

modious premises. The object of the syndicate is to cater for the travelling public, more particularly commercial travellers, and hotels will be erected in Nelson, Westport, Greymouth, and Hokitika. The syndicate has a large capital, and the hotels to be erected are to be carried on in the most up-to-date manner.

MANUKAU.

The Returning Officer for this licensing district has now officially declared that reduction has been carried. The total number of voters was 5182. For continuance, 2801; reduction, 2677; and no-license, 2888. The reduction vote is therefore 85 more than the bare majority required. If the informal votes had been counted in as valid votes, reduction would not have been carried.

GOOD REPORTS.

From all over the Colony such marked improvement has been made in the conducting of licensed houses that it has attracted the attention of the various licensing committees. At the conclusion of a recent meeting of the Greymouth Licensing Bench, the chairman, on behalf of the Bench, stated that during the past year there had been a marked improvement in the general conduct of licensed premises, and he complimented the licensed victuallers as a body for the commendable manner in which they had conformed to the requirements of the Licensing Acts. Such praise as the above is gratifying in the extreme, and it is pleasureable to note that our Auckland hotelkeepers came in for similar praise at the last meeting of the City Committee. In the conduct which brings forth such good reports, the Trade have the sturdiest, cheapest, and most effective defence from the attacks of their enemies that can possibly be devised. The general public know the exactions of the licensing law, and are not slow in showing their appreciation of those who by results, prove that they are alive to the necessity of strictly complying with those exactions.

THE FULL NUMBER.

The Manukau Electorate Temperance Association held a meeting in Onehunga one evening last week, when it was decided to contest the election of a Licensing Committee, in order to secure the full amount of reduction of licenses in that electorate, allowed by law. The pre-

sent licensing committee are a moderate one, and have given satisfaction to all parties during their term of office. If they consent to be elected again, next March, for office for the ensuing three years, the party who are looking for their pound of flesh, will have great difficulty in finding a committee who will be able to beat them.

PROHIBITION AND BUSINESS.

The statement has been made in a Southern paper that the huge vote for continuance in Christchurch this year was in all probability influenced by the fact that a large number of people were afraid that prohibition or reduction would have a disastrous effect on the attendance to the coming Exhibition at that City. This is about the most delightful and open confession yet made, and goes to bear out the opinion of many, that with most of the people who vote against the Trade, it is purely a matter of business. They are all along casting a covetous eye on the

business done by the hotelkeeper, and they imagine by top-lining him they will increase their own takings. But when an occasion arises, such as the forthcoming exhibition, when it is evident that the help of good hotels is required to make business, then let them stay by all means. This sentiment bears out what has been contended all over the world, and that is for the travelling public and residents of any white country, licensed hotels with their accommodation and comfort are an absolute necessity.

THE DISAPPOINTED VOTER.

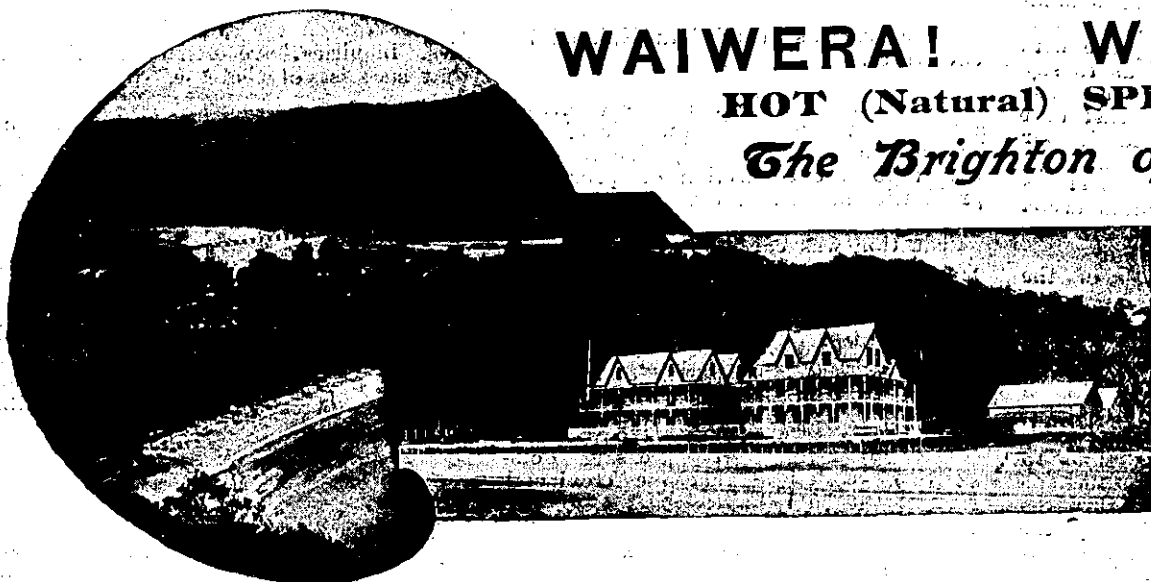
At the recent elections not a few voters wore an air of disappointment; this was brought about from the fact that on arriving at the booth the voter was not rushed by a number of zealous people who made much of he or she, as the case might be, and to whom an amount of deference was paid, which was palpably of the one day only order. The absence of a number of people whose very exist-

ance seemed to depend on how many lines the voter struck out, produced an almost grievous expression on the faces of some while many on arrival stood and looked round with a sort of here-I-am, don't-you-know-I've-got-a-vote, air.

BREWERY SHARES RISE.

A Press Association telegram from Christchurch is responsible for the news that four days before the local option poll, paid-up shares in Manning and Co.'s brewery were quoted at £3 12s 6d, and in Ward and Co.'s brewery at £4 11s. Three days after the poll, Manning and Co.'s shares were quoted at £4 10s, a rise of 17s 6d, and Ward and Co.'s shares at £5 5s, a rise of 14s. Immediately before the poll of 1902 the quotations for both Companies' shares were £5 15.

A London coster recently pleaded as an excuse for throwing stones that his action was a recognised method of inviting a man to have a drink.



WAIWERA! WAIWERA!

HOT (Natural) SPRINGS.

The Brighton of Auckland.

Wharf 1200 ft. long.

Hot Baths
Sea Bathing
Boating
Fishing
Croquet
Tennis
Bowling
Golf
Riding
Driving

Splendid Hotel Accommodation Daily Communication. 2½ Hours by Steamer, 4 Hours by Road. Telephone & Telegraph.

HOT MINERAL BATHS FREE TO HOTEL GUESTS.

Unrivalled as a Health and Pleasure Resort. Fine Sandy Beaches and Beautiful Native Bush

WEEK END TRIP:

SATURDAY TO MONDAY.

20s.

Steamer Fare and Hotel Charges.

See Settlers' S.S. Co. Time Table. TARIFF MODERATE. Full particulars at Office of Company, 22, Shortland-street; Cook's Tourist Office; or from Mr. JOHN MENZIES, Manager, Waiwera.

HIGH-CLASS AERATED WATERS.

REGISTERED

GINGER ALE.

Our Ginger Ale is unsurpassed for Quality and Flavour.

It is the most popular Aerated drink in Auckland.



TRADE MARK.

Purity and Quality.

All our products are made of absolutely pure water, the purest ingredients it is possible to purchase, and manufactured by the best up-to-date machinery.

THE WAI-WAI MINERAL WATER CO., LTD.

TELEPHONE No. 1336.

STANLEY STREET, AUCKLAND.

ASK FOR, and see that you get ONLY

Speight's
Dunedin
Ales

Sole Agents and Bottlers

for AUCKLAND

HIPKINS & COUTTS

CUSTOM STREET EAST.

ZEALANDIA WINE AGENCY

New Zealand Wines

CELLARS:

FORT-ST., AUCKLAND.

Telephone 227. P.O. Box 504.

SAMPLES & PRICES ON APPLICATION.

WAIKATO BREWERY AND AERATED WATER MANUFACTORY.

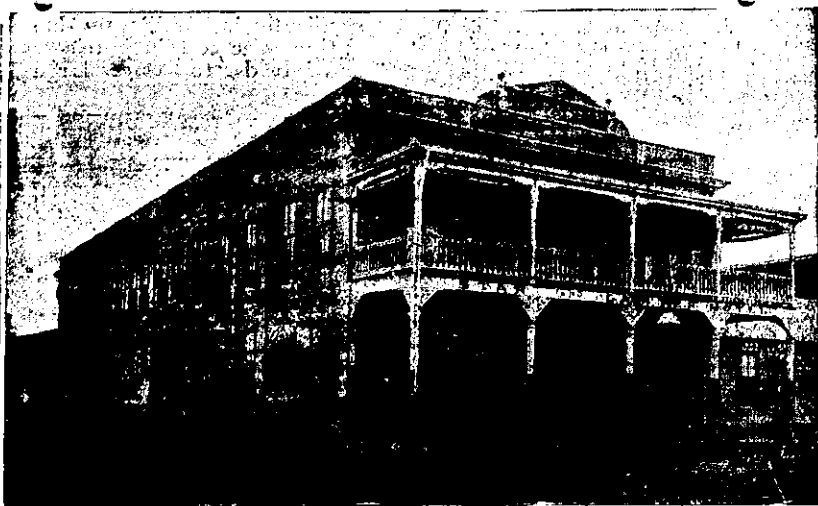
Bottlers of WARD & CO.'S
Champagne Ales

BEST DRAUGHT BEER, in 3, 5, and 10
gallon Kegs, at 1/9 per gallon.

INVALID STOUT A SPECIALTY.

Orders by Letter or Telegram promptly attended to.

G. L. INNES & CO.,
HAMILTON.



STAR & GARTER HOTEL

THE PREMIER HOUSE OF COROMANDEL.

Sample Room Free to all Commercial Travellers. Night Porter in attendance.
Speight's Dunedin Beer always on Draught. All Communications promptly attended to.
Hot and Cold Baths.

GEORGE LORAM

PROPERTY TO