

434. Would any one be serving in the bar at 6 o'clock in the morning besides yourself?—Yes, Mr. Stewart would be there.

435. Were no proceedings taken against this house while you were barman?—They had one indorsement, and were fined £10.

436. Was that for Sunday trading?—Yes.

437. Were you a witness in that case?—No.

438. You were not called?—No.

439. Who was watching on the outside on that day?—I was at the gate watching.

440. Did the police get inside then while the private persons were inside?—No; there were no police in at all. The conviction came about through a £5 note having been stolen in a brothel and cashed in the bar on Sunday night. This came out in a Court case.

441. Of course you knew you were a party to breaking the law on the Sunday?—Well, I did not know that, although I thought I was.

442. Did you know that serving drink during Sunday was a breach of the Licensing Act?—I did not serve on Sunday.

443. *The Chairman.*] What did you go in on Sunday for?—I went in after them and locked the door, and let them out again when they had their drinks. Mr. and Mrs. Collier served them.

444. *Mr. Tunbridge.*] You say you did not know it was an offence for people who were not *bond fide* lodgers to go in and get drink on Sunday?—I knew that was.

445. Were you not then assisting the landlord in breaking the law by acquainting him immediately the police came in sight?—Yes, I was helping to break the law right enough.

446. On the Sunday you were not watching, what were you doing?—I was either out, or in bed asleep.

447. Did you never serve in the bar yourself on Sundays?—No.

448. Then you will admit your action at that time certainly was very questionable?—Yes, but I was paid for it. If I did not do that it meant the sack for me.

449. You also gave the landlord the benefit of your experience, and told him where to fit the electric bell?—Yes.

450. You gave him that experience honestly?—Yes.

451. And you thought the place where you recommended the bell to be fitted to be the best place?—Yes.

452. When did you first make any statement in reference to this?—I do not remember.

453. Can you tell us about the time?—Everybody knew of it.

454. You did, more than everybody; you knew where the electric bells were. When did you first make any statement with reference to what was going on, more particularly about the bells; when did you tell Mr. Taylor?—I told Mr. Taylor when he came to Wellington.

455. When was that?—Last session.

456. Then the first time you made any statement to Mr. Taylor, or as far as you know to any other person who might have told Mr. Taylor, was some time during last session?—Yes.

457. Can you say the early part of the session, or sooner than that?—No.

458. I suppose you were not very kindly disposed towards the Colliers after the way you left?—They treated me right enough, except in regard to that watch affair. I did not like that. I always got on well with them.

459. Were you in any way put out at being compelled to leave at a moment's notice? I was going to leave, because the work and me did not agree.

460. Are you a teetotaller?—Yes; and have been nearly all my life. But you could not call me a teetotaller when I worked in a hotel.

461. You did not drink yourself, although engaged in dispensing drink?—No.

462. Was it not a fact that you were induced first to make these statements to Mr. Taylor in consequence of his speech made in the House?—I thought I would like to help him. He was battling all by himself, and I thought I would like to give him a hand.

463. Then your statement to Mr. Taylor was the outcome of Mr. Taylor's statement in the House?—Yes.

464. You say the house was visited by a good many private people on Sunday?—Yes.

465. From what time in the morning would that be?—Commencing about 9 o'clock.

466. And continuing till when?—Up till 10 o'clock on Sunday night.

467. You said that when police were about to enter the house private persons were always got out of the way?—Yes.

468. Then the police on entering would not see any evidence of Sunday trading?—No.

469. The police who visited the house would invariably, I believe, consist of a sergeant and constable?—Yes; that is, when they came round visiting. We generally used to find out beforehand when they would come round.

470. By use of the telephone?—Sometimes, and sometimes we used to get it from the constable himself.

471. How did you get it by telephone?—One hotelkeeper would telephone to another.

472. What constable do you mean: the man who was coming round with the sergeant?—No, the constable on the beat. We just used to try and find out when the sergeant was coming. Some sergeants are stricter than others.

473. You found out from the constable on the beat when the sergeant was going to visit?—Yes.

474. Do you suggest that the sergeant and constable who came visiting to this house would be treated with drink?—No.

475. You did not mean your statement to apply to all police entering the house?—No, not to sergeants. If the constables acted the same as the sergeants there would be no trouble at all.