

EMPIRE EXHIBITION.

NEW ZEALAND INFORMATION BUREAU.

Naturally the busiest department of the New Zealand Pavilion is the Information Bureau. The courteous and well informed staff, Messrs O. R. Clark, J. W. Black, M. J. Reardon, E. A. Cook and Miss E. F. Beere, are kept continually occupied in attending to the enquiries of a constant stream of visitors. The volume of enquiries varies, of course, with the general attendance, but usually the staff on duty is busily engaged from morning till night, and, in the odd moments, where there is not a personal enquiry over the counter to be dealt with, there are enquiries by letter to be answered, parties or individuals to be conducted around and shown exhibits in which they are specially interested, and a variety of matters connected with New Zealand's exhibits in general to be dealt with.

A class of enquiries constantly met with, and always attended to with the greatest care and sympathy, are those who have friends in the Dominion, and are interested to see for themselves exactly where the absent ones are located. They are usually found quietly examining one of the maps on the counter (generally the wrong island), and show some hesitation in expressing their needs. A tactful word from an Information Officer soon breaks the reserve, however, and elicits the whole story. Sometimes it is a man who has a friend or relative who migrated to New Zealand many years ago. He is not always sure where the friend now is—somewhere near Auckland, he thinks, or it may be Christchurch—some name beginning with "Wai." Or, perhaps, it is a young lady whose brother or fiancée is making good in the Dominion. She can usually spell the name of the place, though her pronunciation may be faulty. Quite frequently it is a mother whose son has gone out under the Public School Boy scheme. He has written her, she is proud to say, telling her how happy he is in his new home, and how splendid everything is. The interest displayed by these inquirers when they are shown the tiny dot on the map which marks the location of their kindred overseas is almost pathetic. It is usually possible to supplement the information of the map by photographs of the place itself, or of the nearest centre of importance, as well as by some facts and figures of interest.

A man recently asked if a certain building, containing the offices of a colliery company in which a friend was interested, could be pointed out to him on the model of Auckland City. This was immediately done. He was then shown a number of photographs covering practically the whole of Auckland and finally taken to the mining bay, where he was able to view a large coloured picture of the colliery itself—many miles from the city.

A wide range of literature of a most interesting and informative character is in use in the Information Bureau, and hundreds of pamphlets, etc., are issued daily. They are greatly sought after by school children, who, accompanied by their teachers, are visiting the pavilion in large numbers. There is reason to believe that this material, under the guidance of the school authorities, is being intelligently and profitably used. The requests of the children for pamphlets are couched in divers terms, varying from the respectful, "Please, Sir, may I have some literature suitable for geography study?" to the blunt and hearty, "Gi'ne one, Gov'nor."

All this is apart from the more serious work of the Information Bureau—the dealing with the many inquirers who feel called to venture forth to the distant Dominion, and are seeking information and advice. Most of these are of a fine type, eager and capable; with no illusions as to what life in the new land will mean, but with all the energy and hopefulness and adaptability on which the success of the new settler so largely depends. Many desirable applicants are unfortunately not eligible for assisted passages under the Government's scheme and many others who do not seek assistance, cannot be encouraged in their desire to go because of the nature of their trade or profession. But there

remains a considerable residue of applicants who are of the type the Dominion needs, and who come within the requirements of the scheme. The Information Officers do not usually see the results of their interviews with enquirers, though now and then one will look in, recall a conversation he had with one of the staff some weeks before and cheerily announce that he has booked his passage. But whatever the results may be in terms of migration, it is clear that a great deal of valuable work is being done. If it is only in the dissemination of information that will create a better understanding and a broader sympathy between the Dominion and the Mother Country, the effort has been well worth while.

WHANGATEAU.

(Our Own Correspondent.)

A very pleasant evening was spent in the hall on Oct 28th. The evening commenced with community singing, Mr C. J. Stewart being song leader and Mrs Lawrence Whitaker accompanist. Considering that this is the first attempt in this hall the singing was very creditable, and met with Mr Stewart's approval. A collection was taken up in aid of the hall funds, for buying crockery, which resulted in £1 14s 6d. The remainder of the evening was spent in dancing, many kind friends supplying the music. The ladies supplied a bountiful supper. Many came from Matakana, Big Omaha and Leigh, and a very enjoyable time was spent. We are all looking forward to another social evening of community singing, etc., on the 25th inst.

Mr John Angus Dunning, the N.Z. Rhodes Scholar, left Auckland in the s.s. Aorangi on Sept. 1st, en route for England to continue his studies at Oxford University. Before leaving he was entertained at the Congregational Church, Great South Road, when a very pleasant evening was spent in music, songs, games and supper. The minister, on behalf of the congregation and friends, presented him with a gold watch chain and pendant, also a signet ring. Mr Dunning for many years had attended the Sunday school and services until he left to teach at McGlashan's College, Dunedin. He was born in this district and commenced his education at Ti Point school under Mr S. J. Elliott's tuition, therefore interest here is felt in his career.

GOLF SOCIAL.


There was a gay gathering on Friday evening the 18th inst. in the Town Hall, which was well filled from a dancing point of view, the occasion being the Rodney Golf Club's annual social.

Favoured with a fine night, good music, a well polished floor and last, but not least, a well catered for supper, it is not surprising that all went with a swing from start to finish. Even when 1 o'clock struck there were few absentees and, like Oliver Twist, many asked for more, being reluctant to leave what was voted one of the best dances yet held. A feature of the hall was the artistic decorating, thanks being due to Mesdames W. Hamilton and Smytheman and Mr Duke, who devoted a good part of the day to the work, the result calling forth much praise.

An interval after supper was devoted to presentation of trophies, Mrs Nat. Hamilton winning the ladies championship for the third year in succession, Mrs Tom Warin, the veteran sport, being runner-up. Mr Selwyn Morrison carried off the honours for the men, Mr Thornley being runner up again. Trophies donated by Mrs T. Warin fell to Mrs H. Thomson and Mrs Pickering, Messrs Holden and Hoysted.

Many pretty frocks were in evidence that evening, their colours blending with the bright-hued streamers. The Schollum's orchestra provided good music, extras being given by Mrs Pickering and Mrs Smytheman and Miss Jackson.

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Surgeon Dentist,
JELlicoe CHAMBERS
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(Next Herald)
AUCKLAND.

ANNOUNCES that the partnership recently existing between Dr. Gunn and himself has been dissolved, and the practice will now be carried on under the name of W. R. Vercoe.

Visits are announced as under:—
WELLSFORD—Room at Mr Curry's boarding-house—
Wednesdays, 9 a.m.—2 p.m.
July 22nd Sept. 23rd
Aug. 19th Oct. 21st

WARKWORTH—Rooms above Mr Hamilton's Store—
Thursdays, 9 a.m.—5 p.m.
July 23rd Sept. 24th
Aug. 20th Oct. 22nd

MATAKANA—Room at Hall—
Fridays, 9 a.m.—1 p.m.
July 24th Sept. 25th
Aug. 21st Oct. 23rd

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