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MRS W. B. WEBSTER,
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Bridal Shower Bouquets, Sprays, Buttonholes, and Floral Baskets most artistically arranged. Choice Cut Flowers always on hand. Funeral Emblems in great variety of designs always on hand. OPPOSITE RAILWAY STATION, 29, QUEEN STREET, AUCKLAND.

FLORAL WORK.
THE FINEST DISPLAY IN THE CITY.—WEDDING BOUQUETS A SPECIALTY.—WREATHS, CROSSES, AND FLORAL EMBLEMS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION AT MODERATE PRICES.—CUT FLOWERS DAILY.—POT PLANTS ON HIRE.—Porcelain Wreaths, Crosses, and other Designs in Glass Shades.—G. J. MACKAY, Florist and Seedsman, 125, QUEEN-ST., 4 doors from Union Bank.

ENGAGEMENTS.

The engagement has been announced of Miss Maria Jane (May) Housell, daughter of Mr Pierre Housell, of Papakura, to Mr Joseph Victor, of Wellington (son of the late Mr Victor, of Christchurch).

The engagement is announced of Miss Anderson, daughter of Captain W. E. Anderson, to Mr G. R. Rutherford, eldest son of G. R. Rutherford, Esq., Paunagarehu, Taranaki.

Lord Beauchamp, ex-Governor of New South Wales, is to be married in July.

[Lord Beauchamp is to be married to Lady Lettice Grosvenor, sister of the Duke of Westminster.]

FROM PROSPERITY TO POVERTY.

A SAD RESULT OF A BUSH FIRE.

Perhaps the saddest circumstance resulting from a bush fire is one which occurred in Winnipeg, Canada, in June last year. Benjamin Spencer ploughed in the fields when he was a lad of ten. He began at a salary of a dollar a week, and worked on the same fields for 20 years, during which time, owing to his saving habits and sobriety, he saved a thousand dollars. Eventually he purchased the farm from his employer and married. Five years after his marriage, he decided to go with his wife for a trip to Europe. Foolishly he drew all his money out of the bank in notes, stating in "country parlance" he would not trust any bank while he was away. Two days before his departure a bush fire occurred on his farm. In a very short time the flames spread to the homestead, and every cent of Spencer's money was destroyed and the unfortunate farmer became penniless. What cannot occur in a day? One moment we may be well and healthy, the next ill-health may strike us to the ground. This calamity may be ward off by taking Bile Beans for Biliousness. They act gently on the liver, stimulate the whole digestive organism, make worn-out lives new, and bring perfect health even to the most sickly. Therefore have a care and "nip in the bud" that which you think might hereafter give you trouble.

TO THE LADIES

Ladies who wish to make their Homes Artistic should go to SHAKESPEAR'S ART NEEDLEWORK DEPOTS, QUEEN-ST. AND KARANGAHAPE RD. (Late Mrs Hunter). Where they will find every kind of Fancy Work and Materials—Point Lace Braids in Silk and Linen, Latest Designs in Collars, Transparent Yokes, Vests, etc.

Berlins and Fancy Knitting Wools in great variety. Pearls's Washing Silks and Merceries. Art Linens in all Shades.

Special Attention given to Country Orders.

Society Gossip

AUCKLAND.

Dear Bee, June 3, 1902. DINNER PARTY AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

A dinner party was given on Tuesday evening by His Excellency the Governor and the Countess of Ranfurly. The following received invitations:—The Most Rev. the Primate (Bishop Cowie), Major-General Babington, Mrs Babington, Miss Babington, Captain Campbell, Lieut-Colonel Banks, Mrs Banks, Mr H. Dillon Bell, Mrs Foscawen, Miss Foscawen, Mr H. Brett, Mrs H. Brett, Mrs McCosh Clark, Miss Clark, Mr Clark, the Hon. H. de B. Devereux, the Hon. Mrs Devereux, Miss Devereux, Mr H. B. Morton, Mrs H. B. Morton, Mrs Louis Myers, Mr A. M. Myers, Mr L. D. Nathan, Mrs L. D. Nathan, Canon Nelson, Mrs Nelson, Miss Nelson, Mr E. D. O'Rorke, Mrs E. D. O'Rorke, Dr. W. H. Parkes, Mrs W. H. Parkes.

The dinner table was beautifully decorated with large silver bowls of many coloured roses down the centre, with trails of feathery lycopodium and cerise ribbon festooned between. Lady Ranfurly wore black net spangled with paillettes over black satin, with a large choux of blue mousseline-soleo on side of decolletage and across the front, caught at the waist, and falling in flowing pendent ends to the hem of skirt. She wore her lovely diamonds. Mrs C. M. Nelson wore a black Duchesse satin, with jet on corsage, and a large velvet rosette studded with moon stones, and black plumes in coiffure; Mrs Foscawen was in a blue silk corsage, with black silk skirt; Mrs Devereux, black satin; Mrs Dennis O'Rorke was attired in a Nile green silk, with cream lace; Mrs L. D. Nathan wore black, with clusters of coronation red flowers; Mrs Banks was in black satin; Mrs McCosh Clark was in black brocade, with touches of white; Mrs Myers wore a Paris gown of black crepe-de-chine, covered with paillettes, and a cream applique round corsage; Mrs Morton was in a black merveilleux; Mrs Parkes wore black merveilleux with flounces, wide Maltese lace over pink satin round decolletage; Miss Nelson was in white brocade with net flounces, clusters of bright scarlet flowers on corsage and in coiffure; Miss Devereux wore carnine red silk; Miss McCosh Clark wore topaz yellow silk, with white tulle berthe.

Quite ONE OF THE MOST ENJOYABLE OF SOCIETY FUNCTIONS OF THIS SEASON

was the "At home" given by Mrs Andrew Hanna at her residence, Te Tirolinga, Remuera, last Thursday evening. Their house is beautifully adapted for entertaining of any kind, with its wide verandah and lengthy and wide passage between the rooms, which afforded such charming and cool retreats for the couples during the intervals of dancing. Mr and Mrs Andrew Hanna received their many guests in their usual cordial manner in one of the ball-rooms. Two rooms were thrown open for the lovers of dancing. The floors were in capital condition, and the music being in the able hands of Burke and his string band, it will be needless to say, was all that could be desired. The decorations were extensive, and the verandah encanvased. In an ante-

room a graphophone amused the non-dancers. Here tea, coffee, and lighter refreshments were served during the early part of the evening. Supper, which was served in the dining room, was an exceptionally dainty affair, everything being carried out in a recherche manner, the long table being decorated with green silk drapery, and as a centre-piece was a looking-glass surrounded with vases of Gloire de Dijon and Cloth of Gold roses, while smaller vases were arranged with bunches of loosely-gathered violets. The supper consisted of oysters, chicken, ham, trifles, jellies, and sweets, flanked with wines of various kinds. The dance was kept up with vigour till an early hour in the morning. Amongst those present were:—Mrs Andrew Hanna, very stylish black lace over black voile, the sleeves and decolletage were of black net, finished with black beads, pink forget-me-nots on corsage, and wreath of the same in coiffure; Mrs Black, black satin, with black passementerie and pink roses; Mrs Proude, grey silk, figured with black, and trimmed with narrow band of black velvet on skirt, black net flounce on edge of skirt, the decolletage was finished with the same; Miss Jackson, black satin, with chiffon; Miss Jackson, black satin with white lace and red roses; Miss R. Jackson, black lace over voile, with ciel blue choux in coiffure and on decolletage; Miss Cotter, pink costume, with silver brocade; Miss M. Cotter, white Bara-thea silk, draped with silver spangled gauze; Miss W. Cotter, black silk; Miss Ching, brocade white silk, chiffon bodice, with trails of convolvulus; Mrs Thomas Morrin, very elegant white chiffon over white silk, with applique of black silk embroidery; Miss Morrin, dainty pink costume; and her sister wore her white debutante costume, with white choux in coiffure; Mrs O'Rorke wore an exquisite robe of mauve silk, the bodice was stylishly draped with white lace; Mrs Upfal, white brocade, with shoulder straps and decolletage of silver passementerie; Mrs Lawford, white silk; Miss Carr, white silk, with pink flowers in coiffure and on shoulder; Mrs Foster, white silk, with pink flowers in coiffure; Miss — McCosh Clark, lemon-coloured silk, with draping of white tulle on decolletage; Mrs Payton, black silk, with overdress of lace and silver ornaments; Miss Lennox, very pretty costume of dome blue voile, with overdress of chiffon, with gold passementerie shoulder straps and decolletage; Miss Stevenson, black silk skirt, canary bodice veiled in black lace, cluster of yellow flowers on corsage and in coiffure; Miss D. Stevenson, maize satin, with bands of blue insertion let in from waist to hem of skirt, blue flowers on shoulder and in coiffure; Miss D. Stevenson, bright pink silk, with white lace; Miss Ware, black silk with beading and soft white chiffon decolletage; Miss D. Ware, white silk with lace insertion; Mrs H. T. Gorrie looked exceedingly well in a white silk with flounced skirt; Miss Gorrie wore white silk veiled in a white net with satin bands, white flower in coiffure; Miss N. Gorrie, white chine silk with lace flounces on skirt, silver passementerie and white flowers on decolletage, white flower in coiffure; Mrs McCosh Clark, rich black silk with garniture of black lace and diamonds; Miss McCosh Clark, ciel blue silk, the decolletage was swathed with tulle, straps of marguerite daisies on shoulders, large spray of white small daisies relieved the coiffure; Miss Eve Smith, black voile with over-dress of black lace, blue choux in coiffure and on corsage; Miss Hanna, white silk with blue silk waistband and blue flowers on corsage and in coiffure; her sister wore a pretty white silk with pink silk waistband and pink flowers on corsage and in coiffure; Misses Kerr-Taylor (2), wore pink voiles with over-dresses of pink grenadines, and the decolletage and coiffure were relieved with silver sprays; Miss Woodward was much admired in black satin, relieved at corsage and in coiffure with choux of pink; Miss Thompson, ciel blue silk with over-dress of gauze, relieved with tuckings and white flowers; Miss — Thompson, pink silk with tuckings from waist to edge of skirt, pink rambler roses on decolletage and in coiffure; Mrs Foster, black silk with pink roses in coiffure and on decol-

letage; Miss Dargaville, rich black silk with decolletage and shoulder straps of silver passementerie, silver flower in coiffure; Miss M. Dargaville, white silk, trained skirt with chi-chi flounces on skirt, pouched blouse, gold lace zouave; Miss Devereux, plain white silk with pink flowers on decolletage; her sister, white silk with design of small spray of heliotrope flowers, lace zouave; Miss Horton, white silk with over - all of gauze; Miss Goodwin, black silk with lace over-dress, black bow in coiffure; her sister wore a black gown with white choux in coiffure; Miss Firth, pink satin with lace insertion; Miss E. Isaacs, rich pink silk; Miss McFarland, white silk relieved with pink flowers; her sister wore a white silk with lace insertion; Miss Pierce, simple white silk; Miss Towle, white silk with narrow bands of black velvet on decolletage and on skirt; Messrs Elliott, O'Rorke, Crombie, Lawford, Stacey, Myers, Banks (who has just returned from South Africa), Lennox, Morrin (2), Upfal, Jackson, McCormick, Stevenson, Cotter, McLaughlin, Anderson, Lawrence, Foster, McCosh Clark, Clarke, Dargaville, Pritt, Gorrie (2), Isaacs, Horton, Meredith, Wynyard, Purchas, Jackson (2), Thompson, Armitage, Brodie, Pierce, Thorne-George, Lloyd, Norton, Dr. Inglis.

PING-PONG AFTERNOON.

Mrs Kilgour gave two delightful afternoon tea and ping-pong parties in Iredale's up-to-date Tea Rooms last week. The tea-tables were very daintily arranged with exquisite china and pretty flowers. Amongst those present were:—Mrs Kenderdine, Mrs Alexander, Mrs Kissling, Mrs Davis, Mrs Tewsley, Mrs Baume, Mrs Friend, Mrs S. Nathan, Mrs Russell, Mrs McConnell, Mrs White, Mrs Boulton, Miss White, Miss Boulton, Mrs Holmes, Miss Gawler, Mrs Smith, Miss Hunt, Mrs D'Arcy, Miss Bacheider, Miss Thompson, Miss Marsack, Mrs Thompson, Miss Walker, Mrs Rathbone, Miss Pollen, Mrs Roach, Miss Leatham, Mrs Seagren, Miss Nicoll, Mrs Arnold, Miss Brown, Mrs Alfred Goodson (Hawera), Mrs Arch-Taylor, Mrs Dr. Gordon, Mrs Stevenson, Mrs Beale, Mrs Colegrove, Miss Gill.

PING - PONG.

Last Saturday evening the Eden and Epsom Ping-pong Club held a very successful opening night in St. Barnabas' Hall, Mt. Eden. Six tables were provided, and the games proceeded in a most animated manner, some very graceful and brilliant playing being exhibited. Next Saturday evening a medal will be played off for. Amongst those present were: Mrs S. Hesketh, brown and gold figured silk gown with vest of white gathered silk; Mrs C. C. Baker, pale blue and pink striped silk blouse, black silk skirt; Miss Bews, black and white figured satin gown; Mrs Ernest Beale, grey and white striped silk blouse with bright blue choux, black silk trained skirt; Mrs Bedlington, black silk and jet trained gown, white and pink cap; Mrs C. Chapman, black silk gown ornamented with jet, white lace vest and collar, brightened with blue; Mrs Goodwin, black silk and jet; Miss Durieu, black dress with touches of blue; Mdlle. Couche, ruby velvet evening blouse with white lace berthe, black skirt; Mrs Frank Mogini, blush rose pink satin blouse, softened with white chiffon, black silk skirt; Mrs Knight, soft white and black blouse with pink rosette; Miss Macfarlane, black gown, relieved with white; Misses Austin (2) wore black frocks with pretty lace collars; Miss Rees George, black and white figured silk blouse with white lace collar and black skirt; Mrs Arthur Hooper, black and white striped silk blouse with lace and black trained silk skirt; Mrs Noakes, dainty grey striped silk blouse with cream Maltese lace collar, black skirt; Miss Jordan, blue velvet blouse and dark skirt; Mrs Beaumont, black silk gown, embroidered with jet, touches of pink; Mrs Udy, black gown with crimson cloak; Mrs Brown, black silk gown; Mrs Barnett, black merveilleux with trimmings of rose pink velvet and jet. Among the gentlemen were Messrs Goodwin, Udy, C. C. Baker, Noakes, Hesketh (9), Arthur Waller, Ernest Brown, Mogini, Rees George, Beale, A. Hooper, C. Chapman, Knight, etc., etc.