

tion and the attestation of the assignment should have been proved. In the opinion of the Court, the plaintiff must produce either the assignment of the lease itself, or a certified copy thereof, signed or sealed by the District Land Registrar, to show whether the defendant was liable to perform the covenants in the original lease. Such not being produced, the plaintiff must be non-suited, with costs, £3 10s.

POLICE AND PUBLICAN.

From the "London L.V. Gazette" we find a report of a case which may well commend itself to our police in this Dominion. At Blaina Police Court William Griffiths, licensee of the Greyhound Inn, Nantyglo, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on Nov. 21, and Albert Davies, Nantyglo, was summoned for being drunk on the premises and refusing to quit. Mr. H. Lyne, Newport, prosecuted for the police. P.C. Morgan said that he saw the man Davies outside the inn, staggering drunk, and trying to make his way to the inn. From what witness was told by the neighbours he went to the Police Station to fetch P.C. White, and when he returned they found the man inside the Greyhound Inn.

The Clerk (Mr. E. H. Davies): Why on earth did you not stop the man going in? Publicans are entitled to protection as well as other people.

Mr. Charles, Merthyr (who appeared for the defence): Certainly, sir. It makes my defence much stronger.

Mr. Lyne: There is an explanation, which I cannot get out in evidence, for the constable's conduct.

Mr. Charles: There is no explanation for the laying of a trap for the licensee.

The Chairman (Mr. E. Jones Williams): The facts are against you.

Mr. Charles pointed out that it was at the request of the police that the man Davies had been summoned for refusing to quit.

Proceeding with his evidence, P.C. Morgan said that the landlord, who was behind the bar, said that the man had only just come in, and had been refused drink. On Thursday, Nov. 26, witness accompanied Davies to the Greyhound, when, in the presence of Griffiths, Davies said that on Nov. 21 he had been in the house for a couple of hours, and had had seven or eight pints of beer there. The landlord said: "That's a lie; you had no beer in the house."

The Clerk: Do you persist in going on, Mr. Lyne?

Mr. Lyne: Certainly.

The Clerk: Well, it is a most unjustifiable action on the part of the constable. The Clerk also drew attention to a circular issued upon similar cases by the Home Secretary.

The Chairman: I don't think the Bench will convict.

Mr. Lyne: After that expression of opinion I shall not go on.

The case against Griffiths was dismissed, as also were the cases against Davies.

Mr. Charles asked for costs, but the Bench declined.

LOCAL OPTION.

The new South Australian Licensing Act, as relating to local option, provides that:—

Each electoral district is a local option district, which may be subdivided into several local option districts. A quorum of electors in any district may, within six months of the next general election, cause a local option petition asking that a local option poll be taken in that district. If the petition is in order, it shall be published in the "Gazette." The Governor shall, upon receipt of the "Gazette," direct the returning officer to cause a poll of the electors in the local option district to be taken at the next general election. The resolutions to be submitted at a local option poll are:—

1. That the number of licenses be reduced.
2. That the number of licenses be not increased or reduced.
3. That the Licensing Bench may in their discretion, increase the number of licenses.

These resolutions refer to all licenses, publicans' licenses, wine licenses, storekeepers' Australian wine licenses, storekeepers' licenses and registration of clubs. The first resolution means that as to each class of license, of which there are not less than three current within the local option district at the date of the poll, the number of such licenses so current be reduced by one-third of such number.

The following provisions shall obtain in regard to the votes recorded at the local option poll:—(a) If the votes recorded in favour of the first resolution constitutes a majority of the valid votes recorded at the poll, the first resolution shall be adopted. (b) If the votes recorded in favour of the first resolution do not constitute a

majority of the valid votes recorded at the poll, the votes recorded in favour of the first resolution shall be added to the votes recorded in favour of the second resolution. (c) If the sum of the votes thus found constitutes a majority of the valid votes recorded at the poll, then the second resolution shall be adopted. (d) If the sum of the votes thus found does not constitute a majority of the valid votes recorded at the poll, then the third resolution shall be adopted.

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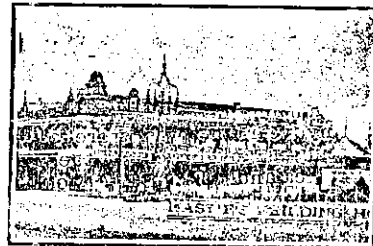
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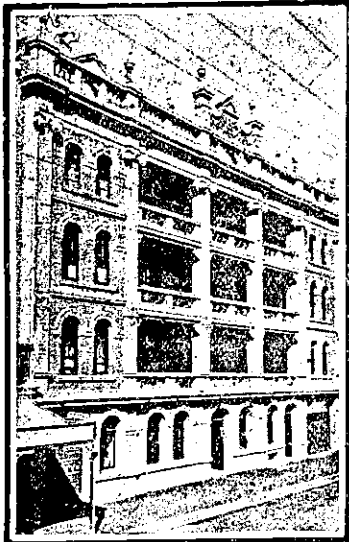
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