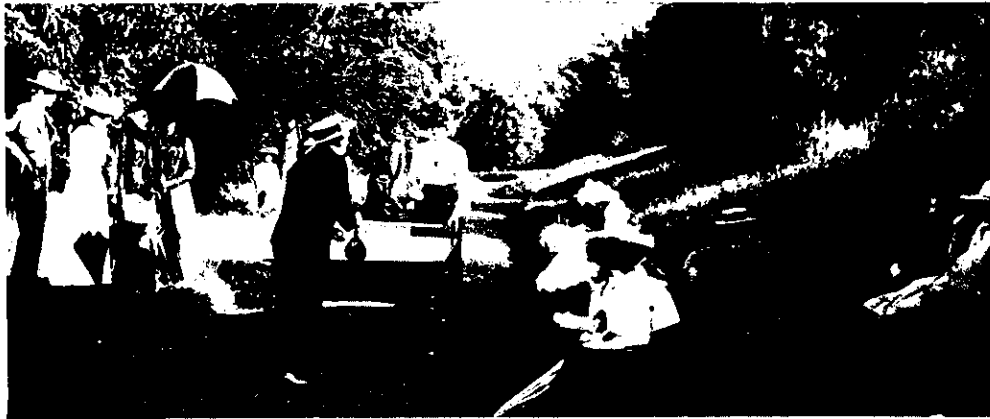


The Garden Party at "The Pah."



THE PAH MANSION.



PING PONG.



GROUP ON THE VERANDA.



A CORNER OF THE GROUNDS.



THE TENNIS LAWN.

For the past nineteen years a boys' school has been established at St. John's College, Tamaki. It was begun by the Rev. W. Gulliver, M.A., and was continued by the Rev. T. F. King, who died in 1889. From that date until 1901 the Rev. P. S. Smallfield was the headmaster of the school, and under his management it became one of the leading boarding schools of the colony.

At the last session of the General Synod, however, the question of the management of the theological college of St. John received a great deal of consideration, and, with a view to the improvement of the College, and to the settlement of its affairs on something like a permanent basis, it was resolved that the boys' school should be removed from the college buildings, and that these should be used in the future for the occupation of the theological students alone. Mr Smallfield thus found himself obliged to look for a new location for his school, and as the beautiful Pah homestead happened at the time to be in the market, he was fortunately able to arrange for its purchase, and to adapt it to school purposes. Spacious class-rooms have been built on the grounds, the roomy stable has been turned into a gymnasium, and several important alterations have been carried out within the house itself. The result is that the well-known mansion, "The Pah," which stands out so prominently on the hill overlooking Onehunga, has become a well-equipped boarding school for boys, fitted with every convenience for the comfort of the inmates, standing in grounds beautiful and attractive in the highest degree, and, owing to its elevated position and nearness to the West Coast, situated in one of the healthiest spots that can be found anywhere in New Zealand. The school grounds include the large area of 48 acres, partly playing fields and partly gardens and shrubberies, thus affording the pupils plenty of space for recreation, and imparting that sense of freedom so essential to the proper development of growing boys.

On the eastern side of the house are the garden and orchard, and an attractive green slope ending in a level cricket ground. On the western side is a large quadrangle on one side of which stands a detached dormitory for elder pupils, also the boys' library and social room. Adjoining the quadrangle are the class-rooms, gymnasium, armoury, workshop, etc. The class-rooms have been built with a special view to securing sufficient light and good ventilation, and the science-room has been admirably designed for lectures and laboratory work.

On Monday, February 10, the opening day of the new school, about 500 guests assembled at the invitation of the Rev. P. S. and Mrs Smallfield, and spent a very pleasant hour in the garden and in making an inspection of the buildings and grounds. Among the guests were several of the clergy of the diocese, with their wives and families. One of the clergymen present, Dr. Purchas, could recall the time when the site of the Pah was but a fern-clad hill. The Most Reverend the Primate, Bishop Cowie, the visitor of the school, was unavoidably prevented from being present. Our illustrations record some of the scenes of this interesting occasion.

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