

LICENSED VANDALERS' GAZETTE

THE COMING FRAY.

PROHIBITIONISTS ON THE LOOK-OUT.

THE BARE MAJORITY AND NATIONAL PROHIBITION.

Still another week has passed and, so far as "the Trade" is concerned, no apparent action has been taken to combat or withstand the misrepresentation of its aims, objects, and the character of the men and women who are engaged in the traffic itself. "The Vanguard," otherwise "The Prohibitionist" (the guile with which some men conceal their intentions is apparent in the changed title of the paper), in its issue of January 21st, attempts a forecast of the year. "It was a wise man (the 'Vanguard' says) who said 'Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof,'" and thereupon proceeds to express the hope "that the saying will hold true with regard to the year 1911." It rejoices over the passing of the licensed bookmaker at the end of this month, and also over the lapsing of all bottle licenses at the end of June "with no possibility of renewal." The connection of the two is not quite apparent, but they are both regarded by the Prohibitionist journal as a prolific source of temptation, the removal of which, is cause for congratulation. Then, proceeding to further count up its gains, the "Vanguard" says: "At the same time (June), the law will go forth through all the land, that all public bars must close at 10 o'clock. To strike off one hour and especially such an hour, from such a trade, will," it says, "be a distinct gain to the cause of sobriety. Recruiting for the barmaid business in this country," it proceeds (as if the business was some dreadfully improper thing that must contaminate all who engage in it), "has already been stopped, and, after June next, no woman excepting a publican's wife or daughter can serve behind the bar unless her name has been published in the register of barmaids in the Government Gazette. All these (the 'Vanguard' concludes) are counts to the good for a year," better at the end than at the beginning thereof."

"LOCAL OPTION ENDED."

For years the New Zealand Alliance has clamoured for the recognition of the right of the people to deal with the liquor traffic, on local option lines. Now that it has seen fit to advance its propaganda and to go for Dominion option, on the lines of the bare majority, it sees no merit in local control of the liquor traffic. No matter what the circumstances of a district may be, no matter where the desires and wishes of its residents may lead them, the zealous upholder of Local Option, rejoices because the new law removes the traffic from popular control. We are not prepared to say that the doing away with the 11 o'clock licenses is not a good thing in some respects, but where Licensing Committees elected by the popular vote, as all Licensing Committees are, decide that 11 o'clock licenses are desirable and necessary, it seems to us, the outside public would have no real ground for complaint, had the hotels been allowed to remain open to that hour. It is strictly in accordance with the local option principle that each district electing a Committee should have the right of determining the hours during which hotels should remain open; hence the necessity for a uniform hour of closing throughout the Dominion is scarcely apparent, because we are unaware that drunkenness is more rife in districts that have sanctioned the later hour of closing than those in which the Committees have made it 10 o'clock; or, for that matter, that there is any more excessive drinking indulged in than is apparent in certain No-License areas. As for the restriction placed upon the employment of barmaids, all we can say is that there

are several callings in which young women are more open to insult than behind a respectable hotel bar. And we are bound, moreover, to say, that as a class the barmaids of this country are as respectable, as honest and as moral a class as those engaged in any other calling or occupation, and individually they would stand the test of comparison, and more than hold their own with other young women who have to earn their own living. The Wowsers' predilections of the "Vanguard" make it rejoice at the prospect of this avenue of employment being closed to a by no means inconsiderable class of the community. It would doubtless prefer to see them engaged as household drudges, or as waitresses, sempstresses, etc. The Draconic legislation which the Wowsers have forced upon this country should be remembered against them next November. Mean-

semi-religious "crank" (none the less dangerous, because he is a "crank") who, with his fellows, similarly accomplished in the art of misrepresentation, calumny and abuse, where the Trade is concerned, must be met and defeated on their own ground. And we believe their defeat is not only possible, but certain if the Trade closes up its ranks and unites as one man, in the business of educating and enlightening the people of this country, upon the nature of the insidious attacks that have been so successfully engineered against the liberties, rights and independent action of the majority. It will be a long and arduous struggle, no doubt, one in which our opponents will bend every energy to the accomplishment of our undoing. But to men who fight and fight on, victory must assuredly come. And we should be preparing for that fight right away.

sojourn at the Thames Goldfield the deceased came to Auckland and obtained a position with Messrs. Robert Whitson and Sons, brewers, of Newmarket, with whom he acquired a practical knowledge of brewing. Owing to an accident Mr Mowbray was obliged to relinquish his position, and in 1868, with his father, he founded the business which has been carried on up to the present under the name of J. M. and J. Mowbray.

Deceased was one of the earliest shareholders in Auckland, having taken out his license in February, 1872, and was one of the oldest members of the Auckland Stock Exchange of which he held the office of chairman for a number of years.

Mr Mowbray was an enthusiastic volunteer, and was one of the founders of the old Auckland Scottish, in which he held the rank of captain, resigning office shortly after 1879, when he married Miss C. M. Harris, daughter of Mr John Hyde Harris, solicitor, of Dunedin. In 1892 the firm of R. Secombe and Sons, of the Great Northern Brewery, Limited, was incorporated, with Mr Mowbray as managing director, and he held this position up till his death.

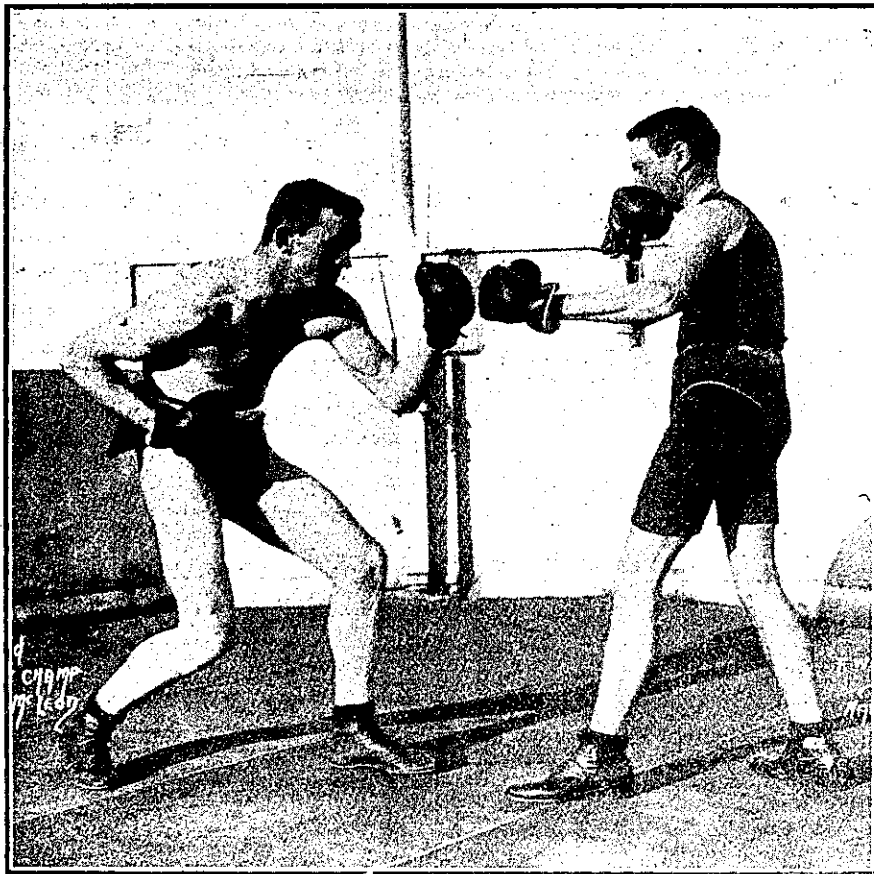
The licensed trade sustains a severe loss by Mr Mowbray's death. In business, on the one hand, he was shrewd, keen, and tactful, and yet just and broad-minded. On the other his ideas as to the methods and general conduct of the Trade were excellent, and well worthy of emulation.

Some eight years ago Mr Mowbray met with a serious accident, being thrown out of his trap in Queen-street, and sustained severe concussion, from the effects of which he never completely recovered, and the results of the accident were apparent in his last illness.

In addition to causing grief to a large circle of friends, Mr Mowbray's death will be deeply lamented by many Auckland charities, as he was never known to refuse any of the many applications that were made to him to succour the distressed.

Mr Mowbray leaves a widow and family of seven sons and three daughters to mourn their loss. His eldest sister is a resident of Liverpool, and his youngest brother, Mr S. H. Mowbray, holds a position in Sydney, while another sister, Miss Mowbray, resides in Parnell with Mr W. R. Mowbray, who has been associated with deceased for the last 30 years.

The funeral, which took place at Purewa on Friday, was very largely attended.



BILL RUDD (on left), New Zealand Heavy-weight Champion, who is to meet Jack Blackmore, of Sydney, at Hastings to-morrow (Friday) night. The other boxer is N. McLeod, Rudd's trainer and sparring partner.

while it is interesting to notice that they are prepared to go more than a step further.

THE CROWN OF HONOUR.

"The Crown of Honour" is, however, according to "The Vanguard," reserved for the year 1911, as "the scene of the most vigorous and most hopeful tussle with the liquor-trade that New Zealand has yet witnessed." In picturesque language we are told: "For the first time we are to have a straight out fight on the plain issue as to whether the liquor traffic shall or shall not continue to curse the Dominion. Every voter will go to the poll in November or December next, armed with what may be a death warrant for the entire drink-making, drink-selling and drink-importing business in this country, and if that business does not drag itself out of the year sick and nigh unto death, it will be in the teeth of all available auguries. A trade that at present exists only on a minority vote would appear to be already bankrupt in its resources for a successful fight." And so on, the diatribe ending with the assurance that "Sentence of death has clearly gone forth against it from the bar of public opinion, and the enlarged voting powers now placed in the hands of the people, will most assuredly place that sentence into execution." Brave words these, but it is the bravery of the intolerant insolence that springs from the warped and bigoted mind of a

THE LATE MR. JOHN MOWBRAY.

A PROMINENT AUCKLANDER.

General regret is felt at the death of Mr John Mowbray, head of the old-established firm of Messrs J. M. and J. Mowbray, stock and share-brokers and land and estate agents, Shortland-street, Auckland. Mr Mowbray had been in indifferent health for some two years past, and, acting upon medical advice, he took a trip to Australia a few months ago. Owing to adverse weather experienced, however, the trip did not bring the expected relief, and Mr Mowbray returned early last month, his health having benefited very little by the change. Recently he has been confined to his home in St. George's Bay road, Parnell, and for some time no hope has been held out for his recovery, the end coming on Wednesday, the 18th inst., about 5 o'clock.

The deceased was the eldest son of the late Mr John Marshall Mowbray, of Edinburgh, where he was born in 1845. He was educated at the Edinburgh Academy and at Orr's Military School, and on leaving the latter institution was articled to Mr Charles Niven, chartered accountant, though it was intended that he should follow the law as a profession. His articles were broken, however, in 1864, when his parents, with their family, came to New Zealand. After a short

TRADE TOPICS.

"Off to the Coronation?" The question is becoming common amongst members of the Trade. More than one Auckland licensee is said to be meditating a flight to "The Great Smoke," included in the number being Mr T. J. Buxton, the popular host of the Thames Hotel, Queen-street. Arrangements have, we understand, already been completed under which Mr Agnew, late of the Imperial Hotel, Auckland, takes over the management of the Thames during Mr Buxton's absence. That the latter may have a pleasant voyage Home and a right royal holiday, is the wish of his many friends. The "Gazette" wishes him "Bon Voyage," and a safe return to Queen-street.

Mr Victor Cornaga, has, we hear, purchased Mr T. J. Storey's interest in Gleeson's Hotel, Hobson-street, and takes possession on the 1st February.

There is every likelihood of a poll being taken in the Maori Council district of Tokomaru (Gisborne) at an early date to decide whether liquor is to be supplied to the natives there or not.

Summonses have been served on a number of wholesale liquor sellers trading in Auckland for alleged breaches of the amended Licensing