

with fine effect "The Song of Devon." As several people thought they had to go home, off we started, most of us returning via Devonport. Captain and Mrs. Sharp and the ship's officers entertained us charmingly, and we all enjoyed the outing.

Mrs. Sharp wore a white frock and a smart black hat; Mrs. Drummond Ferguson wore a very dainty little white frock with some exquisite lace inserted, a white chip hat swathed with grey charmeuse; Mrs. C. V. Houghton, a smart natural-coloured Shantung coat and skirt braided with the same colour, and a small black and white hat; Mrs. Summers, white silk coat and skirt and a becoming black hat; Miss Fife (Wellington) looked pretty in her heliotrope coat and skirt of Shantung prettily braided, and a pretty hat; Mrs. Stride, blue linen coat and skirt, faced with white, and a black hat; Mrs. Greig, amethyst linen, hat and scarf to match; Miss Alexander (Wanganui) wore a very handsome mole-coloured cloth coat and skirt, beautifully braided with silk braid of the same shade and finished with silk tassels, and lined with pale blue, a mole lace blouse with touch of blue, and a mole and blue hat; Mrs. Cooper looked nice in a smart amethyst coat and skirt with hat to match; Mrs. Edmunds, blue Shantung, putty-coloured hat with blue; Mrs. Morgan, white inserted muslin and a black hat. Amongst the guests were also: Mrs. Alexander and Mrs. Atkinson.

Racing at Takapuna.

The Takapuna races on Saturday made quite a jolly outing. The weather was just lovely, and the trip to and fro in the ferry was not the least enjoyable part. If one goes a little late and leaves early, there is no unpleasant crush at all. We managed to pick several winners, and the one on which a large dividend was paid we were very proud of. We did not choose the horse, because we liked the jockey's colours, but because there was a good rider up, and his name was Conquest, an excellent name for a winning jockey, surely? Some man or other got quite nasty. He fancied another horse and backed it on "form," a most elusive reason, I told him, and suggested in future he followed our methods. He departed with a derisive snort.

Among the Dresses.

A small contingent came over from town, among whom were: Mrs. Field Porter, wearing a pretty white muslin inserted with lace, and a black hat; Miss Alice Walker, a dainty blue floral muslin, and a tuscany hat; Mrs. Markham, white linen suit, a burnt straw hat lined with blue, and wreathed with flowers; Mrs. Harry Tonks, natural colour Shantung suit, blue straw hat; Miss Nora Gorrie, blue Shantung Russian suit, and a smart black hat; Mrs. Owen, royal blue frock, with black scarf, and black hat; Mrs. Reece (Rotorua), brown linen, hat to match; Mrs. W. Lloyd, blue linen coat and skirt piped with white, burnt straw hat with blue scarf; Miss Walker, amethyst frock, and hat to match; and Miss De Camp, smart tailored suit, and black hat.

Among the local flock I noticed Mrs. Guinness, who wore a pretty shade of blue Shantung and burnt straw hat, swathed with blue; Mrs. Napier, white embroidered frock and a black toque and white feather boa; Mrs. St. Clair, white linen coat and skirt, black hat; also, Miss St. Clair, white; Mrs. Newell, Mrs. Palairat; Mrs. Alison, cream Shantung coat and skirt, black hat.

Mrs. Ring (Waikato); Miss Ring wore a stone-grey frock and a smart shaded blue and green turban toque; Miss Duder, purple linen coat and skirt and flower-wreathed hat; Miss Flossie Duder, a pretty floral muslin and a pretty hat lined with heliotrope and wreathed with flowers; Miss Taylor looked nice in a floral muslin and a pretty hat, in tones of heliotrope and white; Mrs. Alexander wore a lovely hand-embroidered Irish linen, and a smart hat massed with shaded roses; Mrs. Hume, white linen frock and a black hat, with bright blue veil; Miss Mannisty, heliotrope striped emerie, a pretty amethyst straw hat, and a scarf to match.

Personal.

Lady Dorothy Walpole, who, with her father, the Earl of Oxford, is touring New Zealand, is at present staying at the Grand Hotel.

Madam Boueufe has gone down South, where she will remain for some time. Madam Boueufe, I believe, intends to reside in New Zealand during

the present year until her son passes his examinations.

Mrs. R. Browning, Arney-road, Remuera, has let her house for some months to Mr. and Mrs. Burge, who are on a visit from England.

Miss Allen (Allendale) is the guest of Mrs. Thompson, Remuera.

Mr. Allan Thompson, our first Rhodes Scholar, has been asked by Dr. Mewson to join his Antarctic expedition as geologist.

Mrs. E. A. Christie, daughter of Sir William Hall-Jones, will return to New Zealand with her children by the Roturus, sailing in March.

Mrs. E. K. Mulgan and Mr. Geoffrey Mulgan have arrived in Auckland from Christchurch, and are residing in Westbourne-road, Remuera.

PHYLLIS BROWN.

WELLINGTON.

February 4.

After the burst of gaieties while the races were on, general somnolence seems to have settled on society.

Numbers of people are still away, and as fast as a country or seaside cottage is vacant new occupants step in.

In town shopping at the sales seems the only thing to be done, and in the heat it is a tiring and strenuous pastime.

The lucky people who are soon off to England are busy making their preparations. The question whether it is wisest to get a good outfit of clothes here, or to wait till arrival in London, is a burning one, as both courses have ardent supporters.

Vice-regal Welcome to Hon. Geo. Fowlds.

On Friday last their Excellencies the Governor and Lady Islington gave a dinner party to the Hon. G. and Mrs. Fowlds. The Hon. C. J. and Mrs. Johnston, Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Chaytor, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Brandon, Mr. and Mrs. Chatfield, Mr. and Mrs. Beauchamp, Mr. and Miss Gore were among the guests.

The Kearsaint.

The arrival in port of the French cruiser Kearsaint is welcomed with much interest. At present nothing very definite is settled about entertaining the visitors, with the exception of an evening party, when the captain and officers are to be the guests of the Cercle Littéraire Francaise.

The Return of Dolores

It is good news to hear that the delightful singer, Mlle. Dolores, is in New Zealand again. For the last week or so, she and her friend Mlle. Vandour have been in Wellington staying with Mr. and Mrs. Prowse, who seem to keep open house for all the visiting artists. Indeed, their house contains a wonderful portrait gallery of autographed photographs of celebrities, many of whom are personal friends. Mlle. Dolores is well-known in Wellington, as she stayed here so often before, and personally she is extremely popular. As she is resting at present there is no entertaining being done in her honour, but she has been seeing her many friends privately, going about quietly. One day she was in town wearing a close-fitting black tailor-made, a lace collar, and a back picture hat with a white plume.

Y.W.C.A.

There was a meeting of those interested in the Y.W.C.A. at Mrs. Findlay's the other day to make arrangements for the coming entertainment. Everything seems going well, and all sorts of good things are to appear on the programme. The grand national march, which will illustrate the various foreign countries in which the Y.W.C.A. is working, is sure to be a fine spectacle. The Garrison Band is to play the best piece for the forthcoming band contest, and the popular amateurs who call themselves the "Gay-makers" are going to perform. They are mostly well-known society girls, and have been very successful in their former appearances, which have usually been in the cause of charity.

On the Lawns.

Lawn tennis was a great topic of interest on Saturday. A team of crack players from Christchurch came up for the annual match, Canterbury v. Well-

ington. A committee had been set up to see that the visitors were well treated, and after the business of the day was over, they were entertained at dinner, and afterwards taken to the theatre to see the Katherine Grey Company. As for the tennis, honours were fairly well divided between the two centres, as the ladies won their matches where the men were beaten, and vice versa. Afternoon tea was provided in the pavilion at the Thorndon courts, where an excited, breathless band of tennis enthusiasts were watching the games, the last of which was concluded just before the light faded.

Social Notes

A large and well-arranged fete, in aid of the Society for the Protection of Women and Children, is to be held at Karori next week. Mr. S. Kirkcaldie has lent his grounds for the occasion, and all sorts of novelties and amusements have been planned to attract people. The fete is to be opened by her Excellency, Lady Islington.

The Katherine Grey Dramatic season was an extremely successful one, and there was a very large audience on Thursday night, when Clyde Fitch's play, "The Truth," was performed. Among the audience were Lady Ward and Miss Ward, who brought Madame Boeufve, Dr. and Mrs. Findlay, Mr. and Mrs. Young, Mrs. Duncan, and many other well-known people.

Their Excellencies the Governor and Lady Islington and their suite have announced their intention of being present at the first night of "What Happened to Jones."

At Eastbourne

Eastbourne is a growing waterside suburb, and its residents are sociable and energetic. For a long time they have been in need of a good hall where they can give concerts, amateur theatricals, and so on, and at last one is available. On Thursday the hall was opened with a very enjoyable entertainment, presided over by the Mayor (Mr. Shortt), Mrs. Shortt, who wore pale pink crepe de chine and lace, was presented with a beautiful bouquet. Mrs. Russell, black chiffon and taffetas and lace; Mrs. Carte, black satin with an overdress of sequins; Mrs. Speed, mauve cologne and ivory lace; Mrs. Crosby, black taffeta and lace; Mrs. Chitty, pale blue crepe de chine; Mrs. McBean, black silk.

H.S.H. Prince Leopold of Batterberg is to arrive in Wellington on Saturday next, having travelled up from the South by way of the West Coast.

Personal.

The Bishop of Wellington and Mrs. Wallis are travelling about in the neighbourhood of Wanganui.

Mrs. and the Misses Brandon, who have been spending six weeks or so in their country house at Pahautau, are back in town again.

Miss Ella Marchant has been here for a short stay on her way back to Dunedin. While in Australia she attended the Science Congress, and her paper on the Education of Women was listened to with much interest.

Miss White, who has been staying with her aunt, Miss Holmes, has gone back to Dunedin.

Miss Nancarrow has returned to Christchurch after a long stay in Wellington.

Mrs. Harding has taken a cottage at Trentham for some weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Watson (Invercargill) are passing through Wellington on their way to England. They are leaving the younger children with their grandmother, Mrs. Menzies, for the time being.

Mrs. Menzies is just back after a long visit to Invercargill.

Mr. Riddiford returned from a stay of several weeks in Australia on Wednesday. The marriage of her niece, Miss Alys Riddiford, to Mr. Henry Arkwright, is to take place at Palmerston on February 22.

Madame Boueufe (wife of the French Consul for New Zealand) is making a stay in Wellington before going to Liverpool, where M. Boueufe has just received a consular appointment.

Mr. and Mrs. Molesworth Tolhurst, who have been staying with Mr. G. E. Tolhurst, have gone to Opotiki.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Fulton are back in their house on The Terrace again after an absence of over a year, during which time their house has been occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Tapper, who formerly lived in Christchurch. In July, or thereabouts, Miss Fulton's marriage will take place, and next year Mr. and Mrs. Fulton

are intending to go to England for an indefinite period so as to be near their daughter, whose home will be in Oxford. Mrs. Fulton is such a well-known popular hostess that she will be very much missed during her absence.

Mr. and Mrs. Tapper are going to England for a trip. They leave from Auckland by the Macedonia on February.

OPHELIA.

CAMBRIDGE.

February 5.

Many Cambridge people are still away at the seaside, and those at home seem to find it too warm to entertain just now.

Personal.

Dr. Howden has resigned his position as resident medical doctor at the Government Sanatorium at Mangakawa, and was the recipient of a very handsome revolving entree dish from the patients and staff. Mrs. Howden was also presented with a lovely bouquet by the youngest child in the institute. Considerable regret at the departure of Dr. and Mrs. Howden was expressed by the staff and patients, amongst whom they had made themselves most popular during their stay there. Dr. Howden is going to reside at Waiuku, where he will practise.

Mr. and Mrs. B. Cooper, and their little daughter Joan, of "The Anchorage" are leaving Cambridge on the 13th inst. en route to England by the Kaipara, and will be absent about ten months. They are to be the guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. Cave, of "Hillcrest," Papakura, until the time of sailing.

Miss E. Cave is at present staying with Dr. and Mrs. Roberts, of Cambridge.

Great regret was expressed when it was known that Mr. T. Hartly had had a slight stroke of paralysis, but I am pleased to hear that his medical adviser has hopes that rest and careful nursing may restore him to his usual health.

Miss Doris and Marjery Pilcher have returned home after an enjoyable time spent in town.

At "Bardowie" on Saturday the Paeroa and Cambridge teams played a six-spell match. The visitors were Messrs. Hubbard, Bush, Meredith, and Hubbard. Cambridge men were Messrs. H. Crowther, J. Banks, J. Taylor, and Wells. The match was most interesting, some excellent play being shown, the final results of the game being—Cambridge, 7 goals; Paeroa, 6. The teams were most hospitably entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, of "Bardowie" at a garden party in the evening.

ELSIE.

ROTORUA.

February 4.

Personal.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Leckie and family, of Auckland, who have had a furnished house in Rotorua for some weeks, returned to Auckland on Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Tolhurst passed through Rotorua en route for their home at Opotiki after their honeymoon trip.

Mr. and Mrs. Nevin, of Reefton, are at Brent's.

The Hon. E. L. Batchelor, of Adelaide, is at the Geyser Hotel, which is much patronised by visitors from Australia.

His Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne is in Rotorua for a few days, and attended the Maori Mission Choir concert on Thursday last.

Mr. Wilding, of Christchurch, is at "Grande Vue."

Mr. and Mrs. Coleman, of Taranaki, are visiting Rotorua.

Mr. and Mrs. Gibson, of Auckland, are visiting Rotorua, and last week motored to Wairakei and Taupo.

Mr. and Mrs. Kellow, of Wellington, are at Brent's.

Mr. A. Hamilton, Director of the Dominion Museum, is visiting Rotorua.

The Prime Minister passed through Rotorua to and from Tauranga, and received one or two deputations.

Mr. and Mrs. Humphries, of Gisborne, are at "Grande Vue."

Sir Daniel and Lady Gooch and secretary, who have been staying at Wairakei, are now at "The Grand" Rotorua. Mr. and Mrs. Guy Sherwood, of Melbourne, are at Wairakei.

Miss Ivy Allison returned to Takapuna from the thermal district last week.

Colonel Hanning-Lee, of London, is staying at "Kia Ora," Rotorua.