

DORNOCH.

THE ladies who have been assisting with work for the golf bazaar were entertained at tea in the Club-house on Tuesday night.

SCHOOL BOARD.—The School Board met on Monday night. Mr Fraser, chairman, presided, and all the members were present with the exception of Mr Murray. A letter was submitted from the Department suggesting some alterations on the plans of Embo school. The Board considered that the necessary alterations could be effected by merely rearranging the sitting accommodation in one of the rooms, and the architect was instructed accordingly. The attendance officer reported that, with the exception of one or two cases at Balvraid and Embo, the attendance at the schools was very good. The offending parties were to be written to by the Clerk.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.—The question of examination of the schools in religious knowledge came up before the Board on Monday through a communication submitted by the headmaster of the Academy. It appears that hitherto the examiner made a point of visiting the schools on very short notice, and sometimes when the pupils were in the midst of an examination for other subjects. After the matter was discussed, it was agreed that the local clergy be invited to do this work, and, after the examination for this year is over, that this examination for the future should take place early in December.

EMBO PUPILS.—It is always the custom with the fishermen of Embo, when they leave for the East Coast fishing to bring a number of their family with them. They leave long before the school breaks up for the holidays, and, consequently, their withdrawal has a very detrimental effect on the school attendance. They do not attend school at the fishing stations to which they go. Last year the Board issued notices to the effect that the parents of children withdrawn in this way would be prosecuted. The notice, however, was too late, but this year the Board have taken steps in time and are fully determined to act on their notice, both in the interests of the children themselves and also of the ratepayers.

NAVIGATION EXAMINATION.—The Board recommended to apply for the use of the Council Chambers for the examination of a number of Embo pupils who are going up for their examination in navigation next week.

HARD ON THE BOARD.—Owing to some of the schools having had to be closed for a time owing to epidemics, the Board at last meeting were doubtful if they could give the usual Easter holidays, and one of the members was deputed to call on the teacher of one of the schools to see what openings were to spare at that particular school. The member reported on Monday night that the teacher stated that after allowing for the Easter holidays, there would be quite sufficient openings, and a few days to spare to attend the funerals of any members of the Board.

TOWN COUNCIL.—There was very little business before the Town Council at their meeting on Tuesday night. At their November meeting an account for £20 was paid for a report obtained by the Secretary for Scotland regarding the speed limit of motor cars in the town. At a later date the Secretary for Scotland informed the Council that the speed limit poles erected by them must be taken down before any further communication would be sent to the Council. After they were taken down the Secretary for Scotland issued a draft order limiting the speed of cars to a distance of only 100 yards on each side of the entrance to the Public School. The Council desired to see the report on which this order was founded. At Tuesday night's meeting a letter was read stating that it was not the custom to submit such reports. The Council, however, desire to get some return for their £20, and are to communicate with Mr Munro, M.P., on the matter.