

national licensing polls and show the percentage of each vote to the total vote. The figures are given in a book on New Zealand statistics put in evidence by the New Zealand Alliance and there stated to be extracted from the *N.Z. Gazette*.

Date of Poll.				Continuance.	Prohibition.	Valid Votes.
7th December, 1911	..	..	..	205,661 44·17%	259,943 55·82%	465,604 ..
10th December, 1914	..	..	..	257,442 51·01%	247,217 48·98%	504,659 ..

Date of Poll.				Continuance.	Prohibition with Compensation.	Valid Votes.
10th April, 1919—						
In New Zealand ..	..	..	..	232,208 31,981	246,104 7,723	478,312 39,704
Expeditionary Force ..	..	..	..	264,189 51·00%	253,827 48·99%	518,016 ..

Date of Poll.				Continuance.	State Purchase and Control.	Prohibition.	Valid Votes.
17th December, 1919—							
In New Zealand ..	..	..	..	240,364	31,682	269,972	542,018
Expeditionary Force ..	..	..	..	887	579	278	1,744
				241,251 44·36%	32,261 5·93%	270,250 49·70%	543,762 ..
7th December, 1922..	..	..	..	282,669 45·65%	35,727 5·76%	300,791 48·57%	619,187 ..
4th November, 1925	..	..	..	299,590 44·37%	56,037 8·30%	319,450 47·32%	675,077 ..
14th November, 1928	..	..	..	374,502 51·07%	64,276 8·77%	294,453 40·16%	
27th November, 1935	..	..	..	521,167 63·42%	57,499 7·00%	243,091 29·58%	
15th October, 1938 ..	..	..	..	546,995 60·35%	96,131 10·61%	263,208 29·04%	
25th September, 1943	..	..	..	529,386 57·36%	123,701 13·41%	269,800 29·23%	

596. As State purchase and control represents a vote for the continuance of the sale of liquor and also payment for assets, we think that, in estimating the probability of prohibition being carried, we may have regard only to the percentage of the prohibition vote. The table shows that this vote fell slowly from 49·70 per cent. in December, 1919, to 47·32 per cent. in November, 1925. There was then a drop to 40·16 per cent. in November, 1928. At the next poll, in November, 1935, there was a steep fall to 29·58 per cent., at which the vote has remained fairly constant.

597. The total vote for continuance and State purchase and control in November, 1928, was almost 60 per cent., while the vote for prohibition was about 40 per cent. We think it reasonably plain that after the poll of November, 1928, men of business in the