

peared for the Crown and Mr. H. P. Richmond for the respondent.

The original information was laid under the Shops and Offices Acts, 1908, and the Amendment Act, 1910, Mrs. Scherf being charged that being proprietress of a restaurant, to wit "Glenalvon," she did fail to keep a wages and time book, as provided by the Amendment Act 1910. The facts were agreed on, and one point which meant the root of the whole case, was that meals were not supplied to any persons but lodgers or lodgers' guests. This case was brought as a test case, in order to ascertain whether establishments such as "Glenalvon" came within the scope of the above mentioned Acts. Mr. Frazer decided that on the facts "Glenalvon" did not come within such definition, and dismissed the information.

Mr. Mays, in opening the case, stated that the object of the appeal was to obtain a Supreme Court judgment upon the point involved, for the guidance of the Department in administering the Act. The chief argument he would rely upon was that if "Glenalvon" and similar institutions were not within the scope of the Amendment Act, then a very large number of employees in these institutions throughout the Dominion would be shut out from all its benefits, while a similar number of employees doing precisely the same work in the licensed hotels and restaurants would get the protection of the better conditions provided for by law. In other words, it could not have been the intention of the law that a housemaid, say, at the Grand Hotel, should have her hours of work limited and duly recorded in a time book, whilst a housemaid at "Glenalvon" doing similar work should be outside the Act.

His Honour, without calling upon Mr. Richmond for the respondent, said that whatever the policy of the Act might be, he was bound by the plain meaning of the words in Sub-section 2, and to his mind the words "general public" meant "general public," and he knew that if a person from off the street, not a lodger, came to "Glenalvon" and asked to be supplied with a meal, that person would not be supplied, and unless such persons were supplied, the establishment did not come within the meaning of the word "restaurant," as defined by the Act. His Honour referred to the fact that at higher class boarding houses only the better class of persons were received, that was, people who could afford to pay more. "Imagine a man off the wharf going into 'Glenalvon' or any such boardinghouse," remarked his Honour facetiously, "and saying, 'well, missus, I want dinner.' If that state of things prevailed, the Hon. Mr. Bryce or some high Duke, for instance, might be sitting alongside a man from the wharf, or the Chief Justice might have a wharf labourer on one side and a coal lumper on the other." Continuing, his Honour said that Mr. Mays had taken the argument for the appellant as far as it could be taken, but the position could not be altered, and the appeal would therefore be dismissed.

**A REMARKABLE YEAR.**

At the fifteenth annual general meeting of Bovril, Limited, the Earl of Erroll, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that the large sales that marked the close of the year 1910 had continued throughout the whole of the past twelve months. This favourable result must be in a large measure attributed to the striking scientific confirmation of the food value of Bovril disclosed by the systematic feeding experiments made with it by that eminent scientist, Professor W. H. Thompson, in conjunction with two other well-known physiologists. Dealing with the accounts, the chairman said that the gross profit on trading amounted to £343,455, being some £47,000 more than the previous year, and constituted a record in their history. The balance of profit and loss account showed £160,314 8s 9d. This would enable them, after paying an increased dividend on the deferred shares, to place £22,500 to reserve account, which would then amount to £212,500. Sir James Crichton Browne, in seconding the resolution, stated that it was not upon medical authority in the ordinary sense—that is to say, on the opinion of medical men who had tried it—that Bovril now rested its claim to consideration, but upon the far firmer basis of exact scientific experiment. The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

**HERE AND THERE.**

At Waihi last week the firm of Innes and Company, brewers and bottlers, of Hamilton, were charged with having brewed hop beer over the standard strength in alcoholic contents provided for by the Act (three per cent.). C. Innes entered a plea of guilty, and explained that the beverage was only decimal eight over the standard, and that no little difficulty was experienced in keeping to the exact proportion of alcohol. The magistrate pointed out that it was possible to keep below the standard by not working too close up to it. He inflicted a fine of £10 with costs.

It is wonderful what a large number of "gentlemen" appear at the Magistrate's Court and what a large number of similarly aristocratic friends they have (says the "Lyttelton Times"). "We were not the gentlemen who created the disturbance," said two men in the dock charged with assault. "It was another gentleman who was very drunk. We can call two gentlemen to support the contention." The witnesses said that one of the gentlemen had hit the other on the jaw—doubtless an evidence of the fondness of the British aristocracy for manly sports.

At the annual meeting of the Kaipara Licensing Committee, held at Dargaville, transfers of licenses were granted from P. J. Langley, Helensville Hotel, to H. E. Cooksey, and from E. J. R. Smith, Terminus Hotel, to Arch. Bishop. Licenses were issued to E. M. Leyvon, Kaukapapa Hotel; Louis Armitage, Mangawhare Hotel; and W. R. Betts, To-

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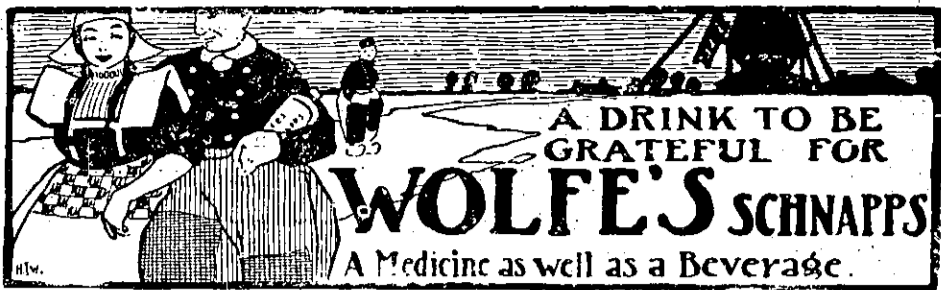
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