



Ballarat Hotels
Past and Present

compiled by

John Hargreaves

INTRODUCTION

In 1930 I prepared a list of Public-houses, commonly referred to as Hotels, that had traded, within a radius of four miles from the Ballarat West Post Office, during the days of my recollection which carried back to the mid-eighties of last century.

That inventory, with all its imperfections and shortcomings, recalled the names and locations of some 285 Hotel premises. Many had long since closed their doors, either by adversity of trade, or by decision of the Local Option Courts, or by determination of the Licensing Reduction Board, to have reduced the existing number to that of 67.

Some few years later, upon formation of the Historical Society, an ambitious plan presented itself to extend research amongst the ancient newspapers, directories, and advertising publications, in order that a comprehensive work of Hotel History might be placed in the Society's Museum for public information.

Probably no legislation placed upon the Statutes Book of Victoria has been subject to greater amendment, from time to time, than the Licensing Act governing the control and disposal of intoxicating liquors. The complications, arising from the continuously changing procedure of the Licensing Courts with regard to the transfer and granting of publicans' licenses, in no manner lessened the many difficulties that confronted the undertaking.

Failure, also, to discover the files of the early newspapers, published prior to 1856, was a regrettable incident within the ambit of investigation. But, apart from that reservation, the work forms a complete register of the old-time public-houses that served the community in the days of the gold Diggings, and of those which, in later years, rendered service in the social and commercial life of Ballarat.

The information compiled in this History was obtained from the undermentioned sources:

The Ballarat "Times", the "Star", the "Weekly Miner and Star", the "Sun", the "Courier", the "Evening Post", the "Sporting World"; the Directories issued by Morgan (1857), Huxtable (1858), Britchnell (1862), Dickers (1865), Curtis (1869), Niven (1870 & 1882), Vallins (1888), Webb (1894), Witton (1895), Jones (1904); the Histories of Ballarat (Withers 1870 and 1887); the Memoirs by D'Ewes (1856), Gay (1935); the Registers of City Council for 1870, the Licensing Reduction Board for 1942; and the Australian Temperance Year Book (1942).

To the many friends who assisted me in my labours I extend my grateful and appreciative thanks.

John Hargreaves.

January 1943.

*a great citizen & since his passing
no one has been capable to take over his
activities
His remains rest in the old cemetery
alongside the northern
fence to east post
entrance gate*

THE STORY OF LIQUOR CONTROL AND REDUCTION OF LICENSES

Sly Grog Traffic

Upon the discovery of gold in 1851, the Lieut-Governor, Charles Joseph Latrobe, issued a proclamation, by which no license to sell alcoholic liquors would be granted on the mining fields in the new Colony of Victoria.

This gave rise to an illicit form of trading known as "sly-grog selling" a practice that abounded on every digging field.

Liquor of doubtful quality, free from supervision, was obtainable in tents, commonly called "Sly-grog Shanties", and supplies of the prohibited commodity could be purchased, under varied pretexts, at most general stores.

Notwithstanding the severe penalty, a fine of £50 being imposed for the first conviction and twelve months' imprisonment for the second offence, the clandestine traffic was carried on to a great extent on the Ballarat diggings, where, it was stated, that liquor could be procured in over 700 establishments.

This unlawful and uncontrolled traffic, driven underground, led to the undoing of many diggers who, partaking of fiery draughts composed of spirits of wine mixed with opium, cayenne, saltpetre, and other thirst creating ingredients, were robbed of their hard earned gold their health impaired their morals debased.

The First Licenses

To overcome this deplorable state of affairs, the Government in 1853 decided that a license to sell liquor may be conceded to an approved premises, provided it was situated not less than one mile from mining territory.

Thus, on the 1st July in that year, Thomas Bath was granted a license for the premises registered as the Ballarat Hotel — now Craig's Royal. A few months later, the George Inn, now the George Hotel, was opened by George Howe and Francis Herring, two early comers to the first gold-rush on Golden Point in 'fifty-one.

Early in the following year, the Unicorn was built by Charles Vaughan; William Surplice erected the Golden Fleece upon the site now occupied by the English, Scottish, and Australian Bank in Lydiard Street; and George Anderson completed the Victoria in Armstrong Street. These were the first Hotels on the goldfield.

Still the sly-grog trading continued to flourish in defiance of the vigilance displayed by the police, who, receiving portion of the fines as reward for their efforts, often presented no fewer than twenty cases before the Court on the same day.

Licenses on the Diggings

Mr D'Ewes, police magistrate in 1853-54, made representation to the Colonial Secretary that, by allowing publicans' licenses to be granted within the territory of the diggings, the amount of evil and injustice, arising from the existing mode of administering the law in cases of sly-grog selling, might be overcome. Mr D'Ewes

**BALLARAT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

advanced, further, that every storekeeper was a grog seller ; that the incidence of lawlessness would be more readily detected because the police, actuated by their share in the fines, neglected their more important duties ; and reasoned that the granting of licenses would benefit the revenue, improve the quality of the liquors, and bring the trade more directly under supervision.

The magistrate's arguments appealed to the authorities by which an Act was passed to legalize the sale of liquor, from the 1st June 1854, by publicans and storekeepers trading in the digging areas.

The annual license fee was fixed at £100, subject to a transfer fee of £50, and to an additional payment of a similar amount if a store were attached to an Hotel premises.

One hundred applications were registered in the Police Office in the first few weeks, by individuals desirous of conducting a Public House as a certain method of making a fortune.

Owing to the absence of the files of the "Ballarat Times" for that year, it cannot be definitely stated which house was the first of this number to be licensed on the Ballarat East diggings. John McCafferty of the Eglinton on the site now No. 34 Main Road, and Isaac Payne of the Victoria on the area now No. 165-67 Main Road, and James Dodds of the Red Hill and Temperance near the S.E. corner York and Main Streets, each claimed by advertisement that his particular Hotel was "the oldest established house on the Main Road". Bentleys famed Eureka, standing on the N.E. corner of Eureka-Otway Street, was one of the early vintage, being opened on the 12th July with the bar-takings exceeding £350.

During the prosperous days of the 'fifties, accomodation became taxed to overflowing. The flow and counter-flow of the migratory diggers continued without abatement. Scores of quickly constructed Hotels sprang up in all directions to serve the needs of the times. Many settled diggers, too, were discarding their cold and cheerless canvas tents to seek the warmth and comfort of these new wooden habitations.

These Public-houses — public in the very widest sense — became the centres of the life of early Ballarat. What variety of service they rendered the community in those primitive times!

The Western Borough Council conducted its meetings and business at Bath's until the municipal chambers were completed ; the offices of Eastern municipality were situated for some few years in the Duchess of Kent ; the Lutheran congregation worshipped for many years at the Prince Albert ; and the Hebrew fraternity at the Clarendon.

The centrally situated houses formed the spearhead of transport systems ; the booking offices of the great inland and seaboard coaching services were to be found at the Hotels on the Township, and in the crowded taverns on busy prosperous Main Road.

The several friendly societies, charitable institutions, sporting organisations, and many social-service bodies of the present times were formed in some early public-house parlor. Indeed, many benefit lodges retained that link of connection by holding their meetings in the House where the order had been inaugurated, until as late as 1916, when the early closing of Hotels demanded a change of headquarters.

In addition to victualling the migratory crowds of fortune-seeking diggers, these old-time Hostelrys provided within their concert-halls, ball-courts, skittle-alleys, and boxing saloons the only forms of recreation and amusement that were then obtainable.

Undeniably, the early Public-houses on the Ballarat goldfield were a necessity. Men, here today, were gone tomorrow. The place was in a transitory stage ; temporary accomodation was necessary. These Hotels supplied that need in the busy bustling period of the roaring 'fifties, when Ballarat was born to become known as "t h e World's richest goldfield".

Ballarat a Settled Community

In the 'sixties, Ballarat became a settled community. During that decade it reached the zenith of its prosperity. Its alluvial mines on the Western Plateau and Sebastopol were yielding immense quantities of gold ; secondary industries in wool and iron trades were being established ; a thriving population, comprising between fifty to sixty thousand persons, lived within its environs. Local municipal Government was in full operation : the City was being built : its transition from a fluctuating gold diggings into a solid commercial centre was completed.

A changed era was in development. The railways system was superseding the coaching service. Many interests and guilds that had been temporarily conducted in the Hotels, were now established in their own permanent quarters and institutions.

These changes brought about a new order of things that did not warrant an extension of Hotels. Nevertheless, an ever increasing number of public-houses continued to be erected within the central and outer areas of the municipalities. Some were well appointed accomodating hostels ; but many were poorly conditioned premises, that relied entirely upon a bar-counter trade.

The Hotel trade followed the course of mining operations. When the Newington group of mines were pouring out dividends, no fewer than 15 Hotels were located in Pleasant Street, with double that number in its immediate vicinity. In Rubicon Street seven Hotels catered for public requirements ; upwards of 50 dispensed beer for the thirsty in Sebastopol.

The substantial reduction in 1857 of license fees to £25 was a factor that contributed to the mushroom growth of drinking shops in such numbers as to become an unnecessary quantity. However, as the fees were collected and retained by the municipalities, no attempt was made to check the alarming growth of these houses that made little or no contribution to the service of a community.

At the close of 1869, there were no fewer than 287 licensed in the West, 140 in the East, and 50 in Sebastopol — aggregating 477 — to which must be added those on the immediate outskirts, thus raising the district total to, approximately, 500.

An Unexpected Reversal

In 1870, Ballarat experienced a period of depression which vitally affected every section of the community.

A totally unexpected collapse occurred in mining speculation.

The share market values of local mines depreciated to an amount above £2,000,000 sterling.

The great primary industry suffered a tremendous reverse ; many claims, engaged in progressive development and others occupied in prospecting stages, were unable to continue operations.

Many men became unemployed, and an exodus of population, in no small degree, followed.

Notwithstanding that industries were quite successfully and steadily advancing, the mining loss could not be overtaken.

Many Hotel-keepers, through adversity of trade, closed-up their establishments. At the end of that decade, the "nasty-seventies", only 250 Public-houses remained in the district, being a decrease of 50% in ten years.

First Local Option Poll

An active temperance movement developed throughout Victoria during the 'eighties.

Bands of Hope, Temperance Associations, and Blue Ribbon Armies were formed in every centre to energise a cause which demanded reduction of licenses and more stringent control of the liquor traffic.

License reform had become a live political question, and, at the general elections in 1886, several members were returned pledged to amend the then existing Licensing Act. A democratic clause — the measure known as Local Option — was inserted in the Bill. It provided that a majority of electors could determine the number of licensed premises within a district, subject to a statutory or minimum number of one Hotel to each 500 head of population.

At that time adult suffrage had not been enacted. Voters comprised only males, above the age of 21 years, who were enrolled as occupiers of rateable property, and those who had purchased an electors' right for the sum of sixpence. Voting was not compulsory, postal voting was not in force, but electors could not exercise a vote other than by personal attendance at the polling booth.

In February, 1888, a petition, bearing 900 signatures of eligible electors, was presented to the Governor in Council demanding that a Local Option poll be taken in the Licensing District of Ballarat East — portion of an electorate, paradoxically, represented in Parliament by Messrs James Russell, a staunch teetotaler, and Edward Murphy, a licensed victualler.

The Temperance party held many largely attended meetings, which were addressed by eloquent speakers, to advocate the reduction of licenses to the statutory number of 27.

On the other hand the Licensed Victuallers' Association made no special effort to defeat the proposal, and decided to stand four square for the retention of the existing 72 Hotels.

A poll of 2957 registered electors was taken at the Free Library Hall on Friday, 23rd March, 1888, when each elector wrote in words the number of Public-houses he desired to remain.

The poll disclosed that 995 votes were cast for 27 Hotels ; 590 for 72 ; 1 each for 62, 52, 50, 29, 28. ; 2 for 36. 86 votes were of an informal character, in which one thirsty individual favoured 5000.

On 29th June, the Licensing Court, presided over by Judge Casey, announced the 45 Hotels that were to be deprived of their licenses at the end of the current year.

Mr Richard Woofe, licensee of the Robert Burns Hotel in Humffray Street, lodged an objection to the closing of his premises on the grounds that, the election had been invalidated by irregularities in the appointment of the returning officer and in the declaration of the polling.

After lengthy legal argument, the Full Court, on 4th November, upheld the appeal, and the Local Option poll taken in March was declared to be invalid and void.

The Second Local Option Poll

The finding of the Court did not deter the ardour of the license reformers. In 1891 another poll was held in Ballarat East, where the licensed Hotels numbered 68. Since the previous poll 3 houses had been transferred to other districts, and another, the Specimen Hill in Eureka Street, had had its license cancelled.

Furthermore, as there had been an increase in population, the statutory number was raised to 28, and, thus on this occasion, only 40 houses were to be abolished.

The outcome of the election was somewhat problematical, despite the victory gained by the Temperance party at the ballot taken 3 years before.

Members of the Licensed Victuallers' Association reasoned that those 1278 electors, who refrained from voting in 1888, held the balance of power. It was contended that that particular body of non-voters comprised the "moderates" of society—a section of the community opposed to all things branded "extremist"; they had not voted either 27 nor 72, but may be disposed to support a modified form of reduction by supporting an intermediate number!

The hotelkeepers agreed to adopt a compromise by advocating the retention of 50 licenses. By posters on the street-boards, and by advertisements in the Press, electors were exhorted to vote "No monopoly and not let the trade all go West".

Realizing the strength of the opposition proposal, the Temperance party redoubled its efforts to effect the more drastic reduction. Open-air meetings, preceded by torch-light processions were held, and organised bands of voluntary workers were in evidence in every part of the Town.

The ballot was taken on 26th June, 1891, when, despite elaborate preparation by both parties to convey 3529 eligible electors to the poll, only 1640 could be persuaded to record their vote when voting ceased at 5 o'clock. 1242 votes were cast for 28 houses ; 355 for 50 ; 36 for 68 ; 1 each for 60, 56, 52, 51, 48, and 40.

Having obtained an absolute majority of the recorded votes, the Temperance party had gained its objective. Forty of the existing

Hotels would, in due course, receive compensation, and their doors would be closed.

His Honor Judge Gaunt presided over the sittings of a Licensing Court, which on the 19th September announced the houses whose licenses would, ultimately, not be renewed.

The decision differed from that of the previous Court, inasmuch as the Cumberland and Durham, National, White Horse and Evans' were now joined amongst the condemned, whilst the Royal Standard, New Eglinton, Mack's Family, Barley Sheaf, Robin Hood (now the Military Arms) and the Beehive (now the Sir Henry Barkly) were redeemed from extinction.

The Compensation Court

Compensation claims amounting to £197,430 (being £35,247 by the owners and £162,183 by licensees) were taken before His Honor Judge Chomley on 5th May, 1892, and finally reduced to £34,902 (17 per cent. of the amount of claims) when the Court completed an unenviable task on 23rd July.

Claims of 3 years' profits for loss of good-will, and 5 years' profits for custom or promise of renewal, and the profits on beer where the house was owned by a brewer were disallowed. On these three grounds a reduction of £171,449 had been effected.

On the 10th September, the first payments of compensation were made, when the sum of £11,536 was made available to the first 17 cases that had been determined. On the 22nd of that month the Britannia, which stood on the site of the present E.S.A. Bank at the intersection of Peel-Bridge Streets, was the first of the condemned houses to close.

The balance of compensation awards was paid during the following month, and by the end of the year the superfluous houses, many of them old and well remembered landmarks, no longer catered for the public requirement.

Many owners endeavored to open their delicensed premises as wine cafes or billiard saloons, but the necessary permission was refused. Some ex-licensees became bankrupt; many were sued for recovery of debt; others fined for unlawful disposal of liquor.

The Shamrock reopened as a lodging establishment, and continued in business under the ironical title "The Local Option Boarding House".

Many interesting and amusing sidelights resulted in the cleanup process. Mr Thomas Carroll, a conspicuous figure in the life of the community, resolutely refused to accept the compensation of £935 awarded to his Hotel, the Countess, in Victoria Street. He only relented at the expiry of time, when the amount was in danger of irrevocably reverting into the consolidated revenue as being unclaimed requital.

Another ex-publican converted his bar into a pastry shop; he sold the buns, and, gratuitously, supplied his customers with a malt refreshment. He argued that he only sold the buns, he gave the beer away. The police magistrate thought otherwise.

The closed houses, and the amounts of compensation are affixed:

Ancient Briton	£1021	Old Eglinton	£-632
Bakery Hill	933	Pavilion	325
Bird-in-Hand	996	Pioneer	550
Britannia	1019	Plank Road	770
Burke and Wills	432	Post Office	913
Bute	1064	Prince of Wales	976
City of Hamburg	934	Railway	1094
Countess	935	Rainbow	1042
Cumberland and Durham ..	1114	Red Bull	550
Evans'	921	Robert Burns	455
Eureka	904	Rose and Crown	1588
Golden Point	807	Russell Square	477
Greyhound	1179	Scotchman's Arms ...	727
Fire Brigade	779	Shamrock	1036
Limerick Castle	927	Sir William Wallace.	1221
Liverpool Arms	730	Staffordshire Arms .	1109
Lusitania	820	Times	990
Market	980	Town Hall	744
National	874	Union	653
North Star	865	White Horse	797

The Western Poll

Temperance leaders during the Eastern campaign counselled the electors to disregard the opposition wiles about driving trade to the West, because they intended to prevent any such occurrence by applying the principles of Local Option to that quarter without delay.

Application was immediately made to test opinion in Ballarat West Licensing District, where 116 Hotels were licensed in an area in which 41 constituted the statutory number.

A keen and bitter contest was fought. Rowdy crowds interrupted the open-air temperance meetings, and arrests by the police were made of those throwing unwholesome missiles at the speakers.

Street demonstrations formed a feature of temperance activity; on Saturday preceding the election, 5000 Sunday School scholars bearing bannerettes of texts and mottoes paraded the City streets.

The publicans again adopted a policy of "modified" reduction by concentrating upon retention of 90 Hotels. The L.V.A. organised a determined effort to restrain the contemplated closing of no fewer than 75 existing premises, and worked up an enthusiasm that was reflected in the polling figures.

Polling was held at the Dana Street School on 9th October, 1891, when, out of a roll of 4850 electors, 3365 exercised the franchise. 1562 voted for 41 licenses; 1 each for 42, 44, 53, 81, 89, 99, 110, 112; 3 for 50; 2 each for 58, 65; 6 each for 60, 100; 7 each for 70, 75; 1017 for 90; 13 for 91; 732 for 116.

Although by 121 votes the Temperance party had failed to secure an absolute majority, the greater number of votes had been cast for reduction of existing licenses. The votes were allotted in turn to each intermediate group, But the requisite majority was

not obtained until the 90 group was added. By this process of elimination the election was determined to have favoured the retention of 90 licenses.

The Licensing Court under His Honor Judge Chomley commenced its sittings on 8th March, 1892, to consider the 26 Houses that should be delicensed, and delivered its judgment on 17th of that month.

The final stage in the closing of the Western public-houses was begun in the Compensation Court on 15th November and completed by 22nd December, when the sum of £21,253 was awarded to delicensed owners and licensees in the following manner:

American	£-545	Haymarket	£-910
Black Ball	664	Imperial	680
Black Horse Inn	697	New Scotch	959
Borough Boundary	650	Northumberland	939
Brewers' Arms	701	Phoenix Park	590
Carriers' Arms	956	Prince of Wales	950
City Hall	810	Ship Inn	880
Clarke's	504	Sir John Franklin ..	1015
Consols	1245	Soho	500
Cornish Arms	1024	Waverley	1040
Fawn	1190	White Hart	1105
Half-way House	800	Windsor Arms	452
Hampton Court	625	Washington	822

Compensation amounting to £56,155 had been awarded to the 66 licensees and owners in the East and West divisions. The total cost including Court and other expenses was believed to have exceeded £75,000.

There was much dissatisfaction regarding the awards. It was pointed out that, if the average amount awarded to closed Hotels in Geelong had been applied to those in Ballarat, a further sum of £16,170 would have been allowed to local claimants.

The Licensing Reduction Board

The Licensing Act was subsequently amended by investing a Board with authority to cancel the renewal of an existing license, to award compensation to those affected by the deprivation of a license, and power to grant additional licenses upon reasonable justification. The Compensation Fund is derived from the contribution of 4 per cent. by the retail trade on all liquor purchases.

The Licensing Reduction Board, which was established in 1906, has exercised its powers by closing 19 Hotels in Ballarat East, and 47 in the West. Only 57 Public-houses are now contained in the Ballarat area under control of the City Council, being 9 less than the minimum desired by the Temperance reformers fifty years ago. To this must be added 2 hotels in Sebastopol, 6 in the outer streets in Ballarat Shire territory (Wendouree, Sturt Street West & Alfredton), and 1 on Melbourne Road in the Shire of Bungaree making a grand total of 66 within the 4 mile radius.

Hotels closed by the Licensing Reduction Board

Between the years 1908-1936 (the exact year in parenthesis) the undermentioned Hotels in the City area were closed by the Licensing Reduction Board, and amount of compensation attached :

CITY

Alexandra ('15).....	£-840	Horse Bazaar ('11)	£-920
All Nations ('11).....	510	Kohl's Family ('15)	570
American Club ('21).....	1075	Lady of the Lake ('11).....	935
Australian Arms ('11).....	676	Lester's ('16).....	975
Barley Sheaf ('19).....	515	Limerick Clare Castle ('18)	630
Beacham's ('19).....	775	Miners' Support ('15).....	600
Belle Vue ('11).....	405	Nag's Head ('19).....	990
Bridge ('19).....	1075	National ('21).....	995
British ('11).....	955	New Eglinton ('21).....	1100
Bull and Mouth ('15).....	1155	Palace ('18).....	500
Caledonia ('15).....	520	Parade ('15).....	610
Carbine ('15).....	710	Phoenix (West '15).....	610
City ('08).....	390	Phoenix (East '18)	610
City of York ('36).....	1300	Prince Regent ('21).....	950
Club ('17).....	730	Princess Royal ('21).....	900
Corner ('11).....	1160	Redan Club ('08).....	975
Corn Exchange ('08).....	451	Reform Club ('08).....	875
Cosmopolitan ('26).....	1250	Royal Don ('11).....	650
Court ('15).....	750	Royal Standard (West '17)...	720
Cremorne ('21).....	900	Royal Standard (East '18)...	720
Crown ('18).....	745	Sale Yards ('11).....	760
Devon and Cornwall ('15)...	1050	Seven Stars ('19).....	600
Earl of Zetland ('27).....	1425	Sir William Don ('21).....	1175
Edinburgh Castle ('21)...	1200	Sportsmans' Arms ('08).....	425
Emu ('08).....	500	Surrey ('19).....	630
Exchange ('14).....	780	Tam O'Shanter ('19).....	600
Farmers' ('15).....	940	Trades Union ('20).....	400
Foundry ('08).....	462	Victoria (West '15).....	670
Gem ('11).....	950	Victoria (East '21).....	490
Globe ('16).....	455	Warrior ('15).....	500
Grand ('11).....	233	Western Ocean ('15).....	270
Grand Stand ('21).....	850	Western Station ('15).....	1025
Havilah ('19).....	900	Wheatsheaf ('16).....	495

And in the outer areas within the four miles radius :

Commercial ('08) Sebas....	£635	Ploughman's Arms ('14) Sebas.	£300
Guiding Star ('19) Sebas..	525	Speedwell ('15) Lt.B'dgo....	210
Half-Way House ('15) Mt. Clr	390	Victoria ('15) Sebas.....	290
Little Bendigo ('18) Lt. Bgo	255	Woodman's ('15) Warrenheip Rd	300
National ('19) Sebas.. ...	690	Woolpack ('25) Gong Gong Rd..	725

State Local Option Poll

A Local Option Poll, embracing the whole of Victoria, was taken on October 21, 1920. The issues were Continuance, Reduction, or No-License. To carry No-License it was necessary to secure 60 per cent. of the total vote cast in any district; if insufficient to carry No-License, this vote was then added to that which was cast for Reduction.

Excluding the postal and absentee votes; the personal votes, recorded in the Ballarat polling booths within the 4 miles radius, were, approximately, as follows:

Continuance	6,689
No-License	6,919
Reduction	784

State No-License Poll

Under the Licensing Act of 1922, the previous system of Local Option was abolished, and provision was made for a vote of the electors of the State to be taken once in every eighth year on the issue of No-License. Voting was made compulsory, and, again, as in 1920, an affirmative 60 per cent. vote was necessary to ensure adoption of the measure.

On March 29, 1930, State-wide referendum was taken to decide the issue "That licenses be abolished".

The approximate voting in the Ballarat divisions was:

Yes	8,470
No	7,912

Another referendum, was taken on October 8, 1938, when the result of the Ballarat polling was, approximately:

Yes.....	7,343
No.....	10,587

Trading Hours

Prior to 6th July, 1915, the compulsory hours of trading were from 6-30 a.m. to 11-30 p.m., but on that date were curtailed as from 9 a.m. to 9-30 p.m. In 1916, the Act was again amended by which, as from 25th October, all liquor-bars close at 6 p.m.

In 1925 an Act was passed, the effect of which is that all Hotels close on Anzac Day; and in 1934 this provision extended also to Good Fridays.

xxx The Existing Hotels xxx

Argyle	Eastern Station	Park
Athletic Club	Essex <i>closed 1957</i>	Plough and Harrow <i>closed</i>
Atlantic	Exchange	Provincial
Australia Felix	Foundry	Queen's Head
Blue Bell <i>closed</i>	George	Railway
Brewery Tap	Globe	Red Lion
British Queen <i>closed</i>	Golden City	Royal Exchange
Brown Hill	Golf House	Royal Highlander
Buck's Head <i>closed</i>	Grapes	Royal Mail
Bunch of Grapes	Imperial	Royal Oak
Camp	Lake View	Royal Oak <i>pulled down</i>
Canberra	Mack's	Scottish <i>pulled down</i>
Carriers' Arms <i>closed</i>	Mallow <i>closed</i>	Sir Henry Barkly <i>closed</i>
Carlyon's <i>closed 1957</i>	Market	Southern Cross <i>closed</i>
Cattle Yards Inn	Meagher's	Stork <i>closed (myself)</i>
City Brigade <i>closed</i>	Military Arms	Sturt <i>closed</i>
City Oval	Millers' Arms	Tattersall's <i>closed</i>
Commercial	Munster Arms	Town Hall
Commonwealth <i>closed 1956</i>	North British	Unicorn <i>closed</i>
Craig's Royal	North City	Union
Criterion	North Grant <i>closed</i>	Victoria
Eastern Railway	North Star	Western

Local Option Poll of 1888

On 29th June, 1888, in the Licensing Court, before a crowded attendance of interested citizens, His Honor Judge Casey gave judgment in the words: "These shall be deprived of licenses!"-

BRIDGE ST.
Ancient Briton
Britannia
Limerick Castle
Times
Market

VICTORIA ST.
Bird in Hand
Countess
Mack's
North Star
Old Eglinton
Victoria
Victoria United

DURHAM ST.
Scotchman's Arms

MAIN RD.
Beehive
City of Hamburg
Greyhound
New Eglinton
Plank Road
Post Office
Royal Standard
Shamrock
Staffordshire Arms
Town Hall

ROWE ST.
Burke and Wills

EUREKA ST.
Specimen Hill
Eureka
Cremorne

HUMFRAY ST.
Dew Drop Inn
Lusitania
Pioneer
Prince of Wales
Red Bull
Robert Burns
Tariff
Union

WILLS ST.
Eastern Oval
Railway
Sir William Wallace

PEEL ST.
Bute
Robin Hood
Rose and Crown

BARKLY ST.
Barley Sheaf
Fire Brigade

BALLARAT OLD-TIME, MID-PERIOD, RECENT, & EXISTING
HOTELS

The research disclosed that, approximately, some 856 separate Hotel premises, trading under no fewer than 1148 registered titles (through change in names from time to time) have subsisted within a radius of four miles of the Ballarat West Post Office, since the first license was issued in 1853.

An additional 69 trading names had been submitted for inclusion in the inventory of Ballarat's public-houses. These could not be verified by reference to Press files, and have been excluded from the general list, but placed in a special group on pages 95-96.

Every house had a history peculiar to itself. Each played a part in the community life of Ballarat, either in the pioneering days, in the mid-period, or in the more recent times.

There was a good deal of variety in the chosen trade titles. Among the grotesque, romantic, and arresting names appear the Auld Reekie, Arrah-na-Pogue, Bird-in-Hand, Bull and Mouth, Castle and Bowl, Cross Keys, Critic, Dew Drop Inn (pronounced "Do drop in"), Flying Squadron, Grasshopper, Green Dragon, Garrick's Head, Heart-in-Hand, the Help-me-through-the-World, Hope and Anchor, London Shades, Old Gum Tree, Pack Horse, Pick and Shovel, Tam O'Shanter, Try Again, Under the Verendah; and, possibly, the most novel "The Dunmow Fritch of Bacon".

Selective names, chosen as though to give an air of dignity to the establishment, were in evidence. Upon the site in Sturt Street, now occupied by premises No. 620, there stood in 1864, the Coomora, subsequently named the Roseilla, the Saxe Coburg, the Myrtle, and, finally, the Hampton Court which closed in 1892.

The majestic Pallas Green, near the Orphanage in 1864, and stately Clanricarde, which stood in Ripon-Surrey streets in 1868, ranked among the classical group.

The most favored title was that of the Prince of Wales, as no fewer than 10 traded under that appellation. Royals, and Junctions, and Commercials each numbered 9, followed by 8 All Nations and a similar number of Imperials. Nationals numbered 7; whilst Golden Fleeces, and Elephant and Castles each figured in the half dozen division.

In addition to the 9 Royals, the same word is found in 25 some such designations as 4 Royal Oaks, a Royal Sailor, and other double names.

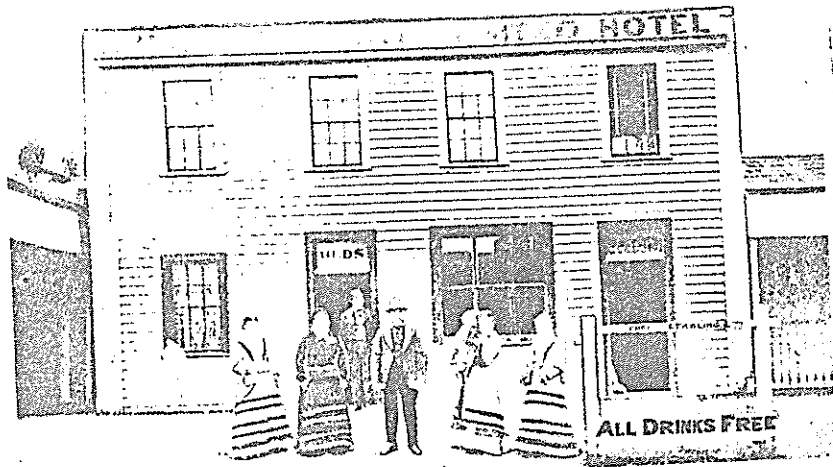
There were many references to the great golden days of mining, as, apart, from the 6 Golden Fleeces, the name is incorporated in some way with 20 others.

The "Arms" form of name is traceable in 79 instances, and that of the "Inn" in 28.

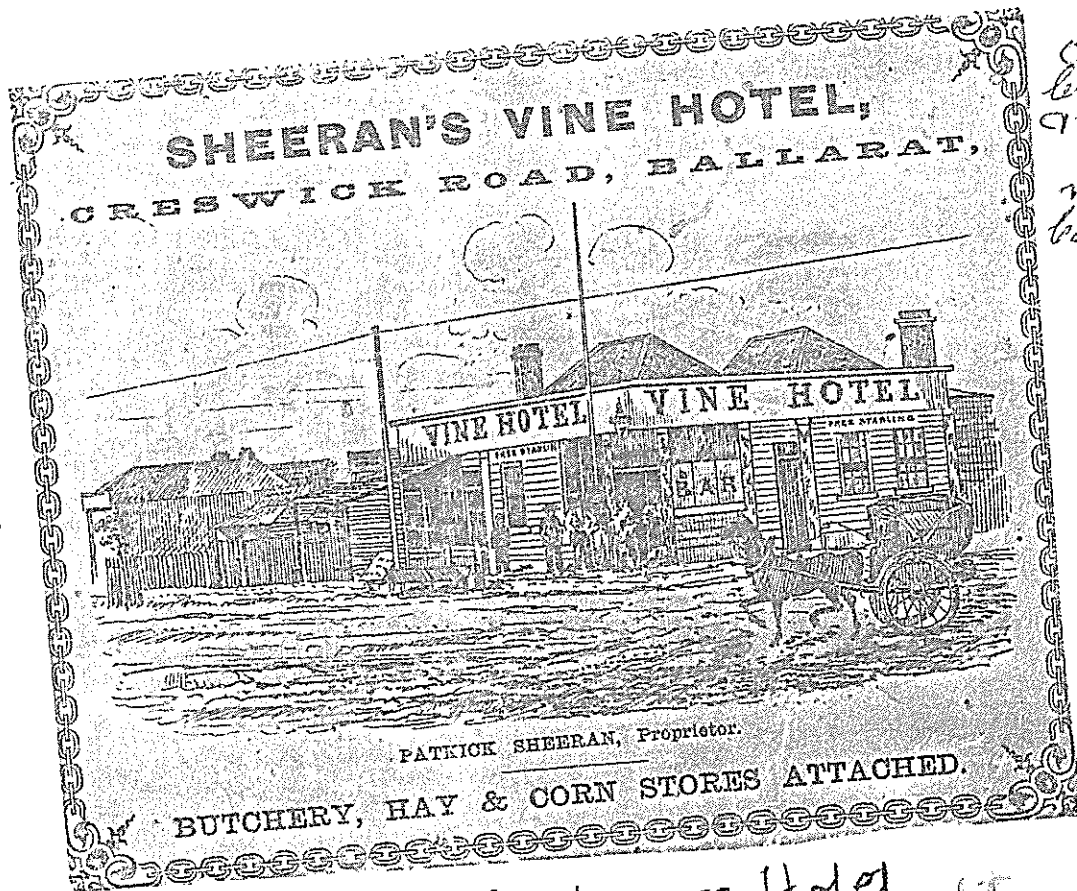
The poets were recalled in the Lord Byron, the Shakespeare, and the Robert Burns.

War and Peace were expressed by the Military Arms, the Lord Nelson, the Troopers' Arms, the Marshal McMahon, the Duke of Wellington; and by the White Flag, the Pacific, the Olive Branch, the Hand of Friendship.

But the miscellaneous loyal and heraldic, athletic and industrial, abstract and personal, locality, geographical, and Old World trading signs, that adorned many of the ancient Inns and Taverns have long since disappeared; the record of their existence alone remains.

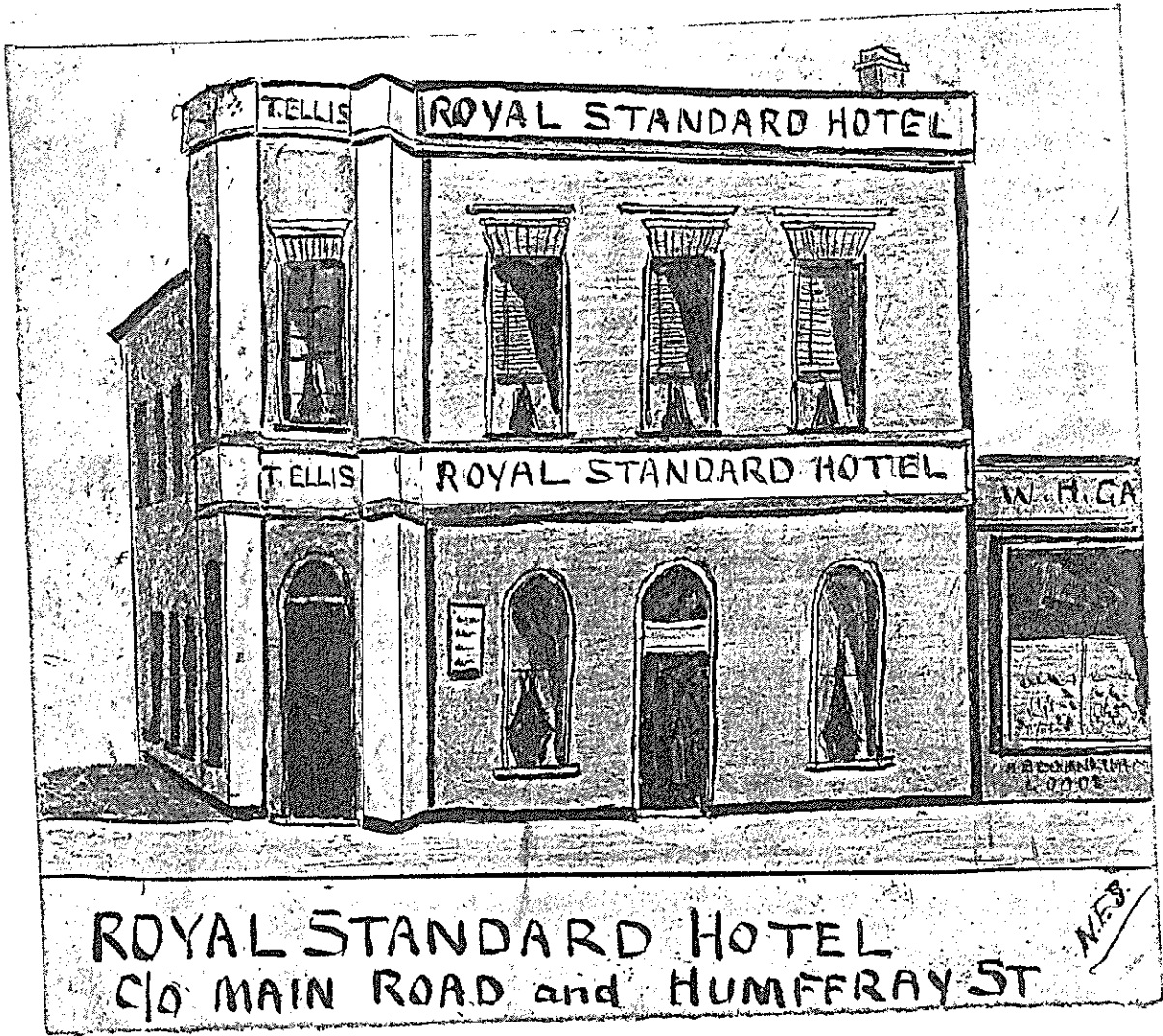


This picture recalls the goldfields atmosphere of Ballarat in the 'fifties. It shows one of the diggers' hotels in its hey-day, with the owner and his family in the dress of the period. Note the jest on the horse trough. Mrs. M. Mills, 2 Caton avenue, East Coburg, N.13. 10/6.



*CR
Creswick's
Creswick
now
Creswick
Hotel*

*Now the Canberra Hotel
Creswick Road*



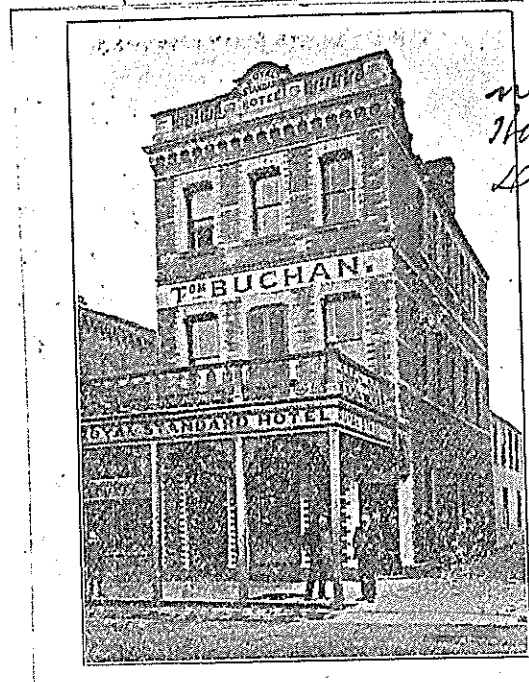
THIS IS RIGHT AT THE TERMINUS OF THE SEBASTOPOL TRAM.



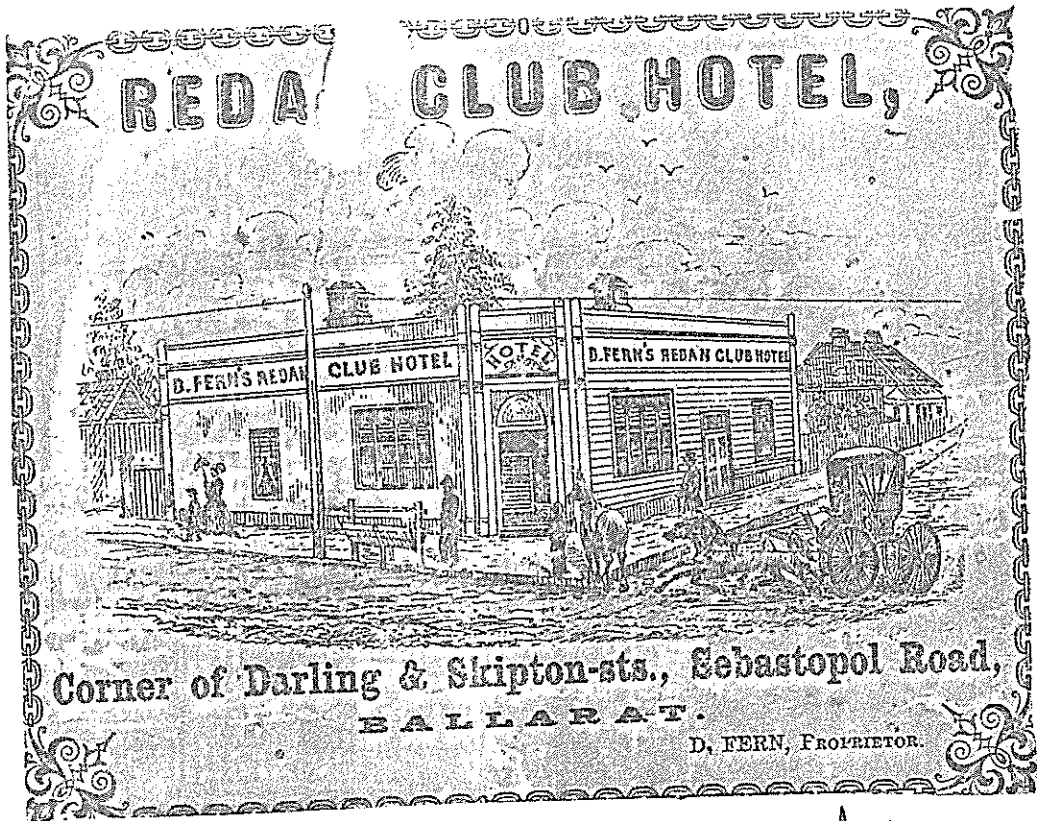
This Old Established Hotel is now run by

GEORGE MCKENZIE

(Ex-Captain of the Ballarat Imperial Football Club).



*merch
Harry
Dawe.*



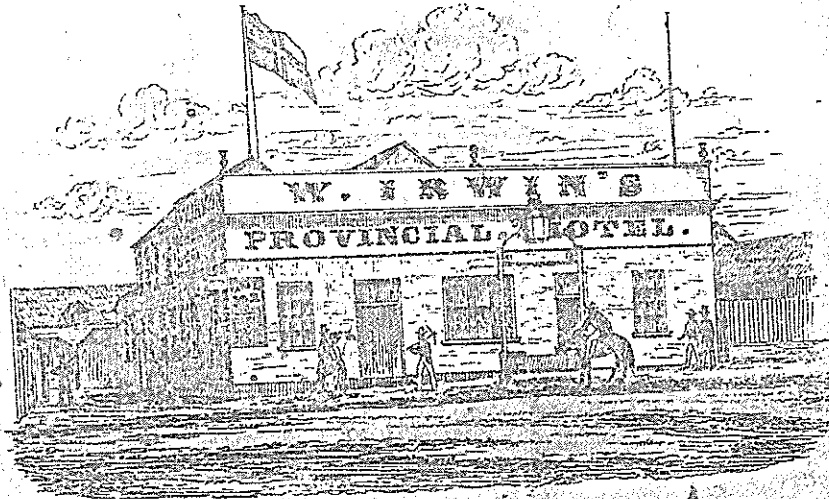
Corner of Darling & Skipton-sts., Sebastopol Road,
BALLARAT.

D. FERN, PROPRIETOR.



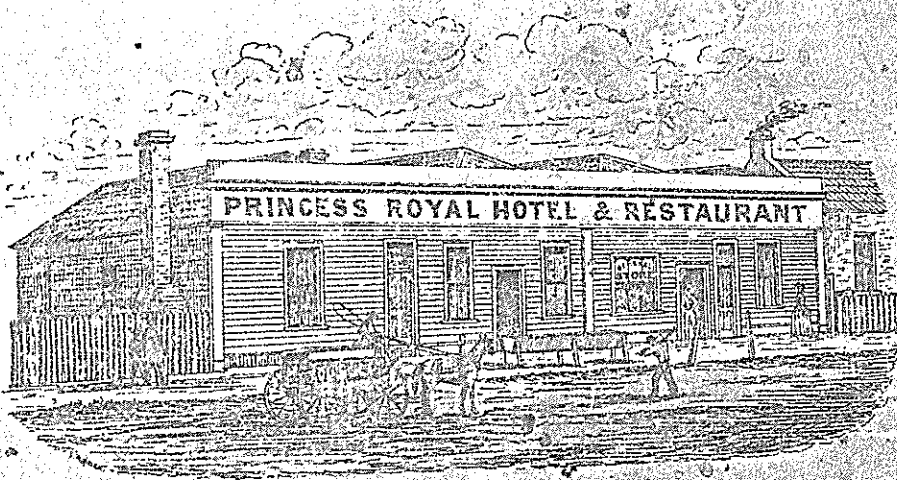
RISING SUN HOTEL MAIN ROAD
5 DOORS FROM YORK ST
1960

PROVINCIAL HOTEL,
 OPPOSITE RAILWAY STATION,
 LYDIARD STREET, BALLARAT.



Superior Accommodation for Commercial Travellers, Families or persons travelling by Coach or Train.
 Depot for Cobb & Co.'s Coaches. Livery, Letting & Bait Stables. Charges strictly moderate.
 W. IRWIN, Proprietor

PRINCESS ROYAL HOTEL & RESTAURANT,
 Macarthur Street, near Lake Wendouree, Ballarat.



GOOD ACCOMMODATION FOR TRAVELLERS. STABLING, &c.
 Mrs. M. MAULE, Proprietress.

Handwritten note:
 17/1/1881
 C. C. Cooney

BUNCH OF GRAPES, S.E. corner South-Pleasant streets : J.Currell (Star 11/2/1868). Existing.

BURKE AND WILLS, Junction Peel-Rowe streets : S.Williams (Courier file 31/3/1876). Formerly the IONA. Closed by Local Option in 1892. Now, No.44 Rowe street.

BURNBANK, Burnbank road : G.Urquhart (Weekly Miner 1858).

BURRA BURRA, junction Peel-Humffray streets : W.E.Pierce (Star 13/6/60) Formerly the BUKE OF WELLINGTON.

BUSH INN, Mt. Clear : S.E.Deane (Star 13/5/1857). Similarly named house and owner appear in Star 4/7/1856 as being located at Terrible Gully.

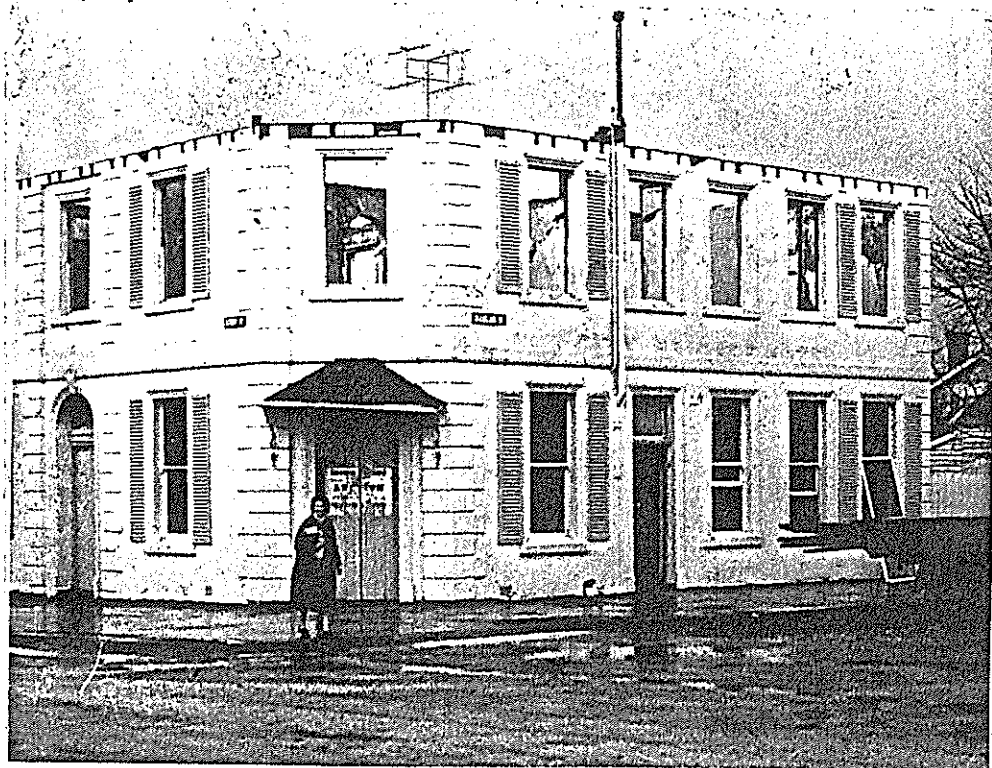
BUSH INN, corner Eureka-Maid streets : J.Quinn (Courier 28/5/1868).

BUTCHERS' ARMS, Sailors' Gully, Geelong road : L.Croft (Star file 28/9/1859).

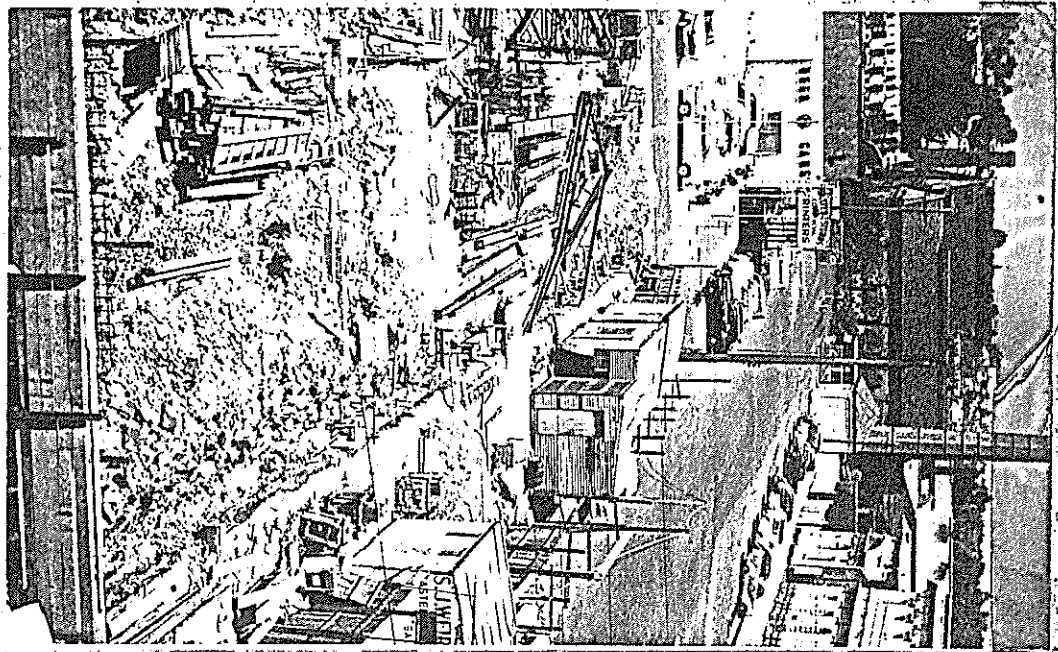
BUTCHERS' ARMS, Market street, West of Adair street : P.Walsh (Star 26/6/1867).

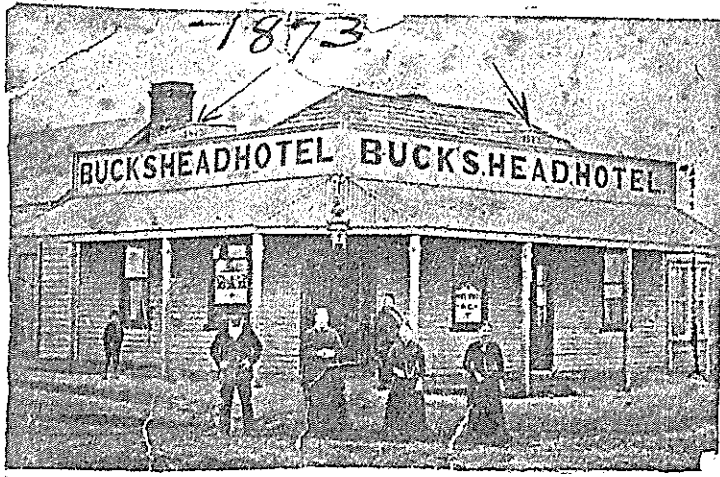
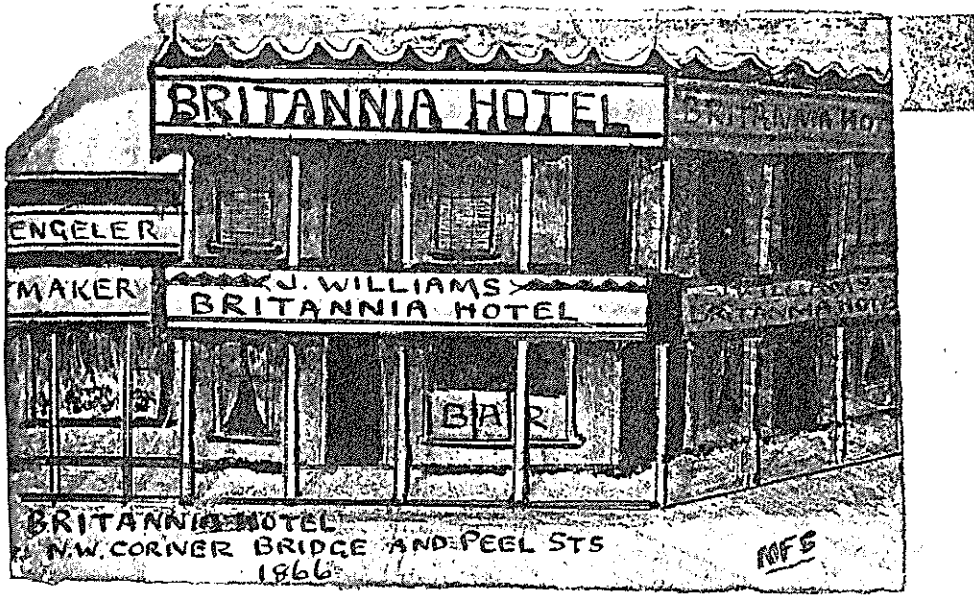
BUTCHERS' ARMS, Mopoke Gully, Peel street North; : J.Buckingham (Star 14/6/1861). Became the WHITE FLAG.

BUTE, N.W. corner Scott's parade-Peel street : M.Farrell (Star 7/2/1866) Closed by Local Option in 1892.



*Lady
Morgate
Hotel
pulled
down
1960*





● Auctions
 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5,
 At 2 o'clock.
 SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION
 On the Premises,
 BUCK'S HEAD HOTEL,
 BRIDGE ST.
 FURNISHINGS & EFFECTS
 THIESSEN & IRVINE, Auctioneers, acting under instructions from the owner, will sell as above.

BUCK'S HEAD HOTEL

1873

Still existing

I question whether this pub is one the site of present Bucks Head Hotel
 closed in 1960
 now Dickens Grocery
 or sold again to
 Marshalls & then again
 to Col Brod
 demolished
 & rebuilt.

Buckshead American }
 Cornwall St

see page 27

99

TEETOTALLER FINDS JOY IN HOTEL LORE

BALLARAT.—Although a teetotaler, Mr John Hargreaves, of Ballarat, found a search into Ballarat's hotel history, "most fascinating," he told Ballarat Historical Society last night.

He is archivist to the Society and handed over to it a bound volume, "Ballarat Hotels Past and Present," which he has completed after a 13 years' search of newspapers and official documents. Illustrations of many quaint edifices were drawn for the volume by the President of the Society (Mr N. F. Spielvogel).

The Mayor (Cr. A. Mackenzie), congratulated them both on a unique civic service.

In the heyday of goldmining in the early 60's, the volume records, there were 477 hotels in Ballarat, compared with 66 today. Since 1853 there have been 856 hotels known to Ballarat, their titles numbering 1148, including many odd ones.

There was, for example, the Hermit's Cave in Main Road opened in 1857 and owned by Matt Hardy, a noted pugilist. Over its verandah was a sign depicting two ancient, bewiskered hermits and a legend

*"The hermits of old
Drank water so cold
Quickly they withered away,
But they soon found out
Good beer and stout
Was the stuff to moisten
their clay."*

Other names were "The Help Me Through the World," "The Critic," "The Dunmow Fitch of Bacon" and "The Under The Verandah."

The record relates that local option polls and the Licences Reduction Board steadily reduced the numbers from the 237 hotels existent in 1882 to 138 in 1893. At one time beer was 3d. an imperial pint, and an excellent three-course meal could be obtained for 6d.

In the early days anyone could obtain a licence and open a hotel. When Sebastopol was booming there were 50 hotels along the length of Albert Street.

The drinking shops as well as the houses of accommodation were the centres of social and business activity for the teeming life of the goldfields. As mining waned they gradually faded out.

THE Minister for Supply and Shipping (Mr Beasley), who is also chairman of the Food Executive, will leave for Sydney tonight.