

Personal Notes

MR. N. FULTON, Government Dairy Instructor at Stratford, has been granted six months' leave of absence, and, accompanied by Mrs. Fulton, sailed for Vancouver on the Makura last week. He proposes making a brief stay in Canada visiting various parts of the States before going on to the British Isles. Mr. and Mrs. Fulton will also visit the island of Jersey and Denmark. They will return via the Suez Canal, and Mr. Fulton expects to be back in time for the busy season.

The Rev. T. F. Jones, Methodist minister, who has been transferred to Birkenhead, Auckland, was given a public send-off at Levin last week, and presented with several theological works and a purse of sovereigns. Representatives and ministers of various denominations, the Mayor of Levin, and two hundred citizens attended.

The Hon. James Allen will probably leave Liverpool for New York by the Cunard liner Caronia on April 19. In Canada the Minister of Defence will confer with several prominent politicians, and he will join the Makura at Vancouver on May 14 for Auckland. He is due to arrive in the Dominion about June 8. While in London Mr. Allen recently spent a week-end with Lord Roberts.

An interesting article on the Awheoa—the vegetable caterpillar of New Zealand (Cordiceps Hugelii) appeared in a recent number of "Hearth and Home." (This strange combination of animal and vegetable, it may not be generally known, used once to be eaten by the Maoris, on special occasions, as a delicacy—a practice that appears to have been stopped because the tohungas having reduced it to charcoal, powdered it and mixed the fine black thus obtained with animal fat, then rubbed it into the punctured wounds of tattoo patterns on their victims' faces.)

Mr Henry Blundell, formerly in the Treasury, left Auckland for England by the P. and O. steamer Macedonia.

Sir Maurice O'Rorke has been re-elected unopposed to a seat on the Auckland Grammar School Board of Governors as a representative selected by the Auckland provincial members of the legislature. The Board includes three members representing the legislative interest, the other two being Professor F. D. Brown (elected in 1911) and Mr. A. Kidd (elected in 1912).

Mr and Mrs J. F. Studholme, of Ruini, in the Wellington district, returned by the Zealandia last week after a visit to Fiji, where Mr Studholme has plantation interests.

Among former residents of Auckland who have returned to spend the evening of their days in this city, are Mr and Mrs Felix McGuire, who have been living near Hawera for a number of years. Mr

McGuire represented a Taranaki constituency some years ago.

Captain J. D. S. Phillips, who arrived in Auckland with the Zealandia last week, was presented with a handsome clock by the passengers of that steamer while the vessel was making her last call at Hionolulu. Those making the presentation remarked that, as some changes were to take place among the steamers on the Vancouver run when the Niagara came into the trade, it was thought possible that Captain Phillips might not be coming that way again.

Mr. Martin Kennedy is expected to return to Wellington from a trip to England about the end of June.

Mr. Patrick Dwyer, son of the late Mr. P. Dwyer, of Wellington, died last week, aged twenty-seven years. The deceased, who was an ex-student of St. Patrick's College, only returned about a couple of months ago from England, where he had been studying engineering.

Mr. Joseph Butler, who is widely known throughout the province in connection with the timber industry, has been appointed a local director of the Kauri Timber Company.

His Majesty the King has conferred the distinction of "Esquire of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem" on Mr. J. B. Fisher, of Wellington, for services rendered to some departments of the Order in Dunedin and Wellington, extending over 25 years. Mr. Fisher is the first New Zealander to receive this particular honour.

A farewell social to the Rev. T. G. Carr and family, of the Birkenhead Methodist Circuit, took place last week, when the schoolroom was packed with friends from all parts of the circuit. Speeches eulogistic of the good work accomplished during Mr. Carr's four years' ministry were made by various speakers, and during the evening Mr. Carr was presented with a purse of sovereigns, whilst Mrs. Carr was presented by Mrs. Grey, on behalf of the Guild, with a handbag. Miss Carr was made the recipient of a writing-case from the choir and congregation, and Misses Ivy and Millie Carr were presented with a music case and jewel casket. The musical programme was supplied by Mr. E. G. Skeates, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was accorded.

The Rev. S. Buchanan, who recently died at the Manse, Frankton Junction, was a native of Ireland, his birthplace being Broomhedge, near Lisburn, Ireland. He left for New Zealand on November 24th, 1864, and arrived by the ship Dautless in 1865. He studied for the ministry under Dr. Cook, and preached his trial sermon at the age of 16. He came out with the full intention of entering the mission work here, but owing to the war not being settled he gave up the idea and went into business at Russell, Bay of Islands, where he remained for 16 years. The late Mr. Buchanan was identified with the Wesleyan body for many years, but after-

wards decided to throw in his lot with the Presbyterians, and remained in the work till he died. He died at the age of 68. Loved and respected by all who knew him, and he leaves a widow, one daughter (Mrs. H. C. McCready, of Whangarei) and four sons—S. E. Buchanan (of J. J. Craig's), T. G. Buchanan (Tokomaru Farmers' Co-op.), J. H. Buchanan (Railway Department), and H. V. Buchanan (of Sydney)—to mourn their loss.

Mr. Chas. White, who has been station-master at Ellerslie for the past six years, has been appointed a relieving officer, and will shortly take up his new duties. To mark their esteem for an obliging and courteous public servant, who will soon be leaving the district, the residents of Ellerslie entertained Mr. White last week, in the Parish Hall at a smoke social, and during the evening the chairman of the function, Mr. Geo. Wilkinson, presented him, on behalf of his friends and well-wishers, with a framed illuminated address and a handsome travelling bag and rug. Mr. White, in a few suitable words, acknowledged the gifts and the kind things said about him.

Constable Wade, who was shot and dangerously wounded during the Waikiwi trouble, has returned to Wellington, and was able to resume duty at Mount Cook police station last week. Constable Wade is well on the way to recovery, although all efforts to extract the bullet have failed. He has been assigned to general inquiry work in connection with the Mount Cook district.

The Rev. R. Ferguson, of Howick, intimated to the Auckland Presbytery that he would resign his charge at the next meeting of the Presbytery in May. Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson and family are returning to the Old Country, leaving Auckland by the Vancouver steamer on June 8th.

At a full meeting of the executive of the Auckland A. and P. Association, Mr. F. Lavry was unanimously elected a life member. A vote of thanks was passed to him for the good work he had done for the farmers and Dominion generally, and the Auckland district especially, during the twenty-one years he was chairman of the Agricultural and Pastoral Stock and Commerce Committee in the Parliament of New Zealand.

The death occurred at the Auckland Hospital last week of Veteran Benjamin Bayless, late of H.M. 65th Regiment. The late Mr. Bayless, who was 82 years of age at the time of his death, was a native of Worcestershire, and enlisted in the old 65th, now known as the York and Lancashire Regiment, at Gloucester in 1851. He went right through the Maori War, for which he received the medal, and had been a resident at the Veterans' Home since 1905.

Mr. Herbert C. Pilcher, manager in South Africa for the South British Insurance Company, left Auckland with Mrs. Pilcher by the Macedonia last week, after having spent a holiday in New Zealand. Mr. Pilcher, who joined the South British thirty-three years ago, was sent to Perth in 1891 to manage the company's branch there, and four years later he was transferred to the Cape, where he has remained ever since. The present is his first holiday since he went to South Africa. During the Boer war he acted as honorary agent for New Zealand in connection with our contingents, and was made hon. major, a rank which he still continues to hold. He still represents the Dominion at Cape

Town in an honorary capacity. Before returning to the Cape, he will visit London, whence he expects to be back in South Africa about the end of August.

Mr. G. F. Pearce, of Levin and Co., Wellington, left last week by the Makura for Vancouver, en route to England, on a 12 months' holiday visit.

Among the passengers for Vancouver by the Makura last week was Mr. D. Jenness, M.A., of Wellington, who has been appointed ethnologist to the Stefansson expedition, which is being organised to explore Canadian Arctic regions. Mr. Jenness has had previous experience in anthropological research among the natives of Papua.

The Rev. A. C. Lawry, of St. John's Methodist Church, Ponsonby, left by the Makura last week on a twelve months' visit to England. Mr. Lawry

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