

expended or distributed by the Trust within the Southland Land District in such manner as the Trust thinks fit for the promotion of education, science, literature, art, physical welfare, and other cultural and recreational purposes; for the erection, laying out, maintenance, or repair of buildings or places intended to further any of those purposes; for any philanthropic purposes, or for any other purposes for the benefit of the Southland Land District or the residents therein as the Minister of Justice may approve.

133. By section 37 of the Statutes Amendment Act, 1944, the Trust was enabled to sell intoxicating liquor for consumption on the premises in any premises maintained by the Trust as a dining-room or refreshment-room and in which accommodation is not provided for the travelling public. In such case the dining-room or refreshment-room is not deemed to be a public bar or private bar within the meaning of the Licensing Act, but it is provided that no female or person under the age of twenty-one years shall be employed in the serving of liquor therein.

134. Part III of the Licensing Act, 1908, does not apply in the Invercargill Licensing District. There is therefore no Licensing Committee. The powers of inspection and of law enforcement are in the hands of the police. We deal at a later stage with the operations of the Invercargill Licensing Trust.

PART IV.—DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRADE UNDER NEW ZEALAND LEGISLATION

CHAPTER 9.—CONDITIONS OF THE TRADE, 1881 TO 1902, AND THE REPORT OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE OF 1902

135. In order to understand some of the problems involved in the liquor trade to-day it is desirable to look at the nature of its development. For many years there have been special features in the control of the trade in New Zealand, such as the practical limitation in the number of licenses; the electoral power of the public, exercisable usually every three years to reduce or abolish licenses; the nation-wide agitation to secure either no-license or prohibition; and the nation-wide opposition to that agitation. These methods of control have been exercised while the population and the wealth of the country have been increasing. On two occasions conditions have arisen under these methods of control which have been investigated by parliamentary Committees, the first by a Committee of the Legislative Council in 1902 (1902, L.C. 2), and the second by a Committee of the House of Representatives in 1922 (1922, I.—14). We think it desirable to review briefly the events leading up to these Committees of Inquiry and to refer to their reports in order to ascertain what were the problems which emerged and to note, at a later stage, whether they have continued.

136. The Licensing Act of 1881 began the policy of preventing the issue of new licenses in any licensing district without the sanction of the electors of that district. Between 1881 and 1893 no new publican's, accommodation, New Zealand wine, or bottle licenses could be created in the small licensing districts then existing without a poll of the ratepayers. The Alcoholic Liquors Sale Control Act, 1893, provided that the electoral districts should constitute the ordinary licensing districts. It also provided that no new publican's, accommodation or bottle licenses then in force should be renewed until the electors had determined whether the present number should continue or be reduced, or whether there should be no licenses. A power to vote for restoration was given. These provisions must have tended to increase the value of licenses that remained after a vote for reduction. The Alcoholic Liquors Sale Control Act Amendment Act of 1895 purported to extend the poll to all licenses existing in a district, but wholesale licenses were subsequently held not to be included (para. 942, *infra*). The power to vote for restoration was retained, but bottle licenses were not to be renewed in any event after June, 1896. This provision must again have tended to increase the value of the licenses which remained in existence.