

gear was made in comfort. Whilst waiting for my friends, I saw several boats leave, and I was thankful not to be on them. The people were packed on them and hanging on like flies. The gangway would be removed, but as the boat slowly left the stage the men jumped and climbed on. It was most amusing. Of course, lots of people ought to have fallen in, but nothing happened, and everyone was happy. One man jumped on, and was furious because his wife (I am sure she was his wife, because he was so rude to her) would not do so. How he supposed she was going to climb the high railing (in a hobbie skirt, too) I don't know, but men are silly. I am pleased to say she won the day, and he had to get off and wait for the next boat—about ten minutes. At Takapuna it is a sort of family party racecourse all together; one felt so near to everything, horses, bookmakers, and people. All the arrangements seemed very good, and we had quite a nice time. Mrs. Guinness was wearing a cream cloth coat and skirt, and a large black hat, and ostrich feather bon; Miss Mannist, brown linen coat and skirt and brown hat; Mrs. Lintott, a pretty pale grey coat and skirt and black hat; Miss Duder, cream Shantung, piped with brown, black hat; Miss Ivy Duder, white linen coat and skirt, faced with blue, pretty straw hat with cornflowers; Miss F. Duder, dark blue coat and skirt, burnt straw hat, with black trimmings; Mrs. Best, Miss Craig-mire wore a smart braided green linen coat and skirt, and a black hat; Miss Taylor looked nice in brown; Mrs. Woolfe, green braided coat and skirt and black hat; Mrs. Aitkin Carrick, dark blue coat and skirt, amethyst toque; Mrs. Elliott, dark blue coat and skirt, hat with amethyst and red; Mrs. Markham looked smart in a long blue coat and skirt; a blue hat swathed with black and black wheat; Miss Nesta Thomas, white linen coat and skirt, black hat; Mrs. Sharpe, terracotta cloth coat and skirt, with touches of black, black hat with roses; Mrs. Lawrence, dark blue coat and skirt, faced with black, pretty hat lined with black, and a bunch of pink flowers and grasses; Mrs. Owen wore a smart little blue taffeta, pretty black hat wreathed with roses; Mrs. Erceman was a very smart figure in white linen, and a white hat and black veil; Mrs. L. Lewis, white linen and black hat Mrs. Allison, cream Shantung; Mrs. St. Clair, in dark green; Mrs. Palairat, blue linen and burnt straw hat; Mrs. Nettleton, pale blue linen and cream hat.

Students' Concert.

Miss Alice Law's students' concert on Tuesday night was held in St. Andrew's Hall. The stage was decorated with bowls of lovely flowers. Quite a feature of the evening's pleasure was the playing of several pupils who were blind. Their fingering was surprisingly correct, and they all played with great expression. There was some very promising talent shown by several pupils. Some pleasing vocal items were given by Miss Fletcher's pupils, and the crowded audience seemed most appreciative.

A Small Party.

Miss Phyllis Boulton is one of the lucky folk who are tripping off to London in the near future. Miss Boulton leaves on December 21, and is to be away an indefinite period. On Wednesday night Miss Boulton gave a small party in honour of Miss Ethel Hamilton, who is leaving for her home in Australia. The guests were mostly those who had acted together in those charming plays given at a meeting of the "Full Moon" club held at Mrs. A. Ferguson's some time ago. A little good music, and a lot of chatter made the evening fly. Mrs. Boulton was wearing black, also Mrs. Lawler; Miss Boulton, a soft black; Miss Ethel Hamilton, black velvet rose; Miss Ethel Hamilton, black nylon skirt, the bodice was of Paisley, veiled with nylon; Mrs. A. Ferguson, black charmeuse and lace; Miss Jessie Reid, black, with a pretty touch of pastel lace trimming; Miss Ethna Pierce, velvet rose silk and nylon; Miss Mab Rice, pale blue; Mr. A. Dennison, Mr. De Guerrier, Mr. Guy Pierce, Mr. H. George, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Boulton.

A Recital.

Miss Elsie Hamilton's pianoforte students, gave a Recital on Friday, 25th, assisted by Miss Dijas, Fletcher's singing pupils. The stage at St. Andrew's Hall was just a bower of flowers and hambo, and made an effective setting. The playing of the majority of the pupils all through was characterised by a fine singing tone, directly due to the care and in-

sight shown by Miss Hamilton. She has developed the artistic wherever it has been possible, and the programme was not only well chosen, but very enjoyable. There were three especially fine items—the "Capriccio Brillante" (Mendelssohn) played by Miss Una Buddle with accompaniment on second pianoforte by Miss Elsie Hamilton. It proved quite an artistic performance. Miss Phyllis Mills is a fine player, and accompanied by Miss Hamilton on a second pianoforte, gave a very fine interpretation of the first movement of the B Flat Minor Concerto of Tchaikowsky. We had quite a treat in the last item when Miss Alda Ralph, L.A.B., A.T.C.L., gave a brilliant rendering of Liszt's "Hungarian Fantasia," accompanied on second pianoforte by Miss Hamilton. Miss Elsie Hamilton at this stage was presented with a lovely shower bouquet of pink roses, and in a neat little speech thanked her pupils and friends, and wished them good-bye. Miss Hamilton joins the Mongolia at Adelaide for England and the Continent, and we all hope she will come back to New Zealand some day, and I believe she intends to do so, having quite an affection for this country, where she has made many friends. Miss Hamilton very wisely believes in going with the times, and keeping up with the latest methods in musical teaching. Among the large audience were: Mrs. C. Buddle, Mrs. Cooper, Miss Dunnett, Miss Moss, Mr. and Mrs. the Misses Colgrove, Mrs. and Miss Kenderdine, Mrs. Boulton, Mrs. Gawler, Misses Brook-Smith, Mrs. and Miss Uphill, Mrs. and Miss Reid.

The P. and O. Service.

Now that the P. and O. boats have started to run, it makes quite a nice outing to go on board. It always seems like a bit of the outside world to me, and brings back all sorts of pleasurable recollection if you have travelled on them, and pleasurable anticipations if you have not. People take things very soberly in Auckland. To watch the departure of a boat like the Mongolia from Sydney is most exciting and full of amusing incidents. The only amusing incident on Thursday was when the "Star" boys were throwing the papers on board and the futile efforts of some of the passengers to catch them, and the antics of the boys chasing the coins thrown to them. Most of the departing passengers received flowers, but in Australia, where they have not such a passion for flowers as we have, no one dreams of seeing anyone off without taking them flowers and fruit, and it does look pretty. Among the passengers bound for London were Mr. and Mrs. Bruce, Miss Carr, Miss F. Thomas, and Miss Gilmore, Mrs. and Miss Mann.

Personal.

Mr. and Mrs. George Bloomfield and their children are at present staying at the Grand Hotel, where they will remain until they leave for their camp at Taupo. Miss Carr, who has been about a year in New Zealand, returned to England on the Mongolia, accompanied by Miss E. Thomas and Miss Gilmore.

Mrs. Louison left on the Mongolia for Sydney.

Mrs. Cankin, Mrs. McCrea, and Mr. W. L. Fitzherbert (Palmerston North) were passengers by the Mongolia for Sydney.

Mr. J. Reid, of Blenheim, and his son, Dr. W. D. Reid, who has just returned from England, were in Auckland for a few days, staying at the Star Hotel. They have now gone on a visit to Rotorua and Cambridge.

Mrs. F. G. Sale (nee Miss Ida Worsp) was a passenger on the Mongolia from Japan, and is staying at the Grand Hotel.

Mr. Mrs. and Miss Crowther left on the Mongolia for a holiday visit to Australia.

Mrs. W. Hawley (Remuera) returned by the Victoria after a short holiday visit to Australia.

PHYLLIS BROWN.

WELLINGTON.

November 25.

Lord and Lady Islington's Return.

It was with great pleasure that Wellington welcomed the return of their Excellencies the Governor and Lady Islington, who are now once more installed at Government House. The interrupted programme of entertainments has been resumed, and on Wednesday night there was a dinner-party, the guests including H. E. Vice-Admiral Sir Richard Poore and his staff. Owing to Parliamentary business, Sir Joseph Ward was unable to attend, but Lady Ward and her daughter were there, and the Opposition was represented by Mr. Mas-

sey and Mr. and Mrs. Herries. Captain Wemyss, R.N. (H.M.S. Cambrian) and Mrs. Wemyss were also guests, together with Flag-Captain Prouse and Flag-Lieutenant Fisher (H.M.S. Powerful). The Bishop of Wellington and Mrs. Wallis, the Attorney-General and Mrs. Findlay were included, and the remainder of the party were private people: Mr. A. Pearce, Mrs. and Miss Pearce, Mr. and Mrs. Elgar, Mr. and Mrs. J. Duncan, Mr. and Mrs. Vivian Riddford. Roses, rhododendrons, and flowering plants decorated the drawing-room, where the white paneled walls give an effect of lightness and brightness, and admirably show off the many beautiful things with which the rooms abound. In the dining-room there is a high dado of rimu panelling, which with its soft harmonious brown tones is very artistic and makes a delightful background. One's memory goes back to old Government House, where for years the dining-room was papered with a vivid crimson most trying to general effect, and the cause of anguish to many a guest who had unwittingly gone in a dress which clashed in colour. The decorations on the dinner-table were of roses, sweet peas and carnations with delicate trails of greenery. Rather more state is kept up by the present representatives of royalty than by their predecessors, and courtseys are quite de rigueur. Her Excellency Lady Islington wore a graceful clinging robe of ivory nylon and Liberty satin with entre-deux of lace, and an effective note of black here and there, her jewels were pearls and diamonds. Miss Stapleton Cotton had a draped Princess robe over a satin dessous; Lady Ward, ivory satin, and fine black lace draperies; Mrs. Findlay, a Princess charmeuse dress with horizontal embroideries; Mrs. Wemyss, pastel nylon de soie with draperies of lace; Mrs. Duncan, a lace and chiffon dress over a satin dessous, finished with folds of lace; Mrs. Pearce, a draped Princess robe of nylon satin with handsome horizontal embroideries, and folds of lace; Mrs. Wallis, radiante nylon de soie over satin, the vest having beaded embroideries.

A Dance.

A large detachment of naval officers at Miss Eileen Ward's dance gave a good deal of extra zest to the proceedings, and everyone enjoyed it enormously. It was quite an informal affair, got up in a hurry, mostly by telephone, and doubly welcome, as the dancing season has really been over for some time. Awarua House possesses the best ballroom in Wellington, now that old Government House is given up to the dreariness of Parliamentary debates, and as its floor is laid on springs there is no effort in dancing, although the weather may be hot. Against the pale green walls the decorations of pink roses and hydrangea had a charming effect, which was heightened by tall palms and bamboos placed about at intervals. In the supper-room there was a

delicate harmony of pink and lavender sweet peas and feathery maidenhair fern. Lady Ward wore ivory satin, veiled in black nylon and lace, the décolletage bordered with folds of white tulle; Miss Eileen Ward, a draped Princess gown of white Liberty satin with a plume of silver-sewn tulle; Mrs. Cyril Ward (Invercargill), black nylon de soie, encrusted with lace and tiny sequins; Mrs. J. Bell, sea blue charmeuse with a draped tunic of net; Miss Harcourt, ciel blue Liberty satin with horizontal bands of embroidery in silver and aluminium; Miss Skerrett, a Princess gown of opal brocade; Miss Miles, white satin, draped with embroidered net; Miss Pearce, pastel Liberty satin with delicate embroideries and lace; Miss Burnes, a very modish gown of Liberty satin and nylon in a burnt biscuit tone, cleverly draped and adorned with pink roses; Miss Collins, ivory satin and nylon; Miss Watson, rose du Harri charmeuse, draped with nylon of the same shade; Miss Fitzgerald, a Princess gown of nylon de soie with a tucker of lace; Miss Russell, black crepe de chine with embroideries of sparkling jet; Miss McKenzie, ivory satin with Oriental embroideries and lace; Miss Fulton, a draped Princess robe with embroideries in silver and aluminium; Miss Brandon, hydrangea nylon de soie and lace; Miss Nancarrow (Christchurch), pale blue satin with a draped tunic of black tulle; Miss Nathan, ivory satin with pearl and silver embroideries; Miss Buddo (Auckland), white Liberty satin and lace.

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