

The Temperance Legislation League.

Object: To promote Temperance Reform by Legislation and the effective administration of the Licensing Laws.

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Chairman of Executive:

THE VERY REV. J. G. SIMPSON, D.D. (DEAN OF PETERBOROUGH).

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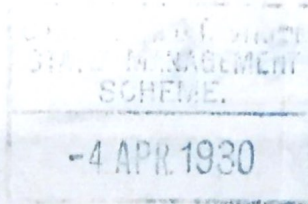
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Maj. / W.V.S.



PARLIAMENT MANSIONS,

ORCHARD STREET,

VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, S.W. 1.

April 3rd. 1930.

Dear Mr. Mitchell,

I am writing to ask you for some information which if you give me I will treat as sticktly confidential between us.

I have spoken on numerous occasions advocating the Carlisle Scheme of State Ownership and Management of the Drink Trade, and I have stated that the Managers of Public Houses under this Scheme have orders that they are not in any way to press the sale of alcoholic drink. I have also stated that if in any particular house, over a stated period, it is found that the sale of intoxicants has gone up to any appreciable extent, the Manager of the house in question has been ordered to give an explanation as to why his sales have increased, and if the explanation is not satisfactory, he is liable to dismissal, and that some Managers have been dismissed for this reason. If, on the other hand he can and does give a reasonable explanation, then the State takes steps as will eliminate the reasons for excessive drinking. I have quoted as an instance a small Public House about a mile and a half outside Carlisle, which has been practically entirely rebuilt with counter attractions to drinking, provided.

I was informed yesterday that it is not correct that Managers are liable to dismissal or have been dismissed when the sale of intoxicants in their Houses is increased to an appreciable extent over a set period, and naturally I do not wish to make statements that are not true to facts.

With my best regards,

I am,

Sincerely yours.

SECRETARY.

A.E. Mitchell Esq.,
O.B.E.

AEM/H/346

4th April, 1930

Dear Major Palmer,

With reference to your letter of the 3rd instant, I, of course, can only speak from my own experience, but I have consulted my colleagues in Carlisle, and no one can remember any manager being dismissed solely on account of an appreciable increase in the sale of intoxicants.

Naturally, we keep a careful eye on any increase, or decrease, in the sale of intoxicating liquors in any house and efforts are made to discover the cause of any noticeable variation.

Speaking for myself, I have so far had no occasion to reprimand a manager, either for increase or decrease in the sales of intoxicating liquors. Any increase that there may be has been due to altered local conditions, such as the development of a housing scheme; and decreases in the country houses may be attributed to local unemployment, and the development of the motor omnibus services throughout the County, having Carlisle as their objective. It is quite possible, of course, that there might be a case where the trade has considerably increased without any apparent sign or cause. In such circumstances, one is naturally

Major J.S.N. Palmer,
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suspicious as it may be a case of serving out of hours, and if we found that this was the cause, the manager would be dismissed.

I presume the small public house which you refer to about 1½ miles outside Carlisle is the Terraby inn. The alterations to this house were not undertaken solely on account of the large increase in receipts from the sale of intoxicating liquors. The chief reason of the alteration was the inadequacy of the old building to meet the requirements of a growing neighbourhood.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd) Albert F. Mitchell

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