

Trade Topics

British people pay income total of over 612 millions yearly.

Over a million pounds of snuff are still used yearly in England.

The consumption of tea in England last year was 5.99lbs. per head as compared with 5.35lbs. in 1901.

In the past five years Britains yearly beer bill has fallen by over five million pounds.

A man in Wellington was recently sentenced to a month's imprisonment for using obscene language in a hotel.

When visiting Christchurch in connection with the opening of the Exhibition, His Excellency the Governor, Lady Plun-ket and suite will stay at the United Service (late Hereford) Hotel.

In the reign of King Charles II. it was customary for Englishmen to keep their hats on at meals.

"I want a pair of shoes for the bhoy, plaise.'

"French kid, ma'am?"

"Divil a hair uv him. Sure it's from Donegal he is."

The large number of visitors to the Gisborne Show taxed the hotel accommodation of that town to its utmost capa-

The Government intend to amend the law, so as to do away with the necessity for stamping duplicate receipts.

A Taranaki chemist s ates that there is an excellent demand at present for medicated wines. His customers for this description of physic are non-frequenters of the public house.

It is stated that several cases of after hour trading, and frequenting hotels by men after closing hours, will shortly be heard at the Thames.

The Tasmanian Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill penalises anyone under 16 years of age smoking or having tobacco in any form in his possession.

In the Whangarei Police Court last Thursday, a man named Geo. S. Boggs was fined £1 for the theft of various articles of clothing and a book from the Commercial Hotel:

In the Police Court last week during the hearing of a charge of drunkenness against a prohibited person, Sub-Inspector Gordon said that there are so many prohibited persons now that it is difficult for the hotelkeepers to keep account.

Speaking in Melbourne recently, Bishop Mercer of Tasmania, said that though a teetotaller, he was not one of those who imagined the millennium would arrive directly the worker gave up his glass of ale.

Mr Arthur H. Rogers, late of the Criterion Cafe, Manners street, Wellington, has lately taken over the Albion Hotel, Wanganui. For many years Mr Rogers was in the ships of the White Star line, and the knowledge and experience he gained of catering as chief steward has stood him in good stead ever since he started catering for the inner man. For the past seven years Mr Rogers has conducted the Criterion Cafe, Wellington, and the last police report stated that it was one of the cleanest and best conducted restaurants in the city. For fifteen years Mr Rogers was connected with the Wellington Fire Brigade, and has always taken a keen interest in outdoor pastimes. Since taking over the Albion he has made extensive improvements, and no doubt will meet with the success he deserves.

A man who had been discharged from his employment last week, shot himself in an outhouse at the back of the Zetland Hotel, Christchurch.

Mr William Montgomery, hotelkeeper of Dargaville, had the bad luck last week to be called upon to pay £20, the amount of a surety he had entered into in regard to an offender who had been remanded to Auckland, and had not put in an appearance.

In the Tauranga Police Court last week a man named Edward Cullen was brought before the Court charged with the theft of £42 75 6d from the Tauranga Hotel. Accused was remanded, bail being allowed in two sureties of £50 each.

A young Scotchman in giving evidence at the Police Court at Christchurch last week, volunteered the information that in Scotland when a man fell from a horse the crowd rushed to see if he was hurt, here they rushed to drag him off to gaol.

protest from the owner, .hey commandeered a conkscrew from a neighbouring house, and withdrew the cork. taste convinced them that the liquid was salt water. The owner, who is partial o oysters, was bringing it up from the Fluff to put over a tub of the bivalves, in order that he might have a supply for some days after the class of the season en Safarday.

The Boston Bar-tenders' Union recently secured a decision of great interest and importance o labour men. A suspended member persisted in wearing the union's blue button after being warned to desist and a demand for the button had been made by business agent J. R. Robinson. The union officials summoned the offender into court, Judge Bennett found for the union, and fined the offender 10 dol-lars and stated that a man had no right to wear a bu ton proclaiming him a member of an organisation or order if he was not a member in good standing, and hus with full authority to wear the insignia designating him as a member. The case was appealed. The decision is

MR. A. H. ROGERS, proprietor Albi on Hotel, Wanganui.

The many friends of Mr L. B. Harris, junr., of the Huntly Hotel, will regret to learn that he met with a severe accident one morning last He had been on a visit to his well-known racehorse Caviliero, and in returning from the paddock, he wrenched his knee in climbing over the gate. The wrench was so serious that the cartilage was torn away from the bone under the cap-illa. It is hoped that Mr Harris will soon be about again and that the accident will prove less serious than it at first appeared.

A confidence man paid a visit to one of the mining townships recently (says the "Riverton Star"), and represented himself as a detective in search of evil-doers. He managed to borrow £5 off a well-known boniface and played "the well-known bollmate and played the game." When the lender asked for his money back the "knowing one" got indignant and told him to be careful or he would report him. He eventually got away, leaving the lender sorrowing

A rather comical incident happened in prohibition Invercargill the other day, when an unstamped keg, containing liquid, arrived. The eyes of the police lit on the familiar keg, and; in spite of

the first ever given under the law of 1902 for better protection of registered buttons and insignia of membership in fraternal, benefic abour, and o tions.—American exchange.

The recent court case in regard to the stamping of duplicate receipts has set business men thinking (says the "Napier Telegraph"). It has been found on looking up the Stamp Act of 1882 that the law requires that promissory notes for any sum not exceeding £2 need to be stamped. Further, the word "copy" on a receip does not do away with the necessity for stamping.

Says the "Globe":—"A statement made by Dr. Wynn Westcott at an inquest on Tuesday, will raise considerable wrath in the temperance camp. 'It is the havy drinkers who become teetotal-lers,' said the coroner. 'You never knew a moderate drinker become a teetotaller Already denials have been issued from the various temperance societies and councils, who obviously ought to know. But a coroner's occupation gives him at least as much authority to speak upon the point. We might suggest that the disagreement is caused by the reluctance of the converted abstainers to de-

scribe themselves as ever having been drunkards; however much they may have exceeded, on taking the pledge they nat-urally prefer to call themselves 'moderate drinkers,' a term which might be as elastic in its meaning as the 'extended facil-ities' of another controversy."

STAMPING DUPLICATE RECEIPTS.

Some few weeks back a decision was given in a Magistrate's Court to the effect that the stamping of duplicate re-ceipts was requisite by law. Such decision as bearing hardly on a number of business people led to a deputation from the Chamber of Commerce, waiting on the Minister in charge of the Stamps Department last week and pointing out that if the stamping of duplicate receipts was insisted on it would prove very costly, burdensome and irritating to the commercial community. This would be especially so in the case of shipping and insurance companies. For years past the practice had been not to stamp duplicate receipts, and they could hardly believe that it was ever the intention of the Legislature that duplicate receipts should be stamped. They earnestly hoped that the law would be immediately amended. It was mentioned that he deputation did not wish it to be understood that duplicate receipts were to be accepted as legal proof of payment. The whole question was purely one betwen the branches and head offices of business houses.

The Minister said he appreciated the points made by the deputation. matter of fact, he had drafted the following new clause to a Bill at present before the committee of the House:-

Where, pursuant to any custom of trade receipts which are given in sets, it should be sufficient if only one of the set is stamped, provided that the parts not stamped be clearly and distinctly marked at the time when the original receipt is given showing that they respectively form part of the set. Any person is liable to a fine not exceeding £50 who gives any receipt purporting to be one of a set without seeing that one of such set is duly stamped, or who gives any receipt purporting to be one of a set that is not in fact one of a set.

The Minister said he quite agreed with the deputation that the Legislature never intended that anything but the original receipt should be stamped. Any other course would only lead to friction and annoyance.

The question of stamping agreements outlined in the Bill before the House was also referred to.

Mr Carroll said this matter was also under consideration by the committee at present engaged on the Bill, and he thought the deputation would be perfect-ly satisfied when the Bill emerged from committee.

EXPENSIVE KINDNESS.

William Montgomery a hotelkeeper at Dargaville, appeared before Mr. Kettle, at the Police Court last week, to show cause why a bond he had entered into

