

ing £30,000 for a new course in order to get rid of the bookmaker. He complained that no adequate steps were taken to prevent betting on totalisator odds. Mr. Carncross defended the ballot system as a system designed to give a chance to the poor man, who formerly could not compete against men with more money. Mr. Jones said if the Bill were passed it would be the first step to rampant Bohemianism in the colony, as it would be impossible to check gambling if the Government licensed sweeps. He denied that life insurance, land balloting, and similar systems were gambling. Mr. Beehan said something should be done to prevent money being sent away to Australia. Mr. Louisson endorsed this view. On a division a tie resulted, 12 for and 12 against. The Speaker gave his casting vote in favour of the second reading to give the Council another chance of dealing with the Bill.

During the discussion on the Lands for Settlement Act Extension Bill, Mr. Massey urged the Government to be cautious in regard to the way in which it spent money in the purchase of rural land. He stated that the prices of our produce were bound to go down as a natural sequence of recent events in the outside world. He said he was in favour of the Bill, but the powers asked for were much too large, and, moreover, there were tremendous areas of native land which might first of all be brought into profitable occupation. The Government, too, might do something to bring the Piako swamp (opposite the Thames) into settlement. Replying to Mr. Massey, Mr. Seddon said he hoped to bring down proposals before the end of the session to enable the Government to acquire about half-a-million acres of native land in the North Island. As to the Piako swamp, the Government was now negotiating for the purchase of a portion of that property.

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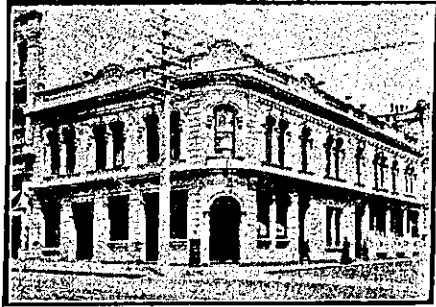
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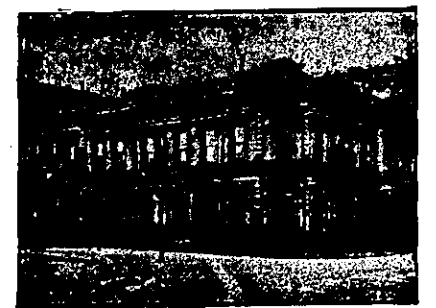
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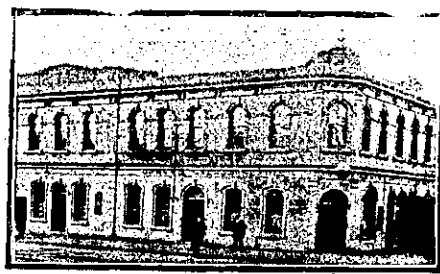
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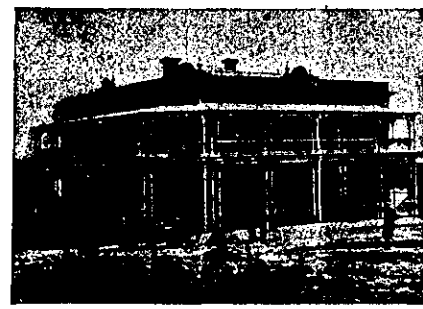
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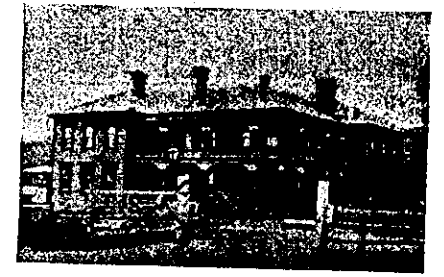
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