

# 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.

October 14.

### Victoria League.

THE Victoria League held their half-yearly meeting on Thursday night, at the Piccadilly Tea Rooms. The report presented on the past year's activities was of a highly satisfactory nature, showing much useful work performed and a very large increase in the membership, over 200 having joined during the year, and bringing the total up to 800. Dr. Hope Lewis (president) made a short speech. The rest of the evening was spent in a social reunion of members and their friends, of whom there were a large number present. Mrs. Archdale Taylor undertook the musical programme, and a fine selection of musical and other items was contributed by Madam Chambers, who sang charmingly; Miss Bartlett, who possesses a delightful natural voice; Mr. Harris gave delightful musical monologues; Miss Marjorie Lusher played several things beautifully, and Mr. Egerton Pegg's songs were most enjoyable. Miss Elsie Holland and Mr. Worsley played the accompaniments. Dainty refreshments were handed round. Among those present were: Mrs. Hope Lewis, who wore a smart black velvet frock, softened with some beautiful lace; Mrs. Drummond Ferguson, lovely frock of palest pink; Mrs. Archdale Taylor, smartly frocked in black velvet; Madam Chambers, pretty frock of pale blue charmeuse, with pearl trimming; Miss Bartlett, grey charmeuse satin, finished with embroidery; Mrs. Leatham, black charmeuse; Mrs. Steele, grey crepe de chine; Mrs. Sholto Douglas, a black tulle; Mrs. Pavitt, black; Mrs. P. A. Edmonston, dark blue silk veiled with gold and lovely embroideries; Mrs. Egerton, pale blue; Miss Marjorie Lusher, white silk and fine white lace, with a sash of palest blue velvet; Mrs. Mowbray, black silk and lace; Mrs. Harry Gillilan, black, and a pretty pale blue evening coat; Miss Elsie Holland, white silk crepe; Mrs. Edgar, Hon. Mrs. Rowley and Mr. Rowley, Mrs. Colpan, Mrs. Hatfield, Professor and Mrs. Egerton, Mrs. Gallaher, Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Burrows, Miss Black (Dunedin), Mrs. and Miss Johnson, Miss Ethel Black, Mrs. Mulgan, Mrs. Brodie, Miss Dalziel, Mrs. Finn, Miss Willoughby, Miss Morrison, Miss Riche, Mrs. and Miss Dawes, Captain and Mrs. Archer, Miss Russell, Miss Stillwell, Mrs. Laing, Mrs. R. Mitchell, Miss Chapman, Mrs. Lusher, Miss Amy Holland, Miss Grey, Miss Rose, Miss Shephard, Miss E. Koesing, Miss Choesmann, and Miss Gutteridge. The League office has again been moved, and this time to a very convenient room in Shortland Street, and the energetic secretary, Miss Statham, is always pleased to welcome callers and enrol new members.

### Outdoor Functions and the Weather.

Though Saturday afternoon was not wet all the time, yet the weather was so unsettled that many people were deterred from taking part in the various outdoor functions arranged for that day. Several bowling and croquet clubs were to have opened their season, but they were either postponed or very much hindered owing to the showers of rain that fell early in the afternoon. The final of the men's golf championship, given fine weather, always takes a crowd out to Middlemore Park. This year there was quite the usual number of men, but a much smaller crowd of ladies. There was a strong wind blowing across the links, which made things unpleasant for both players and onlookers. A very close game ensued between Mr. Colbeck and Mr. Burns, and the match ended in

a win for the latter by 1 up. Tea was a very welcome item, and both rooms were rather cold for the verandahs. Among those who followed the match were: Mrs. W. Colbeck, Mrs. E. Horton, Mrs. J. R. Reed, Mrs. R. A. Carr, Miss M. Towle, Miss Hilda Bloomfield, Miss Neville George, Miss Una Saunders, Miss Jessie Reid, Miss Thelma Bloomfield, Miss M. Cooper, Miss Vera Dutchie, Miss Snodgrass, Misses Cotter (2), Miss Aislin Carr, Miss Connie Draper, Miss Nancy Hanna, Miss Esther Foster.

### Dance.

Miss Vera Dutchie gave a charming little dance for her young friends on Thursday last. The house was beautifully decorated with masses of flowers everywhere, and all sorts of charming nooks for sitters. The arranging of partners for the first three dances was left to "chance," in the form of being blindfolded or choosing from a row of hands over a partition, and such like amusing things, and in spite of the night being warm dancing was kept up with any amount of vim from start to finish.

Mrs. Dutchie received the guests, and wore a most becoming frock of apple-green shot silk lace; Miss Vera Dutchie, a dainty pink nixon frock; Miss Snodgrass, a pretty white frock; Miss Winnie Cotter, blue nixon and charmeuse; Miss Mavis Reid, pale mauve charmeuse and fine white lace, finished with violets; Miss Euid, a dainty white frock; Miss Hilda Bloomfield, maize-coloured charmeuse veiled with nixon, and dewdrop trimming; Miss Marjorie Towle, a becoming blue frock; Miss Dorothy Nolan, blue charmeuse, veiled with pink nixon and pink roses; Miss M. Cooper, blue charmeuse edged with brown fur, deep pink roses at the waist; Miss Thelma Bloomfield, a pretty blue nixon and charmeuse frock; Miss Una Saunders, a very sweet white frock with pink rose-buds; Miss Rachel Gurrie, matter blue charmeuse and lace to match; Miss Ruby Coleman, white charmeuse veiled with pink floral nixon; Miss Dorothy Nathan, a pretty blue and white frock; Miss G. Cole, palest blue veiled with pink; Miss Thelma Hanna, blue charmeuse with tunic of palest mauve.

### Personal.

Mrs. Hugh Robinson Nelson, who has been on a visit to Auckland and has been the guest of Mrs. E. Anderson, Mrs. Hope Lewis and Mrs. W. R. Bloomfield, returned home on Tuesday.

Mrs. Guy Williams is expected up during the week on a visit to her parents, Dr. and Mrs. Hope Lewis.

A number of Aucklanders have booked passages for England on the March boats, among whom are Mrs. and Mr. J. R. L. Bloomfield and Miss Thelma Bloomfield, Mrs. R. A. Carr and Miss Carr, Mr. and Mrs. E. Horton, Mr. and Mrs. W. Nicol and family.

Miss Vera Dutchie, who has been paying a round of visit down south, has returned accompanied by her cousin, Miss Snodgrass.

Mr. Conry and Miss Clara Conry, of Lake Takapuna, returned to Auckland last week after a pleasant three months' trip to Sydney and the South Sea Islands.

## WELLINGTON.

October 12.

### Miss Lily Brayton Entertained.

Always the Pioneer Club makes a note of entertaining distinguished visitors who happen to be in Wellington, so it was only natural that Mrs. Oscar Asche (who, as Miss Lily Brayton, has made such a name for herself on the stage) should have been a guest of honour. Wednesday was the day of the "At Home," and the club rooms were

delightfully decorated with irises, anemones, and flowering cherry, the welcoming committee being composed of Miss Richmond, Mrs. Gray and Mrs. Darling. Afternoon tea, songs and recitations, and friendly chat helped to make things go off, and many of the guests were introduced to Mrs. Asche. She was gowned in black, the long loose coat having a wealth of gold and many hued embroideries under its voilage of black, the square collar being finished with big tassels; a blue aigrette was poised on her big black hat, and her furs were ermine. Miss Richmond wore black crepe de chine, and a black picture hat.

The next afternoon there was a civic reception in the Town Hall, when Mr. Asche's remarks on Shakespeare and the need for good theatres received much attention. The members of the Wellington Shakespeare Society were present in numbers. Mrs. Oscar Asche wore black velvet, with panels of Irish crochet over (mocha) red satin; her hat also carried out the fuchsia colouring, and she had on ermine furs. The Mayor wore dark green Shantung, and a black hat.

### At Home at Bishopscourt.

Saturday afternoon was chosen for an "At Home" at Bishopscourt, in order to enable men to be present, and both clergy and laity were glad to avail themselves of the chance to meet Canon and Mrs. Garland. It was a breezy day at Kelburne, but at Bishopscourt there was shelter and rest, and much pleasant hospitality. In receiving, the Bishop was assisted by his daughter, Mrs. Coleridge, as Mrs. Sprott is still in the O.D. Country. Mrs. Coleridge wore pompadour silk in tones of ivory rose and mauve, with a mauve velvet belt; her small son and daughter were also there, the little girl in a white frock, with pale blue ribbons. Mrs. Garland, who has already many friends in Wellington, wore smoke grey ermine de soie, with an embroidered scarf, and a black picture hat. Helping Mrs. Coleridge with the tea were: Mrs. Ivens, in amethyst velvet; Miss Harding, in a wine-coloured whipcord, and a black hat with roses; Miss Powles, in a black braided tailor-made, and a black plumed hat; Miss Martin, grey cloth, with grey revers, and

a soxé blue hat; Miss Campbell, long black velvet coat, and a black hat with plumes.

### Bowling.

Although the greens were not ready for play, the Wellington Bowling Club opened the season on Saturday. The affair really resolved itself into an indoor "At Home," with progressive bridge and euchre as the principal amusements. The big pavilion is excellent for entertaining, the lower storey being devoted to the card players, while upstairs was the tea room, with the wife of the acting president and a bevy of ladies in charge. Mrs. Hamilton wore a grey tweed tailor-made, and a black hat with yellow roses.

### Tennis.

Saturday was also the day of the opening of the Wellington Tennis Club's season, but the wind interfered a good deal with play. Nevertheless there was a large roll-up, afternoon tea in the pavilion being much enjoyed by the members and their friends, who were many, and a number of photographs were taken.

### Golf.

After many postponements, the ladies' golf match for a prize presented by their captain, Mrs. Tweed, was played at Trentham last week, the winner being Miss Wheeler, who received a silver rose bowl of charming design. After-

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