

# THE LICENSEE AND HOTELERS' GAZETTE

In Wellington recently a man with a bad record was sentenced to three months' imprisonment for stealing an overcoat from a hotel at Levin.

In 1813 the five-pound Bank of England note was worth only 73s in gold.

Still another honour has been conferred upon Messrs James Buchanan and Co., of the Black Swan Distillery, Holborn, they having just been appointed by Royal Warrant to supply Scotch whisky to His Majesty the King of Spain.

By the Victorian Act a licensee may refuse to serve any person with liquor, whether a bona fide traveller or not, during prohibited hours.

"What you again? Always begging!" exclaimed a suburban landlady. "I'm so hungry, lady." "Wait a bit; I'll fetch my husband." "What's the use? I ain't no cannibal."

At Waihi recently, H. Deverill, coach proprietor, running between Tauranga and Waihi, was fined for supplying liquor to a Maori at Katikati. Defendant explained that he knew nothing of the contents or nature of the consignment, which he simply delivered in the usual way.

The daughter of Mr Manfred McMahon, hotelkeeper at Tararu, Thames, had a narrow escape from being killed last week. She was struck on the forehead by a bullet from a pea-rifle, the bone being splintered.

During the hearing of a breach of a prohibition order case at the Magistrate's Court, Waihi, last week, an unusual point cropped up, the question being whether a brewery with a wholesale license was licensed premises under the Act. Mr Bush decided to adjourn the case to decide the point next Court day.

The adjourned hearing of a case for claim of commission on the sale of the Kentish Hotel, at Waiuku, brought by Messrs J. M. and J. Mowbray, against Mr W. Abbott, as executor of the estate of Mr C. Jones, was continued last Thursday. Mr C. C. Kettle, S.M., has reserved his decision.

The privileges of the publicans booths in connection with the Papakura Racing Club's annual meeting, to be held on the 9th inst., were purchased by Mr J. Mollooy for £35.

At the respective meetings early next month, applications will be made to the Parnell and the Waitemata Licensing Committees to grant permanent transfers of the licenses of the Newmarket Hotel, and the Esplanade Hotel, in the first instance from J. Gillander to J. R. D. Baker, and in the second from E. H. White to J. M. Franklin.

Detective McIlverney of Invercargill, has been appointed chief-detective in the office of the Commissioner of Police. His duty will be to investigate special cases from all parts of the colony.

The beer duty collected in Auckland in January last year amounted to £1749 17s 8d, as against £1802 8s 7d for the month of January this year.

The Wairoa "Guardian" states that owing to the change in the electorate the original plans for the re-building of the Clyde Hotel have been abandoned. An addition of twenty-five rooms will be made to the present building. The owners have taken this step owing to Judge Cooper's recent decision that a licensing committee cannot force a license to be built.

The Representation Commissioners have decided upon a slight adjustment of the boundaries of the Rangitikei electorate. They have also agreed to reinstate the name extinguished in the district of Tuapeka by substituting it for "Mount Ida" in a more northerly district. The name of Geraldine has also been reinstated instead of "Temuka," as it was proposed to call Mr Flatman's constituency. These are the only alterations

of any consequence that will appear when the boundaries are finally gazetted.

In the local police court last week a middle-aged man named Henry Robinson, pleaded guilty to using insulting language to Mr M. Walsh of the City Club Hotel, Shortland-street. The accused had gone to the hotel under the influence of liquor, and when refused a drink, made use of insulting language. Accused was sentenced to 48 hours' imprisonment.

The application for the permanent transfer of the license of the British Hotel, Queen-street, from Mr T. J. Buxton to Mr J. H. Pagni will be heard at the quarterly meeting of the City Licensing Committee on the 5th of March.

A recent visitor to San Francisco was amazed at the progress he found on all hands. Debris is being removed from the more valuable business sites, and although many people were still living in tents, there was an air of prosperity on all sides, and much money was being spent in luxuries. As to the smart clubs, these are amusements, jewellery, wine, and other "boarded out" in such fashionable residences as escaped the great catastrophe. Thus, the Pacific Union is quartered in the residence of the well-known banker, Mr Borel, and pays £200 a month rent. The Bohemian Club is established in the house of Mr Boardman, an enormously rich broker, at a rental of £100 a month. The temporary abode of the Bohemian, by the way, is up near Lafayette-square, where lines of tents give one the illusion of a Nevada mining camp rather than the heart of what was only a few months ago a mighty metropolis.

Imperial Tokay is about the most costly of wines. It is usually reserved for the Austrian Royal family. It has sold at £3 a bottle.

The United States Consul at Funchal (Madeira) reports that an Italian chemist there, Professor Pagisci, declares that the juice of the fig under proper treatment can be converted into a wine of excellent taste. The professor states that its flavour is agreeable, that it is very rich in phosphate matter, and almost wholly destitute of tannic acid, qualities that render it specially nourishing to invalids and children.

The Chateau vineyard at Dookie, Victoria, was damaged by a fire, which broke out a few days ago in the engine room, and destroyed the distilleries.

There is no doubt that people in want of an enjoyable holiday often rush off to a distance and are disappointed with the result, when the very thing they require is to be found more closer home. Take for instance Clevedon, an ideal spot for anyone wanting a change from town. There is an excellent hotel, the Wairoa, which Mr W. G. Abbott (late of the N.Z. Railway Refreshment Rooms, Mercer) has taken over and renovated throughout. Everything of the best is kept, and the comfort of visitors made a special study. Then there is some capital trout fishing in several streams, good shooting, some highly picturesque bush scenery, and in fact everything to be wished for when taking a holiday. Why not try it?

At the next Licensing Court, Mr T. E. Hallett will apply to have the license of the Waipa Hotel, Ngaruawahia, transferred to Mr Samuel Draffin, late of Waitakauri.

Under a new order about to be adopted in Austria, persons convicted more than twice for drunkenness will lose the right of voting for two years.

At Aldershot recently an instruction has been received from the War Office, directing medical officers in charge of military hospitals to prescribe whisky instead of brandy in cases where a stimulant is deemed necessary. The reason is that there is a large stock of very old whisky of fine quality on hand at Woolwich, which, it is said, is in almost every respect the equal to brandy from a medicinal point of view. The quality of the hospital whisky promises to soften the rigour of hospital routine, and no doubt many will be anxious to try it.

In connection with the Wynyard Arms Hotel burglary, the grand jury at the Supreme Court last Monday found no bill against Adam Swallow.

In the Supreme Court last Monday a sentence of three years imprisonment was passed on William Thompson for stealing a portmanteau belonging to G. E. Cowling from the Thames Hotel.

At the Thames Police Court last Friday, W. H. Laycock, licensee of the Tairua Hotel, was fined £5 and costs for selling liquor on Sunday. Three men who were found on the premises at the time were each fined 5s and costs. At the same court charges of having broken the licensing laws brought against Henry Brownlee of the Salutation Hotel, were dismissed.

A Wellington paper states that the aerated water manufacturers have been threatened prosecution if they continue to make hop beer as at present, as the Customs contends that its manufacture is against the Beer Duty Act. A deputation waited on the Minister of Customs recently, and was promised that an amendment to the Act would be considered.

Mr C. J. Philips, town traveller for The Campbell Ehrenfried Coy., left for Sydney last Monday on a holiday trip.

Last Monday in the local police court, on the application of Mr Mays, an adjournment until Friday was granted in the case of Timothy O'Connor, who was charged that on December 15, being the licensee of the Victoria Hotel, he permitted drunkenness on the premises, and further that he sold beer to James Moylan, a person already in a state of intoxication.

Snakes, although plentiful enough in Australia, are not common visitors to the central business area of Sydney. Mr John Cassidy, who is in charge of the temporary bar of the Dungate Hotel, now in course of erection at the corner of Liverpool and Castlereagh streets, Sydney, however, had an unpleasant experience with such an intruder. He saw a black snake, measuring over five feet long. He was dozing on a stretcher on the floor of the bar when he was startled at the sight of the reptile crawling up alongside his temporary resting place. Jumping on the other side of the bed, he seized a broom handle, and proceeded to attack the intruder. The snake, however, got behind some boxes, which were against the wall. Arming himself with another stick, Cassidy forced the reptile from its hiding place, and getting it into a corner, succeeded in killing it. Where it came from is a mystery, although it is surmised that it may have escaped from a box about the place that recently came down from the country.

## ENDORSEMENT NEXT TIME.

At the Thames Magistrate's Court last Friday, W. H. Laycock, licensee of the Tairua Hotel, was charged with selling liquor to Michael Tobin on a Sunday. Mr Fallon, on behalf of the Crown, stated that whilst an endorsement was not asked for, he would submit that a heavy penalty should be inflicted, seeing as the hotel was in an isolated district, and, therefore, not under such close police supervision as hotels in towns. It was the duty of the licensee to exercise stricter supervision in the conduct of his business. Mr Clendon, for the defence, stated that the man to whom the liquor had been supplied had obtained it on a misrepresentation, he having told the girl, who was at the time supplying liquor to boarders, that Mr Laycock said he was to have a drink, whereas he had not done so. His Worship fined the defendant £5 and costs, and notified him that on the next offence he would endorse the license. Charges were brought against Thomas Duffy, Hugh Mulgrew, and M. Tobin, for being on the licensed premises of the Tairua Hotel during the hours such premises should be closed, and they were each fined 5s and costs.

## HOTEL SERVANTS.

The hotelkeepers of Wellington, sitting in conference recently, discussed the recent recommendations of the Conciliation Board with reference to cooks and waiters in hotels, and passed resolutions affirming that the recommendations were impracticable in some particulars, and offered a premium for constant friction between employers and employed, with results diametrically opposed to the purposes of conciliation; that every effort should be made to obtain the consent of the union to the removal of such anomalies, in order that employers may be able to carry out the terms of the agreement forced upon them; and that the union be asked to agree to certain stated modifications or situations as to hours of work, holidays, etc. It was suggested that delegates of the union should confer with employers' delegates this week.

## INTERESTING COIN.

The coins recovered from the wreck of the steamer Elingamite by the late Mr E. J. Harper, show very marked evidence of their having been lying under twenty odd fathoms of water for over four years. Some twelve hundred odd pounds in half-sovereigns have been recovered, all of which are not much the worse beyond being somewhat tarnished. The silver has turned quite black, and in many instances is quite encrusted with sand. An interesting find was also made in the shape of a large piece of iron, evidently part of the ship's strong room, this is thickly covered with rust, in which can be plainly seen, embedded many coins, including half-sovereigns. Many of the coins are seemingly welded together, no doubt the pressure of water having had this effect. Curious to relate that out of some two thousand odd pounds recovered, there has only so far been one penny brought to light.

## THE CURSE OF THE DOLLAR.

Mr Andrew Carnegie, speaking on the wealth problem before the New York National Civic Federation, said that he accepted Mr Gladstone's view that an income tax made a nation of liars. He regarded no tax as so pernicious, both economically and morally, and maintained that the nation would never regret anything so much as the attempt to collect a tax upon business men. He cordially approved of a heavy tax upon inheritance, and of graduated taxation as the best means of redistributing wealth. Lawmakers should compel every citizen to pay taxes in proportion to his ability. His experience had taught him that young millionaires were generally far from being the creditable American citizens that children of the poor are. "I would as soon leave a curse to my boy," he declared, "as the almighty dollar." Mr Carnegie said that the English income tax system could not be followed here owing to the different conditions prevailing. This was because the English leisured class was represented in the Civil Service, and every English business man's secrets were kept inviolate. Such a Civil Service system, however, it would be impossible to establish here in a hundred years. Mr Carnegie advocated the passage of a law requiring a-half of big fortunes to revert to the people upon the death of their possessors.

## CHARGES DISMISSED.

At the Thames Magistrate's Court last Friday, Henry Brownlee, licensee of the Salutation Hotel, Thames, was charged with having kept his premises open for the purpose of sale, also with having exposed liquor for sale, during such time as the premises should be closed. In connection with the same case two men, named Miller and Gerrarty, were charged with having been on licensed premises after the hours of closing. Mr Fallon, who appeared for the prosecution, alleged that on the night in question the police visited the Salutation Hotel and found the men Miller and Gerrarty on the premises after the hours of closing. The bar was open, and there were evident signs of liquor having been supplied. Evidence was given by the police bearing out the statement. For the defence it