

past stocked only two or three brands of New Zealand wine. If more brands and larger quantities were stocked in the future, the New Zealand winemaker's license might possibly compete with the publican's license in a retail way, but at the present time it does not do so to any material extent.

AUTHORITIES FOR THE ISSUE OF LICENSES

48. Though the businesses conducted under these various licenses may operate in competition with one another in the manner we have indicated, the licenses are granted by separate authorities as follows :—

(1) *The Minister of Customs.*—This Minister alone may grant the brewer's license for manufacture and sale, which gives such a wide scope to a brewery for its sales.

(2) *The Minister of Internal Affairs.*—This Minister alone may issue a charter for a club.

(3) *Stipendiary Magistrate.*—Only a Stipendiary Magistrate may grant a wine-maker's license.

(4) *The Licensing Committee for each District.*—Only the Licensing Committee may grant a publican's license, an accommodation license, or a New Zealand wine license within the area of its district. Either the Licensing Committee for a district, or the Chairman and any two members thereof, may grant a packet or a wholesale license within that district. The Chairman of a Licensing Committee for a district and any two members may at any time grant a conditional license within that district.

49. This is a miscellaneous group of licensing authorities. None of them is likely, we think, to visualize the whole system of licensing control over the whole country when granting an individual license.

LIMITATIONS UPON THE GRANT OF NEW LICENSES

50. From 1842 to 1880 there was no legal limitation upon the number of licenses of any description which might be granted in any district. There is to-day no legal prohibition against an increase in the number of *packet, conditional, or winemakers' licenses*, or *hop-beer manufacturing* licenses; nor is there in operation any practical policy of refusing all applications for these licenses.

51. The present position concerning the other licenses is as follows :—

52. *Distillation Licenses.*—As already explained (para. 27), there is no legal prohibition upon the issue of a license under section 4 of the Distillation Act, 1908, but in 1874 a practical restriction upon the profitable operation of such a license was imposed, and the two distilleries were closed. Since that year it has been the policy of the Government to refuse to issue any license under section 4.

53. *Brewers' Licenses.*—There is no legal bar to the grant of a new brewer's license, but as a matter of Government policy all applications for new brewery licenses have been declined by successive Ministers of Customs since 1932.

54. *Publican's Licenses, Accommodation Licenses, New Zealand Wine Licenses, and Wholesale licenses.*—No new license of any of these four kinds may be granted, except—

(i) When a license of the description applied for has been forfeited or has not been renewed or has otherwise ceased to exist. In the case of a publican's license, an accommodation license, or a New Zealand wine license no new license may be granted in respect of premises situate more than half a mile from the premises covered by the expired license if such premises are in a borough or more than one mile if they are in a county: section 30 of the Licensing Amendment Act, 1910.