

Racing at Ellerslie.

The opening day of the Spring Meeting at Ellerslie was somewhat gloomy, and as the day wore on heavy clouds gathered, and we all thought of how to get home dry. However, the rain held off. The lawns were looking very well, but there was not enough sunshine to bring out the colours in the flower beds. The frocking was somewhat disappointing, being mainly reminiscent of the past. There were several weird hobble skirts, but these had at least one beauty—they made people smile, and it was rather exciting to watch the wearers climb the slope. I have come to this conclusion, that the flat, big hats, with coats of half-way length, and short skirts, is a very unbecoming style. I overheard a girl in the train as we were returning home say, "Oh, well, if a hat is fashionable, I make it suit me." I looked up, but hurriedly looked away—the result was too awful. Of course, there were big hats, lots of them, and it was too funny when a group of four essayed to sit on a seat which usually holds six. They had to give it up, and sit down in batches. Mrs Ernest Bloomfield looked well in a frock of pale mauve, and a smart black hat; Mrs W. Colbeck looked smart in her black charmeuse veiled with ninon, and touches of white and dull gold, and a pretty black hat massed with flowers; Mrs Carrick, an amethyst coat and skirt, and a hat in the same tones; Mrs Berwick (Wellington) wore a blue linen, braided in white, and a black hat with pink roses; Mrs Hall (Christchurch) wore a smart grey cloth coat and skirt, and a grey coarse straw hat with feathers and tulle of a lovely shade of blue; Mrs E. Anderson's frock was much admired, a cashmere of a dull reseda blue (for was it green); the top part had lovely gold embroidery veiled with ninon, a smart black hat with a bunch of green grasses; Mrs Frank Ross wore a smart grey cloth coat and skirt, and a becoming hat of grey shaded to opal pinks; Mrs Fred. Ross looked smart in her short suit of biscuit coloured Shantung, faced with blue and white, and a black hat of the inverted flower-pot shape; Mrs Angus Gordon wore a black and white cloth coat and skirt, and a black toque; Mrs Collins (New Plymouth) wore a blue and white silk frock, and a cream straw lined and trimmed with black; Mrs R. Lusk wore a pretty cream coat and skirt, and a black hat and white ostrich feather boa; Miss L. Webster (New Plymouth) was wearing cream; Mrs George Bailey wore a pretty slot cashmere de soie with cord braidings and a mole hat with opalescent tulle; Mrs H. Bailey wore grey cloth and a hat of grey, with trimmings of amethyst; Mrs. Fraiter wore amethyst cloth, with hat to match; Mrs. Markham, natural-coloured Shantung Russian suit, with cream leather belt, tagel straw hat wreathed with blue and red forget-me-nots and red roses; Mrs. G. Roberts was wearing a black and white toilette; Mrs. Leo Myers, wore a smart short suit of matter blue Shantung and a black turban toque; Lady Lockhart wore a black and white checked, with touch of black and cornflower blue, a folded ninon turban toque of cornflower blue; Miss Alice Walker, biscuit-coloured Shantung; braided with flat silk braid in the same shade, and a tagel straw, with blue velvet and a string of coloured beads; Mrs. Alison wore a biscuit coat and skirt of Ottonian silk and a pretty toque; Mrs. P. Lawrence wore a smart blue cloth coat and skirt faced and braided with black and a pretty tagel straw lined with black, and a bunch of Malmaison carnations; Mrs. Drummond Ferguson, a blue and white foulard, and a big blue hat massed with shaded roses; Mrs. Gore-Gillon, grey and black suit and hat to match; Miss Scherff looked pretty in blue coat and skirt, black hat lined with blue and trimmed with sweet peas; the Misses Hill (2); Miss Winnie Alexander looked dainty in a cream tussore coat and skirt, a touch of pink at the neck and a large black hat; Miss Connie Draper looked nice in an amethyst coat and skirt, with hat to match; Miss Lulu Browning wore a smart vieux rose linen with white ruffles, and a large black hat; Miss Ida Thompson looked pretty in a smart blue coat and skirt and a blue hat; Miss Rosie Greig looked charming in a sweet little blue frock, with large hat to match; Miss — Duder wore a very pretty frock of pale blue, with touches of black and a black hat; Miss Alison, blue Shantung coat and skirt and pretty hat; Miss Devore, a rose-coloured linen and black hat with roses; Miss Corrie wore a blue Shantung, and a pretty black hat; Miss Rachel also wore blue,

with a becoming black hat; Miss Isabel Clark wore a long cream coat and skirt, with large black hat and black box; Mrs. George Bloomfield, Mrs. E. Horton, Mrs. H. Clark, Mrs. H. Tonks, Mrs. Holgate, Mrs. Sharp, Mrs. E. Firb, Mrs. Elliott, Mrs. W. Coleman.

At Home at Lavington.

Mrs. A. E. Devore, "Lavington," St. Stephen's-avenue, gave a most enjoyable "At Home" last week as a farewell to the many girl friends of her daughter Lillian, who is to be married on November 15 to Mr. George, of Taranaki. The afternoon was devoted to a guessing competition. Miss Essie Holland sang very sweetly, and the Misses Wallnutt and Devore contributed pianoforte solos. The drawing-room, dining-room, and halls were occupied with beves of pretty girls in their dainty summer costumes. The bride-elect looked a perfect picture in white silk with polonaise embellished with lace; Mrs. Devore was attired in a black silk toilette; Mrs. A. C. H. Collins (Taranaki) looked smart in a pink and white French muslin with touches of black velvet; Misses Katie and Blanche Devore were pretty in pink and green respectively; Mrs. McDowell, cream Shantung costume, and electric blue hat veiled with black lace and flowers; Mrs. Crawshaw (Sydney), amethyst-coloured toilette; Miss Vera Crawshaw, dainty white muslin frock; Mrs. (Dr.) Ferguson, smart grey check gown, large hat en suite; Miss Peacock, cream Shantung coat and skirt, large violet hat; Miss Margaret Peacock, white muslin gown, large hat wreathed with pink roses; Miss Winifred Leys, graceful white Swiss muslin frock and electric-blue hat; Miss Kate Nelson, rose linen coat and skirt, black hat with band of jet; Miss Nestle Thomas, white gown and smart black hat with pink primroses; Miss Valle, white muslin gown, brown hat; Misses Douglas were in dainty white linen costumes and pretty bright hats; Mrs. Quentin McConnell was much admired in white Swiss muslin gown and large blue and white hat; Miss Daisy Slaton, cream frock and large green floral hat; Miss Florence Walker, white and pink French muslin, large pink hat banded with roses; Miss Jeanie, white muslin frock, black hat wreathed with white roses; Miss Kent, white embroidered muslin gown, black hat with pink silk and roses; Miss Hay, white linen, blue and pink hat; Miss Ivy Alison, dainty white muslin frock and black picture hat with white plume and lined with blue; Miss Essie Holland, cream cloth coat and skirt, large cream upturned hat with heliotrope wheat and flowers; Miss Oliphant, electric blue foulard frock, black picture hat with pink flowers; Miss Margaret Oliphant, brown satin foulard gown and large pale blue hat; Miss Nellie Stevenson, old rose costume, large hat with roses; Mrs. Sydney Plummer was in pearl grey silk voile, black hat wreathed with tiny pink roses; Miss V. Tibbs, white linen costume; Miss Gordon, cream embroidered linen, floral hat; Miss Flo Foote, pale cream net and lace frock, black velvet picture hat with pink roses and osprey; Miss Lily Moir, white linen frock, white hat with wreath of bramble roses; Miss Ralph, shell pink linen, large brown hat; Mrs. Perry Earle, grass green linen costume, large green hat wreathed with lilac flowers; Miss Connie Bach, white embroidered silk, and becoming picture hat; Misses Dora and Olive Phillips wore pretty white frocks and bright picture hats; Miss Kennedy, cream serge coat and skirt, large floral hat; Miss English, bottle green cloth toilette, floral picture hat; Miss Milla George, tussore silk frock, large hat with pink roses.

China and Glass Tea.

Mrs Thorne gave a China and Glass Tea for Miss Ethel Hay, who is to be married this month. It was a miserable day, and though it did not keep many away, people could not wear their pretty clothes. The afternoon was spent in a guessing competition, which was won by Miss Rita Cleveland, Miss Mona Hay being second, and Mrs John Mowbray third. The tea table was beautifully decorated with white sweet peas in silver vases; in fact, the floral decorations throughout the house were quite a feature of the party. Miss Hay was the recipient of many useful and dainty gifts. Mrs Thorne wore a silver grey Oriental satin, with Irish crochet insertion; Miss Thorne looked particularly nice in a dainty white muslin, trimmed with Swiss embroidery, tunic edged with insertion; Mrs Worsnopp (New York), amethyst

ninon over silk; Miss Hay, grey striped crystalline piped with black, putty coloured toque trimmed with red berries; Mrs I. Neill, cream serge costume, faced with cream satin, black and white hat with black ostrich feathers; Miss Mabel Hay, amethyst corduroy costume, smart hat; Mrs Walters (Papakura), navy coat and skirt, black hat, ostrich feathers; Mrs R. R. Hunt, Mrs Drummond Ferguson, Mrs (Dr.) Kenny (Te Aroha), Mrs Carlton Hay, Mrs Lawrence, Mrs R. Isaacs, Mrs Jourdain (South Africa), Mrs Nicolson, Mrs Gore-Gillon, Mrs Lind-say Horrocks, Mrs Jim Frazer, Miss Howard, Miss P. Hay, Miss Von der Hyde, Miss Marshall, Miss V. Williamson, Miss Sellars, Mrs H. Goldie, Mrs Houchin, Miss G. Erson, Miss Mona Hay, Miss MacCormick, Miss Atkinson.

Morepork Club.

The Morepork Club gave a very enjoyable progressive euchre to Miss (Gledstanes) on the eve of her approaching marriage to Mr. J. M. Eccles, at Mrs. Grey's residence, "Cross Lea," Symonds-street, Onehunga. The lady's first prize was won by Miss (Gledstanes); and second, Miss Bertha Okley. Gentlemen's: First, Mr. Clarke; second, Mr. Farquhar. Among the guests were: Mesdames F. Yonge, Clark, Ford, MacKinney, Misses Grey, Gould, Suttie, Farquhar, Brookfield, Okley, (Gledstanes) (3), Martin, Scott, Bassett, Sinton, Woolley, Broady, Rose, Browne, Messrs. Bassett, Suttie, Newton, Yonge, Laird, Kenny, Hickson, Okley, Dr. Scott, Browning, Ford, Clark, MacKinney.

Ponsonby Shakespeare Club.

The Ponsonby Shakespeare and Rhetoric Club gave a second reading of "Paolo and Francesca," this time for the benefit of the Free Kindergarten. What a very vivid imagination one has to have at a reading, especially when it is of sad things. One could hardly imagine anything more sad than Francesca, who was charmingly portrayed by Madame Wiel-aert. Mrs Forsyth, as Lucrezia, was really very good, and simply carried us away, and she hardly looked at the book, which made it so much more real. The whole reading went through with perfect smoothness, and was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience, among whom were: Dr. and Mrs. Drummond Ferguson, Mr and Mrs Milnes, Mr and Mrs A. Ferguson, Mr and Mrs P. Lawrence, Mrs Louis Myers, Mrs W. Coleman, Mrs Lee Myers, Mrs King, Miss Gibson, Mrs and Miss Una Biddle, Miss Mabel Leys, Miss Rosie Greig, and Miss Dorothy Nathan, Miss Beresford, Mrs Edmunds.

Bridge.

Mrs Hope Lewis gave a jolly party on Friday night. The drawing-room was sweet with roses, and there were four tables. A dainty supper was served in the dining-room; the table being decorated with shaded red poppies and red candle shades. Mrs Lewis wore a lovely frock of Royal blue chiffon velvet, the bodice had a pretty arrangement of net and soft white lace; Lady Lockhart, Mrs E. Bloomfield, Mrs C. Biddle, Mrs Duthie, Mrs Colbeck, Mrs Buckland, Miss Mand Buckland, Mrs Aubin, Mrs and Miss Dargaville, Mrs Edmunds, Mrs A. Ferguson, Mrs H. Tonks, Miss Walker, Miss de Camp.

Personal.

Mrs Elliott and Mrs Bulewitz (Wellington) and Mrs Hall (Christchurch) are staying at Glenalvon. Miss Nelson, who for the past year has been visiting her brother, Mr Noel Nelson, in Japan, returned home on Sunday. Miss L. Webster (New Plymouth) is visiting her sister, Mrs R. B. Lusk, Parnell. Mr and Mrs George Bloomfield have rented their home to Mr. Geo. Bailey, who, for the past year, has been living in Mr H. Nolan's house. Mr and Mrs G. Bloomfield and their family sail for England in March. Mr, Mrs and Miss Dorothy Nolan have returned home, having spent a delightful year travelling. Mrs Kenny (Te Aroha) is on a visit to Auckland.

PHYLLIS BROWN.

WELLINGTON.

November 5. Every year about this time there is an exodus to Christchurch for the gaieties of Cup week, so, naturally, there has been little going on here, the most common form of festivity being church bazaars. Of these, there has been quite an epidemic, and Mrs. Wallis

has had a busy time performing the opening ceremonies. One night at St. Paul's there was a clever little amateur theatrical performance got up by Dr. Izard, which attracted a good audience, and at other times there was music going on, while on the opening day a piquant recitation by Miss Picot—one of Longfellow's poems adapted to bazaar uses—was most laughably appropriate. Mrs. Wallis wore an amethyst cloth dress with a net yoke and sleeves, and a black picture hat; little Mollie Coleridge, the vicar's granddaughter, presented her with a bouquet of yellow roses; Mrs. Sproit wore a black tairmaded and black and white hat; Mrs. Coleridge, in grey cloth Russian costume, burnt straw hat with mauve roses; her small girl looked charming in white embroidered muslin with a pale pink sash, pink bows on her Dutch bonnet of lace. Well over £150 was made at this bazaar, and that sum is supplemented by subscriptions and donations.

Farewell At Home.

A very delightful function was the farewell "At Home" given by the lady members of the Kelburne Bowling Club to one of their comrades, Mrs. Dinnie, who is leaving Wellington for Auckland. Mrs. Dinnie has been a member of the Club from its beginning, and is one of its most enthusiastic players, so it was only natural that a bowling party should be held in her honour. Twice the affair had to be postponed, but on Thursday the weather was glorious, and the scene at the green was a delightful one, as the brilliant sunshine led to many pretty white frocks and flowery hats appearing. The borders were gay with hyacinths and polyanthus. From the green, one could look over the expanse of Kelburne Park, and see in the distance the blue harbour with its surrounding hills. Afternoon tea and complimentary speeches occupied an interval in the play, which was keen and interesting. Mrs. Dinnie's team carrying off the honours. Mrs. Williamson wore pale tan Shantung smartly soufached, black hat with tips; Mrs. Dinnie, apricot tussore with a guimpe of lace and net, black hat with laburnum; Mrs. McVilly, Princess robe, of white embroidered muslin; Mrs. Hislop, white embroidered linen and black picture hat; Mrs. Gibson-Smith, black voile de soie, lace yoke, and black hat; Mrs. O'Shea, reseda colienne, and hat of the same shade; Mrs. J.J. Clark, grey crepe de chine, hat with shaded roses; Mrs. Reid, navy coat and skirt, and hat with lilac.

Old Girls' Association.

Of fetes there seems to be no end, as every week brings a fresh one. Last Saturday the College Old Girls' Association raised a handsome sum of money for obtaining an Honours Board by this means. The College grounds were used, and very gay they looked with strings of flags flying from the trees and the tower; and hundreds of girls, all excitement, pleasure and interest. Numbers of them were dressed in bright-coloured kimonos, with chrysanthemums in their hair, and they went through dances and various figures on the lawn with great success to the inspiring strains of a band. A squad of girls did some gymnastic exercises with great precision and skill, and very neat and trim they looked in their blue and white suits. All sorts of attractions went on at the stalls, which all did good trade, especially in sweets, flowers and postcards. Indoors there was a concert, all the performers being pupils, bygone or present, of the school. Tea was obtainable in the Central Hall, where an army of white-robed girls briskly attended to one's wants. Much of the credit for the fete's success was due to the hon. secretary, Miss Annie Holm, who is enthusiastic in supporting the cause of the school. Lady Ward, who performed the opening ceremony, was presented with a bouquet in the college colours, carried out by means of orange and yellow roses tied with narrow black streamers. There was great regret that owing to influenza, the headmistress (Miss McLean) was unable to be present. Lady Ward wore a graceful gown of voile, with a lace yoke and sleeves and a picture hat; Miss Holm, an embroidered voile robe and a hat with flowers; Miss Mandel, white muslin with insertions of lace; Miss Nelson, white lingerie dress and white hat; Miss Van Staveren, a Princess robe of voile with a lace yoke and floral hat; Mrs. Wilson, amethyst shantung dress,