

STRATFORD.

January 9.

The Races.

Fortunately the weather cleared up and kept fine for the annual meeting of the Stratford Racing Club on New Year's Day. The pretty course looked its best, and the attendance was a record one. The fine day, following upon so many wet ones, was alone sufficient inducement for all to wear their happiest air and frocks. But the scene was changed on the second day; the rain came down in torrents, and muscotoes were the prevailing fashion of the moment. Some of the costumes worn on the first day were very pretty. Mrs. Uniacke, who has just returned from a trip to Europe, wore a blue cloth coat and skirt, handsomely braided, white satin collar embroidered in gold, large jet buttons, tricornered black velvet hat, crown completely covered with white ostrich feathers; Mrs. Walker (New Plymouth), lemon-coloured charmuse, covered with black nixon, black hat with black feathers; Mrs. Gault (Inglewood), grey silk bengaline, piped with green velvet and passementerie trimmings of grey, large black toque of sequins and lace; Mrs. Ross (Eltham), pretty black and white mohair coat and skirt, large white hat with black tulle rosettes; Mrs. Glasgow, black and white shepherd's plaid costume, smart black hat with feathers; Mrs. Paget, champagne poplin coat and skirt, dainty lace jabot, hat to match, trimmed black lace; Misses Paget, navy blue de-laine dresses, large hats wreathed with poppies and cornflowers; Mrs. Budge (wife of the President), who presented the winning jockeys of the Farmers' Plate and Ladies' Purse Handicap with handsome trophies, wore a dainty white embroidered Indian crepe with putty-coloured tegal straw hat, clustered with luscious pansies; Mrs. Nolan (Hawera), grey coat and skirt and floral toque; Miss Nolan, white costume, large black hat; Miss Glenn (Hawera), smart grey coat and skirt, large black hat with lace wings and wallflowers; Mrs. Stubbs, black and white coat and skirt, large black hat with cerise roses and black satin bows; Mrs. Chinchin, becoming coat and skirt of periwinkle blue, collar and cuffs of blue and white spotted silk, large white hat; Mrs. Ernest Robinson, white lawn gown, trimmed insertion, very pretty hat of pale grey and crowned high with pastel blue ostrich feathers; Mrs. Crawshaw, cream linen, trimmed Indian embroidery, black hat of Napoleonic suggestion, with black and blue feathers; Mrs. Crew (Pahiatua), silk floral muslin, trimmed handsome lace and satin, white hat of feathers; Mrs. Claude Weston (New Plymouth), pale grey costume, white hat wreathed with pink roses; Mrs. Menzies, white corduroy velvet, white hat with berries; Miss Doris Menzies, white linen coat and skirt, large white hat with black bows; Mrs. Munro, champagne coat with collar and cuffs of black and white striped silk; Miss Joyce Munro, white muslin, white hat with blue adornments; Mrs. Symes (Patea), heliotrope costume, toque en suite; Mrs. Cook (New Plymouth), black and white coat and skirt, white hat with pink roses; Mrs. Young, dainty black and white costume, large black hat; Mrs. Johnston, pretty mole poplin, yoke of gold passe-

menterie, black hat with feathers; Mrs. Richards, green velvet, Pierrat hat of black and white; Mrs. Wilkie, pale grey satin with overdress of chiffon, same tone hat to match; Mrs. Rennell, white embroidered lawn, large black hat; Mrs. Harrison (Eltham), smart blue linen, white hat with blue bands.

Personal.

The Misses Butler, of the Vicarage, were presented by a few friends with a New Year's gift in the shape of a well-filled purse of sovereigns, as a mark of esteem and appreciation, which they have gained for themselves during the few short months they have been in Stratford.

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Malone are visiting Rotorua.

Mr. R. Spence and Mr. J. L. Stanford returned from Auckland on Monday.

Mrs. Ernest Robinson, who is pursuing her musical studies in Auckland, has returned to Stratford to spend the vacation.

Mrs. Gault (Inglewood) was the guest of Mrs. Budge during the racing festivities.

Mr. F. C. Wake and Miss Freda Wake left for Auckland last week.

DENISE.

SOUTH TARANAKI.

Hawera, January 8.

Personal.

Mr. and Mrs. Page and their four little girls have gone to Pimmeton for a month's holiday. Miss Whitcombe accompanied them.

Mrs. Wallace is spending a holiday in Rotorua and Auckland.

Mrs. Westera (Christchurch) and Mrs. Gill-Carey (Wanganui) are the guests of Miss Lyaght, Mokoiia.

Miss Williamson has returned, after a short holiday in Wanganui.

Mr. Wallick (Christchurch) is the guest of Mrs. Moore.

Miss Douglas is visiting Rotorua and Auckland.

Mr. and Mrs. Emmerson, who have been staying a few days with Miss Lyaght, have returned to their home in Taihape.

Mr. and Mrs. Barton and party are spending a week at "Dawson Falls House," Mt. Egmont.

Miss Stringer is visiting friends in Wanganui and Taihape.

Mrs. W. Good has returned to Stratford.

JOAN.

PALMERSTON NORTH.

January 8.

At Home.

The weather was deplorable for Mrs. F. Nathan's "At Home." It poured with rain incessantly the whole day. Nevertheless the greater proportion of those invited attended, and enjoyed themselves immensely. The floral decorations of the different rooms were exquisite. The hall was done with carnations of unusual beauty in size and colour. In the drawing-room there was a profusion of pink roses, and in the dining-room were sweet peas in the most delicate shades of pink. Afternoon tea was served in the hall and in the dining-room, and ices and strawberries and cream on one of the spacious verandahs. On another verandah Hayward's band played throughout the af-

ternoon. Had the weather been kinder the beautiful grounds would have been a great source of enjoyment for the guests. Mr. and Mrs. Phil Nathan, who were recently married in Sydney, were present. Mrs. F. Nathan wore a dainty frock of fine white spotted muslin, much trimmed with lace and insertion; Mrs. Phil Nathan, white crepe de chine over white silk, and a large white hat lined with the faintest pink and trimmed with white plumes; Mrs. Joseph (Wellington), mauve and cream silk; Miss Joseph, a French grey figured silk, trimmed with lace; Mrs. Geoffrey Potts, black lace robe over black silk, large black velvet hat with black ostrich feathers; Mrs. Gwynn Potts, cream and pale blue striped silk, hat with black velvet and ospreys; Mrs. Walter Strang, save blue charmuse toilette, small black hat with black feathers; Mrs. Jack Strang, green silk and hat with coral beads encircling crown; Mrs. Nicholas Reid (Wellington), black costume, black toque with black feathers; Mrs. Gifford Moore, navy coat and skirt, black hat with pink roses; Mrs. H. B. Waldegrave, black velvet toilette, large cream Leghorn hat with pink roses; Miss Trixie Waldegrave, white linen coat and skirt, white hat with wreath of purple clover; Mrs. Homan, black embroidered chiffon over black silk, black plumed hat; Mrs. Cochrane, grey coat and skirt, navy hat with cluster of shaded pink roses; Mrs. C. W. Walker, black charmuse coat and skirt, black hat with ospreys; Mrs. Randolph, lavender coat and skirt braided in same shade, large black hat with lavender silk bows at back; Miss F. Randolph, pale blue charmuse with nixon tulle of same shade, black hat with cream lace and pink roses; Miss Alison Barnicoat, pale pink coat and skirt, hat with wreath of small pink flowers; Miss Sybil Abraham, helixia blue muslin with black satin collar, black velvet hat with blue forget-me-nots; Mrs. Martin, putty coloured coat and skirt loaded in same shade, hat with pheasant feathers; Mrs. Stowe, black coat and skirt, black hat coque feathers; Mrs. Pascal, navy coat and skirt, hat with brown velvet; Miss McLennan, grey coat and skirt, black hat with mauve trimming; Miss Elsie McLennan, grey coat and skirt, black hat with black feathers; Mrs. Morrah, sage blue coat and skirt, black toque with white ospreys; Mrs. Tripe, bright blue voile with cream lace on bodice, hat trimmed with mauve flowers; Miss Tripe, grey silk, hat with clusters of small mauve flowers; Mrs. Turnbull (Wellington), white embroidered frock with pipings and sash ends of black velvet, hat with natural tinted ostrich feathers; Mrs. Reid, violet coat and skirt, black toque with feathers; Miss Reid, pale pink coat and skirt, black hat with black feathers; Mrs. Armstrong, black shantung coat and skirt, pea-cock-blue feather boa, bonnet with tips; Miss Armstrong, rose pink silk frock, floral hat; Mrs. Percy Baldwin; Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Beale; Mrs. Kelbell (Wellington); Mrs. Higginson; Mr. and Mrs. Hoben; Mrs. and Miss Loughnan (Waikato); Mr. and Mrs. C. Loughnan; Mr. and Mrs. Warlinton; Mrs. Adam McDonald, Capt. and Mrs. Hewitt, Messrs. J. and W. Strang, Harman, Balfour, Kinnear, R. Abraham, M. Coke, the Revs. H. G. Rosser, Mrs. Martin, Stowe, and Martin.

Fancy Dress Ball.

In the evening of the same day Dr. and Mrs. O'Brien gave a plain and fancy dress ball at the Municipal Hall. Mrs. O'Brien wore a grey charmuse toilette, and powder and patches; Miss O'Brien was a Quakeress in grey; Miss Mona O'Brien a Gipsy; Mrs. Maurice Cohen, cream satin embroidered in pearls, powder and patches; Mrs. Walter Strang, the Duchess of Devonshire; Mrs. Harold Cooper, vivid pink nixon over satin, sweet peas in hair; Mrs. Balfour Kinnear, yellow satin, large Gainsborough hat; Mrs. R. Davis, blue nixon over grey silk, powder and patches; Mrs. F. Nathan, an Egyptian; Mrs. Rosher, Sweet Lorraine; Miss F. Brandon, Irish Peasant; Miss T. Waldegrave, Juliet;

A Show of Hands

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