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MUSIC AND DRAMA.

Practically the holidays are over, and the big rush at the theatres of the colony, which prevailed at pretty well every place of entertainment in well every place of entertainment in New Zealand during the past fort-night, is to some extent over. But a night, is to some extent over. But a larger number, of visitors are remain-ing in all the principal towns than usual, so business is everywhere more than averagely good.

In Auckland there has been a larger

In Auckland there has been a larger influx of visitors from Australia, the South and the country than has ever been recorded before, and naturally the theatres have reaped the benefit. Both "The Runaway Girl" and "The Wrong Mr Wright" had prolonged runs. The former gives way at His Majesty's Theatre to-night to "San Toy," and though it sounds Irish, "On and Off" gues "on" at the Opera House. The competition at the two houses is very keen, and extraordin-House. The competition at the two houses is very keen, and extraordinarily well balanced. It is unlikely Aucklanders will see two such evenly matched companies playing together in opposition for some time. As money still seems to be plentiful, both shows are doing equally well, but as the Willoughby-Geach Company is less numerous, it is presumably also less costly, and therefore may be getting slightly the best of the deal. Both little Pete Hughes and Mr Geach wear faces which radiate Mr Geach wear faces which radiate smiles as they look over their "treasury returns" o' nights, so that the happiest state of things appears to exist in the Northern capital so far as things theatrical are concerned.

Quick changes, fun and plenty of it, will be the Loudon Comedy Company's motto in Auckland for the repany's motto in Augustand for the re-mainder of the season. "On and Off" will run till January 12. Then will follow three nights of "Why Smith Left Home," to be followed by a final couple of evenings investigating "What Happened to Jones."

"Charley's Aunt" did remarkably well in Christchurch.

The Majeroni Dramatic Company reports excellent business during its coastal trip. It will fill further dates on the roads of both islands before opening in Wellington.

The Leigh Douglas Comedy Company did well at Wanganui during the holidays with "Confusion," which was greatly appreciated by very large audiences.

Personal Paragraphs.

Mrs Medley (Wellington) is visiting friends in Wanganui.

Mrs Abbott (Wellington) has gone up to Auckland for the races.

Miss Large, of "The Mount," Na-pier, is visiting friends in Dunedin. Mr and Mrs Richardson (Master-

ton) spent Christmas in Wellington. Mr and Mrs Wiggins, Sumner, have gone to Mt. Cook.

The Hon. J. D. Ormond (Hawke's Bay) is on a visit to Wellington.

Sir George Whitmore will probably return to the colony by the Waiwers. Mrs and Miss Bloxam, Papanui, are at Governor's Bay for a change.

Mr Henry Wood (Christchurch) has gone a trip to Sydney.

The Rev. W. S. Bowle and Bowie, of Waipawa, have gone for a trin to Rotorna.

Lieutenant Hovell has returned from South Africa, and is spending his leave at the Deanery, Napier.

Mr and Mrs R. L. Levin (Wellington) have been spending the holidays at Bowlands, Wairarapa.

Mr and Mrs Peter Wood, Christ-church, are spending the holidays at Sumner.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Baillie, Carterton were staying with Lieutenant and Mrs. Baillie in Picton for Christmas.

Mr and Mrs Thomas (Auckland) are visiting Mr and Mrs J. C. Wilkin, Carlton Place, for Christmas.

Mrs Ralph Fitzherbert (Marton, Rangitikei) is paying a visit to Wel-

Mr. and Mrs. Welford were in Picton for Christmas, staying with Dr. and Mrs. Scott.

Christehurch, has Miss Ronalds. one on a visit to Miss Courage, Amberlev.

Mrs M. Turrell, Christchurch, back from her visit to Rotorua, much improved in health.

(Mr and Mrs Jellicoe (Wellington) are staying at Bellevue Gardens, Lower Hutt, for part of the summer.

Mrs G. Gould and family (Christ-church) are going to spend the holi-days at Moeraki.

Dr and Mrs Reginald Stowe (Palmerston North) are staying with Mr and Mrs Stowe, Wellington.
Mr Webster (Wellington) is staying with his sister, Mrs Chaffey, at High-

field. Amuri.

Mr. L. F. Allen, Wellington, spent few days in Picton with his people this week.

Miss Daniel and Miss Abbott (Wellington) have gone to Hawke's Bay; Miss Butts is on a visit to Napier.

Mr and Mrs Ernest Coleridge (Wellington) are staying at St. Vicarage for the time being.

Mrs E. D. Benjamin has returned to her Auckland home from her trip to Sydney.

Miss Grace Harcourt is back in Wellington, after a round of visits in Canterbury.

miss Isabel Blackett (Wellington)
on a visit to Mrs Lysaght, "Mois on a visit to Mrs Lysaght, koia," Hawke's Bay.

and Mrs W. Wood church) have gone for a trip to Mt.

Mrs C. Wiggins (Wellington) is visiting her mother, Mrs Klver, Tuamstreet, Christchurch.

Mrs. Jenkins, of the Bank of New South Wales, Blenheim, has gone to Nelson on a visit to friends.

Miss Laura Beauchamp, "Anikiwa," Queen Charlotte Sound, has gone to spend her holidays in Wellington,

Mrs Michael Studholme, Waimate, came up to Christchurch to meet her daughter, who returned from England in the Ruapehu.

Mr and Mrs F. de C. Malet, Christ-church, and Mrs Randell are staying at Clearwell, with Mr and Mrs Leopard Malet.

Among passengers by the Victoria to Wellington were Mr and Mrs A. W. Cave, of Masterton, who have been paying the Old Country a visit.

Amongst the N.Z. visitors to London this year will be Mr and Mrs Wilford, of Wellington. They leave on their tour to-day (Wednesday).

Miss Scanlon, formerly of Blen-helm, now living a Palmerston North, has been visiting Mrs. W. Green, and staying at the Club Hotel, Blenheim.

Mr. James Greensill and Mr. Whitehorn cycled from Motueka, Nelson, to spend Christmas with Mrs. Green-sill at Waikawa, Picton.

Mr A. J. Allom, of Parnell, Auck-land, intends going on a visit to the South about the end of the present month.

Another well-known newspaper man, one of the proprietors of the "London Times," Mr Stephen Walter, is visiting N.Z.

Mr and Mrs V. Hargreaves, Merivale, have gone to Mr and Mrs Peter Cunningham, Pleasant Point, for a fortnight.

Mrs and the Misses Dillon, who are returning to the colony after a pro-longed absence abroad, were passenzers by the same steamer.

Mr and Mrs W. Ferguson are at Otaki for some weeks before returning to their town house in Welling-

Captain Edwin and the Misses Ed-in (Wellington) are going the trip of Stewart Island and the West to Stewart Coast Sounds by the Walkare.

Mr and Mrs W. D. Wood and Mrs H. Wood and children (Christchurch) have gone to "Swyncombe," Kaikours. for Christmas.

The Misses Henry (Wellington), who went Home about a year ago, have decided to prolong their stay for some time.

The Rev. T. H. Sprott and Mrs Sprott (Wellington) are going to Christchurch for some weeks on a holiday trip.

Mrs Von Dadelzen, of the Napier Athenaeum, has gone to spend several weeks with Mrs Shrimpton, of Clive Grange.

Mrs Vawdrey Baldwin (Palmerston North) has been visiting Welling-ton, staying with Mr and Mrs U. Pearce.

Mr and Mrs A. de B. Brandon (Wellington) are staying at their country house at Pahatanui for part of the

Mr Adams, conductor of the choir of the Church of the Sacred Heart, was last Sunday the recipient of a handsome presentation from the Rev. Dr. Egan and members of the choir.

Mr E. M. Carr, who was for many years employed on the New Zealand railways, has been appointed secre-tary to the Amalgamated Railway and Tramway Service Association of New South Wales.

Mr and Mrs Ewen and Mr Percy uller are making a short stay in Huller are making a short stay in Wanganui, prior to doing the river trip and spending a few days at Pipl-riki.

Mr and Mrs Butt, Mrs Watson, and a large party of young people are camping out at Port Underwood for some weeks, returning to Wellings ton about the end of January.

Mr and Mrs J. Strang (Palmerston North) have just returned from a trip to England, and are spending a few days in Wellington before procceding home.

Miss K. FitzGerald (Wellington) is on a wisit to friends in Otago and Southland. Miss B. FitzGerald is home after a long stay in Christ-

The motor-car craze is in full force in Wellington. Among the latest mo-torists are Dr. Collins, Mr H. D. Bell, Mr T. W. Hislop, Mr Justice Ed-wards, Mr H. P. Barber, M.H.R., and Dr. Chapple.

Lady Berkely and the Missos Berkely have left for Hong Kong, where they will live for the future, Bir H. Berkely having accepted an appointment there after leaving Fiji.

Mr D. Miller, Inspector of Post-of-fices in the North Island, has been appointed postmaster of the Wanga-nui office, and left Auckland last Fri-dey for Wanganui.

Mrs Longden (Sydney) and two daughters are over on a visit, and were recently staying with Mrs Longden's sister, Mrs Peache, Mount

Mr. W. B. Fisher, the Wellington secretary of St. John's Ambulance As-sociation, and Mrs. Fisher, are spend-ing the Christmas holidays in Marlborough.

Mrs. Beauchamp, Anikiwa, Picton, and Miss L. Greensill, Waikawa, have gone to Motucka, Nelson, to visit Miss Pearon, and Mrs. Sallsbury for a few

Mr and Mrs W. L. Kennedy, of "Ellerslie," Toko, and their son, have been on a short visit to Wangami to spend Christmas with Mrs Heron, of Durie Hill.

Mr F. Wilding, Christchurch, and one of his daughters, have gone to Nelson to the tennis tournament, and Mrs Wilding and the other two daughters to Timaru, and are staying at "Beverley."

The many friends of Miss Ivy Hill, daughter of the late Mr Thos, Hill, Collector of Customs, who is gifted with a very rich soprano voice, will be pleased to learn that she has been engaged by Algar Leslie for an ex-tended tour through America. The Sydney press speaks very highly of her as a dramatic artist. Mr Leslie enys she wil cut a figure sure in Ame



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