

Society Gossip.

Special to the "Graphic."

NOTICE TO OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENTS.

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.

All copy intended for publication in these columns must reach the office not later than Saturday morning, in order to ensure insertion in the current issue.

AUCKLAND.

October 31.

The French Club.

THE FRENCH CLUB held the last meeting of their session on Tuesday, and, in spite of a very wet night, there was quite a large gathering, and a charming evening was spent. A delightful programme of music, song, and story had been arranged by Mesdames Parkes and C. Buddle. The stage looked so pretty, arranged as a drawing-room, and bowls of lovely pink roses and tall groups of arums made a pretty setting for the various items. Miss P. Boulton, in a pretty pale blue frock, sang a dainty Chanson with violin obligato cleverly played by Miss Dorothy Baker, who looked dainty and girlish in a pretty white ninnon frock. Miss Elsie Hamilton had to respond to an imperative encore, her pianoforte solo was so much enjoyed, and she looked so nice in a velvet frock of a pretty shade of old-rose softened with lace. Miss Grelet sang a pretty song charmingly, and was wearing a cream frock. Miss Peacocke and Mr. Ferguson entertained us delightfully with their clever acting of "Au Crane Sous une Tempete." Miss Peacocke's flow of language (and tears when words failed) never gave the poor man a chance to utter one single word, though he had been falsely accused of forgetting an anniversary, and all the while had a charming gift in his pocket. However, she forgave him—women are so very forgiving (when there is nothing to forgive), and the curtain fell on their reconciliation. Miss Peacocke wore a dark mole velvet frock with handsome lace berthe. Miss Dorothy Baker played a violin solo, the beauty of which surprised her listeners. She was sympathetically accompanied by Mr. C. Towsey, who later on provided quite the gem of the programme. Mr. Barry Coney was in splendid voice. Mr. Barkham's recitation was much enjoyed. Tea was served at the end of the programme, after which Mr. Mahoney made a short speech, in which he thanked all who had helped on that and all the other evenings, and announced that the Club would adjourn till March next, when M. Bouefue would resume his presidency on his return from the Continent. Mrs. C. Buddle wore a smart black charming with lovely real lace berthe; Miss Una Buddle was in cream; Mrs. Mahoney, Mrs. Abbott, Mrs. Boulton, Mrs. Colegrove, and the Misses Colegrove (2), Mrs. Cheeseman and Miss Cheeseman, Mrs. Stewart, Misses Draper (2), Misses Bouillon (2), Misses Tole (3), Miss Dorothy Ware, Miss M. Dargaville, Mrs. Southy-Baker, Miss Hamilton, Mrs. Bob Isaacs, Miss Ralph.

Full-Moon Club.

The Full Moon Club gave one of their delightful meetings at Mrs. A. Ferguson's house, Epsom. There were three plays staged. The cast of two of them had to be altered almost at the last moment, owing to the illness of Miss Blanche Bouillon, whose place was filled by Miss Mab Rice and Miss Hamilton, who both gave a pleasing rendering of their parts. "The Bishop's Candlesticks," which is adapted from "Les Miserables," by Victor Hugo, was splendidly done by Mr. Ferguson, as the Bishop; Miss Hamilton, the Bishop's Sister; and Miss P. Boulton, Maid; Dr. Bamford, the Convict; and Messrs. G. Pierce and Bouillon, Gen-

darmes. "The Peacemaker" is a charming little play, and all the parts were well acted by the following:—Miss Mab Rice, Miss P. Boulton, Miss E. Pierce, Mr. G. Pierce, and Mr. Bouillon. "The Family Skeleton," written by Mr. Ferguson, was smart and funny. The Family Skeleton being a "Chop Bone," a symbol of "Scratch Meals," the result of "Croquet and Bridge." "A Dreadful Warning," which, at this season, has a peculiar significance, was brightly acted. The characters were taken by Mr and Mrs Ferguson, Miss Peacocke, and Miss E. Pierce. Among the many guests present were:—Mrs G. Pierce, Professor and Mrs Egerton, Mr and Mrs Greig, and Miss Greig, Mrs L. Peake (Waikato), Mrs Browning, and Miss M. Browning, Mrs Archie Clark, Mrs Rankin Reed, and Miss Mavis Reed, Mrs Louis Myers, Mrs Leo. Myers, Mrs David Nathan, and Miss Dorothy Nathan, Miss Gillies, Miss Rooke, Mrs and Mr H. Horton, Mrs Ware, Mrs Buddle, Miss Una Buddle, Mrs George Bloomfield, Miss A. Carr, Misses Draper, Lennox, and many others.

On the Links.

Middlemore Park Golf Links were en fete on Saturday last. The weather was almost perfect, just a trifle too windy, perhaps, but otherwise lovely. The afternoon's fun started with a mixed foursomes match, Captain v. Secretary, which resulted in a somewhat easy win for the secretary's team, who, out of 28 matches, finished seven up. As the secretary said, "the captain had some very good players on his side, but did not know how to pick a team." Prizes were given for the lowest medal round; this was won by Miss Isobel Clark and H. Richmond, who were playing very well. We had afternoon tea, and then went out for another round, arriving back with a keen edge on our appetite. On a table at the end of the men's room the prizes were displayed—such lovely big cups. The winners of the Championship Cup and the George Cup hold them for a year, and are presented with a replica. The Ernest Bloomfield Rose Bowl is very handsome. This has the winner's name inscribed, and if won three times in succession, becomes the property of the winner. Just as we were in the midst of admiring the prizes Miss Winnie Cotter started a beautiful waltz, which went on and on, and yet we wanted more. We were called to order by the captain (who, I may say, was breathless), and he told us Mrs. Harry Clark would present the prizes, which she did most gracefully. After this Mr. Guy Pierce sang, and, as usual, had to respond to an encore. Then came a mad set of lancers, which can better be imagined than described. Miss Muriel Dargaville sang charmingly.

Then dancing commenced again, until it became a case of "the Light that Failed," a gentle reminder that it was time to get ready for the special train which was due at half-past nine. When we were packed in, and people got sorted out a bit, the fun became fast and furious, and opinions are divided between the merits of "a Highland fling," as danced by a "leading official" of the Club with the guard's cap over his left eye, or the sword dance by a "rising player" between crossed matches; or a love duet listened to by the fair one's "jealous husband." It was quite the jullest party ever arranged by the Golf Club, and we hope it is to be at least an annual one. The Committee, Mr. Harry Clark, Mr. Bruce, Mr. Dargaville, Mr. Guy Pierce, assisted by Mrs. W. R.

Bloomfield, Miss Henderson, and Miss Jean Richmond, deserve a special vote of thanks. The more sober minded golfers played bridge in the ladies' club room. Among those present were:—Dr. and Mrs. Hope Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Bloomfield, Mr. and Mrs. W. Colbeck, Mr. and Mrs. H. Tonks, Mrs. W. R. Bloomfield and Miss Bloomfield, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Clark, Mrs. Buddle and Miss Una Buddle, Miss T. Russell, Mr. and Mrs. Macfarlane, Mr. and Mrs. McCormick, Mrs. Edmunds, Mr. and Mrs. P. Lawrence, Miss Gillies, Miss Rooke, Mrs. Markham, Miss Ware, Mr. and Miss Dargaville, Misses Browning, Boulton, Richmond, Mr. and Mrs. Felix Kelly, Mrs. Davis, Misses Thorpe, Shuttleworth, Draper, Hesketh (2), Reid, Cooper, McLean, Clark (3), Mr. and Miss Ruddock, Misses Gorrie (3), Hull, Martin, Pierce, Reed, Coutts, Lennox, Mr. and Mrs. Ball, Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson, Mr. and Miss Greig, Misses D. Nathan, Mr. and Mrs. W. McLoughlin, Mr. and Mrs. W. Lloyd, Misses Smith, Hellaby, Towle (2), Mr. and Miss Cotter, Mr. and Miss Prater, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Richmond, Misses Cameron, Leys, Rice, Oliphant, Cumming (2), Carr, Stevenson, Mr. and Mrs. E. Horton, Messrs. McIntosh, Cave, Prater (2), Towle, Caldwell, Shuttleworth, Sharland, Jackson (2), Burns, Hanna (2), Carr, Denniston, H. Horton, Upton (2), Alexander, Kissing, Du Guerrier, Allen (2), Dr. Purchase, Dr. Parkes, Messrs. Evans and Cooper.

Summer Sports.

The Auckland Tennis and Croquet Clubs were opened on Saturday under delightful weather conditions. The croquet was mostly of the coloured linen coat and skirt order. The Croquet Club was opened by Mr. Sydney Nathan. Mrs. Edmiston provided afternoon tea for the croquet players. The tables looked pretty, decorated with blue and white flowers. Progressive croquet was played, for prizes presented by Mrs. Tom Reid, which were won by Mrs. Milnes and Mrs. Lance Andrews.

The Tennis Club was opened by Mr. Bagnall, Mayor of Auckland, and Vice-President of the Club, in the absence of the President. Tea was provided by the club. Two new flags were flown for the first time, a pennant and the New Zealand flag, which have been presented by Mrs. I. Alexander to the Auckland Club. There were a large number of guests and players, among whom were: Captain and Mrs. Sharp, Miss Bagnall, Mr. and Mrs. Brigham, Mrs. Lindsay, Mrs. Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. Milnes, Mrs. Henriques (Australia), Mrs. Ashton, Mrs. Farby, Mrs. K. Alexander, Miss Moyer, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Munro Clark, Miss Pottkemper, Miss Slater, Mr. and Mrs. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Paldhorpe, Mrs. Coulson, Mrs. Jewett, Mrs. Oldham, Misses Woodrope (2).

The official opening of the Parrell Tennis Lawn took place on Saturday, the function being a very pleasant one. Players were delighted with the condition of the courts, and some good games were enjoyed. Professor Seagar, in a neat little speech, declared the season open. Delicious afternoon tea was given by Mrs. Seagar. Among the guests present were: Mrs. Greig, Mrs. David Nathan, Professor and Mrs. Egerton, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Brugin, Mr. and Mrs. Cardon, Mr. and Mrs. and the Misses Cooke (2), Mrs. and the Misses Atkinson, Mrs. Freeman, Mrs. and Miss McCormick, Mrs. Abbott, Mrs. and Misses Barsley, Mrs. P. Fraser, Miss Mowbray, Mrs. and Miss Erson, Mr. and Mrs. Ward, Mr. and Mrs. Hill, Mrs. and Miss Metcalfe, Mrs. Rankin Reed and Miss Mavis Reed, Mrs. Charlie Brown, Miss K. Devore, Mrs. Uphill, Mrs. and Miss Walker, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Prater, Dr. Kinder, Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. and Miss Caro, Miss Dews, Miss Parsons, and many others.

Personal.

Mr and Mrs J. Stephens, of Wellington, have arrived in Auckland on a visit, and are staying at "Argen."

Mr and Mrs George Richardson are at present in Auckland, and are putting up at "Argen."

Amongst the passengers by the Arawa, shortly to arrive from London, are Captain J. A. Ferguson, R.N., and Mrs. Ferguson and her three little girls. Captain Ferguson is a son of the late Sir James Ferguson, at one time Governor of New Zealand, and Mrs. Ferguson is a daughter of Mrs. T. C. Williams, "Wickford," Princes-street. They are likely to remain for several months in the Dominion, and are coming straight to Auckland in the first place.

Mrs and Miss Dorothy Sim, who have been staying at "Glenalvon" for the past six weeks, left by the East Coast steamer last week en route for their home in Dunedin.

Mrs Herbert Marshall, who has been spending a couple of weeks at Penrose with her mother (Mrs Bailey) left yesterday by steamer for her home in Napier.

Miss Sybil Haggitt (Dunedin), after a short stay in Auckland, returned to the South last week.

Mrs James A. Williams, Waikato is at present spending a very pleasant holiday with her sister, Mrs. William Ratcliffe, Ipswich, Queensland, and intends to return to Auckland on the 20th November.

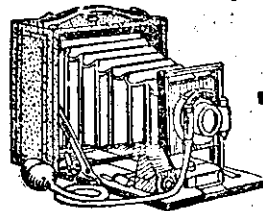
PHYLIS BROWN.

WELLINGTON.

October 28.

At Trentham.

Unusual variety has characterised this last week's amusements. On Saturday there were a good many people at Trentham for the last day of the races, which was blessed with fine weather. Many of the visitors from other places had not waited for Saturday, as it would have meant spending Sunday in Wellington as well, but all



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