

trade, looking at these figures, would have come to the conclusion that prohibition either with or without compensation was not a reasonable probability for a long time to come. This is shown by these facts—

(a) That immediately after that poll Hancock and Co. took over the Hotel Auckland (through a separate company, Hotel Auckland, Ltd.) (R. 3779);

(b) That Dominion Breweries was formed in April, 1930;

(c) That Hancock and Co. built the Station Hotel at Auckland during 1931; and

(d) That the big brewery companies began their purchasing of hotels in 1933. All these expansions occurred before the poll of 1935.

598. In further proof of the fact that the brewery and hotel companies did not fear prohibition from 1929 onwards, and also in justice to the improvements which these companies made, we refer to the amounts expended by some of the largest companies on new buildings and on substantial improvements since 1929 so far as they are disclosed by the statements submitted to us.

599. Hancock and Co. submitted the following statement of capital expenditure for the period of fifteen years ending in 1944 :—

—		—		New Buildings and Additions.	Hotels purchased.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1929	..	Ye Jolly Farmer Inn	.. ..	7,185 1 5	.. ..
1931-32	..	The Station Hotel	.. ..	63,069 18 11	.. ..
		Waiotapu Hotel	.. ..	396 12 9	675 0 0*
		Duke of Marlborough—	£ s. d.		
1932	..	Building	 7,753 13 1		
1941-42	..	Additions	 1,369 6 3		
				9,122 19 4	
1933	..	Albion Hotel	.. ..	.. ..	7,839 1 6
		City Hotel	.. ..	.. ..	6,083 1 6
		Gleeson's Hotel	.. ..	.. ..	3,339 1 9
		Windsor Castle Hotel	.. ..	.. ..	6,931 16 0
1939	..	"	.. ..	145 0 0	.. ..
1934	..	Lake House Hotel	.. ..	1,002 10 3	1,480 6 2
		Whangarei Hotel—	£ s. d.		
1935	..	Additions	 1,856 13 7		
1939	..	Purchase—			
		Bedrooms	 4,687 16 0		
		Additions	 236 8 4		
				6,780 17 11	
1935	..	Empire Hotel	.. ..	.. ..	10,152 12 0
1937-38	..	"	.. ..	402 2 11	.. ..
1935-36	..	Carlton Club Hotel	.. ..	741 10 0	.. ..
1938	..	Commercial Hotel, Whangarei	.. ..	245 0 0	45,627 4 0
1935-37-43	..	Kaitia Hotel	.. ..	4,973 10 0	.. ..
1936	..	Commercial Hotel, Te Awamutu	.. ..	.. ..	18,589 16 0
1937-39	..	"	.. ..	40,354 13 7	.. ..
1937	..	Waverley Hotel	.. ..	84,481 6 5	.. ..
1937	..	Kaikohe Hotel	.. ..	.. ..	25,369 17 0
1938	..	"	.. ..	6,892 0 3	.. ..
1937	..	Hobson Hotel	.. ..	.. ..	6,661 2 6
1938	..	Hotel Cargen	.. ..	.. ..	33,787 16 6
		Royal Mail Hotel, Paeroa	.. ..	.. ..	2,559 7 11†
		Whakatane Hotel	.. ..	32,848 6 9	.. ..
1940	..	Grand Hotel, Rotorua	.. ..	.. ..	2,349 15 3‡
		Palace Hotel, Rotorua	.. ..	.. ..	1,436 5 0‡
1941	..	Ambassadors Hotel	.. ..	500 0 0	.. ..
1943	..	Rob Roy Hotel	.. ..	552 17 11	.. ..
				259,694 8 5	172,874 3 1

* Half purchase.

† One-fifth interest.

‡ Freeholding.