

with fragrance, which was added to by white and yellow jonquils set in slender vases. Silver bowls of anemones decorated the supper tables, giving a vivid touch of colour.

Women's League.

It was a great disappointment to the Women's Reform League that their president, Mrs. Newman, who has been such an ardent worker for the victory just attained, should have been too unwell to be present at the congratulatory meeting.

In her absence the vice-president took the chair, and resolutions were passed expressing the League's delight of the success of the Reform party. It was decided that a letter should be sent to Mrs. Massey, felicitating her on her husband's victory.

Captain Shannon.

Seldom has an aide-de-camp had such a prolonged career as Captain Shannon, of the 16th Lancers, who has just left for the Old Country to rejoin his regiment. It was under Lord Plunkett's regime that Captain Shannon first came to New Zealand, and he remained on that Vice-regal staff until Lord Plunkett's appointment expired. Then there was rather an unusual procedure—as regards this Dominion, at all events—as Captain Shannon did not return to England with his chief, but remained out here, transferring to the staff of his Excellency Lord Buxton, when the latter arrived in June, 1910. Since then there have been several changes in the personnel, and for over a year Captain Shannon has been the senior A.D.C. Many warm friends he made during his long stay, and it is pleasant to think that he was sorry to leave this country, and hopes to revisit it. His departure has been very much regretted. It is interesting to note that two of Captain Shannon's colleagues married in Wellington during their sojourn in New Zealand. Captain Hamilton's wedding with Miss Elgar took place last year, while Captain the Hon G. Gathorne-Hardy married Miss Doris Johnston. Captain Gathorne-Hardy was on the staff of H.E. Lord Plunkett.

Ministerial Residences.

With two new Ministers in the last few months there will be yet another general post at the official residence. As a rule there is not very much competition for the Prime Minister's official residence in Tinakori Road, which became known as Awatara House during Sir Joseph Ward's long stay. Although the building itself is large and well planned, and the grounds are good, the situation, hard up against the Tinakori hills, is considered damp, and in winter is very sunless. Far more bright and sunny is the house out of which Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie are now moving to make room for their successors. Originally it was not large, but in Mr. Seddon's time the grounds were very much extended and improved, and are now spacious and well kept. A new wing, beautifully furnished, and including a billiard room, was nearly finished when the news came of the former Premier's sudden end.

The third residence is in Tinakori Road—a short distance from Awatara House, but on the sunny side of the road. It is comfortable, though rather old-fashioned, and being some way back from the street is sheltered and secluded. Like the Moleworth Street house, it is generally in demand, and until a few months ago was occupied by the Hon. Mr. Millar. So far no one has heard of any allotment being made among the new Ministers.

The three Wellington men are, of course, already in houses, except the Hon. Mr. Herdman, who not long ago left his house at Kelburne, and, with Mrs. Herdman and their family, are in lodgings on the Terrace. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher last year moved to Fitzherbert Terrace, after some years in Hawkestone Street.

The Hon. H. D. Bell, some years ago, sold his place in Hill Street, and since then has been living at his country house at Lower Bay, which is 15 miles by road from Wellington, and some distance off train or ferry. For the last eighteen months Mrs. Bell and her two younger daughters have been travelling in England and on the Continent.

Although the Hon. Mr. Fraser is member for Wakatipu, he and Miss Fraser have resided in Wellington for ten years or so, but they have no settled home here.

Girls' Tea.

There were only girls—some of them married, it is true—at Pearce's tea on Thursday afternoon, which was a

most cheery affair. The competition was on the subject of butterflies and, granted a piece of white paper, some blobs of oil paint and a clever thumb, it was astonishing what a collection soon appeared. Sizes varied, but the colour combinations were gorgeous, and often unique; and some of the butterflies were voted a great improvement on anything Nature has accomplished for this country. It was difficult to decide on the best, but Miss Elsie Watson's was finally declared the prize-winner.

The hostess wore a graceful dress of crepe de chine with touches of ornamental embroidery; Miss Pearce was in marine blue resilla with soutache and guimpe of net; Miss Agnes Pearce wore a lingerie blouse of filmy lawn and lace, with a close-fitting corselet skirt.

Card Tournament.

Always a very sociable institution, the Wellington Bowling Club invariably gives a party every winter. This time it took the form of a card tournament in the big pavilion, the upper storey being devoted to jovial games of euchre, while the bridge players were established on the ground floor. There was a break in the play at 9.30, when songs and supper took up half an hour or so, and then play was resumed. The prize-winners were Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Churchward, Miss Phelps, and Messrs Frost Blundell and Hamilton.

Farewell Dance.

On Wednesday Mrs. Herbert Rawson gave a farewell dance. In future Mr. and Mrs. Rawson are going to live at their Seatown house, at least for the next year or two; they have left the house on the Terrace to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Griffiths, who will occupy it on their return from their journey to Australia and the Islands.

The band was placed in the hall, and both dining and drawing rooms were arranged for dancing. Jonquils and narcissus from Seatown were used in profusion for decoration, and the dance was voted a very jolly one.

The hostess wore shot taffetas in tones of subdued violet, with jewelled embroideries; Miss Rawson dahlia red ninon over gleaming tissue; Mrs. Holmes, a fuchsia-tinted frock of charmeuse and ninon.

Students' Dance.

The dance given by the students of the Wellington Technical School went off very successfully on Friday night. Green draperies screened the walls, and the lights were shaded with yellow, and a row of pot plants was banked on the stage. Mrs. La Trole wore black ninon over white silk, with touches of pink; Mrs. McVicar, black charmeuse and jet; Mrs. Richardson, pale turquoise satin veiled in floral ninon; Mrs. Piteathly, mauve crepe de chine with a fichu of lace; Mrs. Robertson, white satin embroidered with crystals. The two secretaries, Miss Frederik and Miss Caddick, both wore pale blue charmeuse, and of the other ladies of the committee, Miss Welsby satin striped ninon.

Ionie Passengers.

Although it is the wrong time of the year to be returning to New Zealand, there were a number of passengers on the Ionie. The Hon. Mr. Herries made the round trip in that steamer, as, owing to Mrs. Herries' illness terminating fatally on the voyage home, he shortened his stay in the Old Country to three weeks. Wireless messages kept him acquainted with the excitements of the political situation, and there were many friends on the wharf to meet him.

Peculiar and circumstances surrounded Mrs. Abbot's return by the Ionie, as her husband, Lt.-Colonel Abbot, died at sea near Tenerife, and a great deal of sympathy is felt for her.

Still another traveller by the Ionie is Mrs. Hector Bethune, who had been away from New Zealand over two years. Most of her time was spent in England, but she also visited many places on the Continent, and made a long sojourn in Switzerland. Mrs. Bethune means to spend some months in New Zealand, but will probably return to England about the new year, unless she alters her plans. Mrs. Walter Bethune joined the Ionie at Hobart, and returned to Wellington in her.

Personal.

Miss Marjorie Michie, who has been paying a long round of visits to her friends and relations in New Zealand, was here lately staying with Mrs. Watson. She will be back in Wellington

again before taking her departure for England by the Rotorua.

Mr. Macarasy, whose recent appointment has brought him to live in Wellington, has taken the house at Kelburne occupied by Mrs. Salmoud. Mrs. Macarasy, who has been paying visits in the South Island since they left Dunedin, is expected here next week.

Sir William and Lady Russell have come to Wellington for two or three weeks, and will be here over the races.

Miss Hloby, whose marriage to Dr. Hatherleigh Deck, of Sydney, is to take place before long, received many charming and dainty handkerchiefs at a tea given in her honour at Island Bay. The hostess was Mrs. Charles Collins, and after the gifts had been presented there was a competition.

Another bride-elect, Miss Newlands, was principal guest at a tea given on Saturday by Mrs. Petherick at her house at Kelburne.

Mrs. and Miss Thorne-George have arrived in Wellington for the session. Miss Neville Thorne-George staying at the Hutt with her sister, Mrs. Vivian Riddford.

Mr. and Mrs. Stott have taken rooms in town for the rest of the winter, going back to their house at Silverstream in September. Mr. Stott is just back from a round the world trip, which took him as far as Japan, and Mrs. Stott went to Sydney to meet him.

HAMILTON.

July 13.

Long Evening.

On Monday last, Mrs. Sowerby gave a long evening in connection with her dancing class. Quite a large number accepted the invitations issued, and a pleasant evening was spent by all. Gittos' orchestra supplied the music. Mrs. Sowerby wore a black silk dress veiled in net, with grey velvet cloak. Among those present were: Miss Edgcombe, in white silk; Miss D. Edgcombe, cream silk; Miss E. Holden, grey silk muslin; Miss Primrose, white silk, veiled in net; Miss Provis, green charmeuse; Miss Zoe Provis, pink muslin; Miss Juan Furze, cream voile; Miss V. Hunter, pink silk; Miss Cussen, heliotrope, with cream lace; Miss Ruby Cussen, pale blue; Miss Geraldine Cussen, pink silk; Miss L. White, pink taffeta; Miss Pennikit, cream silk voile; Miss Malcolm, blue crepe and satin; Miss G. Tompkins, blue; Miss Atkinson, heliotrope, with black lace; Miss Helen Chitty, white silk; Miss Rene Whyte, blue; Miss M. Taylor, pink cashmere.

Card Party.

Another of the series of "At Homes" in aid of the Ladies' Croquet Club was given by Mrs. McLeod and Mrs. Stevens on Friday last, at the house of the former. The game of Five Hundred was the recreation indulged in. At the close of the afternoon, Mrs. Bull easily headed the lists, with a score of 1900, and was handed a good book. The smallest

scorer proved to be Miss Watty, who was presented with a quaint little moving figure. Mrs. McLeod wore a charming frock of grey silk muslin, with Oriental lace trimming, and graceful fichu; and Mrs. Stevens a dress of black charmeuse, trimmed with lace. Among those present were: Mrs. Brewis, in

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