

dear you have no Birthday Mate and, looking through the Birthday Book I find that Mary Stumbles, who is about your own age, hasn't one either. Her birthday is on the 27th, and her address is Box 6, Cromwell. Will you be Letter Friends?—Anne.)

LORNA MILLER, 41 Nairn Street, Kairorai, Dunedin, wants a badge and is nine years old. She has two sisters and one brother and a cat called Tabby. (Welcome Lorna dear, hope you'll like your badge. Did you really put the stamps into the envelope? It seemed to me they had been forgotten. I have a Birthday Mate for you, but dear, I have not her address. Maybe she will write to you, especially as her name is Lorna just like your own—Lorna True, and exactly same age, but no address.—Anne. P.S. Will Lorna True join us properly by getting a badge, and will she write to Lorna Miller?—Anne.)

FIRST LETTERS.

All these Little People have written for the first time to make our acquaintance, and I'm quite sure when they find out how good it is to be Members of our big and happy family, they'll send stamps for their badges. Meantime, we're so very glad to hear from them and we hope they have come to us for keeps. When they write again we hope they will be sure to let us know their birthday dates so that we can find Letter Friends for them. They are all from Bluff, so we'll just see what they have to tell us. Here are their names:—

IVAN MACNEIL, NELLIE KELLY, MARY HEADS, J. SMITH, and DON CAMERON. They say their Convent School is the farthest South in the world, and that big ships come into their port. Also, there are big Cheese Stores there, and lots of Frozen Meat. And, would you believe it, from the windows of the school you can see big ships out on the ocean. Isn't that too wonderful for anything? Stewart Island, they say, is not far from them. (I believe we better get our atlases and look where these new Little People are.) (Dear Little People from the Bluff, it is good to hear from you. Be sure to join right up and get your badges, we want to keep you now we've found you. Love to all of you from all of us.—Anne.)

ORPHANS.

MONA GIBSON'S dear Grown-Up Mother writes for Mona thanking us for the badge sent, and tells us such a lot of news. Mona and Desmond were to make their First Holy Communion on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, the 8th December, at Darfield, where they go to school. They have a church at Coalgate, and get Mass every fortnight. Desmond will be writing to us one of these days, and Mona has sent a dear little Sleeping Suit for an Orphan. (Thank you dear Mrs. Gibson for your nice letter and for the garment sent. Tell Desmond we've been expecting a letter from him.—Anne.)

EILEEN McLAUGHLIN, 36 Crown Street, N.E. Valley, Dunedin, sends three penny stamps for the Orphans and says she saw in the paper that the Managing Directors of the Exhibition gave the Orphans an outing to see the Exhibition. Eileen wishes us all a Happy Christmas and Bright New Year and sends love. (Thank you for the stamps,

Eileen, wasn't that a great day for the Orphans? You will understand by that how Grown-Ups consider it their privilege to be allowed to give pleasure to Orphans, and so, indeed should we, which is why "Anne" wants you to make that habit while you are Little People. Get ready for the next Competition which must be the very best ever.—Anne.)

EILEEN BURKE, Waituna, likes her badge and sends a stamp for the Orphans. At Eileen's place they are milking 22 cows, and the yard gets very muddy in wet weather. (Thank you Eileen, glad you like your badge. Hope your brother will join us, we've lots of room for everyone who wants to come with us.—Anne.)

COMPETITION LETTERS.

LORNA CARROLL, Brookville, Victoria, Australia, writes again after a long time away from us, but she reads the *Tablet* all the same, for she likes our page more and more. Lorna has 18 correspondents now, from whom she gets long interesting letters. The bush lands are glorious over there, wild flowers of all colors and kinds are blooming. The birds are hatched, and they peep over the sides of their nests, always with their mouths wide open. Lorna asks if "Anne" has ever seen a snake. (It is so very nice to hear from you again Lorna, and your letter is a credit to you. You make us wish we could fly over to you in Australia, even if you have snakes. The only live snake I've ever seen was a great big one in the London Zoological Gardens, when I was a tiny child. It frightened me so much that I dreamt about it for many nights and was a nuisance to the Grown-ups with my screams. Watch out for the Competition, I must find some others to make a class with you.—Anne.)

DAN McCORMACK, Taradale, has passed the 6th, and is taking Engineering at the Napier Technical College. He played cricket and football, but likes footy best. (Are you pleased Dan with the result of the Competition, we are glad you went in for it. Hope you have nice holidays.—Anne.)

CLARA MUNDY, Kaitangata, wrote so nicely and was anxious not to get knocked off the Ladder before reaching the top. (You didn't get pushed off, after all Clara, did you go to the Circus.—Anne.)

MONICA KILKELLY, 39 Martin Square, Wellington, is 10, and in 4th standard. (Glad you tried Monica, the address you ask for will be at the end of your letter. It is very hard to hunt up addresses, which is why I ask the Little People to keep the lists carefully.—Anne. Address, "Domain," Westport.—A.)

NOREEN DE VERE, Panama Hotel, Vivian Street, Wellington, liked her Badge, and says they are busy at school getting ready for the concert. They are having Cinderella, and Noreen is the "Page," and she is singing a song called "Grandmother Old," all dressed up like a grannie. (We would like to come to the concert Noreen, wouldn't it be fun to see you acting.—Anne.)

OSWALD COTTERELL and MONA COTTERELL, Princes Street, Temuka, both tried and they sent a snap of themselves as well. They are looking forward to the holidays.

(Thank you for the picture, one of these days you'll see it on our page. Hope you have nice holidays.—Anne. P.S.—Oswald has no Birthday Mate, but will be friends with Barry O'Regan, Cronadun, whose date is on 2nd December?—A.)

CATHLEEN LARNER, Avoca, Wyndham, wrote a long letter and sent three stamps she has been holidaying at Otatara, but is home again now, and wishes us all a happy Christmas. (Hope you found home nicer than ever dear when you got home. Do you know I once heard someone say that "the best part of a holiday was the coming home after it." Don't you think that is what we all should find. Thanks for good wishes.—Anne.)

OTHER LETTERS.

HILARY O'BRIEN, Te Wae Wae, writes a pencil letter hoping we haven't forgotten her. (Indeed Hilary, we remember you all the time and hope you will have lovely holidays.—Anne.)

BETTY KEEFFE, Peak Hill, Lake Coleridge, writes asking about the Badges she sent for to replace one lost. (Hope you've got your Badges by now Betty dear. Glad you heard from Mollie, hope you'll have happy holidays.—Anne.)

EILEEN KEANE, Clyde, is busy getting ready for the concert and says there is an Express train running through Clyde every day now. (The competition is over Eileen, but look out for the next and be sure to go in for it. I suppose the Express Train is to make it easy for people to go to the Exhibition.—Anne.)

NELLIE CAMERON, Nokomai, liked her Badge and has had an answer from her Letter Friend. Nellie's cat brings her kittens into the wash-house every night through the window. (That's a real good mother cat, she looks after her kittens properly, mind you are good to her. Glad you and your Letter Friend are writing each other.—Anne.)

RIDDLE BIN.

- Answers to last week's Riddles:—
1. Every lady in the land has twenty nails; on each hand five, and twenty on hands and feet. All this is true without deceit.
 2. Why does a short man rise early?—Because he cannot lie long.
 3. What is it that asks no questions but requires many answers?—A door bell.
 4. If the sea were all to vanish what would Father Neptune say?—I haven't a notion (an ocean).
 5. If Mississippi wore Missouri's blouse what would Delaware?—Alaska (I'll ask her).

New Riddles:—

1. When is a sheep like a bottle of ink?
2. When is a clock on the stairs dangerous?
3. How can book-keeping be taught in a lesson of three words?
4. Name the first lady of the land?
5. Why is there never such a thing as one whole day?

URGENT TELEGRAM.

Little People, all be ready Peep of Day, Christmas Eve. Calling for you will explain then.—Anne.

Good-night dear Little People,
ANNE.

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