



The Grand Hotel fire inquest resumed to-day. At the conclusion of the inquest on Mrs O'Dowd, the jury returned an open verdict. Additions are being made to Montgomery's Hotel at Karangahake.

I am pleased to see Mr Alfred Kidd, of the Commercial Hotel about again, after his recent indisposition.

For keeping an illicit still at Windsor, New South Wales, Arthur Cobcroft was fined £100 and £6 costs, recently.

The prohibitionists are inundating the House with petitions against legalising the sale of liquor in the King Country.

Mr D. Norden took possession of the Naval and Family Hotel on the 2nd inst. I wish him every success.

New Zealand Customs duties are in operation in the Cook Islands. These duties came into force on the 12th of last month.

Lengthy recommendations regarding fire escapes and fire prevention in hotels are issued by the sub-committee of the City Licensing Bench.

I trust Mr P. A. Harkin will have a successful and profitable time in the Ohawai Hotel, of which house he took possession on the 2nd inst.

Messrs Fowlds, Palmer and Monk, M.H.R.'s, presented petitions to the House against the licensing proposals of last year.

Beer duties for last month decreased £187 3s, as compared with June last year, the figures being £1199 19s 6d and £1387 2s 6d respectively.

The Corporation of Glasgow have decided to take over the publichouses of that city so soon as Parliamentary powers can be obtained.

On the opening of Parliament, twenty-six petitions from religious bodies and others were presented against granting licences in the King Country.

Mr Nicholson, who is well-known in the hotel-keeping line in the Mercury Bay district has purchased Messrs Trethaway and Anderson's interest in the Kohukohu Hotel.

The New Zealand Royal Commission, which was set up to inquire into the advantages or disadvantages of federation of this colony, are unanimously in favour of still running on our own.

Smith: "Did you see Miss Decollete at the opera last night? She had on a most magnificent dress." Jones: "Yes, she seemed right in it." Smith: "Oh, no, my boy, you're wrong. There was only part of her in it!"

There is a feeling in political circles in Wellington that the most that will be done in regard to King Country Licenses will be the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the state of affairs in the district.

At New Plymouth, Mr Stanford, S.M., granted a new license to J. O'Driscoll, for the Hotel Commonwealth, and refused the application of one for Jubilee House, and one for a house at Bell Block.

A permanent staff of 14 firemen, including the foreman, and an auxiliary staff of 24 men, are included in the new scheme of re-organising the fire brigade.

The sub-committee of the Licensing Bench, who reported on the fire escapes of the city hotels, consisted of Messrs P. E. Cheal, M. Casey and A. Rosser. They made their inspection in company with Sub-Inspector Mitchell.

Mr W. Schollum, junr., who has been for many years in the Nottingham Castle Hotel at Morrinsville, has sold out to Mr James Ganley, lately of the Waitekauri battery. Mr Schollum, I believe, intends to assist his father in his business at Puhoi.

The offence of pewter-pot stealing which is most common in large towns in the United Kingdom, has made its appearance here. Last Saturday a man named John Hogan was remanded until the 13th inst, on three charges of stealing pewter mugs from hotels.

A peculiar point was raised in the Dunedin Police Court last week, when a licensee was charged with employing a barmaid after 11 p.m., the defence being that 2 o'clock in the morning was not after 11 p.m., but before 11 p.m. of the next day. The full report of the case will be found in the legal column.

**WARD'S**  
**CHAMPAGNE**  
**ALES**  
ON DRAUGHT  
At Most of the Principal  
**CLUBS AND HOTELS**  
IN  
**NEW ZEALAND.**

Ned Kelly in his suit of mail,  
Was proof against all lead,  
And how he laughed when all did fail,  
To lodge it in his head.  
Then let us all be on our guard,  
While long life we assure,  
For coughs and colds have some regard,  
Take **WOODS' GREAT PEPPERMINT CURE**



A meeting of the Auckland Licensing Committee was held last Tuesday week. A temporary transfer was granted of the license of the Naval and Family Hotel from R. Fawcett to D. Norden. A New Zealand wine license was also granted to A. Trevethick for premises in Karangahape Road.

At the Wanganui Magistrate's Court on the 3rd inst, D. P. Barrett, licensee of the Aramohe Hotel, was charged with unlawfully selling liquor on Sunday. The Magistrate, Mr Kettle, after hearing evidence, reserved his decision.

At the Hutt Magistrate's Court last week before Mr W. R. Haselden, S.M., Frank Mayer, of the Taita Hotel, was charged with selling liquor on Sunday to two men, they not being bona fide travellers or lodgers. From the evidence of the two men, it would appear very doubtful that they did have anything to drink in the hotel. Counsel for the defence explained that one of the men had a grudge against the licensee. The Magistrate dismissed the case.

After the Royal visit to Wellington, the New Zealand "Times" said:—"The police records for the present week show an average of only four per day were arrested in the City of Wellington for being under the influence of liquor, this notwithstanding the rounds of junketing and merry-making in honour of the Royal visit. The brazenly-impudent allegations of the Rev F. Laity against the sobriety of Wellington citizens were never taken seriously, and for a city with a normal population of 43 000 and an extraordinary influx of possibly half as many more, to have the small record of twenty inebriated individuals for five days is further evidence of the growing sobriety of the people."

In a Divisional Court not long since, composed of the Lord Chief Justice and Justices Lawrence and Phillimore, four cases came on by way of appeal under the Food and Drugs Act of 1875. They were Lee v Bent, Bent v Ormerod, Barlow v Noblett, and Goulder v Rook. The point was whether arsenic in beer rendered a defendant liable to prosecution. In the case of Goulder against Rook, which he took as a sample, the matter related to arsenic found in beer sold by persons in Liverpool and Manchester and some northern towns. Summonses were taken out by the Manchester Corporation under the Food and Drugs Act, which said that if the articles were not of the substance demanded then there would be an offence under the Act. It was contended that where an article was of the character demanded, and where there was no knowledge that anything had been added injurious to health, then there was no offence against the Act. The magistrates heard the case and found that the appellant could not even by the exercise of reasonable diligence have suspected that there was arsenic in the beer which she was selling; but the Bench found that the beer was not of the quality demanded, and the question was whether, under Section 3 or Section 6 of the Food and Drugs Act, an offence had been committed. Other cases were then gone into. The Court held that in two cases the analyst's certificates were not sufficient, and quashed the conviction. As to the case Goulder v Rook, they affirmed the conviction, and in the case of Bent v Ormerod they sent the case back to the justices. Costs to follow the result.

**BLUE ...**  
**... FLAG**  
(Registered)  
**Liver Cure**

**CURES**  
CONSTIPATION HEADACHE  
HEARTBURN DYSPEPSIA  
BILIOUSNESS NAUSEA  
AND ALL  
**Ailments of the Liver,**  
**.. Stomach and Bowels**

From all Chemists and Stores.

**Price 2/6**

Wholesale from **SHARLAND & CO.**  
and all Merchants.

At the Police Court last week, William Machieson, licensee of the Falls Hotel, Henderson, was charged that on Sunday, June 5th, he did sell to one James Irwin, a bona-fide traveller, liquor, to wit three bottles of beer, which were not consumed on the premises. Mr Blair prosecuted and Mr Baume appeared for the defence. James Irwin said that on Sunday, May 5th, he drove out to the Falls Hotel with William and Arch. Chalmers. He went to see Machieson, the licensee, whom he had not seen for some years. While there Machieson invited the party to have drinks, which they did. Then they had tea, and when they were leaving in the buggy Machieson came out and gave him a couple of bottles of beer to take home. Witness went out merely to see Machieson. William and Archibald Chalmers gave corroborative evidence. His Worship said he was not satisfied, on the evidence, that a sale had taken place. The act was of the nature of a gift. Several cases were on record in which it had been held that a landlord could entertain his guests. He would therefore dismiss the case.

A point which rarely crops up in licensing law came up for decision at the Police Court last week, before Mr W. H. Brabant, S.M., Louisa Hertz, licensee of the New Lynn Hotel, was charged with a breach of the Licensing Act in that she did, on Sunday, May 5th, sell to James Irwin, a bona-fide traveller, liquor, to wit three bottles of beer, which beer was consumed on the premises by persons other than the said James Irwin. Mr Blair prosecuted, and Mr Baume appeared for the defence. Mr Blair said the facts of the case were admitted, and the question to be decided was one of law. The information was laid under section 155 and section 22 of sub-section 5 of the Licensing Act, 1881. The Act said that liquor purchased by a traveller during prohibited hours must be consumed on the premises by that traveller personally. In this case three men, all bona-fide travellers, had been served with liquor. One of them, James Irwin, had paid for the drinks, and the question to be decided was, did the licensee break the law in serving the other two travellers with drinks for which Irwin "shouted." In other words, could a traveller "shout" for another traveller, or must every traveller pay for his drink in person? The point had never been brought up before. He contended that the Act had been broken in this case. Mr Baume said the section providing that travellers must personally consume their liquor on the premises was framed to prevent indiscriminate "shouting" by travellers for persons who were not travellers. This was the only reasonable construction. If it was ruled that travellers could not shout for travellers, the position would be most extraordinary. He would ask His Worship to dismiss the case. His Worship reserved his decision.

Mr John Laffey, licensee of the Otago Hotel, Dunedin, was, on the 4th inst., charged with, at 2.45 a.m. on Sunday, the 16th June, keeping his licensed premises open for the sale of liquor. Mr Solomon, who defended, said that the obvious answer to the charge was that the publican did not keep his house open at all for the sale of drink or for any other purpose, because it was closed, and was only opened when the police sought to be admitted. The Magistrate said that the case was a suspicious one, but the evidence was not sufficient to sustain the information as laid. He therefore dismissed the case. The same defendant was further charged with employing Nellie Cumming in the bar after 11 p.m. Mr Solomon submitted that on the facts the Magistrate could not convict. The Act said no barmaid shall be employed in a bar after the hour of 11 p.m. Now, 2 o'clock in the morning of the next day is not after the hour of 11 p.m. It is before the hour of 11 p.m. on the next day. There is no hour after 11 p.m., except the hour between eleven and twelve. There was no doubt that a mistake was made in drawing up the Act, but it had never been amended. The Sub-Inspector: It seems very absurd that what is an

offence before twelve o'clock is no offence between one and two. Mr Solomon: I agree with you; it is absurd. The Sub-Inspector: It is so absurd that it should be amended. Mr Solomon: It is just one of those things that has been left for the benefit of barristers. The Sub-Inspector: We knew the difficulty we had to face, but we could not help bringing the case before the Court. His Worship said that, apart from the law point, he did not think he could have convicted on the evidence. The case would be dismissed.

**Edward W. Whitehead**  
15 HIGH STREET, AUCKLAND,  
**HOTEL VALUATOR AND BROKER,**  
FINANCIAL AND GENERAL  
COMMISSION AGENT  
HAS HAD 25 YEARS COLONIAL  
EXPERIENCE.

**GOODS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION**  
BOUGHT AND SOLD ON COM-  
MISSION.

LOANS ARRANGED ON APPROVED  
SECURITY.

I am making the Cash Advance and Financial Agency a special branch of my business. Loans negotiated on personal security at lower rates than usual.

**ALFRED J. TAPPER.**  
**ANCHOR HOTEL,**  
QUEEN STREET, AUCKLAND.

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

**PRINCE ARTHUR**  
**HOTEL**  
(LATE ORAM'S) AUCKLAND, CENTRALLY  
SITUATED.

TARIFF: FROM 5/- PER DAY.

HYDRAULIC LIFT.

SELECT SUITES OF ROOMS FOR VISITORS  
AND TOURISTS.

W. M. COOKE..... PROPRIETOR  
**W. T. DAVIDGE**  
(late of Waikato),  
**LAND, ESTATE, AND FINANCIAL**  
**AGENT PUBLIC VALUER AND**  
**HOTEL BROKER.**

No. 14, COOMBS' ARCADE,  
AND  
QUEEN STREET, ONEHUNGA.

**HOTEL VALUATION**  
A SPECIALITY.  
FIRST-CLASS REFERENCES

