

# Society Gossip.

Special to the "Graphic."

## NOTICE.

The Editor desires to draw the attention of occasional contributors of any items to the Society Gossip columns that name and address must be given with copy, otherwise any such communication cannot be recognised.

## AUCKLAND.

April 3.

### At The Races.

THE weather conditions for the Races could hardly have been worse and so very uncertain. On Saturday the morning was very dull, so many people wore dark clothes, and sweated in them all day. Monday morning, likewise, was dull, so people thought of Saturday's experience, and put on light, flimsy frocks. Result—Poured heavens' hand, and people went home angry and dragged (unless they were winners; then they did not mind). In spite of everything, lots of people enjoyed Monday better than the first day. It was very amusing to listen to the reasons people gravely gave one why they nearly went on Edo, who paid the big dividend. One lady said: I can't think why I did not, because our motor-launch is painted Echo's colours; another did back Edo because she was so fond of the song "Echo"; and so on. The only thing that seemed to be improved by the rain were the flower beds. These, being of the carpet bedding order, were not affected by the wind, and the rain seemed to make the colours stand out more vividly. The little group of chairs placed round the cabbage trees look most pathetic in the dripping rain. The band played lots of jolly music, and as the rain did not come on till after lunch the day went off very well. Lady Sinclair Lockhart wore a handsome toilet of white silk with black and white silk embroidery, black and white hat; Mrs. Ernest Bloomfield, vieux rose cloth coat and skirt, the coat braided with self-coloured braid, black beaver hat with up-landing encircled ostrich plumes and a twist of dull silver; Mrs. Hope Lewis, mole cloth coat and skirt, blue and green hat; Mrs. Woolfe, navy blue coat and skirt, faced with white cloth, black hat with plumes and jetted trimmings; Mrs. Hogate wore a becoming reseda green cloth short coat and skirt, and a green toque with dark purple tulle and small purple flowers; Mrs. George Bloomfield, white lace over palest blue charmuse, large black hat with pink roses; Mrs. E. Horton wore rather a dark shade of natter blue and a large black hat; Mrs. Harold Cooper (Palmerston N.) looked charming in a lovely frock of cream cloth and coarse Irish crochet, large black hat lined with blue satin and massed with lovely blue feathers, a white feather boa completed a beautiful toilet; Mrs. Cutton, heliotrope ninon black and white feather boa; Mrs. McCosh Clark, black frock, and black hat with touch of gold; Mrs. Frank Ross, heliotrope toilette, large becoming black and grey ostrich feather boa; Mrs. Alison, a pretty mole crystalline silk braided with the same colour, and a smart toque of golden straw with gold embroidery and fawn feathers; Mrs. Borthwick wore a long navy blue coat and skirt and a smart hat with large wings; Miss G. Gorrie, brown and cream striped coat and skirt and brown straw hat; Mrs. Foster, navy blue coat and skirt, large black hat; Miss Ida Thompson, terra cotta coat and skirt, and a becoming wine coloured velvet toque; Mrs. Roberts wore a purple frock and a burnt straw hat with shaded purple flowers; Mrs. Elliott, dark green cloth coat and skirt, black hat with green straw bows; Mrs. W. Colbeck, a long coat and skirt of a pretty shade of Dutch blue, faced with black and a large black hat; Mrs. Savage looked pretty in a pale grey coat and skirt faced with black and a large full-crowned hat of black charmuse and a bunch of dull gold roses; Miss Couper,

navy blue cloth coat and skirt faced with a pink shade of heliotrope, straw hat of heliotrope with green leaves and dark violets; Mrs. Harry Worsp, pale pink floral muslin and pink hat; Miss Buckland looked well in a pale grey cloth frock and a large black hat; Mrs. Devore, stone grey crystalline silk and shaded green bonnet; Miss Devore looked pretty in cream with pink hat massed with roses; also her sister in a striped flannel coat and skirt, black hat with white flowers; Mrs. Markham, blue cloth coat and skirt, gunmetal blue straw toque; Miss Alice Walker wore a handsome braided coat and skirt of cream cloth, heliotrope straw hat with crushed roses; Mrs. Farnell (Cambridge), black silk relieved with white net, blue toque with shaded blue roses; Miss Nesta Thomas wore a dainty white lingerie frock, white satin hat with tiny pink roses; Mrs. T. Cotter wore a toilette of dark blue voile with satin stripe, black and white hat; Mrs. black, saxe blue cashmere, becoming black hat; Mrs. E. Firth, a long blue coat and skirt, large black picture hat; Mrs. Norman Banks (Cambridge), China blue linen coat and skirt faced with black, white hat with bunches of black cherries; Miss Ethel Hill (Cambridge), dark blue cloth coat and skirt, shaded brown toque; Miss Daisy Benjamin, heliotrope shantung coat and skirt, black hat and white feather boa; Miss McLean, white linen coat and skirt, brown hat; Miss McLean looked smart in a dark prunella cloth coat and skirt and a pretty hat of heliotrope and brown; Mrs. Harry Clark looked charming in a beautifully cut putty-coloured, cloth coat and skirt, faced with black satin and gold embroidery, large black hat; Mrs. Dargaville, black frock, black feathered hat and black boa; Miss Muriel Dargaville looked smart in navy blue coat and skirt, with black braid and touches of gold, blue straw hat with white wings; Miss Mary Towle, well-cut long blue coat and skirt, black hat with grey feathers; Miss S. Payton, green tweed coat and skirt, green hat; Miss Jackson, grey tweed coat and skirt, cream hat with pink; Mrs. Pitt (Nelson), pale grey, white hat with bright pink roses and black tulle; Mrs. Marsack wore a pretty frock of old rose with lovely embroidery and lace, black hat; Miss Muriel Douglas looked sweet in a blue coat and skirt, and large black and white hat; Mrs. Pabst, brown cloth coat and skirt, black and white clip hat; Mrs. Sheppard, cream cloth coat and skirt faced with black satin, cream hat massed with pink roses; Mrs. Sherman, black silk taffeta frock, large tricorn beaver hat with large bow of gold tissue; Mrs. O'Loughlin, white linen coat and skirt, black and white hat; Mrs. Wood, navy blue, black hat; Miss Dolly Dennison, a dainty frock of pale heliotrope, hat of same shade massed with lilac and blue flowers; Miss De Camp, light grey cloth coat and skirt, black hat; Mrs. Wingfield wore a very pretty frock of pink and a large black hat; Miss Alison, black silk and a pretty toque of shaded lilac; Miss — Alison, black and white coat and skirt, black and white hat; Miss Coates, grey lustre coat and skirt faced with black, black and white hat; Misses Browning; Mrs. E. Anderson, brown Harris tweed, black beaver with brown mount; Miss Metcalfe, heliotrope frock, black hat.

### Rain and Races.

It was only the very keenest of "sports" who braved the awful weather on Tuesday. Coats and skirts and "flonberry's" were the order of the day. The whole outlook was most depressing. If it had not been for the bright spots made of the flower beds it would have been awful. I do think it is such a splendid form of gardening for a recreation, so neat and compact. Mrs. George Bloomfield wore a most becoming warm shade of purple cloth, large purple hat, and brown furs; Mrs. H. Cooper (Palmerston North) was in a chequered tweed coat and skirt, faced with a pink

shade of heliotrope, large purple beaver hat with a bunch of dark violets and a red rose, which gave a smart finish; Mrs. W. Colbeck, mole coat and skirt, large mole straw hat with touch of violet; Mrs. E. Horton, a pretty shade of heliotrope, and a purple hat; Mrs. Frank Rosa (Bruntwood), pretty green shantung coat and skirt, faced with black, becoming black hat was worn with this; Mrs. Harry Clark looked pretty in a violet cloth coat and skirt, and large picture hat of a darker shade; Miss Mary Foster, dark blue cloth coat and skirt, and a saxe blue hat, which was very becoming; Miss Lulu Browning, mole cloth coat and skirt, black beaver hat; Miss Maud Browning, brown cloth coat and skirt, beaver hat with gold grapes; Mrs. Cotter wore a smart blue coat and skirt, braided with black, and a black and white toque; Miss G. Gorrie, fawn cloth coat and skirt, purple felt hat with wings; Miss Peacock, smoko gray velvet frock, black hat with pink roses; Mrs. Ferguson, short blue coat and skirt, lovely gray fur stole, black velvet hat with white ospreys. Others present were: Mrs. Ernest Bloomfield, Mrs. Borthwick, Miss Alice Walker, Mrs. Markham, Mrs. Dargaville, Miss Muriel Dargaville, Miss Ida Thompson, Mrs. Woolfe, Mrs. Marsack, Mrs. Elliott, Mrs. Sheppard, Mrs. Pitt, Miss Lloyd, Mrs. E. Firth, Mrs. Alison, Mrs. Hamblin, Miss A. Stubbs, Miss S. Payton, Miss Geddes, Misses McLean (2).

### Opening of the Golf Season.

The fates were very kind on Saturday to golfers and their friends, as the weather was all that could be desired—even a little more. It was quite too hot and bright to make one feel seriously golly. Mixed foursomes at opening functions are apt to be frivolous, and one hears pearls of laughter, a most rare sound on golf links; even the most serious blunder is treated with mirth, instead of the usual "heavy silence." One heard expressions of delight with the surroundings on every side; both the course and the golf house came in for admiration. It is wonderful what clever architecture has done in transforming a little farm homestead into a picturesque golf house. The two principal rooms are charming; the ladies' clubroom is furnished with dark, dull "mission" furniture, pretty casement curtains and artistic easy lounge chairs. The whole scheme reflects the greatest credit upon the committee who are responsible—Mrs. W. R. Bloomfield (Captain) and Mrs. Hope Lewis. The men's clubroom could be delightful if only they would, following in the footsteps of the "mere women," get some pretty furniture and small tables. The small field adjoining the clubhouse, where an approaching and putting contest was held, was thronged with interested spectators; it looked like a racecourse of a country club. Afternoon tea was served in the men's clubroom and on the verandahs, which are delightful, very wide, and, instead of the usual railing, a nice wide seat runs right round. Among the large number present I noticed: Mrs. G. P. Pierce, looking very well in a black costume and bonnet, relieved with white; Mrs. Pritt, in palest grey Sicilienne coat and skirt and a black and white hat; Mrs. Buckland wore black with touch of white; Mrs. Toile looked charming in palest grey ninon and a lovely coat of oyster white charmuse and a large black hat; Mrs. McCosh Clark, black and white; Mrs. Ernest Bloomfield wore a brown coat and skirt with gold trimmings and a very smart toque of mole beaver cloth with a wing across the front and a soft shade of "old rose" and dull gold touches; Mrs. Rankin Reid looked especially well in a reseda green cloth, relieved with black, and a pretty black hat and brown furs; Mrs. Hope Lewis, white linen coat and skirt with pretty hat of shaded blues; Mrs. W. R. Bloomfield, navy cloth coat and skirt, faced with black, green hat with bunches of black grapes and green leaves; Mrs. Harry Bloomfield looked sweet in a smart chequered silk, cream hat lined with pale blue and massed with flowers; Miss Gjerston was pretty in a white lingerie frock, large hat of cream and black; Mrs. Dargaville, silver grey ottoman silk, black boa and black hat; Mrs. Sheppard, cream cloth coat and skirt, cream hat massed with pink roses; Mrs. O'Rourke, dark coat and skirt, and a becoming dark green hat; Mrs. Coleman looked handsome in a reseda green coat and skirt, large black hat with black and white plumes; Miss Coleman, blue linen coat and skirt, black hat; Mrs. Thomas wore white linen coat and skirt and a pretty white beaver hat; Miss Nesta Thomas looked charming in a cream cloth and a smart black beaver with bunch of

golden grapes and leaves; Mrs. John Read, natter blue frock, relieved with black, and a large black hat; Miss Jessie Read was pretty in a mole costume, large mole hat with shaded dahlia; Mrs. Duthie, white linen coat and skirt with white frogging, heliotrope hat with touch of red; Mrs. George Bloomfield looked sweet in a short tweed skirt and shirt blouse, large black hat swathed with vieux rose veil; Mrs. E. Horton looked charming in white linen skirt and blouse, cream golf coat and a heliotrope hat; Mrs. Harry Clark, short tweed skirt and blouse, heliotrope cloth golf hat; Mrs. Napier looked well in a blue cloth beautifully fitting coat and skirt, faced with tan cloth, and a small toque; Mrs. Peter Lawrence, dark grey coat and skirt, small hat with black band; Mrs. Colegrove wore all black; Mrs. T. Cotter looked well in a royal blue silk striped voile, relieved with black, and a black and white toque; Mrs. McFarland, black and white coat and skirt, brown hat; Mrs. Brigham, vieux rose coat and skirt, braided with black, black hat; Miss Sheppard, mole cloth frock, black hat with wheat ears; Mrs. Pollen, wore reseda green canvas, relieved with cream, and a becoming hat of heliotrope straw massed with violets and a wing across the front of the same shade; Mrs. Houghton, smart striped flannel coat and skirt, lovely cream crimoline hat with black trimmings and dull silver wheat ears; Mrs. Ferguson, blue cloth coat and skirt, small brown hat; Mrs. Alexander, black and white check coat and skirt braided with black, and a lovely dull green straw hat swathed with shaded greens and blues and dull gold; Miss Alice Walker wore a coat and skirt of prunella cloth faced with black, and a becoming heliotrope hat with roses; Mrs. Markham, as usual, looked smart in a cream cloth coat and skirt, with cream soutache braiding, cream hat massed with shaded pink roses, and a black veil; Mrs. Ball, white frock, black and white hat; the Misses Toile looked pretty in a pale heliotrope linen coat and skirt and shaded heliotrope, and the other in vieux rose coat and skirt, hat to match with touch of black; with them was a pretty girl in China blue, with touch of black, and a large black hat; Miss Ida Thompson, vieux rose coat and skirt and a most becoming picture hat with black ostrich feather; Miss Lillie Kissling looked smart in a white lingerie dress and a smart black hat; Miss Kate Nelson, cream striped Sicilienne coat and skirt, braided in black, cream hat with shaded pink and red roses; Mrs. Foster, dark blue coat and skirt, black hat, heliotrope veil; Miss Mary Foster looked sweet in a brown crepe frock with cream embroidered linen "Peter Pan" collar and cuffs, cream hat swathed with brown; Mrs. Southy Baker wore a most becoming toilette of brown and peacock blue Sicilienne, brown and blue hat, with feather boa in the same colours; Mrs. E. Firth, navy blue coat and skirt, black hat; Mrs. Elliott; Miss Cecil Hull, white frock, large blue hat with black wings; Miss Hilda Bloomfield, dark blue skirt, pale blue tucked shirt, large black hat, and a fawn burberry; Miss Marjorie Towle looked very pretty in a tweed costume, with hat to match; Miss Muriel Dargaville, vieux rose cashmere, with wide bands of cream goupure, large hat of black massed with white feathers; Miss E. Gorrie, white linen coat and skirt, black and white hat; Miss P. Gorrie, white lingerie frock, cream hat massed with shaded roses; Miss Vera Duthie; Miss Cooper, dark blue coat and skirt,

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