

*Sanitary
Council attached to
2/19/03*

[CH345 box 2/478]

SUPREME COURT

Christchurch

August 7th. 1903

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REG^R

SIR,

I regret in having again to draw your attention to the constant nuisance arising from the letting by the Art Society, of the Art Gallery for parties and dancing assemblies. Some time since, the nuisance obtained such a pitch that a petition was presented to the City Council signed by the neighbours in proximity to the Art Gallery, resulting in the late Mayor Mr. E. Reece and the Town Clerk Mr Haskins visiting and inspecting the buildings inside and out. It was the occasion of the night after a ball. They then saw the nuisances created by the parties using the buildings. I believe notice was given that unless the nuisances were abated the license would be refused.

For a time the filthy habits were abated: but for some considerable period the nuisance has been renewed.

The gates have been made fast but still they have been broken open and nuisances committed inside the grounds. The outside of the buildings is used as a common urinal. In front of the house in which I reside the stench arising from the urine and other filth is unbearable, so much so, that ^{the} windows have to be kept closed. Frequently passengers using the foot-path are compelled to take the road.

We are frequently kept awake until 2 and 3 o'clock in the morning with the noise of shouting and hooting of the persons inside and out of the building, also with the disgusting conversation taking place under our windows.

Last evening apart from the urinal nuisance they were vomiting on the footway in front of the house. It is simply disgusting and filthy.

I am compelled to state that unless the nuisance is abated I shall be compelled to communicate with the head of the Department of Justice asking them to take immediate proceedings against the Society in order to abate the existing Public nuisance.

In waiting upon the City Surveyor, that gentleman immediately gave instructions to have the pathways in Armagh and

Durham Streets cleansed of the objectionable matter of last night.

I might add that each time complaints have been made to the Art Society promises have been given to abate the nuisance, but this has never been fulfilled.

In no other part of the town would such a state of things be permitted to exist even for one moment.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. M. Sayer.

To

The Town Clerk

Christchurch.