong and robust that my fellow workers are astonished. Needless to say, I always recommend Dr. Williams' pink pills."

"By making rich red blood, Dr. Williams' pink pills gave Mr McCann strength to resist the bronchitis, which had such a strong hold when he was in a weak state. The building up properties of Dr. Williams' pink pills are so remarkable that they have cured thousands of cases of rheumatism, neuralgia, sciatica, coughs and colds, anaemia, nervous exhaustion, poor circulation, cold feet, paralysis, and even asthma, and consumption. Sold by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Wellington, three shillings per box, six boxes sixteen and six, post free, and by chemists and storekeepers—But mind you ask for Dr. Williams'. Interesting pamphlet free if you write.

## OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

### THE INVALIDED TROOPERS.

A photograph of the Troopers who returned by the Whakataane from South Africa appears in another page of this issue. A splendid welcome was extended the invalided men by the Mayor and public of Auckland. On the arrival of the steamer at the wharf, the Mayor, the Town Clerk, and a number of influential citizens, together with a vast crowd, escorted the troopers to the Town Hall, where a formal but enthusiastic reception was held, followed by a general drinking of healths in the Mayor's parlour. The speeches were all very felicitous, and so were the very modest replies of "the boys." The town was gaily decorated with bunting, and much enthusiasm prevailed. Most of the men still look far from well, but the glorious days of a New Zealand summer will no doubt soon completely restore them. The "Graphic" sincerely hopes so.

### A Study in Terra Cotta.

Among the visitors to an art exhibition were two old ladies from the country. With great interest they examined the statue of a young Greek, on the pedestal of which were inscribed the words "Executed in Terra Cotta."

"Where is Terra Cotta?" asked the lady with the poke bonnet.

"Bless my heart, Amandy, how should I know!" replied the lady with the gold-rimmed spectacles shoved up to her forehead.

"Never mind, dear," her friend reassured her, "it don't much signify. Wherever it was the poor man was executed is dead and gone now. We can only hope he didn't die a heathen."

### A BEAUTIFUL COMPLEXION.

Apply Sulpholine Lotion. It drives away pimples, blotches, roughness, redness, and all disfigurements. Sulpholine develops a lovely skin. In bottles. Made in London.—Adv.