

as they should work in Prohibition lines. No friends.

We shall never cure drunkenness by Acts of Parliament, or the takin' away of the liesences of a dozen hotels, for as our good secretary remarked, if legitimate trade is stopped, illegitimate trade will spring hup. Our Prohib. friends 'ave got hold of the rong end of the stick—if they want to prohibit anythink, they must prohibit the manerfactur an' the himportashon of liqer, etc. (Loud happlause). Not, as I am agenst the closin' of some of the hotels here in Wellington (Heer, heer). But, ladies, I don't think as it would be rite to put the power of closin' any hotel they like inter the hands of a few faddists (Heer, heer.) I 'ave thort of a plan as would vice the erpinions of all classes of the electors. Let the votin' papers be drawn hup with the names of every hotel in Wellington, the names of the proprieter, the lokality, an' class of hotel, with direckshons to voters to strike out the names of the thirteen hotels (wich is the number, I believe, as a Prohibition Committee, if returned, will be hem-powered to close) as they think it would be best to close. (Heer, heer, capital idea). Then, I think, this committee mite appint a hinspector to see that the drink kept in the egistin' hotels was of the best, and that they was conducted in a proper respecterble manner, an' last but not leest let them see to it that the laws they now 'ave are observed, I meen principally, the law wich forbids the sellin' of drink on a Sunday, a law wich is disregarded in a most shamefaced manner, an' also the law us says hotelkeepers must not sell drink after 11 p.m. wich law, I 'ave no need to tell you, is simply winked at. (Heer, heer.) Yes, ladies, if we see to these things, there will be less drunkenness, for I believe people are often hintoxiated threwhad stuff. Then, if our friends the Prohibs. would take the hint I threw out last week, an start a Sunday sassiety, some good Sunday evenn' concerts, and some good lectures, illerstrated—an' if they want to dive deeper still inter the homes of the people, an' improve the sanitarey condishons, an' try in every way to lift hup an' brighten the lives of the workin' man (for it is the workin' man the Prohibs. seem to think is the drunken man, though I thinks they mite look in much higher cirkles for drunken men), let them do these things ladies, an' I am sure I vice the seingiments of every lady here, aye, an' of every rite-thinkin' woman an' man in New Zealand, when I say that we will jine them hand-in-hand in this grate, practical, and lastin' reform; yes! *lastin'*, ladies, for once show a man as there is somethink much better to live for than standin' drinkin' his earnin's at the bar of a public-house, an' it will be a lastin' reform—on the other hand, shut hup a place he as been in the habit of goin' inter, an' he will find another to go inter. In conclusion, ladies. I

would sergest that we, as a body of women as meen to be seen an' heerd, send in a petishon to the Committee as gets in, be they Prohibs. or publikans, askin' them to see to these things, an' that if they do we are ready to help them. (Loud happlause, after wich my perposishon was agreed to, an' the meetin' dispersed.)

Yours,

*Sairy Rodgers*



A large audience was present at the third "Herren Abend" of the Wellington Liedertafel, which was held in Thomas's Hall on Monday evening last. The singing was as usual quite up to their standard, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. For the benefit of the uninitiated we may explain that a "Herren Abend" means an evening's amusement for gentlemen only, when after a certain hour smoking can be indulged in while the performance is going on. Its introduction is half German and half colonial for in the old country and in several of the "Turn Vereins" in Australia, smoking and the drinking of mild beer is allowed, and the additional pleasure of the presence of the ladies is also assured. Your true German cannot take his amusement with any degree of happiness unless his wife and family are with him. Why then cannot we transform our "Herren Abends" into "Allegemeine Abends" that all can enjoy? Our opinion is that if such a proposition is carried out the ladies will not object to a cigarette or cigar. But to return to the performance itself. Part first opened with the "Integer Vita" given as a part song. It was well sung and met with merited applause, a solo followed and then a quartette after which there was another part song and then a violin solo by Mr. MacDuff Boyd. Two part songs rapidly succeeding one another concluded the first part. The second part of the programme was really a diversified repetition of the first and quite as interesting. The musical public have to thank the Liedertafel for their entertainments which are worthy of even a greater patronage than they received at present.

Walter Howes dramatic company, which includes Miss Hilda Spong, is doing good business at Christchurch. They will soon be in Wellington where they will play a brief season. We understand that "Petie" Hughes formerly with Messrs. Williamson and Musgrove is in advance of the company.

Mr. J. H. Proni, of the Government Life Insurance, and also the well-known and energetic Treasurer of the Athletic Football Club, who has just come back from Australia on his honeymoon trip, has been made the recipient of a valuable silver tray and knife, and a crust from the officers of the department as a token of their esteem, in which he is held by them. We wish him every happiness in his new sphere of life.

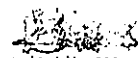
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