



Illicit still case at Reefton causing some little excitement.

The British Treasury will contribute towards compulsory detention in inebriate institutions.

A contemporary says that the prohibitionists are about to open their campaign. It has never been closed.

Great reception to Mrs Harrison Lee last week. She has taken over the small contract of converting Auckland to prohibition.

The Campbell and Ehrenfried Company have scored again at the Exhibition, the prizes given being very much in their favor.

Mr Masfield refuses to have his name submitted for re-appointment on the Licensing Committee.

The Trade have a candidate in reserve for the vacancy on the Licensing Committee if he will permit his name to be sent to Wellington.

Vincent's Brewery has undergone a change in the proprietary, Mr F. Hickmott having been admitted as a partner.

The transfer of the license from Mr George Selwood, of the Howick Hotel, to Mr Alfred Ernest Bennett has been completed.

Mr Charles Augustus Cooper has taken over the Exchange Hotel, Onehunga, from Mrs Agnes Annie Barker. The transfer of the license was granted on the 6th inst.

Tom Taylor, our junior M.H.R., has left for the South, where he intends to carry out a prohibition campaign. He wants to see how things are going on in the Clutha district.

In 1888 in Scotland there were distilled 18,159,651 gallons of whisky, and in 1898 the manufacture increased to 33,744,503 gallons, a difference of fifteen and a half million gallons.

The shipment of Sanderson's whisky, mentioned in a previous issue as having arrived, we are informed has proved utterly inadequate to meet the demand.

Mrs Harrison Lee, the temperance evangelist, preached at St. John's Wesleyan Church on Sunday forenoon and at the Pitt Street Wesleyan Church in the evening.

The Christchurch brewery companies did a particularly brisk business during the Christmas and New Year holidays. Three of the largest firms could not keep pace with the orders which kept flowing in from all parts of the colony.

In 1888 there was made in Ireland 11,063,945 gallons of whisky, and in the year ending March, 1898, there were distilled 14,547,708 gallons, an increase of something like three and a half million gallons.

News from Sydney states that the brewing business of Messrs J. T. and J. Tuohy is about to be turned into a limited liability company. This is one of the biggest brewing firms in New South Wales.

Trusts and monopolies have been the order of the day in the United States for many years. The latest is a combination of the Cincinnati breweries. Twenty-three are already included in the deal, as are also two malt houses.

Carl's Empire Hotel, the sporting rendezvous of Christchurch, is another hotel that has improved lately. The licensee is an enthusiastic cyclist, being captain of the Pioneer Bicycle Club.

The Canterbury Licensed Victuallers' Association intends holding regular meetings once a week during the winter, so as to get things in working order for the next election campaign, which is fast drawing near. A similar plan of campaign in Auckland should be carried out.

The Occidental Hotel, Latimer Square, Christchurch, has been considerably improved during the past month. Host Fleming, since he took charge, has renovated the building, which is now in tip-top order. The Occidental is still a favorite resort for theatrical companies.

Dr Hoskings, late of Christchurch, now of Auckland, is getting up his name in the Queen City as a red-hot Prohib. He's talking just the sort of intemperate temperance that helps the moderates along and excites disgust of Pump tactics. - Spectator.

The Licensed Victuallers' Association picnic will take place in about three weeks. It will partake of the character of a private affair, although friends of the Association will be permitted to purchase tickets of the committee and other members.

Coker's Hotel, Christchurch, is known throughout New Zealand as being one of the best equipped hotels to be found in the colony. Mr J. Hatfield, the licensee, is always effecting improvements, and is pleased to receive suggestions from the travelling public.

A correspondent to the Dunedin Star in dealing with the prohibition plebiscite vote in Canada states that prohibition means happiness, nobility, and virtue, and that the Trade means misery, degradation, and crime. Rather a large order for the Trade, but then hysteria is a chronic complaint with prohibitionists.

The Rev. J. B. Finlay of Wellington, a member of the New Zealand Alliance, is in Auckland. Although not one of the so-called prohibitionist "regulars," he barracks for his party on all occasions, and goes for the Trade "baldheaded" on general principles.

The Richmond Working Men's Club, situated in one of the suburbs a mile from the centre of Christchurch, has just had a large social room built on the main building. This club is next to the Methodist Church in the district, and needless to say feeling between the church people and club members runs high at times.

Business is very brisk in the brewing industry in Christchurch, and all the large companies have been making additions to their already well-equipped establishments. The Crown Brewery Co., Ward and Co., and Manning and Co. have all enlarged their premises during the past year.

One day recently Tommy Taylor, the junior M.H.R. for Christchurch, when speaking near the lamp post in Cathedral Square, stated that the new block of buildings erected by the Crown Brewery Co. would make excellent schoolrooms with a few minor alterations. Mr Taylor does say some funny things sometimes, but generally by accident.

There was a good attendance at the general meeting of the Licensed Victuallers' Association on Thursday, and matters of considerable interest were discussed. A general opinion was expressed that arrangements be made for a uniform price to be charged for beer and spirits. A committee was appointed to wait on the owners in reference to the matter.

Our Christchurch correspondent writes:—A fact worth noting is that the president of the Christchurch Working Men's Club has been a life long total abstainer. Other prominent members of the Club are also abstainers. This should convince the prohibitionists that working men's clubs are not, as alleged by their party, run by drinkers and used solely as drinking shops.

Mr Edward Knapp, a well-known temperance reformer in New South Wales, and one of the two gentlemen mentioned for selection for the Governorship of Norfolk Island, recently attempted suicide by cutting his throat. He is in a precarious condition. We always thought prohibition was a species of mania.

Mr P. T. Spillane, late of the Railway Hotel, Hastings, has entered into possession of the Taradale Hotel, Taradale. Mr Spillane has been long and favorably known to the public of Hawke's Bay, and visitors to Taradale may be certain of being made comfortable at his hostelry, and of obtaining the best liquors procurable for money.

The secretary of the Licensed Victuallers' Association in Christchurch tells me (says our Christchurch correspondent) that the members do not take the amount of interest in the welfare of the association as he would like. The publicans should keep working to hold their own, as the prohibitionists are continually on the war-path, and will score if the publicans don't wake up.

An English statistician has published the result of an inquiry into the quantity of wine, spirits, and beer which is consumed daily by the inhabitants of London. He states that 28,500 quarts of wine, 75,000 quarts of alcoholic beverages, not including beer, and 560,000 half pint glasses or mugs of the last named article are partaken of daily.

Californian wines have made great progress in Great Britain during recent years. In the first six months of the year 364,564 gallons in bulk and 160 cases were sent across the Atlantic. Of this quantity 55 cases and 168,553 gallons in bulk came to England. The best European customer for this wine is Germany, who took 105 cases and 185,885 gallons in bulk, the remainder being divided principally between Belgium and Switzerland. Scarcely any Californian wine goes to France. A fair quantity, however, goes to Australia and some comes to New Zealand.



A few weeks ago the police made a visitation of several houses in town, and as the result of inquiries prosecuted several women on charges of sly-grog selling. They were convicted and fined, with one exception. The police authorities have again laid information of alleged sly-grog selling against some of the parties previously before the Court, and another woman who was not prosecuted on the previous occasion. The cases came on for hearing on Monday last and were adjourned.

Judging from the following, which is a record of a conviction in Wanganui, a prohibited person should be very careful where he or she places her feet:—A prohibited person was this morning charged with unlawfully entering the licensed premises of the Railway Hotel on 14th January. Mrs Hartshorn stated that on the Saturday evening in question the accused came to the hotel and was told by her to go away, as she knew he was a prohibited person. As he refused to go she sent for the police, and Sergeant Dwyer went down. Accused stated that he merely put one foot in the doorway, looking for someone he wanted to see. The magistrate entered a conviction, and ordered accused to come up for sentence when called on, at the same time remarking that he believed Mr and Mrs Hartshorn tried to conduct their hotel in accordance with the Licensing Act.

The following case, which we take from a Melbourne contemporary, goes to show how to all intents and purposes a comparatively innocent person in the Trade may suffer for dereliction of duty on the part of his or her confederates. It is admitted in the case quoted that Mr Keating suffered for breaches of the law committed by others, and that, bar the one case when she made a mistake, her record was absolutely clean. Can a stronger argument be put forward for strict organisation on the part of the licensed victuallers? And, furthermore, a system of espionage for their own protection?—Recently Mrs Keating, licensee of the Commercial Hotel, Woodend (Victoria), was charged with Sunday trading during last September. In pleading guilty, Mr Hurry, who appeared for defendant, said the drink had been obtained on misrepresentation by a man who said he had travelled that Sunday from Melbourne. Under the circumstances, he

Advertisement for Dr. Tarrant, a qualified Physician and Surgeon. Includes a portrait of Dr. Tarrant and text describing his 'NEW METHOD OF HEALING' for various ailments, emphasizing that it is free from mercury and other deleterious ingredients. The ad also mentions 'DANGEROUS SYMPTOMS' and 'ABSOLUTELY NO CHARGE' for consultation. Contact information for Dr. Harman Tarrant in Sydney is provided.

asked that the charge might be withdrawn, and a contribution placed in the poor box. Inspector Swale expressed regret that he could not withdraw. The licensee and her house bore an unblemished reputation, and he fully believed what had been said for the defence. In consequence, however, of a number of anonymous letters having been sent to the Chief Commissioner of Police that Sunday trading was rampant in Woodend, he must press for a penalty and a conviction. The Bench thereupon fined Mrs Keating £2, with 19s 2d costs. This is rather hard on the licensee, who, according to the inspector, has to suffer for the sins of others.

At the Gloucester County Court (England) recently, before His Honor Judge Eliott and a jury, Alfred Henry Foakes, of the Fountain Inn, Severn Street, Worcester, sought to recover from George Cummings, of the Spa Maltings, the sum of £50, paid as a deposit on account of the Victoria Brewery, Cheltenham. Mr R Harington appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr Cranston represented the defendant. The case for plaintiff was that in July last he met at Worcester Mr Sidney Cummings, son of the defendant, who said he had been wanting to see him with reference to the Victoria Brewery, Cheltenham, which he should like plaintiff to take, as he believed it was a "perfect little Klondike." He could have the premises on a fourteen years' lease, free, with the exception of malt. An agreement was to be prepared, and plaintiff was to pay £50 deposit in respect to the transaction, but unfortunately he was taken ill, and on the 8th of August he sent his wife over to Cheltenham to pay the deposit and to bring back the agreement, which was to specify the terms agreed upon. Plaintiff's wife asked for the promised agreement, but was told by Mr S. Cummings that it would not be ready for a day or two, but when it was it would be sent on to plaintiff. When, however, the document in question arrived, and was read over by plaintiff, he found the terms very different from those that had been promised him verbally. Plaintiff wrote for the return of his deposit, and saw defendant at Gloucester, who wanted to deduct £12 8s 6d for valuation, and £2 2s for solicitor's fees, which plaintiff would not consent to. He put the matter into the hands of solicitors, and the present action was brought. George Cummings, the defendant, said he never let houses on a lease, and he did not authorise his son to make any special bargains with anybody. When plaintiff came to see him in Gloucester after the agreement had been altered, plaintiff said nothing to him about the agreement, but wanted

him (defendant) to release him from the bargain, as he said his uncle did not want him to leave Worcester. Witness reminded him of certain expenses he had been put to in having the house valued, etc., on his behalf, and said he would release him if he or witness could find another tenant. Had witness let the premises on a lease he should have charged plaintiff £140 or £150 premium. After a hearing, which lasted some four hours, the jury found a verdict for the plaintiff for the amount claimed, with costs. The above case is a peculiar one and worthy of notice, as showing how necessary it is in the Trade, as in other lines of business, to have everything in black and white.

Advertisement for Taradale Hotel, Napier, owned by P. T. Spillane. It lists amenities like 'BEST ACCOMMODATION' and 'OBTAINABLE ANYWHERE'.

Large advertisement for Robertson, Sanderson, & Co., Limited, established in 1846. They are promoting 'SANDERSON'S SCOTCH' whisky, highlighting its quality and availability in New Zealand. Agents listed include David Baxter & Co., F. Archer & Co., Wolleraman & Co., Robjohn, Hindmarsh, & Co., and John Schischka.