



Alcohol will remove grease stains from clothes.

The local lager beer is sure to have a good run during the warm weather.

In 1897 the United Kingdom consumed 1,251,213,000 gallons of beer.

When the wine is in, a thirsty man is not satisfied until he has got the cork out of the bottle.

The annual meeting of the Auckland Licensed Victuallers' Association takes place early in March.

Good wine needs no bush; that is why some people object to champagne made from gooseberries.

No less than 8,500,000 people have visited Paris hotels since 1885; 890,000 visiting them in 1897.

The interest that the wholesale trade in Auckland is taking in the Patriotic Fund reflects great credit on the industry.

I hear that Richardson has fallen back on insurance canvassing. I am afraid he won't be able to get many drinking men to give him a "life."

The new retail tariff with reference to draught beer, bottled beer and stout, Puri and Kamo water, and corked soda came into operation on Monday last.

Australian wine is making a strong bid for pre-eminence in the English market, and the poor vineyard crop in France this season is giving the trade a fillip.

There is some talk of a cricket match taking place between a team of licensed victuallers and one selected from the theatrical profession. It will probably come off in the course of a week or two.

A large number of prominent people were present at the official opening of the lager beer brewing plant at Hancock's Brewery on Tuesday last. I am pleased to know it has started. We wanted something of that kind.

There is evidently a market for colonial wine in Great Britain. Official figures for September of last year show that during that month 75,613 gallons were imported into the United Kingdom, and for the nine months (including September) 553,928 gallons.

Mr M. H. Walsh, whose health has not been of the best for the past few months, contemplates shortly taking a trip to Australia, to extend over six or seven weeks. There is also a rumour abroad to the effect that he is thinking of running in double harness on his return.

The new Arcade in Queen Street is coming on rapidly, and Mr Myers is to be congratulated on the celerity with which the work is being done. When finished, it will be an ornament to the city, and a proof of the energy and growth of business interests here.

There was some little growling amongst the old beer-eaters when the new 4d tariff came into force on Monday morning last, but it didn't amount to much, and was only a tempest in a tea-cup after all. Once it was understood that the innovation was general there was no further complaints.

Victor Cornaga, present proprietor of the Cambridge Hotel, is taking an interest in the district in which he has settled, and has gone to the expense of stocking the adjacent streams with good edible fish. Victor is a go-ahead sportsman, and is sure to make himself as popular in the Waikato as he was in Auckland.

Mr Michael Foley, of the Hobson Hotel, met with a nasty accident last Wednesday week. While attempting to open a bottle of lemonade it exploded, cutting him very severely in the left hand, severing an artery. He was attended to as soon as possible, but his hand will not be right for some time to come.

There is every reason to believe that the Government will introduce a number of amendments to the Alcoholic Liquor Sales Control Act this session. It would be a much better idea to give up tinkering with the already patched-up law, and repeal it altogether, thus giving an opportunity to bring in a really coherent and comprehensible Act.

The raising of the price of beer to 4d raised the bile of a number of the old threepenny guzzlers, but they soon dropped the quarrel when they found that the price was the same all over the town. Give the publican a chance. Threepence can't pay him unless he has a phenomenal turnover, and the extra penny won't hurt the consumer.

It is calculated that the beer consumed by the world in a year amounts in cash to £216,000,000, and it would take a lake 6ft deep, three miles and three-quarters long, and a mile broad to hold it; or if contained in a single cask, it would require one twice as high as St. Paul's and 1000ft in diameter to suit it.

It is said that there is enough accumulated whisky in the Scotch distilleries to supply every man, woman, and child in the East-end of London with 106 gallons each, or if divided amongst the whole population of the United Kingdom, to give to each person three gallons and a half.

ALFRED J. TAPPEH
Wants Everyone to Know that he has taken over the ANCHOR HOTEL, QUEEN STREET, AUCKLAND.

Only the best Brands of Wines and Spirits kept in stock. Campbell and Ehrenfried's XXXX Beer on draught.



At the Auckland Police Court last week, before Mr H. W. Brabant, S.M., Alfred Pickrell, licensee of the Ellerslie Hotel, was charged with selling liquor on Sunday, the 14th ult., to a person who was not a bona fide traveller, or lodger, seeking refreshment.—Mr J. A. Tole (Crown Prosecutor) conducted the prosecution, and Mr J. R. Reed appeared for the defendant, who pleaded not guilty.—Robert Dunn, labourer, living in Orakei Road, Remuera, said that on the 14th ult. he went to Onehunga and Panmure, and on returning home he called at the Ellerslie Hotel with his brother. On entering there were two men at the side bar (which was open) engaged in conversation with Mrs Pickrell. Witness called for two half pints of beer, for which he paid sixpence. Mrs Pickrell inquired if witness was a traveller, and he answered in the affirmative, and said that he had been to Onehunga and Panmure, and was entitled to be served. Mrs Pickrell asked witness where he lived, and he answered "miles away, over there, towards Orakei Bridge." During the conversation Constable Sherman entered. Witness said to the constable, "I'm a traveller"; and the constable laughingly replied, "You're all travellers." Witness had slept at home the previous night. Cross-examined, witness said he left home at eight o'clock that morning, and left Panmure about seven p.m. to return to his house, which he believed to be fully three miles from the Ellerslie Hotel.—William Dunn, of Panmure, brother of the previous witness, also gave evidence, and said he did not listen to the conversation between Mrs Pickrell and his brother, and was not asked any questions by her.—A witness from the Survey Department proved that the Dunns lived within three miles of the hotel.—Constable Sherman deposed to entering the hotel on the night in question. As soon as the licensee's wife saw him she removed the pewter-pots from the ledge. Asked why the men had been served, she said, "Are they not travellers?" Witness said he would report the occurrence.—Mr Reed submitted that Mrs Pickrell had taken reasonable precautions, and fully believed Dunn to be a traveller, and the case should be dismissed.—Emma Pickrell, wife of the licensee, said that she opened the bar at half-past eight p.m. on the night in question and served several travellers who had arrived in a waggonette. Whilst serving them the two Dunns entered and demanded drinks. Witness asked Robert Dunn if they were travellers, and he answered that they were, and had come from Onehunga, and on being further interrogated said they "were still living in the same place." Witness said she had always understood the Dunns resided at Tamaki. Witness asked the men if they had slept at home on the previous night, and was answered in the affirmative.—His Worship said it was admitted the liquor was sold to Robert Dunn, and it had been proved that Dunn was not a bona fide traveller within the meaning of the Licensing Act. The question was whether the case was entitled to be dismissed under section 157 of the Act, on the ground that Mrs Pickrell believed that Dunn was a bona fide traveller, and had taken all the necessary precautions required by the Act. He thought the evidence of Mrs Pickrell had been given in a very straightforward manner, and no doubt she really believed Dunn to be a bona fide traveller, and the question arose as to what reasonable precautions had been taken. Mrs Pickrell had acted to a great extent on her own knowledge of the men, and merely asked if they lived in the same place. Under the circumstances, Mrs Pickrell was justified in believing that Dunn was a traveller, as he had once lived at Tamaki, and told her he was still residing in the same place. He thought that under the circumstances she was justified in supplying the men, and therefore the licensee could not be convicted of any offence, and the case would be dismissed.

Matthew Leonard, the wharf labourer, who was accused of stealing five bottles of schnapps from the Elingamite, evidently desired to lay in a stock of spirits against a rainy day—we should say, a drought. The case came up before the Stipendiary Magistrate (H. W. Brabant) on Saturday last. Accused, who had been sorting goods from the Elingamite in the shed on Hobson Street Wharf, was seen by Constable Maher carrying a bag over his shoulder. The constable accosted him and asked to see what was in the bag. According to the constable's evidence, the man said it was beer, and when Constable Maher opened the bag to see the accused struck him in the mouth and ran away. The policeman gave chase, and after a scuffle handcuffed him and took him to the station. The policeman was obliged to use his baton in affecting the arrest. The bag was found to contain five bottles of spirits, and evidence was called to show that bottles had been missed from the Elingamite. The accused, in defence, said he picked the bag up outside Smith and Caughy's, and that while he was carrying it home he was waylaid and assaulted by the constable. His Worship said the policeman's evidence was given straightforwardly, and there was no reason to disbelieve it; while that of the accused was not given in such a way as to carry conviction. The accused's story was a grossly improbable one, and His Worship thought he was justified in convicting on both charges. Sentence was deferred pending the probation officer's report as to accused's character.

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Yours faithfully,
JOHN CARSON.

WITNESS—H. D. VIMPIAN,

(For over nine years employed at S. Coultas, Collins Street.)

P.S.—I would be glad if anyone wanted further information to give it. I am home every evening after 7.30. My place is close to Kensington Station.—JOHN CARSON.

VITADATIO 5s 6d and 3s 6d Everywhere.

HEAD INSTITUTE: Box No. 2, 39 Manners Street, Wellington.

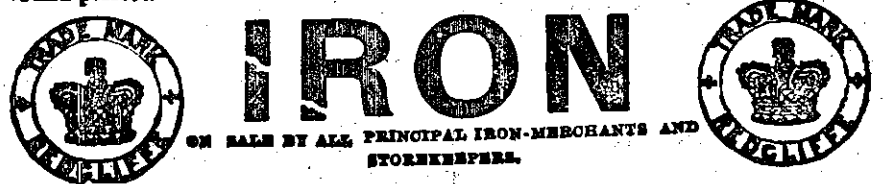
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