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## PERSONAL ITEMS

Mr Alex. Bathgate will accompany his son, Mr J. L. Bathgate, on his return to the Malay States, and expects to be away for about four months. They left on the 22nd inst. by the Ulimaroa.

The South Canterbury Education Board yesterday (a Press Association message states) selected Mr J. A. Valentine, B.A., head master of the Timaru South School, to fill the position of secretary and assistant inspector to the board. Mr Valentine is widely known as an officer of the New Zealand Educational Institute. There were 15 applicants for the post.

A meeting of the Waikari Presbyterian congregation was held at Horsley Downs last Wednesday to take farewell of the Rev. R. Wood, who had resigned the pastorate. Mr Bentley presented Mr and Mrs Wood with a purse of sovereigns as a token of appreciation and as a recognition of spiritual profit derived from Mr Wood's ministrations and of Mrs Wood's services in the Missionary Union. Mr Wood, in tendering his warmest thanks for the generous gift, made reference to the progress made during the past four years. The Scargill Mission had been formed out of the congregation and funds raised in the new district to support a missionary and to build a manse on a five-acre glebe. In three years £150 had been raised by the reduced congregation, which was more than the larger congregation had given during the previous 10 years; and the same progress could be reported with regard to additions to church membership.

The Rev. Peter Milne, senior missionary of the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand, left Dunedin by the Ulimaroa on the 23rd, en route for the New Hebrides to resume his labours there. He was ordained as a missionary in 1863; the Rev. Sir Henry W. Moncrieff presiding at his ordination in Edinburgh. Mr Milne has taken only three furloughs during a strenuous missionary life extending over 45 years.

With regard to the system by which masters shall be exchanged between Christ's College and various English public schools, Mr H. B. Lusk, M.A., LL.B., of the Christ's College staff, the well-known cricketer and golf player, has been appointed to an assistant mastership at Clifton College, and will leave New Zealand in August next.

Another old identity has passed away in the person of Mrs Catherine Kyle, at the age of 82 years. She came from Dalry, Scotland, in the ship Wellington, arriving at Port Chalmers in the year 1878. Her husband predeceasing her 36 years ago, she leaves a grown-up family of two daughters and four sons. There are 42 grandchildren and 42 great-grandchildren. Mrs Kyle was highly respected by all with whom she came in contact.

Miss Margaret Gray has been appointed sole teacher at the Clark's Flat School; Miss Mary Brown, mistress at the Lawrence District High School; Miss E. L. M'Corkindale, fourth assistant at the Mosgiel D.H. School; Mr W. L. Harrison (first assistant at Balclutha), head master at the Walton School; and Mr A. Farquhar, sole teacher at Ida Valley.

The New Zealand Tablet states that a letter received in Dunedin from Melbourne brings the sad news of the death on April

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10 of Mr J. F. Perrin, who was for a number of years editor of that paper. Mr Perrin is well remembered by New Zealand Catholics, by whom his long years of faithful service on the Tablet have always been gratefully recognised.

Another well-known old identity in the person of Mr William Moore, late of Milburn, passed away at his sister's residence Kirk Michael, Isle of Man, on March 12. The deceased gentleman landed in New Zealand in 1861. He was a seafaring man, and held a second mate's certificate. He tried his luck on the goldfields, and was amongst the first at the Gabriel's Gully and Dunstan rushes. For a number of years he was waggoning between Dunedin and the Dunstan, and also carried on the Bruce Lime Works at Milburn, these being one of the first lime works in Otago. He took a keen interest in politics, and was a member of the Milburn School Committee for several years. He was connected with the Kaitangata coal mine along with Mr James Winter, of Dunedin. Twenty-four years ago he took up Kiness Farm, near Milton, and in 1903 sold out to Mr Murray, and took a trip Home to see his mother, after an absence of over 40 years. His mother died two years ago at the age of 99 years. Mr Moore married in the dominion, and his wife died 17 years ago. He leaves a family of five children.

There died at Green Island on Wednesday, in the person of Miss Margaret Kirkland, one who has been well known, amongst other things, for her practical support of the church to which she belonged. On several occasions her sympathy for the Presbyterian Church has been shown by generous and substantial contributions. The Green Island Sunday School, in particular, has received from her gifts amounting to about £1300. With her parents, Miss Kirkland arrived at Dunedin in the ship Maori in 1852. The family assisted, along with other pioneers of the best type, to make Otago what it is. Most of Miss Kirkland's life was spent at Green Island, but on two occasions she revisited Scotland. At the age of 77 death came without undue suffering.

The death is announced of Mr James Embling, formerly general manager of the Bank of New Zealand, a Wellington Press Association message reports.

Advice by the San Francisco steamer from the Cook Islands states (says a Press Association message from Wellington), that Mr Northcroft, the Resident Commissioner, has been seriously ill at Rarotonga with dysentery. His condition was improving when the steamer left.

A Press Association message states that Sir James Carroll, who has been seriously ill in a private hospital at Wellington, is reported to be making satisfactory progress towards recovery.

The residents of Fairfield met on Friday evening in the schoolhouse to do honour to Mr Ellison, the school master, who has been promoted to Stirling. The large schoolroom was filled to overflowing, many having to be content to be seated in the passage. Mr John Blair presided, and opened the proceedings with a few remarks suitable to the occasion, and later in the evening, in a very appropriate manner, presented Mr Ellison, on behalf of the residents, bowlers, and school committee, with a beautiful gold Albert as a mark of the esteem in which he is held in the district. Mrs Ellison was remembered by the ladies, being presented with a very handsome silver teapot as a tangible token of the good feeling towards her. The

Rev. Mr J. Kilpatrick made the presentation, and concluded his remarks by wishing her every prosperity and happiness in her new home. Master Anderson, on behalf of the scholars, presented Mr Ellison with a dressing case. Mr Ellison, on behalf of himself and his wife, briefly but feelingly replied. During the evening a

pleasing programme of musical and vocal items was given, the following contributing:—Pianoforte solo, Mr Hutton; songs, Misses J. Loudon, Barnes, Dunwoodie, Mr Maxwell; duet, Misses J. Loudon and Dunwoodie; recitation, Miss J. Mills; comic solo, Mr J. Miller. Mr Hutton played the accompaniments. Refreshments were handed round, after which dancing was indulged in, O'Driscoll's Band supplying the music.

Mr John F. Ewen, of Dunedin, has (a Press Association message states) been appointed a director of Messrs Sargood, Son, and Ewen (Ltd.). The other members of the directorate are Messrs P. R. Sargood (Dunedin), D. A. Ewen (Wellington), and M. Laing (London).

Mr D. N. MacDiarmid, an old Otago University and Knox College student, well known in Dunedin, will be leaving Melbourne on May 28 on an extended visit to the Soudan. The board of management which controls the Soudan United Mission, of which Mr MacDiarmid is organising secretary, has directed that he should visit Africa in order to gain first-hand information as to the best field to be allotted to Australia and New Zealand workers. In Africa Mr MacDiarmid will meet Dr R. Trudinger and Mr J. L. Maxwell, the superintendent of the mission, and, with them, visit one of the new districts of Northern Nigeria, Gongola, or Bornu. This means travelling up the Niger for a week, and then a three-weeks' boat trip up the Benue River to the Lake Chad district. In the districts mentioned there are no missions at all. The country is untouched by the white man, so that Mr MacDiarmid will have an exceptional opportunity for gaining experience among the Soudan natives. He is, therefore, looking forward with pleasure to his trip, which will occupy about nine months.

By the death of Mr Francis Tubman, which took place at his residence, Balclutha, on Wednesday, another of the Otago pioneers has passed away. Mr Tubman was born in 1844, and was the fourth son of the late George Tubman, Dublin, Ireland. He came to New Zealand in 1864, and in conjunction with his brothers Edward and Robert, took up part of the Moa Flat Estate. He subsequently took up a sheep farm in that district, afterwards going to Moeraki for two years, before leaving for Catlins River. He retired from active farming life in 1904, and resided in Balclutha. Mr Tubman always took an active interest in political affairs, and was widely known and much respected by all who knew him. He is survived by his widow, a daughter of the late Thomas Dick, and a niece of the late General Sir William Moag, and a family consisting of three sons and two daughters. One of the sons was the late Captain R. G. Tubman, who fell in the last South African war.