

# Society Gossip.

Special to the "Graphic."

## NOTICE TO OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor desires to draw the attention of occasional contributors of any items to the Society Gossip columns that name and address must be given with copy, otherwise any such communication cannot be recognised.

All copy intended for publication in these columns must reach the office not later than Saturday morning, in order to ensure insertion in the current issue.

### AUCKLAND.

February 13.

#### Tennis Picnic.

THE Misses Cotter gave a very jolly tennis picnic last Wednesday, at which Mr. and Mrs. Len Harvey (the latter was formerly Miss Ethel Martin) were the guests of honour. The weather was perfect, and lots of tennis was played right up till late in the evening. By this time further additions to the party arrived, also the Bavarian Band, which played delightful selections whilst the guests enjoyed a delicious "high tea" out in the garden. Needless to say, there was lots of fun, everyone being in a merry mood. Dancing in the ballroom followed, and the whole party was delightful. Among the guests were: Mr. and Mrs. L. Harvey, Miss Jessie Reid, Miss T. Cooper, Miss Thelma Bloomfield, Miss Una Saunders, Miss Dorothy Nathan, Miss J. Richmond, Miss Hilda Bloomsfield, Miss Roysie Greig, Miss Neville George, Miss A. Stevenson, Miss Evie Frater, Miss Dorothy Nolan, Misses Gwen and Rachel Gorrie, Miss Nancy Hanna.

#### Tennis at Otahuhu.

Mrs. W. Lloyd's tennis parties at Otahuhu are always most enjoyable, and Wednesday last was no exception. It is quite delightful to go out into the country fresh air. Mr. Lloyd's house is only a short walk from the station, adjoining Mr. Lippiatt's delightful and well-known rose garden, which always looks gay with flowers and lovely creeping roses. The tennis lawn is good, and some really well-balanced sets of tennis were played among the players were Mrs. W. R. Bloomfield and Miss Hilda Bloomfield, Mrs. Copeland Savage, Miss Cooper, Mrs. Braithwaite, Miss Cecil Hull, Miss Wilson (Otahuhu). Delicious tea and ice were served from a picturesque summer house, and much enjoyed. Several of the guests brought their children, who had a jolly time playing under the trees. Some of the guests were Mrs. C. Biddle and Miss Una Biddle, Mr. Spencer and Miss Ruth Spencer, Mrs. W. Colbeck, Mrs. Drummond Ferguson, Mrs. Savage, and the Misses Savage (England).

#### Auckland Bowling Club's Jubilee.

The Auckland Bowling Club's Jubilee "At Home," held on Saturday afternoon, was really quite a brilliant function. The grounds were attractively decorated, and festoons of flags fluttered gaily in the breeze. On the right-hand side of the

largest bowling green, worked out in red, white and blue flowers (the Club's colours), was the date of inauguration, "1842," then the word "Welcome," and "1912." The scheme was very effective. The tea arrangements were excellent, as in addition to the usual tea house, marquees were erected about the grounds, and so dispersed the crowd, with the result that it was possible for everyone to have their tea in comfort. All these arrangements were in the charge of a ladies' committee, with Mrs. W. Elliott at its head, and Miss Coldicutt as secretary. A brass band played during the afternoon. It was an animated and inspiring scene, with crowds of white-flannelled men, with hats and coats of gay colours, tennis and croquet players in white, and everything bathed in glorious sunshine. Mr. J. Carlaw (President of the Club) and his daughter received the guests. Miss Carlaw, our youthful hostess, wore a very pretty white muslin frock with bands and trimmings of fine embroidery, and a dainty girlish white hat; Mrs. Wetherill wore white; Mrs. C. J. Farr looked charming in a dainty frock of palest grey nixon embroidered with white, bands of yellow satin showing from under the nixon, and a gumpie of lace, with a pretty hat wreathed with white and yellow flowers, and a shoulder scarf of yellow and grey with silver net; Mrs. W. Elliott, amethyst cashmere de soie, and a black hat covered with white feathers; Mrs. Ingless, dainty frock of embroidered muslin and a pretty hat; Mrs. McGuire, frocked in white; Mrs. Tudhope, black charmeuse with cream silk blouse; Miss Coldicutt, white; Mrs. G. A. Buttle, white with hat to match; Mrs. McCormick, white linen and a black hat; Mrs. Newman, cream and a black hat; Mrs. Munro Clark, pretty blue frock and a blue hat with roses; Mrs. Louis Myers, cream Shantung coat and skirt, faced with black, shade amethyst bonnet; Mrs. H. Gilliland, pretty frock of grey floral muslin over black, with toque to match; Mrs. H. Wilson, white linen and a white hat; Mrs. Harold Bagnall, black; Mrs. Sydney Nathan, handsomely frocked in black and white; Mrs. Rennie, grey lustre boat and skirt, small grey hat with touches of Royal blue; Mrs. Felix Kelly, the smartest of patty-coloured cloth tailored suits, faced with floral silk in blue, a smart and very becoming hat lined with blue and massed with blue flowers; Mrs. A. Herold, in bronze green nixon and a black hat; Mrs. Atkin, a lovely little white French muslin, embroidered in black, and a shaded amethyst and pink toque; Miss Atkin, the daintiest frock of white, embroidered nixon over palest pink silk, and a pretty hat to match;

Mrs. Stride, blue with cream hat covered with blue flowers; Mrs. Bodle, black and white; Mrs. Newton, a smart frock of pink and a pretty hat with roses; Mrs. Nelson, grey with black and steel toque; Mrs. McVeagh, a grey charmeuse frock with handsome embroidery, a white and blue high-crowned hat with fentlers; Mrs. Donald, grey, white hat with grey feathers; Mrs. Mennie, black; Mrs. Wilson, a lovely white frock and a smart black and white hat; Mrs. Williams, grey charmeuse and a black hat; Mrs. John Reid, Miss Jessie Reid, Mrs. W. Thorne, the Misses Thorne (2), Mrs. Atkinson, Miss Bagnall, Mrs. and Miss Buttle, the Misses Keirs, Miss Bingwall, Miss Rylie, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Lusher, Miss Holland, Miss Lusher, Mrs. Bain, Mrs. Lambert, Miss Gordon, Miss Horn, Miss Thompson, Miss Peacock, Misses Casey (2), Miss Osmond, Mrs. Arnold, Miss Arnold, Miss Newman, Miss Hooper, Miss Moir, Miss McAlister, Mrs. Raynes, Miss Raynes, Mrs. Iwerson, Mrs. Connelly, Mrs. Pavitt, Miss Pavitt.

#### Ethel Irving.

All theatre goers were delighted when they heard that Ethel Irving was coming here, though only for a short season. And now, that she is here, and people have been and heard her, one hears expressions of delight with her netting and charming personality. As Lady Frederick Ethel Irving wore some elegant clothes; in fact, everything she wore—save that awful dingy kimono—were beautiful. Though she is of short stature, she had bands round her skirts, and basque-like effects on her bodies both supposed to be fatal to the appearance of any but tall women. However, so beautifully were the frocks cut that only the happiest results ensued. One was a frock of the softest vieux rose cashmere de soie, with a wide band reaching from just below the knees to within a few inches of her toes, and cream lace, with some of the pattern worked over with vivid cherry red silk. This band was so cut that at the back it reached to the hem of the train, giving length at the back. Just below the hips a square tab was cut out of the lace, breaking the loop-like line round the middle of the skirt. Half of the bodice was composed of vieux rose, and the other half of the embroidered lace. A narrow girdle of black was a happy inspiration, and black velvet bound her pretty brown hair. Another frock of cream lace had pipings of vivid cherry red, and a coat-like effect was gained by a basque of the same colour under the lace, the edge of which was piped with red; this frock donned in place of the faded-looking kimono, which was worn in the very amusing "making up" scene, and must have been made with most wonderfully simple fastening arrangements, for it only took her about two minutes to put on. Would that our dressmakers could follow suit!

#### Personal.

Mr. C. J. Parr has taken Mr. Craig's house on the beach at Takapuna, and will be over there for a month. The many friends of Mrs. and the Misses Fanny and Eileen Macfarlane, who are at present staying at the Grand Hotel, are delighted to welcome them back to Auckland.

PHYLIS BROWN.

### WELLINGTON.

February 12.

#### Stirring Times.

The tram strike, although it only lasted five days, certainly diffused things socially a good deal.

People are now beginning to arrive in town for the session, and it remains to be seen whether any festivities will be given. Politics—in succession to the strikes—is the great topic of discussion even now, but not even the wisest can say what is going to happen. In any case, the session can hardly prove a dull one, and it will almost certainly be short. The political people are so accustomed to wintering in Wellington that a summer sojourn will be quite a change.

The latest excitement seems to be the prospect of a security of meat owing to the strike at the Gear and other works. Housekeeping in Wellington at present is far from being a dull occupation.

#### Bridge.

For Mrs. Bateson's bridge party on Thursday, at her charming house at Wallaceville, a number of guests went out from town by the morning train, and put in time at the golf links and club house before going on. Sweet peas and delicate scabions decorated the pretty rooms, and additional space was given by the wide verandah, which was arranged as a tea-room. The guest of honour was Mr. Bateson's niece, who recently arrived from England, and is staying at Wallaceville. Mrs. Bateson wore black and white striped voile, with pipings of satin in subdued orange shade; Miss Bateson was in white Indian lawn, with a soupcon of pale blue, and lace entredeux threaded with black velvet. The bridge prizes were won by Mrs. Hayman, Mrs. Ross, and Mrs. Watkins.

#### Church Fete.

Saturday was a busy day, as on that afternoon the Star Club sports were held in perfect weather. The absence of trams rather affected the attendance, and one missed a good many familiar faces. At the same time, at the Lower Hutt, there was a most successful garden fete at Ferngrove. The grounds were kindly lent by Mrs. Riddiford, who, with her daughter, took a very active interest in the fete. All sorts of amusements and competitions were arranged, and there was great interest taken in the musical ride on decorated bicycles. All the Hutt people seemed to be at the fete, and under the circumstances there were a fair number of visitors from town. The fete was in aid of the funds of St. James' Church.

#### Personal.

Mrs. Harold Harding was a passenger to England by the Ruapehu. Her visit will be a short one, and a portion of the time will be spent with her brother (Dr. Ellis-MacTaggart, of Trinity College, Cambridge).

Mrs. Stanton Harcourt and her children have left for Sydney, en route to the Old Country. In Australia they will be joined by Mrs. Harcourt's mother (Mrs. Dean), who is to accompany them. Mrs. Dean has lately been staying with another married daughter in Sydney.

Mr. and Mrs. John Duncan are off in a few month's time for their annual trip to avoid the winter here.

Miss D. Shaden (Petone) has gone to England by the Ruapehu.

Mr. Keith Iard, who is going to England for a trip, is undoubtedly the best

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