

staff, no capital, no set ideas except a fixed resolution to improve the methods of retailing liquor. Yet it sold liquor over the bar on the first day required by the law. To do this it bought the Brown Owl restaurant in the heart of the city, built two temporary premises, the Kelvin and the Clyde, near the centre of the city, and bought in one of the suburbs the small two-story Appleby Hotel, which had had a licence thirty-eight years before. The Appleby cost £2,636, the Kelvin and the Clyde £6,000 each, and the Brown Owl (including Elmwood, a garden-enclosed dance-hall in one of the suburbs) £20,000.

Later the Trust bought a bulk store in Tyne Street for £6,000, the four-story

The Trust will thus be able ultimately to serve the city and all the suburbs. Although this beginning has been made, little has so far been done with building or alterations. Wartime restrictions have not allowed it. As the Chairman says: "The Trust has so far been able to provide only hotels of which it is not proud." It will be several years before it can provide the facilities at which it aims, particularly since the members consider that housing needs ought to be met first. However, authority has been given to spend £20,000 on alterations to the Grand Hotel.

The first result of restoration has been to make liquor rather easier to obtain. There is now no need to wait for delivery,



building in which the Brown Owl is housed for £43,750, Lind and Twyneham's building next door for £12,000, the Grand Hotel for £43,000, plus another £12,000 for the freehold, Deschler's Hotel for £12,000, the Hotel Cecil for £18,000, and a large private residence adjoining Elmwood, now called Hotel Avenal, for £5,000. Another property in South Invercargill cost £16,000, two sections in North Invercargill have been bought for £1,800, and a section in a close suburb of the city in Gala Street for £2,390 (the price includes two houses), while a section at Rugby Park near the large sports ground is to be taken over at an estimated price of £1,475.

to make a journey by taxi, train, or bus, to buy in 2-gallon lots, or to belong to a club. A few bottles can be bought and taken home should an unexpected visitor arrive. And visitors to the city can get a drink when they want it.

So much can be said for any licensed town. Similarly, the service of drinks in the Kelvin and the Clyde, in the Appleby, and in the lounge of the Grand Hotel is no different. The Grand Hotel lounge is not large enough, nor is it properly adapted for the purpose, but the service is efficient. The Clyde, the Kelvin, and the Appleby are not impressive either inside or out, but they are only temporary premises. In the early months of restora-