

WAS THE PORTSMOUTH BEER OVER STRENGTH

When It Left the Brewery? — Question for Magistrates to Decide.

Smith's Falls News-Record. Judgment was reserved until Monday next, February 15th, in the case of the King versus the Lake Ontario Brewing Company Limited charged with unlawfully selling liquor to the three local hotels over a period of about three months. A mass of evidence, pro and con, touching every phase of the case, was heard before Police Magistrates B. E. Sparham and J. T. Kirkland of Almonte, travelling magistrate for the county of Lanark, at a lengthy session of police court on Friday morning and afternoon. Interest in the case was so great that the court was held in the town hall which contained one of the largest crowds ever in attendance at a local court case.

The charge preferred against the brewery was the result of a test of the beer that was being sold in the Rideau, Russell and Palliser hotels in December and January. Liquor Inspector Moss of the provincial police force seized a large quantity of the liquor, contained in barrels, from each hotel. Fifty-one samples were taken and sent to Toronto for analysis. There it was found that all, with the exception of two, were over-strength, exceeding 4.4 per cent. of alcoholic content in some cases by nearly double the prescribed limit. The fifty-one bottles containing the samples occupied the centre of the stage in the town hall and made an imposing array.

Mr. C. H. McKimm, county crown attorney, conducted the prosecution while Mr. James Haverson of Toronto and Mr. Wilson McCue of town acted for the defendants.

The witnesses included Inspector Moss; Dr. McGregor of Carleton Place, Liquor Inspector for South Lanark, who corroborated Mr. Moss' evidence in regard to the taking of samples; Mr. Charles O'Reilly, proprietor of the Rideau hotel; Mr. W. E. Earle, proprietor of the Russell Hotel; Mr. M. Balfe, proprietor of the Palliser Hotel; Mr. John G. Broomfield, superintendent of the Lake Ontario Brewing Company's plant at Portsmouth; Dr. Leo Goodwin, Professor of Chemical Engineering, Queen's University, Kingston; Mr. Dan McCann, clerk in the Rideau hotel; Mr. J. C. Brown, brewer of Valleyfield, Que.; Mr. Archie Hayes, shipper in the brewery's Portsmouth plant and Mr. Morley, provincial analyst of Toronto.

That the confiscated beer was overstrength when sold to the public was established in the evidence but that the liquor may have greatly increased in strength after it left the brewery was also shown in the expert evidence of Dr. Goodwin and Mr. Brown. The difficult question that the magistrates have to decide is "Was the beer overstrength when it left the plant or did its alcoholic content increase while it was stored in the warm cellars of the three hotels?" If the decision reached is that the beer was stronger than 4.4 per cent. when it left the brewery the company is liable to a fine of \$5,000. If the decision is made that the liquor became overstrength as a result of "aging" in the wooden barrels, the brewery cannot be held responsible.

According to Mr. Broomfield, the beer was about 4.2 per cent. when it left the brewery. Evidence was given to the effect that the liquor, if stored in a warm room, would continue to ferment and would greatly increase in strength. Thus the magistrates must determine whether the circumstances in this case were such that the process of fermentation might have continued after the shipment left the brewery at Portsmouth.

The analyst's report gave the alcoholic content of the fifty-one samples by volume and consequently a number of persons in the court room were under the impression that practically all were of legal strength. But beer that is 4.4 per cent. proof spirits, is only about 2.50 per cent. by volume. Thus the strongest beer in the samples examined by the analyst, about 4.45 per cent. by volume, would equal nearly 8 per cent. proof spirits. This beer was sold in quantities in the three local hotels for some time, but the proprietors claimed that they were not aware of this increase. They paid for the beer at the usual price of 4.4 and did not realize that it contained an illegal percentage of alcohol until Inspector Moss informed them that such was the case.

Considerable interest attaches to the case as the result may influence the judgment in future cases of the same nature.

LETTERS To The Editor Of The Whig

SOLDIER SETTLEMENT.

Sir: This is a copy of a paper that is being circulated all over the Dominion where there are soldier settlers. The intention is to have them signed by soldier settlers and all those interested in the welfare of the scheme and the signed copies sent to the parliamentary representative of the constituency in which they are signed. If you would publish a copy of this paper in your valuable periodical, it would be much appreciated. All soldier settlers desiring information might apply to me.

H. MEERES, A Soldier Settler. Condor, Alta., Feb. 6.

Re-Valuation of Soldier Settlers' Lands.

We, the undersigned, are of the opinion that if the government would act on the suggestion of General Earl Haig and cut the Soldier Settlers' debts in half, it would be of advantage to Canada as a whole and tend to make the scheme at least a partial success. In forming this opinion we realize that if this is carried out it will add an apparent increased burden on the taxpayers of our country. But this burden is more apparent than real. This scheme has already proved an enormous burden, and with every settler that throws up his land this burden is increased in every school district and municipality for the following reasons: The land reverts to the government and becomes non-taxable. In many school districts two, three, four and more quarters have been abandoned and the other taxpayers in that district have to assume the taxes that should be carried by that land. The same thing applies, only to a great deal larger extent, in many municipalities. And the worst of it is, these cases are on the increase. Soldier Settlers are throwing up their land in all directions and hundreds more contemplate doing so rather than continue carrying a burden of debt that it appears impossible to get from under.

We realize that Soldier Settlers throwing up their land is a very serious menace to any immigration policy, and are of the opinion that if we had a contented, fairly prosperous rural population, the immigration problem would be a large extent solve itself. We are also of the opinion that the Soldier Settler scheme as at present carried out can never wipe out the tremendous debt incurred by the government in putting the scheme in operation owing to the large overhead, and doubt whether the collections at present cover more than operating expenses. We believe that if the debts were cut in two, a very small percentage of Soldier Settlers would abandon their places, as they would realize that if unable to carry on through physical disability or other causes, it would be possible to get a buyer able to pay off all their indebtedness and perhaps leave them with a small margin. We would suggest that the staff be cut down to one collecting agency in each Province and that the term of years for repayment be the same as at present.

In conclusion, we would once more beg to draw your attention that when the Soldier Settlers bought land, stock and implements were at the peak of prices and that they have gone through a number of lean years since. In taking this action we are not in any way criticising the government. We know they were sincere in trying to re-establish their soldiers; the scheme looked good to us as well as them, but conditions and circumstances have proved to us that we assumed obligations impossible to fulfil.

EVANGELIST CHAPMAN

Says Millennium Closing Period of God's Great Work. "The day dreams of those who are predicting that the nations of this world are soon to be converted to Christ, and that mankind is about to be ushered into the millennium of peace, will never be realized. Instead, the nations are to be broken to pieces, become as chaff of the summer floor, blown away and replaced by the everlasting kingdom of Christ," said Evangelist Chapman, in his sermon last night, at the New Church on Alfred street. "The millennium is the closing period of God's great work of time—a great Sabbath of rest to the earth and to the people of God. It follows the close of the gospel age, and precedes the setting up of the everlasting kingdom of God on earth. It comprehends what in the scriptures is frequently spoken of as 'the day of the Lord.' It is bounded at each end by a resurrection. Its beginning is marked by the pouring out of the seven last plagues, the second coming of Christ, the resurrection of the righteous dead, the binding of Satan, and the translation of the saints to heaven, and its close, by the descent of the new Jerusalem, with Christ and the saints, from heaven, the resurrection of the wicked dead, the loosing of Satan, and the final destruction of the wicked."

Mrs. M. Hudson, Ottawa, aged seventy-five years, died in Ottawa and buried at Pembroke, where she formerly lived. Robert Fraser, Pembroke, aged ninety years, was buried this week. He was born at that town. Test of blood pressure: Sitting indoors to avoid the rain at a winter resort. "Less corn may be fed to hogs." Unhappily, this doesn't refer to road hogs.

PROBS:—Friday, fair, stationary or a little higher temperature.

FRIDAY AT STEACY'S

Friday is always a busy day at Kingston's Shopping Centre, as we always have some very attractive offerings, that not only appeal to the shopping public for their lowness of price, but because of the assurance that quality predominates in every purchase made here.

SHOP EARLY — SAVE 15%

Treble Discount Stamps!

—From 9 to 1 O'clock

Take advantage of this special sale feature to-morrow, in all departments.



Colored Flock and Sport Voiles

Regular 50c. yard

Friday

39c yd.

1,000 yards American Flock and Spot Voiles, Colored ground with permanent White Spots and Spotted Flock patterns.

The colors include Orchid, Honey-dew, Powder Blue, Princess Mary Blue, Tangier, Jade, Bois-de-Rose, Mountain-Haze, Amber and Black.

Full 40 inches wide.

As this fabric is to be one of Summer's smartest, this should prove a wonderful opportunity for planning ahead—at a considerable saving.

SEE WINDOW DISPLAY TO-NIGHT!

STEACY'S - Limited

For Young or Old Dr. Hickey's Speedy Relief Quickly banishes the troublesome cold or cough. 25c. and 50c.

L. T. Best PRESCRIPTION DRUGGIST Phone 55.

THE NATIONAL CLEANERS AND DYERS Sanitary Steam Pressing and Steam Cleaning. Also French Dry Cleaning, Repairs and Alterations. Corner Bisset and William Streets. Phone 2106. J. F. WALKER, Prop.

Next to Actual Cash or Bonds

DIAMONDS

Form the best collateral of all merchandise.

We buy practically all our DIAMONDS unset and in this way obtain both unsurpassed quality and value.

SMITH BROS. JEWELERS LIMITED King St. Kingston

FOR SALE Bateman's Real Estate

DETACHED BRICK DWELLING — 7 rooms, B. and T., electric and gas, H. W. floors, hot air; garden; central.

\$2,000—Frame, 4 rooms, B. and T., electric light.

\$3,000—Frame, 7 rooms, 3 p. bath, electric light and furnace.

\$4,000—Brick, semi-detached, 8 rooms, 3 p. bath, electric light and gas, deep lot and garage.

\$7,500—Brick, all modern, central.

MONEY TO LOAN. CUSTOMS BROKER. ALL KINDS OF INSURANCE. 112 1/2 BROCK ST., KINGSTON

Ship by Truck

Via The HIGHWAY TRANSPORT SERVICE

Daily Service To Napanee, Deseronto, Belleville, Trenton, Brighton, Coborne, Cobourg, Oshawa and Toronto

Truck Leaves Kingston Every Day

Toronto Office: 518 Victoria Lane Kingston Phone Ring 2723 for information.

PIONEERING AGAIN

Financial Post, Toronto.

J. H. Black, former railroader, power engineer, insurance manager, pulp and paper operator, has again shown his versatility and blossomed out as the promoter of a \$15,000,000 paper plant, power development and railway development. Thus he combines in the one operation the experience of three of his former berths.

Mr. Black has always been known as a fast worker, but he seems to have excelled himself on this occasion. On Friday morning last he signed his contract with the Ontario Government agreeing to spend a minimum of \$12,000,000. He will likely spend twenty—and Friday the contractors started on the construction of the railway, the first essential. Then will come the power and later the paper plant in units.

J. H. Black is well known as a Northern Ontario pioneer. His first claim to fame in the north was as general superintendent of the T. and N. O. railway. Then came the power development of the Fasken interests, who had entered the north in a big way through Nipissing and other mines. They wanted a man to handle their affairs and picked on Mr. Black. He was general manager of the Northern Ontario Light, Heat and Power. Later general manager of Northern Canada Power and later moved to Toronto, retaining the general management of the Northern Canada until it was disposed of last March and also assuming the post of managing director of the Excelsior Life.

His next move was into the pulp and paper business assuming the post of president of the Great Lakes Paper Co. This resulted in the report that Mr. Black had gone over to the Backus interests. The Great Lakes Co. was controlled by Alshred and Seaman, of Wisconsin, and Mr. Backus had a minority interest. The Backus people are in no way interested in his latest venture which is going to take up his time for a few years at least.

Mr. Black was formerly on the Kingston and Pembroke R.R. and was agent at Sharbot Lake. Later he was the railway company's auditor in Kingston.

Die Very Suddenly. Cobourg, Feb. 11.—Mrs. John Forster and her father-in-law died suddenly yesterday within half an hour of each other.

Your Wife Wants Modern Equipment

When she is working about the house, she finds it would be a great convenience to her if she had a White Enamel Sink and Laundry Tub combined in the kitchen or a set of Laundry Tubs in the basement. Let us show you this equipment.

See the Pussy Foot Silent Closet Tank. It will save you lots of anxious moments when you have company in the house.

McKelvey & Birch Limited