

railway from Wahi, running through Katikati, Tauranga, Te Puke, Tanea-tua, Opotiki, and thence on to Motu and connecting with Gisborne. There is some exceedingly rich country round Opotiki, Whakatane, Tanea-tua and Waimana. The average man's conception of what Opotiki is like is probably very far from correct. The town is a thriving, well-laid-out little place, situated close to the sea-coast on quite level country, a river flowing on either side, the town in fact being on a delta; a fine hard sandy beach extends for miles in both directions and makes a beautiful drive on a fine day. There are three hotels in the place and the accommodation is excellent. The Masonic Hotel is as comfortable a place as one could wish to stay at. The bedrooms are all spacious and tastefully furnished. The dining-room is large and well-lighted, while there are private sitting-rooms, commercial room, smoking-room, also bathrooms with hot and cold water—in fact, the hotel is fitted up with every modern convenience. The new additions to the hotel have given extra bedroom accommodation and Mrs. Mann has shown considerable taste in the decorating and furnishing thereof. Altogether the hotel is an ornament to the town and reflects great credit on the enterprising proprietor, Mr. Geo. J. Mann, who makes a most obliging and hospitable host.

The Ashburton Police made a sly-grog raid on premises in the Selwyn electorate the other night, and found a small quantity of liquor. No seizure was made.

The body of Archibald La Dette, licensee of the Warwick Arms Hotel, was found in the river at Shortland Thames on Monday morning. An inquest was held, and the evidence went to show that Mr. La Dette had been in poor health for some time, and had been under medical care. At about four o'clock in the morning he rose from bed and went outside in his pyjamas and dressing gown, and was not again seen alive. The jury returned a verdict of death from drowning, adding that there was no evidence to show how deceased got into the water. Mr. La Dette was about 39 years of age, and had been the licensee of the Warwick Arms Hotel for a considerable number of years. He leaves a wife and family.

A cable from New York states that a deputation waited on the Mayor of New York (Judge Gaynor), and demanded the veto of the legislation whereby New Yorkers who have been arrested more than twice within a year for intoxication are liable to be committed to an inebriates' farm for a year. The Bill has been nicknamed the "Two Drunks a Year Bill."

We learn that the Greytown Hotel has changed hands, the new proprietor being Mr. J. Robertson.

Messrs. Lwan Bros., Hotel Brokers of Willis Street, Wellington, report having sold Mr. John Kennedy's interest in Her Majesty's Hotel, Pitt Street, Sydney, to Mr. Frank Dakin, formerly of the Customhouse Hotel, Nelson, and recently of the Royal Tiger Hotel, Wellington; Mr. H. Martin's interest in the Criterion Hotel, Millerton, Westport, to Mr. John Fitzgerald, late of Levin; the lease, furniture, and goodwill of the Club Hotel, Suva, Fiji, on behalf of Messrs. Marks and Co., to Mr. Henry Shotlander, late of the Inglewood Hotel, Inglewood; Mr. H. W. Sharpe's interest in the lease and goodwill of the Junction Hotel, Norsewood, Hawke's Bay, to Mr. Ernest Crabtree, well known in Wellington; Mr. T. Midwood's interest in the Masonic Hotel, Havelock, Marlborough, to Mr. A. G. Newman, late of Gore; Mr. George McDonald's interest in the Phoenix Hotel, Rangitikei Line, Palmerston North, to Mr. C. T. Gayne, late of the railway service, Wanganui; Mr. James Wood's interest in the Telegraph Hotel, Otaki, to Mrs. Preston, late of Blenheim; Mr. Thos. Aitken's interest in the Herbertville Hotel, Herbertville, East Coast, to Mr. William Pacey, late of Levin; Mr. Otto Weine's interest in the Princess Theatre Hotel, Wellington, to Mr. Robert Allen of this city; Mr. Chas. Diamond's interest in the lease, furniture, and goodwill of the Albion Hotel, Patea, to Mr. Henry Vogel, late of the Wellington Meat Export Company; Mr. Arthur Week's interest in the lease, furniture, and goodwill of the Castle-cliff Hotel, Castlecliff, Wanganui, to Mrs. B. Dooley, late of Rushworth,

Victoria; and Mr. A. Nannsted's interest in the lease and furniture of the Shamrock Hotel, Molesworth Street, Wellington, to Mrs. M. Cooper, late of the Central Hotel, Masterton.

EMPIRE LIVERY STABLES WESTPORT.

One of the best-conducted businesses in Westport is undoubtedly the Empire Livery Stables, of which Mr. William Bevan is proprietor. The stables are situated opposite the Empire Hotel and adjoining the Theatre Royal, and are in the centre of traffic. Messrs. Newman Bros.' coaches to and from the West Coast to Nelson have their depot opposite Mr. Bevan's stables. A feature of the place is the air of cleanliness pervading it, from the neatly-furnished office where the proprietor is ably seconded by his "better half" as clerk, to the stables, storehouse, and up-to-date plant, including some very fine buggies, gigs, landaus, etc. The stables consist of 20 stalls, with splendid "cattle" for either saddle or harness, and very reliable drivers. Mr. Bevan is profiting considerably by the tourist traffic, and trips can be arranged to any part of the district, viz., the Buller Gorge, the Denniston and Mokihinu and Ngakawau mines, Granity and Cape Foulwind, either by the beach or inland roads. Goods entrusted to Mr. Bevan are carefully packed and forwarded to all parts of the world, and a special feature is the local removal and packing of furniture. Commercial travellers will find a good friend in Mr. Bevan. He is also agent for the New Zealand Express Co., J. J. Curles, and the Keir Forwarding Co.

DEFYING THE LAW.

THE FATE OF A BARREL OF BEER.

A journey to Hikutaia by Thomas Flynn, a Karangahake resident, and the subsequent purchase by him of five gallons of beer, caused him to appear at the Paeroa Police Court on Thursday before Mr. F. J. Burgess, S.M., to answer a number of charges. First of all he was charged with bringing into a no-license district a package containing beer, without such package bearing the statement that it contained liquor. Secondly, he was charged with purchasing liquor from Julia Corbett, of Hikutaia, for the purpose of bringing it into a no-license area, without notifying the vendor of his name and address. Thirdly, he was charged with failing to notify the vendor that he was a resident of a no-license district. The third charge was subsequently withdrawn.

Sergeant McKinnon, who conducted the prosecution, said that defendant went to Kikutaia and purchased five gallons of beer there. It was not labelled properly, and he did not notify the vendor that he was bringing it into a no-license district. Defendant got his beer safely as far as Paeroa, but Constable Henry happened to be on the Paeroa railway station platform, and the package not being properly labelled he seized the liquor. Similar breaches of the law had been very frequent in this district, and they had been well notified through the press. Defendant said he was ignorant of the law, and thought that if he travelled with the liquor he could bring it into the district. The package had his name on it.

Sergeant McKinnon: He had the barrel in a sack. Defendant said he did not deny having the liquor when questioned by the constable.

The Magistrate said there had been a number of convictions for the same thing in the district, and defendant could not have been altogether ignorant of the law. On the charge of the package not bearing a statement that it contained liquor defendant would be fined £3 and 9s costs, and in the other case he would be convicted and ordered to pay 7s costs.—Ohinemuri Gazette.

ANOTHER BOTTLING CASE.

A WARNING TO BREWERS.

At the Magistrate's Court, Hamilton, before Mr. F. O'B. Loughnan, S.M., C. L. Innes and Co., Ltd., and Joseph Chocqueel, brewers of Hamilton, were charged under section 209 of the Licensing Act, 1908, with having in their possession certain articles prepared and intended for the purpose of labelling bottles containing intoxicating liquor, such labels not having printed thereon in plain and legible characters the words "Bottled in New Zealand," and the name of the bottlers issuing the labels. Mr. Northcroft appeared for both

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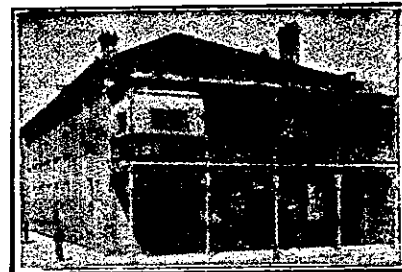
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 - 5 Years' Lease; rent, £7; trade, £68. Price, £2700.
 - 6 Years' Lease; rent, £7; trade, £60. Price, £3400.
 - 5 Years' Lease; rent, £2 10s; trade, £25. Price, £700.
 - 4 1/2 Years' Lease; rent, £13; trade, £150. Price, £3500.
 - 8 1/2 Years' Lease; rent, £10; trade, £150. Price, £5200.
 - 3 1/2 Years' Lease; rent, £2 10s; trade, £45. Price, £1050.
 - 3 1/2 Years' Lease; rent, £12 10s; trade, £160. Price, £4000.
 - 3 Years' Lease; rent, £5; trade, £50. Price, £2000.
 - 3 1/2 Years' Lease; rent, £3; trade, £25. Price, £1000.
 - 2 1/2 Years' Lease; rent, £4 10s; trade, £70. Price, £1600.
 - 3 Years' Lease; rent, £3 10s; trade, £40. Price, £1000.
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