

striped voile; Miss W. Cooper, pretty pink dress; Miss G. Mellman wore a dainty white frock; Miss G. Nesbitt, heliotrope muslin; Miss Vernon, white silk; Miss Boyd, pretty blue frock.

A Dance.

Mrs Sholto Douglas gave a jolly little impromptu dance for her daughter Gertie on Thursday night, previous to their departure for Parnell, where they will in future reside. The supper table looked charming decorated with daffodils. Everyone had a good time, and the party was voted a very jolly one. Mrs Douglas wore a smart frock of green velvet; Miss Mabel Douglas looked well in a pretty white lace frock; Miss Gertie wore a dainty frock of pale blue silk veiled with white net; Mrs Swinburne, white net over charmeuse; Mrs Steel, black silk and lace; Mrs Vaile wore a smart black spangled net over charmeuse; Mrs Davis wore pale blue; Miss Hilda Steel wore blue charmeuse with lovely silk embroidery trimmings; Miss Minnie Steel wore pink charmeuse; Miss Mabel Nicholson, blue silk, with tunic of white net; Miss Jessie Geddes wore pale blue; Miss Jessie Frater, pale grey ninon looped up with palest pink roses; Miss Flo Foote wore a lovely frock of white satin with Oriental trimmings; Miss Nellie Upton, mauve charmeuse; Miss Violet Tibbs, blue silk; Miss Kate Devore wore a pretty frock of pink ninon; Miss Blanche wore a most becoming palest green frock. Other guests were: Miss Gladys Erson, Miss Phyllis Macfarlane, Miss Isadore Cumming, Miss Marjie Hesketh, Miss Maud Hudson, Miss Edleen Barstow, Miss Phyllis Baker, Miss Olive Ruthierford, Miss Gribbin, Miss Ruthierford, Miss Hungerford, Miss C. Craig, Miss N. Knight, Miss T. Hanna.

A very jolly little dance was held in the Training College, given by the members of the University Athletic Club, on Saturday night last. Mrs Milnes and Mrs Detman acted as chaperones, and the young people had a very good time.

Flower Show.

The Daffodil Show, which was held in the Choral Hall on Thursday and Friday, was opened by Professor A. P. W. Thomas, vice-president, in the absence of the Mayor, who is in Sydney. The display of daffodils was very beautiful, several new kinds being exhibited and much admired. Mr. Henry Brett's magnificent display of spring flowers was the centre of attraction; the table was beautifully arranged, and was awarded a certificate of merit, and, in addition, a silver medal. Mrs. H. T. Goddie's table was also beautifully arranged, and was awarded a bronze medal. The table decorations were most artistic, the first prize going to Mrs. E. Taylor's table, which was decorated with Argentinian pea and pink sweet peas—a most effective scheme. Miss Isabel Massey won the junior competition with a table prettily arranged with allium and blue wood hyacinths and asparagus fern. Tea was served at dainty tables in the large supper-room, which was decorated, and looked very pretty. Mrs. P. Olyphant and Mrs. Andrews were in charge on Thursday, and Mrs. Ashton and Mrs. Stone on Friday, assisted by a bevy of girls, among whom were the Misses Olyphant, Lindsay, Devore, Neil, and McCormick.

Personal.

Miss Flossie Hamlin, who has been the guest of Miss Jessie Reid for the past few weeks, returned to her home in Naupou on Monday.

At the annual examination of students held in the midsummer term of the Royal Academy of Music in July last, Miss Amy Stevenson, a well-known Auckland violinist, secured a bronze medal for violin-playing, for eight-eighths per cent, and obtained honours for her harmony paper.

PHYLLIS BROUD.

WELLINGTON.

September 15.

Afternoon Tea at Government House.

On Friday Her Excellency Lady Islington gave an afternoon tea at Government House. Yellow daffodils and freesias decorated the drawing-room, and in the ball-room were tall clumps of arum lilies; while the tea table, arranged in the centre of the room, was fragrant and gay with mimosa. Lady Islington has interested herself in Miss Thelma Petersen, whose beautiful contralto voice has been warmly praised by celebrated musicians

lately in New Zealand. Miss Petersen sang several times at Government House, and both their Excellencies and the guests were delighted with the power and sweetness of her voice. Lady Islington wore black ninon with a doaberr of black Liberty satin, and folds of rose colour under the black ninon of the corsage; Miss Stapleton Cotton was in pale blue foulard, with soutache and fillet lace; Mrs Guise, brown soule cloth, with bands of velvet, and a velvet toque. Their Excellencies motored to Featherston next day, and spent the week end at their country seat, where their small girl spends most of the time in charge of her governess. Monday was an important occasion, as it was the Hon. Joan Dickson-Poynder's birthday, so "Longwood" was en fete.

By-the-by, Mr Charles Pharaizon, who is the owner of "Longwood," has recently sold it, the new purchaser being Mr D. Riddiford, of Hawke's Bay. Mr Riddiford is a son of the late Mr E. J. Riddiford, of the Lower Hutt. It will be some time before he takes possession of "Longwood," as His Excellency's lease has nearly another year to run.

A Dance.

A noteworthy dance of the season was that given by Mr and Mrs Leo Butler on Friday night. It was hard to recognise the Sydney-street Hall in its new array, which transformed it into a green and white pavilion with tall palms and ferns stationed in each corner and standing guard at every doorway. Even the prosaic dais was suggestive of spring, as for a space it was carpeted ankle deep with moss and lichen, out of which sprang flowering clumps of daffodils, primroses, freesias, and snowdrops. A huge mirror reflected everything on the ballroom floor, doubling the brilliant effect, and on either side it was flanked with a trellis screen, in which daffodils were combined with the feathery green and gold of mimosa. In the annex—which was a most popular place of sitting out—gorgeous Chinese lanterns were festooned against the background of white and green. The same delicate colour scheme was carried out in the supper-room, but there it was accentuated by hanging baskets of rose-coloured camellias; while the supper tables were done with wonderful anemones, shell pink, rose, glowing crimson, and deep red. The floor was in splendid order, the music gay and inspiring, and the supper a most excellent one, so it was with real regret that the last extra was announced. The dance went off with great eclat, and the cheers for the host and hostess at the end were given with a warmth and emphasis that must have been very gratifying.

Mrs Butler wore a beautiful dress of ivory brocade, the ninon tunic having entre deux of delicate lace; pearl embroideries enriched the corsage and the high-waisted belt, her tiara was of diamonds, and as a pendant she wore an amethyst of immense size and exquisite hue. The purple note was repeated in her bouquet of violets, and the new mauve freesias, which came in for much admiring comment. Among the guests were: Mrs Godley, in a princess gown of charmeuse, draped with lace and delicately embroidered; Miss Brandon, pastel satin, with a ninon tunic; Miss N. Brandon, ivory charmeuse and lace; Mrs. Chaytor, pale blue brocade with crystal and silver embroideries; Mrs Duncan, coral charmeuse veiled in shot ninon with iridescent embroideries; Miss Trim, apricot liberty satin, with a graceful tunic of mole mousseline de soie; Miss Fernout, ivory satin and Irish lace; Miss Coates, black charmeuse with a ninon overdress and gold embroideries; Mrs Larnach, black crepe de chine with Egyptian embroideries on the ninon corsage; Miss Miles, ivory satin, with a tunic of embroidered ninon; Miss Colbridge, champagne satin in tones of blue and grey with oval embroideries; Miss I. Colbridge, a Josephine gown of charmeuse draped in laces net; Mrs. Pearce, satin limousine veiled in net with Oriental embroideries; Miss Pearce, pale blue charmeuse, veiled in mousseline de soie, embroidered and hemmed with satin; Mrs Thornton, ivory satin, with an overdress of lace and ninon; Miss Ewan, coral liberty satin, draped with bands of embroidery; Miss Thompson (Melbourne) ivory satin with tunic of ninon.

A Maori Reception.

It is with great regret that we hear of Mr and Mrs Leo Butler's coming departure for England, where they intend to live permanently. Indeed, their only reason for coming out was to arrange for the disposal of the property which

formerly belonged to Sir Walter Buller, who was such a well-known figure in New Zealand affairs. A feature of Mrs Buller's stay in New Zealand was the Maori reception given in her honour by the natives of Papatonga, where Mr Buller's country house is.

It was quite a stately ceremonial, the powhiri of welcome accompanied by a chant and much waving of green boughs; while the leading chiefs made a long, flattering speech in Maori relative to the Buller family. Mrs Buller made a most favourable impression on the natives, who at once recognised her as of rangatira rank.

A Concert.

Miss Petersen's committee was too modest in taking the Town Concert Hall for her benefit concert, as the audience was so too large for the room. However, it was a most enthusiastic crowd, and became deeply impressed with Miss Petersen's vocal powers, and the importance of enabling her to get the best training possible. All the best musical talent in Wellington contributed to the programme, though interest, of course, centred chiefly in the songs by Miss Petersen herself. She wore white ninon made with an appropriate girlish simplicity, and Mrs. Eason was in pale blue with a berthe of lace. The audience included: Sir Joseph and Lady Ward, the latter in black velvet; Mr. Cyril Ward, and Mrs. Ward (pale blue charmeuse); Mr. Guise and Mrs. Guise (ivory satin and net); and a great many other well-known people.

Bowlers as Hosts.

Although bowlers have to abandon their favourite game during the winter season, they manage to console themselves in other ways. On Friday there was a most successful dance, preceded by a euchre party, when the hosts were the members of the Kelburne Club. Everything went off well; the games were close and exciting, and the band played cheerfully all the time. Among those present were Mrs. McVilly, wearing mole ninon over rose pink satin; Mrs. Herdman wore ivory ninon over Liberty satin; Mrs. Williamson, black satin and jet; Mrs. Clark, black crepe de chine relieved with lace; Mrs. Jall, black charmeuse and ninon; Miss Batten, mauve crepe de chine; Miss Clark, mole ninon over pink taffetas; Miss Millar, pale blue charmeuse; Miss Martin, black satin and jet; Mrs. Wardell, ivory charmeuse and lace.

Hockey Ball.

There was a great swing and zest at the hockey ball on Saturday, and if the girls were tired after their week of hard play, they showed very little signs. Crossed hockey sticks and the colours of various clubs taking part in the tournament alternated with palms and greenery on the walls and the balcony, which became a very favourite place for sitting out and watching the dances, was festooned with flags. Her Excellency Lady Islington had promised to attend and present the championship trophies to the winning teams, but as the senior finals were still unplayed, there was only the junior cup to be handed over. The Vice-jugal party was received by Dr. Izard and Miss Mellsoop, representing the New Zealand Ladies' Hockey Association, and the bouquet Lady Islington was presented with carried out the Association colours, as it was composed of primroses with black tulle streamers. Speeches were made by Dr. Izard and Sir Joseph Ward. In response Lady Islington said how pleased she was to be there, and announced her intention of giving a silver trophy to be competed for. Miss Burr, on behalf of the Wellington College Club (winners of the junior championship) received the prize, and Miss Hicks (of the same club) was awarded the special prize given by Miss Coates. In token of the hard and strenuous work which fell to the lot of Miss Mellsoop, the honorary secretary of the Association, during and before the tournament the visiting teams made her a special presentation of a gold watch which was handed to her by Lady Islington to the accompaniment of cheers from the girls.

Her Excellency Lady Islington, who was attended by Captain MacDougall, and accompanied by Miss Stapleton-Cotton, wore black ninon, the beautiful tunic having a deep border of hand-woven Italian point lace and a high-collared belt of satin, into which was tucked a ball of satin. Into which was tucked a ball of pink carnations. Miss Stapleton-Cotton, a Princess dress of black chiff.

fon velours with jet embroideries. Two of the chaperones of the dance were Mrs. Herdman, in ivory striped ninon over satin with a cluster of roses, and Miss Coates, the latter wearing black charmeuse with silver and gold embroideries. Miss Mellsoop was in black velvet with a tucker of lace. As there were nearly two hundred strangers at the dance it was not easy to identify them. White was the most popular wear, and proved universally becoming.

On Monday the final match for the championship was played at Day's Bay, when Nelson succeeded in beating the holders—a redoubtable team from Hawke's Bay. Taking it all round, the tournament was successful and well managed, but it necessarily entailed a very severe physical strain on the players, and some of them were evidently feeling it.

In Aid of the Kindergarten.

Miss Richmond's little play, "The Motherly's Luck," had a successful run at the Opera House here, and the Free Kindergarten funds should benefit considerably. On one night His Excellency the Governor was present with Lady Islington, the latter wearing black ninon de soie with silver embroideries and a fillet of red roses in her coiffure.

Hutt Flower Show.

Wednesday was beautifully fine for the Hutt Flower Show, but, from one reason or another, there were not so many people present as usual. Most of the Hutt people came on late. Miss Cuff's wedding and various causes kept the town visitors away. The show itself was well managed, and the locale was ideal, as there was plenty of space, and the white walls made the best of backgrounds, the tables and stands full of flowers. Yellow tints predominated, naturally, as by far the most numerous flowers were daffodils and narcissus in great variety. This year Mr. Chapman, whose exhibit of cyclamen and many rare flowers is always one of the best features of the Hutt Show, had nothing on view, a loss which was much regretted. The greatest interest centred in the new freesias cultivated by Mr. Graham Harvey, the deep apricot and primrose yellow sprays were much admired, but, perhaps, the most beautiful were those in delicate shades of lavender and pale purple. An English lady present, who is a keen gardener, is planning to take some bulbs home with her, as she does not think the new shades are known to English flower-lovers. The two champion daffodils of the show, Lemon Queen and Duke of Bedford, were of gigantic size. The former was grown at Hawera.

Coming to the decorated tables, one sighed over the iniquities of the table centres. A yard of rose pink velvet ruined a charming scheme of blue forget-me-nots and a feathery white flower, and a mossy arrangement of tulpe was all too popular, while the effective simplicity of white lace and embroidery was almost ignored. Some coral red japonica which could have been a joy in clear crystal vases, was put in an old-fashioned epergne of ruby fluted glass, with a result that was distressing to the artistic eye. Two tables that missed the prize were much approved of by the visitors: one an arrangement of pale pink anemones with maiden-hair; the other done with graceful sprays of single and double yellow japonica.

Mr Trevithick, the president, and the officials of the Hutt Horticultural Society, received their Excellencies. Lord Islington made an excellent little speech, and afterwards he and Lady Islington were escorted round the hall and inspected all the exhibits before having afternoon tea. Crimson was the keynote of Lady Islington's attire, her shoes matching the hue of the smart tailor-made of crimson cloth, with its narrow braid and buttons on suite, and the harmony was further carried out by a shower bouquet of cyclamen shading from crimson to deep dark red. Her hat of oyster (egg) straw had a tuft of black ospreys and a lining of black satin, and the sable note was repeated in her ostrich feather hat.

Mrs Trevithick wore pale blue foulard, with a net guimpe, and a black picture hat; Mrs Wilford, a leather-tipped tailor-made, and a brown hat with ermine accents; Mrs Godley, navy blue cloth, navy toque with sapphire feathers; Mrs O. Stevens, Egyptian grey silk, blue vest, hat wreathed with lilac; Mrs Grace, black braided tailor-made, black and white bonnet; Mrs Bellard (in Christ-church), black crepe de chine, long black satin coat with collar and revers of black and white striped satin, black picture hat; Mrs O'Connor, black coat and