

Tribe, Black, etc.

Of course the uppermost topic in Christchurch, as elsewhere, is the coming visit of Royalty, but we have not yet decided where the Royal visitors are to be located. There is one mansion, quite new, richly and handsomely furnished, and with such an easy moveable family of one at the head, that it strikes an onlooker what a graceful thing it would be if an offer of this princely home was made to the Reception Committee for the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall during their three days' residence in Christchurch. However good and fitting Coker's Hotel may be made in itself, the surroundings and locality are, to say the least of it, woefully uninteresting. Then comes the matter of dress, and some of our leading dress-makers must feel a little like Damocles and the sword, for they have warning that "if" the magic card arrives then the dress or bodice, as the case may be, will be wanted, so imagine how much hangs on that lithe word "if." The local bodies and the public are getting a little out of heart at the general curtailment of route and the time to be spent over it, because that is where the public come in; they are not present at any reception or function of any other kind, so there is a good deal of unrest over the whole programme yet.

The first meet this season of the Christchurch Hunt Club took place on Saturday on Mr. Whitty's property. A fairly large field was present, and after an excellent luncheon a pleasant afternoon's sport was enjoyed over the surrounding properties of Messrs. Muirhead, Cox, Hayward and Bond, finishing up at Lawford (Mr. and Mrs. W. Bond's) at afternoon tea. Among those present riding or driving were: Mr. and Mrs. H. Cotterill and Miss Ronalds, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Woodroffe, Mrs. Miss Stead and Miss Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. Reswick and Miss Reswick, Mr. and Mrs. Carlyon, Miss Nedwill, Miss Gerard, Mr. and Miss Bassett, Mr. and Mrs. Clarkson, Messrs. O'Rorke, Stead (2), Turrell, Acton-Adams, etc.

A Masonic ball takes place this week in the Canterbury Hall, where great preparations are going on. The decorations are to be on a very lavish scale, and as the handsome hall lends itself well to any further embellishment a bright and pretty scene may be expected.

Two motor car journeys of some renown have recently been made, and will show the perfect state of the roads in and about Christchurch for cycle traffic. One of these was to Hanmer Springs, the arrival of the car causing quite a buzz of excitement in the little village. The other was accomplished by Mrs. Wycliffe Goodman, who negotiated the machine herself, and rode in from Rockwood Station, a distance of sixty miles, in a few hours.

The Christchurch Liedertafel held a Heren Abend last Friday evening, and after the concert Mr. W. Izard, the president, entertained the members at an oyster supper. I hear it was an excellent concert, so I hope soon a Gemischter Abend will be our good fortune, when they usually give us the pick of their evening, with something new added.

DOLLY VALE.

NELSON.

(DELATED.)

Dear Rec, April 22.

An enjoyable

CONCERT

was given in the Shelburne-street schoolroom on Monday evening in aid of the Cathedral choir fund. The room was tastefully decorated for the occasion, and there were quite a large number present. A well arranged programme was prepared, and almost every item was encored. Pianoforte selections were played by Master Vernon Ront and Miss D. Knapp; Miss P. Buchanan played a violin solo; duets were sung by the Misses Driscoll (2) and Messrs Lucas

and A. C. Magianity; and songs were contributed by Miss Leggart, Miss Hasby, Miss Driscoll, Miss Mackay, the Rev. J. P. Kempthorne, Messrs Lucas and Magianity, all of which were greatly appreciated by the audience. Miss Hanby is a young singer who possesses a fine voice, and with a few years' hard work she should achieve great success. The accompanists were Miss E. Kempthorne and Mr. Naylor, the Cathedral organist. Amongst those present were noticed: Mrs. Glasgow, Miss Glasgow, Miss Looking (Nawier), Mrs. Leggart, Mrs. Adams, Mrs. A. Glasgow, Mrs. Mackay, Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Magianity, Mrs. W. Ront, Mrs. Dickie, Misses Leven, Johnston (Wellington), Webb-Hewson (2), M. Glasgow, Harris, Heaps, Poole, Clifford, Magianity, Ellis, etc., etc.

THE NELSON JOCKEY CLUB'S ANNUAL MEETING

was held last Wednesday and Thursday at the Richmond racecourse. Unfortunately the weather on the first day was not propitious, heavy rain fell, accompanied by a strong wind, and it looked as though there would have to be a postponement, but later on there was a slight improvement, so the meeting was held. Of course the attendance was poor, and ladies were conspicuous by their absence, but on the whole the racing was of an interesting character. The second day's racing was held under more favourable auspices. The morning was bright and cloudless, and this had the effect of attracting a larger attendance, though it was hardly as good as it should have been. Amongst the ladies present were:—Mrs J. Oldham, dark costume with bonnet to match; Mrs Percy Adams, grey cloth coat and skirt, with revers of white satin, black and steel hat; Mrs Charles Watts, smart costume of mauve cloth, bonnet to match; Mrs George Watts (Blenheim) was admired in a deep violet costume

trimmed with velvet of a lighter shade, large hat to match; Mrs Jack Sharp, half mourning costume; Mrs H. Glasgow (Christchurch), tailor-made coat and skirt, black hat; Mrs Trolove, black costume, bonnet to match; Mrs A. Mackay; Miss Madge Mackay, blue costume, black velvet hat trimmed with red silk; Miss Richmond, black relieved with little white; the Misses MacEas (2); and others whose names I did not know.

There is every probability that in a short time a very old land mark will have disappeared from our midst. I refer to the tram line and its most antiquated tram, which has run therefor many years, and is now to be bought by the City Council. Nelson people are at last awakening to the fact that it is necessary to keep up with the times, and there is a talk of many improvements. The "Noah's Ark" tram is well known to visitors, and those who have not seen it should do so at once, or they might be too late, and find an electric tram in its place.

PHYLIS.

BLENHEIM.

(DELATED.)

Dear Rec, April 22.
The Operatic Society met last week and decided to practise "Les Cloches de Corneville," but the parts have not yet been allotted. The opera is very popular and should attract good audiences. Miss Waddy has issued invitations to a series of Cinderella Assemblies, to be held in Ewart's Hall during the winter, and beginning on May 3rd. Other dances are being talked of, and the Garrison Band is already making arrangements for a ball, to be held on May 8th, the proceeds of which will be devoted to the Uniform Fund. There was no excitement over the municipal election, as both Mayor-elect and Councillors were unopposed.

SMITH AND CAUGHEY

MANUFACTURERS, IMPORTERS AND CASH DRAPERS.

DEPARTMENTS.

Silks
Dresses
Costumes
Mantles
Millinery
Ladies'
Underclothing
Baby Linen
Boots and Shoes
Hosiery
Gloves
Umbrellas
Ribbons

Laces
Fancy Goods
Haberdashery
General Drapery
Blankets
Rugs
Flannels
Calicoes
Ready-made
Clothing
Gents' Mercery and
Outfitting
Tailoring

Linen
Furniture
Bedding
Carpets
Linoleum
Hats
Boys' Clothing
Tea
Refreshment
and
Toilet Rooms