

THE CHRONICLE

Coach House Museum

Newsletter of The Coach House Museum

August 2025

In association with Feilding & Districts Community Archive



On this Day—6 August 1883

A maori from Kaeo in Northland, Herbert Augustus Slade, fought John L Sullivan at Madison Square Garden in New York, reputedly for the world heavyweight boxing championship. Authorities disagree on whether such title existed then; but in any event, police stopped the fight in the third round when it was apparent Slade was being beaten. Slade gained \$4,000 for his troubles. He afterwards joined Sullivan in a travelling exhibition around American towns. They got into a brawl in St Louis after a night of 'drinking and corousing' (*according to the New York Times*) and Slade was knocked out with a brick. Slade was reported to have married a Utah woman in 1892 and spent the rest of his life in the United States.

Our new 'Milk Shed' is now by the school house in the Foyer Courtyard.

"I can still see the little shed-like building where the milk was kept. It was about 1.5 metres square, raised about 50cm off the ground, had a red tin roof and slatted sides to let the cool breeze blow through and sat out in the open by the school gate. On cold winter days the milk froze (this was Southland) and on those brilliant hot days we got in the 1960s, it overheated. The cream used to rise to form a "plug" at the top and you had to shake the bottle to get it mixed in again to drink" - unknown



Further excerpts from

THE DIARY OF CHARLOTTE COUCHMAN—Voyage on the 'Arethusa' 1879

October 6th. This is John's birthday. They will remember next year where they spent this one. We are cutting through the water at a good rate today for we have crossed the Line and met the trade winds. I hope we shall soon get in a colder climate for this is something awful.

Friday. We see nothing but water everywhere but tearing through the waves. I hope we shall soon make up for lost time for we are going 210 miles a day.

Saturday. Oh such a sea. The waves are mountainous high. The water comes over and drenches us through. Thank God we have been kept from danger as yet and trust we may be spared the rest of our journey. We are not half way yet. The Captain thinks we shall pass the Cape today.

Saturday, Oct 11th. Has ended with another concert on the main deck, go up for our amusement to help pass the time away. It passed off well and makes fine fun for us all and now we have another Sabbath on the sea with our beautiful Church service on deck – it does us good. I do enjoy it. I love to hear the singing and the prayers for the safety of us all and our ship are something beautiful. John and Fred with some other young men have started a Bible Class amongst the young men three times a week they



meet and form their class – and it would do your hearts good to hear them read and sing. I have every reason to be thankful to Almighty God for helping me to bring the boys up so steady and good. They know what their mother has had to put up with and the hard struggle I have had to endure with hard work and harder words – God only

knows what I have suffered and do still. I don't know what will be the end of it, but I care nothing now where I go nor what I do so long as I can be near my children. We have some people of all nations on board – Scotch, Irish, Welsh, Swiss, Americans and some of the lower class of persons, but we are obliged to make ourselves agreeable with them for our own sakes. I am sorry to see the boys mixed up with such a set, still they try to make the best of it. I feel sure they are disappointed already – it is not what they thought it would be on board. They tell us the ship is 273 feet long and was built in 1869. It is very large. It is quite like a long street from one end to the other. We have nice walks of an evening I and Martha when it does not roll too much, but sometimes we cannot stand. I am thankful to say we are all quite well and have splendid weather.

Clever Crustaceans

Mawhiti Tino Rawe



Crustacean celebrities of Aotearoa New Zealand on display at the Coach House Museum

Crabs, shrimps, lobsters, barnacles, slaters and other crustaceans are the stars of a new mini exhibition presented by The Coach House Museum, NIWA and Te Papa. Opening on 29 August 2025, Mawhiti Tino Rawe | Clever Crustaceans is a playful exploration of the bizarre and diverse world of five marine crustaceans. They can change their shape, circle the globe, and maybe even cure cancer – crustaceans are the unsung heroes of the sea.

29 August - 4 November 2025



The soldiers' vote in April 1919 The initial vote in the April 1919 prohibition referendum gave a narrow victory to prohibition, with 246,104 votes to 232,208. With more than the 50% of votes required, it looked as if the sale of alcohol in New Zealand would be prohibited. However, the counting of nearly 40,000 special votes cast by soldiers still overseas changed this situation – 80% of them voted for national continuance. With a final tally of 264,189 votes for national continuance against 253,827 for prohibition, the prohibition vote fell to 49%. New Zealand just missed out on going 'dry'. Adverts from *The Dominion*, 9 April 1919. Some of the many newspapers that have recently arrived to the Archive from the Feilding Library.

12 THE DOMINION, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1919.

THE COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' ASSOCIATION
OF WELLINGTON

RESPECTFULLY ASKS ITS FRIENDS TO

VOTE FOR CONTINUANCE

AND SUBMITS THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:—

Who Won the War ?	...	...	...	The Allies!
Did Our Country Shirk	...	...	...	No!
Did France Shirk ?	...	...	...	No!
Did Italy Shirk ?	...	...	...	No!
Did Belgium Shirk ?	...	...	...	No!
Did Serbia Shirk ?	...	...	...	No!

Have Any of these Countries Adopted Prohibition on the score of Efficiency ? **NO!**

Did Canada go Dry on a Vote ? **NO!** It was only a War Measure.

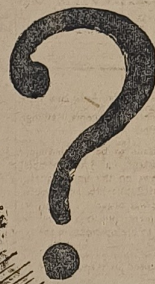
By Order of the Committee,

WELLINGTON C. T. and W. A.
W. A. PHELPS.
Acting Secretary.

The Barrel or The Boy



WHICH



YOU MUST DECIDE!

There is no escaping the issue! Directly or indirectly you will make your choice. Conscience demands that you get to the ballot box and

Vote for the Boy!

New Zealand's wine and liquor bars number over one thousand two hundred. Every week, in every city, some lad lines up somewhere and takes his first glass.

If **your** boy—or any other boy—does so after June 30th, it won't be either **his** fault or the Government's fault; it will be **your** fault.

The welfare of the boys of New Zealand is in your hands. What will your answer be?

Every vote not recorded for Prohibition will count as a vote for continuance. If you refuse—or neglect—to vote for Prohibition on April 10, you indirectly vote for the barrel.

Remember, the issue will be decided by a bare majority vote. One vote may win or lose Prohibition—and that vote may be **YOURS!**

Be Sure You Vote Early and

VOTE FOR THE BOY AND THE NATION

TO-MORROW.