

**Takapuna Ferry and Tram.**

The suggested acquisition of the plant owned by the Takapuna Tram and Ferry Company by the ratepayers of the Takapuna Riding of the Waitemata County Council was discussed at the Council meeting last week, and Mr. H. H. Adams was granted permission to take a poll. The legal aspect of the purchase will also be investigated. The proposal is to borrow £78,000, and ratepayers within the boundary of the Devonport Borough and the Oneroa Creek will vote. At a recent trial ballot taken the scheme was approved.

**Question of Cost.**

In connection with the apparent failure to establish workers' homes at Terrace End, Palmerston North, the Advances to Workers' Department has issued a statement as follows:—"Regarding the cost of these dwellings, the Department states that in the particular instance quoted, the information given to the applicants was that the approximate cost of erecting a house in wood in Palmerston, exclusive of section, drainage, fencing, artificial lighting, and administration, would be £286, the amount mentioned to him. The architect's subsequent estimate of the total cost of the dwelling, when decided upon with the applicant, was £386, as quoted, plus drainage £10, fencing £26, lighting £7, extras required by estimate £4; total, £433. The lowest tender received was £334, but this tender was subsequently withdrawn, on account of the illness of the builder, and the next lowest tender was for £374. To this amount required to be added as above indicated, £75 for the section, and 2½ per cent administration on £374 9/7; total, £458 7/. The Department obviously cannot guarantee that the lowest tender available will not exceed the architect's estimate."

"William," said Mrs. Peckem, sternly, "did you ever stop to think that someone might steal me when you were away?"

"Well," responded the poor husband with a far-away look, "I was a little alarmed when a horse-thief was prowling through these parts last week."

Mrs. Peckem stiffened up haughtily. "A horse-thief, eh?"

"Yes. I heard that he carried off two or three bags from this district."

And then Peckem made a bee-line for the club.

**NORTHERN STEAM SHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.**

Weather and other circumstances permitting, the Company's steamers will leave as under:—

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CLANSMAN ... Every Monday, at 6 p.m.
- For Russell, Whangarei, and Mangonui.**  
CLANSMAN—Every Wednesday, at 5.30 p.m. No Cargo for Russell.
- For Awanui, Waiharara, Houhora, Whangaroa, and Mangonui.**  
APANUI ... Every Monday, at 2 p.m. No Cargo Whangaroa and Mangonui.
- For Whangarara, Helena Bay, Takatuka, and Whanauaki.**  
FAEROA ... Monthly

**For Great Barrier.**  
WAIOTAHU ... Every Wednesday, midnight

**For Waiheke and Coromandel.**  
LEAVE AUCKLAND.

DAPHNE—Every Mon. and Fri. Forenoon

LEAVE COROMANDEL VIA WAIHIKE.

DAPHNE—Every Tues. and Sat. Early.

**FROM ONEHUNGA.**

**For Hokitanga.**  
LEAVE AUCKLAND.

CLAYMORE ... Every Thursday

**For Raglan and Kawhia.**

CLAYMORE ... Every Monday

**WHANGAREI BRANCH.**

TIME-TABLE S.S. NGAPUHI SEPT., 1911

Date.	Goods received (ill. per train).	Passen- Mangapai. (Ill. per train).	S.S. Coromandel Leaves.
2nd—8.45 a.m.	11.25 a.m.	No str.	11 a.m.
5th—8.45 a.m.	11.25 a.m.	7 a.m.	No str.
7th—8.45 a.m.	11.25 a.m.	7 a.m.	9 a.m.
9th—8.45 a.m.	11.25 a.m.	No str.	9 a.m.
12th—8.45 a.m.	11.25 a.m.	9 a.m.	No str.
14th—8.45 a.m.	11.25 a.m.	9 a.m.	11 a.m.
16th—8.45 a.m.	11.25 a.m.	No str.	11 a.m.
19th—8.45 a.m.	1.15 p.m.	No str.	No str.
21st—8.45 a.m.	11.25 a.m.	7 a.m.	9 a.m.
23rd—8.45 a.m.	11.25 a.m.	No str.	9 a.m.
26th—8.45 a.m.	11.25 a.m.	9 a.m.	No str.
28th—8.45 a.m.	11.25 a.m.	9 a.m.	11 a.m.
30th—8.45 a.m.	11.25 a.m.	No str.	11 a.m.

Goods outward must leave up-country stations by afternoon train previous day.  
NORTHERN S.S. CO., LTD.  
Agoon.

**Personal Notes**

Mr W. L. Rees, the well-known ex-Parliamentarian, who has been rather seriously indisposed, is now somewhat better.

Mr. T. E. Y. Seddon, M. P., who went across to Sydney to meet his mother and sister on their return from England, returned to Wellington on Wednesday by the Maunganui.

Captain and Mrs. Kennedy, who recently returned from England, are at the Star Hotel, and intend leaving for Rotorua on a fishing tour.

Mr. W. H. Herries, M. P., and Mrs. Herries left Wellington last week by the Ionic for London. Mrs. Herries, whose health lately has not been of the best, will remain in England for some time, but Mr. Herries will return by the Ion c, leaving Plymouth on May 25th and arriving in New Zealand again about July 9th.

The funeral of the late Rev. W. Thompson took place at Waipu last week, the body having been brought from Auckland by the Ngapuhi. A Masonic service was held in the hall, followed by a funeral service, conducted by the Rev. William Walker, of St. James' Church, Auckland.

Mr. H. W. Dent, who has for some years past occupied an important position on the staff of Messrs. Sharnland and Co., Limited, of Auckland, has been appointed to the position of secretary to the New Zealand Dairy Association, rendered vacant by the promotion of Mr. E. Pacey to general manager.

At the meeting of the City Council last week, the Mayor (Mr. C. J. Parr) said he regretted to have to state that since the last meeting Mrs. Wylie, the wife of Mr. Wylie, the electrical engineer, had passed away. His Worship stated that Mrs. Wylie was known to most of the Councilors, and on his motion a vote of sincere sympathy was accorded Mr. Wylie in his bereavement.

Messrs. H. C. Tewsey, A. A. Corrigan, and W. G. Dutkie, all of whom will be absent from the Dominion for the greater part of the year, will not seek reelection to the Council of the Wellington Chamber of Commerce. Messrs. Dutkie and Corrigan are to represent the Chamber at the eighth Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire to be held in London in June.

Mr. Scott Bennett, the Socialist organizer, who has been in Auckland for some few weeks back, has been officially engaged by the Auckland branch of the Socialist party for a six months' term of organising work.

Mr. John Hartwell, the well-known organist and teacher, of Auckland, Mr. Hartwell has been associated with music for 50 years—being organist of St. Patrick's Cathedral for a number of years, and also a prominent teacher. A number of musicians assembled at the station to farewell Mr. Hartwell, who is leaving to reside in Hokitanga.

Mr. W. G. Somerville, of Dunedin, a vice-president of the Australasian Provincial Press Association, was last week the recipient of a silver-mounted salad bowl from members of the association.

Mr S. W. Brooks, who made the presentation, referred to Mr Somerville's excellent work as an officer of the association, and as the organiser of the New Zealand tour on which the delegates are now engaged.

Mr. W. F. Massey, M.P., Leader of the Opposition, left for the Taranaki district on Tuesday to attend several political meetings.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Porter, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Donald, of Auckland, left by the Maheno on Monday to catch the Orient steamer at Sydney on a trip to England.

The Princess Salote, daughter of the King of Tonga, returned to Auckland by the Atua to continue her studies. Prior to leaving, a largely attended gathering was held in the Victoria Memorial Hall, Nukualofa, in honour of the princess.

Mr. James L. Kirker, son of the late general manager of the South British Insurance Company, left Auckland on Monday last to take up a position in the company's office at Brisbane. Mr. Kirker was for several years in the Calcutta branch, and has an extensive knowledge of the underwriting business in all its departments. He has for the last year or two been employed in secretarial work at the head office. He is personally very popular with his fellow officers, and has received many hearty congratulations and tokens of goodwill upon his promotion.

The chairman of the Wellington City Libraries Committee (Councillor Hindmarsh, M.P.), Councillors Atkinson, Trevor, and Professor Von Zedlitz have been appointed to represent the Wellington Council at the conference of the Libraries Association of New Zealand to be held in Wellington during Easter. A civic reception is to be tendered to the visiting delegates. The use of the Council chamber has been granted to the association for their conference. The chief librarian has been authorised to make the necessary arrangements for the entertainment of the delegates whilst in Wellington.

Frederick de C. Malet, formerly chairman of the Bank of New Zealand, died at Christchurch last week. He came to New Zealand in 1860, and was in the Government service till about 1876, having served chiefly in Westland and Canterbury. He was registrar of the New Zealand University from 1872 to 1874, secretary of the Canterbury College from 1873 to 1876, and ten years later became chairman of the College Board, holding office till 1894. He was Government nominee on the Board of Directors of the Bank of New Zealand, and chairman from 1902 to 1908. He was interested in several large undertakings in Canterbury, being particularly prominent in the frozen meat industry. He was also for some years managing director of the "Lyttelton Times."

The death is announced of Mrs. Join Parker, who passed away at Matawhero (East Coast) at the age of 83. She was the first white woman to drive a horse and cart into Gisborne, no mean achievement in those far back days, when roads and bridges there were none.

**NEW ZEALANDERS ABROAD.**

Our London correspondent writes, under date: February 16:—

Mr. S. Rosse Trevor, of Auckland, who has just arrived in this country, has come for the purpose of placing on the London market a patent process of his own invention for the conversion of old rubber into new.

The following New Zealanders have called at the High Commissioner's offices this week:—Miss Gilliat (Christchurch), Mr. and Mrs. Blackburn (Auckland), Mr. Henry T. Cooper (Wellington), Mr. A. J. Newbould (Napier), Mr. James S. Wellward (Hawke's Bay), Miss Kate Lawson (Wellington), Mr. Justice Cooper, Mrs. Cooper, Misses Gertrude and Ena Cooper (Wellington), Mr. S. Rosse Trevor and Miss Gertrude Trevor (Auckland).

Lady Stout, of New Zealand, was one of the guests at a dinner given on Monday night by members of the Lyceum Club to the Women's Sick and Wounded Convoy Corps, and in her reply to the toast of the "Lyceum Club," gave an interesting resume of the work being done for the Empire by the women of New Zealand.

A wedding in which the bridegroom was the son of a New Zealander took place on St. Valentine's Day at the Westminster Meeting of the Society of Friends, when Stanley Beale, of 4, Highbury Hill, London, second son of the late William J. Beale, of Auckland, was married to Mabel Gertrude, youngest daughter of the late William Richardson, of Lincoln.

Major and Mrs. Moorhouse, of Wellington, and their family, and Mrs. Rhodes, who have been in England for about a year, are returning to New Zealand by the Rennera.

Mr. Frank Blackburn, of Auckland, arrived in England this week by the Corinthic, after an absence of over twenty years. His main object for making the trip is to visit his parents and relations in Southport. So far his plans are hardy mapped out, but he intends to see as much as possible of England and Scotland before returning to New Zealand, via Suez, at the end of the year.

An engagement of interest to New Zealanders is announced this week, and is that of the Lady Sydney Montague Ogilvie-Grant, second daughter of the tenth Earl, and sister of the present Earl of Seafield, to the Rev. William Elce, Rector of Symington, Buckinghamshire.

The plans of Mr. John Baillie, of the Baillie Galleries, and late of Wellington, have been slightly upset through an attack of influenza, and he has had to delay his departure for New Zealand from the 15th to the 22nd, when he joins the Osterley at Toulon.

The pictures to be on exhibition in New Zealand have been shipped to the Dominion in three consignments by the Athenic, the Kia Ora, and the Rennera.

Mr. Herbert Bailey, late of New Zealand, who came to England last spring, has decided to reside in London permanently and practise dentistry, and has taken rooms in 4, Vernon-place, Bloomsbury Square.

Mr. Henry Cooper, head teacher of the Paekuriki School, Wellington, has come to England on urgent private business, having obtained six months' leave of absence for this purpose.

One of the objects of Mr. Cooper's visit is to select a suitable English school for his daughters, who, with their mother, will visit England next year and take pianoforte and singing lessons, probably at the Royal Academy.

In about a month's time Mr. Cooper has arranged a three weeks' tour through Normandy to visit old acquaintances; he then returns to stay with friends in Hants, Dorset, and Wilts, and at Winchester Training College—his Alma Mater.

Another piece of business Mr. Cooper has on hand is the purchase of an organ for the Anglican Church at Paekuriki.

He proposes returning to New Zealand by way of Montreal, Quebec, Toronto, Rochester, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, having, at the last three places, several nephews and nieces whom he has never seen.

Dr. W. A. Chapple, late of Wellington, and now M.P. for Stirling in the English House of Commons, has consented to act as one of the adjudicators of five short essays invited by the "Daily Chronicle"

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