



THE SOCIAL WORLD



Announcements of engagements and contributions of interest relating to weddings and social gatherings should be sent to Lady Editor, "Sporting and Dramatic Review" Office, Auckland. In all cases the writer's signature and address must be attached (not for publication). Photographs of wedding groups will be reproduced by arrangement.

Mrs. C. A. Vandervell, whose portrait appears on these pages, is the wife of Mr. C. A. Vandervell, of electric lighting fame, who has assisted the British Government and the authorities in connection with some of the most important munition work. Mrs. Vandervell is well-known for her practical support of many of the movements in connection with the charitable side of the war, and at her house in Kensington has been energetic on behalf of the causes that have appealed to her, as her husband, Mr. C. A. Vandervell, has been in his business capacity.

The Town Hall, Auckland, was the scene of unusual activity on Thursday week, when the first annual conference of the Auckland Women's Patriotic League was held. The function was one of the most representative gatherings of women recorded in Auckland and business was conducted with commendable alacrity. The Mayoress, Mrs. J. H. Gunson, presided and welcomed the numerous guests, a large number of country delegates being present. Mrs. Gunson, referring to the kindness she and Miss Spedding had received on their organising tour through the country, detailed the work accomplished by the League. The necessity for the League's activities was now greater than ever. The war was being conducted on a vaster scale than ever, and the scope of the women's work was correspondingly enlarged. As a league, they were determined to continue the good work which fell to their lot in rendering practical assistance to New Zealand soldiers both abroad and at home. Until the war ended, women must keep in mind one thing—the good that they could do and the comfort they could give to the soldiers. Mr. A. G. Lunn made a short speech laudatory of the abilities of Mrs. Gunson and Miss Spedding, specially congratulating them on the conciseness of the report of work achieved during the year. Interesting reports were submitted by the conveners of the various committees and by the visiting delegates. After an adjournment for luncheon, when the country representatives were the guests of Mrs. Caughey, business was concluded with a "question box" which cast enlightenment of many subjects, and a demonstration of packing. Afternoon tea was served the tables being fragrant with lovely spring flowers, and musical items by Miss Ava Symons and Miss Ilma Page proved most acceptable. A vote of thanks to Mrs. Gunson closed a highly successful gathering which has served to emphasise woman's help in the Imperial cause.

The official opening of the Power Boat Association's new clubhouse took place on Wednesday night, and was well attended. The building is located at the extreme end of the King Edward Drive, Parnell, overlooking the harbour. Mr. H. D. Heather, chairman of the Auckland Harbour Board, performed the opening ceremony in a congratulatory speech. Mr. C. Palmer, commodore, and the Mayor (Mr. J. H. Gunson) also spoke, the latter unveiling the Power Boat Association Roll of Honour, which included twenty-seven names. Mr. Heather presented the war certificates won during the year, pointing out that in view of the war these were awarded in lieu of prizes. A dainty supper was provided, and with songs by Miss Bartlett, Mr. W. Manning, recitations by Mr. T. Harris, and selections by the Third (Auckland) Regimental Orchestra Band, a very pleasant evening was spent.

An engagement just announced is that of Miss Beryl Caselberg, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Myer Caselberg, "Rosetta House," Masterton, to Mr. B. van Staveren, son of the Rev. van Staveren, Wellington.

A most enjoyable afternoon was given in the Town Hall to wives and mothers of soldiers last Thursday. This made the third of a series of gatherings arranged by the Soldiers' Dependents Committee of the Auckland Women's Patriotic League. The guests were specially entertained with a programme contributed by the "Dandies," and left no doubt as to their appreciation. Dr. Florence Keller gave an address on the care of children, and was attentively listened to.

Miss Blanche Butler, head mistress of the Auckland Girls' Grammar School who was granted a year's leave of absence, has visited relatives and friends in various parts of England and France since her arrival in March, and is at present in London.

The Hon. Arthur Myers and Mrs. Myers were in Auckland last week.

The Hon. and Mrs. Oliver Samuels, of New Plymouth, are on a visit to Auckland.

The Russian musicians, M. Mirovitch and M. Piastro, were guests of honour at an afternoon party in Christchurch, given by Mrs. R. A. Horne, at the United Service Hotel. Mrs. Gower Burns and Mr. Rex Harriscn gave much pleasure with their singing, and the accompaniments were played by Mrs. Osmond Smith.

A London correspondent writes that Lady Darnley, addressing a large gathering at Higham, Kent, said that she was very sorry that the Earl of Darnley was absent; but he had been kept at home by very important work. She paused a moment, and her hearers expected to hear that he was preparing weighty speeches on the Irish question or munition work. "When I left him," she continued, "he was hoeing turnips, and he said that he had to finish that field before nightfall, on account of the threshing he has to see to morrow."

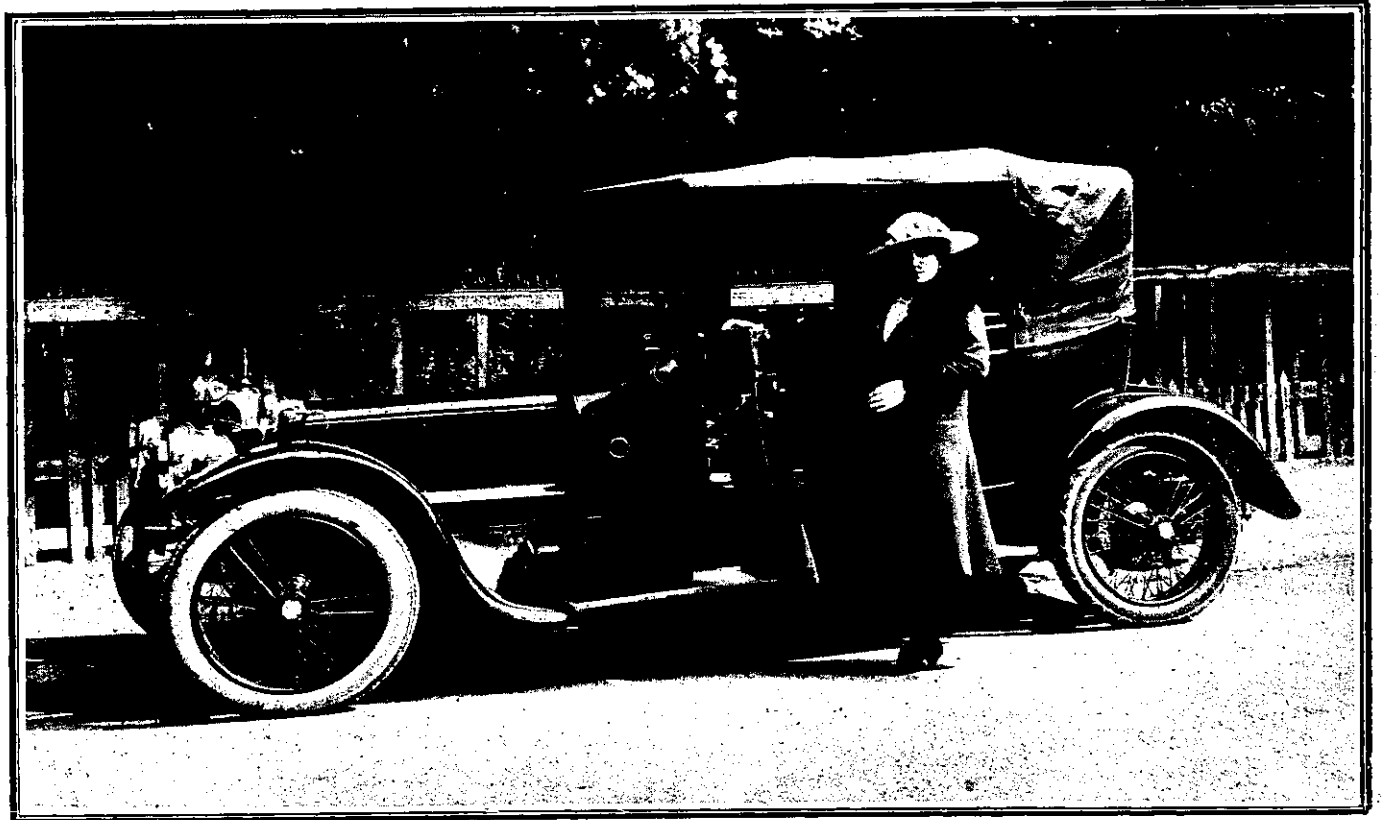
A "silver thimble" scheme is being inaugurated in Wanganui by Mrs. A. H. Glasgow. Lady Maud Wilbraham, who organised the scheme in the Old Country in one year raised £7500 out of old silver thimbles, trinkets, etc., which has been spent on the care of the sick and wounded. She is now applying the proceeds of the "silver thimbles" for the benefit of disabled sailors, and is endeavouring to raise a large fund for this purpose. The idea is to organise the local collection of suitable articles for transmission to a central depot, whence they would be consigned in bulk to Lady Wilbraham.

used of Mr. Charles William Thorp, and Miss Ivy Mabel Coote, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Coote, of "Mountrath," Nelson. The Rev. G. E. Weeks officiated. A reception was subsequently held in the Haere-mai rooms, and the young couple then left by motor on a tour south. Mr. Thorp, who is now on the teaching staff of the Wellington College, was formerly on the staff of the Motueka High School.

Mrs. Samuel, wife of Major Samuel, formerly of Wellington and now with the New Zealand Forces at the front, is engaged in a useful branch of war work in England. Mrs. Samuel left Sydney for London, where she engaged in Red Cross work. She is now controlling hostess of a military hotel in Britain.

Miss Norah Edwardes, youngest daughter of the late Mr. George Edwardes, was at Windsor Park, recently, married to Lance-Corporal Pat Hartigan, the trainer and amateur cross-country rider.

Thus a Sydney correspondent:—I wore my Victoria League badge to the Parliamentary reception given to the Japanese officers. They soon noticed



MRS. CHARLES ANTHONY VANDERVELL, "Egginton," Leighton Buzzard, England. Mrs. Vandervell is the wife of the well-known electrical engineer, Mr. C. A. Vandervell.

Dr. and Mrs. Alex. Wilson, of Wanganui, came up to Auckland last week and were staying at the Grand Hotel.

Miss Barr, M.A., of Gisborne, who has been appointed principal of the New Plymouth Girls' High School, was presented with a gold wristlet watch as a farewell gift from her old pupils, while the girls and mistresses of the school hostel in Gisborne gave her a silver spirit kettle.

News has been received in Christchurch that Dr. Jessie Maddison, who went to London with a view to offering her services to the War Office, has been appointed surgeon at one of the London hospitals. Dr. Maddison is a daughter of Mr. J. C. Maddison, the well-known Christchurch architect.

At St. John's, Latimer Square, Christchurch, on August 29, Mr. Coster Thornton, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. John Thornton, Bryndwr, was married to Miss Marjorie Barton, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Barton, Rangiora, North Canterbury. The bride wore a gray crepe de chine costume and a black and pink hat. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Canon Bean. Miss Elsie Cunningham was bridesmaid, and Mr. Stratton Yelverton was best man.

The wedding took place in St. Michael's Church, Christchurch, of Miss Edith May Smith, daughter of Mr. A. W. Smith, of Christchurch, to Lieutenant Allister Ewen Macpherson (A Company, 1st Canterbury Regiment). The Rev. Canon Bean performed the ceremony and at the conclusion the bridegroom's fellow officers made an archway of swords outside the church, through which the bride and bridegroom had to pass. Miss Doris Evans and Miss Freda Ricketts were bridesmaids. Lieutenant M. Tisdall was best man, and Bombadier Evans the groomsmen. From the Officers of the 1st Canterbury Regiment the bridegroom received a silver vegetable dish.

A woman in a large and fashionable New York apartment house had occasion recently to call up a neighbour in the building whose name she did not know. The difficulty was solved at once by telling the telephone operator that she wanted the apartment where they had a little girl seven or eight years old.

At the Cathedral, Nelson, on September 2, the marriage was solemn-

it and asked me what it meant. I explained. The outcome was that I was invited to go on the ships whenever I liked, morning, noon or night, on account of and out of respect to the Victoria League.

There is a pretty legend as to the origin of the lace called "point de Venise." Once upon a time a Venetian girl had a lover who was a sailor, and one day when he had just returned from Indian seas she showed him the lace she was making. Thereupon he threw into her lap a wonderfully delicate piece of coral, and told her it was lace made by mermaids, woven in their caves, deep under the sea. And then, when he had gone again, she set herself to weave her bridal veil after the pattern of the coral. Filmy seaweed, fluted shells, and tiny sea horses and star fish grew under her hand until the veil was finished, and it was time for her lover to return. And he came back, and they were married, she wearing the veil it had pleased her fancy to make. All Venice heard of the veil, and queens and princesses sought her out, and "point de Venise" became the rage.