



A scrapbook celebrating
the Hotel Austral's
first 140 years

The Austral Hotel
205 Rundle Street
Adelaide
South Australia

Liquid History

This compilation and original material © Craig Hill 2019
The Austral – the beginning can be downloaded and distributed freely *for non-commercial purposes*.

This is version 1, 21 June 2019

The Austral – the beginning

Emanuel Cohen, (1835 – 1895)

merchant, auctioneer, grocer, developer,
publican

Death of Mr E Cohen, 17 November 1895

[Express and Telegraph, 18 November 1895]

DEATH OF MR. E. COHEN.

The news of the death of Mr. Emanuel Cohen, which took place at his residence, Gover-street, North Adelaide, early on Sunday morning, will be received with regret by not a small section of the community. The deceased gentleman was well and widely known, and was greatly esteemed not only socially but by all who had business transactions with him. The late Mr. Cohen left London in the East-Indiaman Coromandel for Melbourne, on April 26, 1852, reaching the sister colony in August of the same year. Towards the end of the same month he came on to Adelaide. The break out of the Victorian diggings attracted Mr. Cohen as it did many others at that juncture, and being a youth 17 years of age fresh from London he left for the capital of the sister colony and then made for Forest Creek. Gold digging did not prove as successful as he could have wished, and he took a position in charge of stores at Forest Creek, Bunkers Creek, Loddon, Bendigo, Maryborough, Avoca and Tarrangower. He was in business when the township of Sandhurst was first opened, with his former school teacher, the well-known author, B. L. Farjeon. Growing tired of life on the diggings in 1856, Mr. Cohen came back to Adelaide, where he passed the rest of his life. He was best known in connection with buildings in the city, and during his long residence here he had expended over £50,000 in buildings and improvements within the municipal boundaries. Thirty-two years ago he pulled down three shops opposite the Globe Hotel in Rundle-street and rebuilt them. He built the Monster Clothing three-storied building at the corner of King William and Hindley-streets, converted two shops into the International Hotel in Rundle-street, and built the warehouse occupied by Messrs. McLean Bros. and Rigg in Hindley-street. Among his latest efforts in this line was the transformation of the old Commercial Bank into the suite of offices now known as Comstock Chambers, and securing the lease of Messrs. R. H. Wigg & Co.'s premises in King William-street he converted the building into two shops, one of which is now occupied by Taylor's oyster saloon. Mr. Cohen was one of the original promoters in the building of the Adelaide Arcade, and he was sent to London by his co-directors to purchase the whole of the glass, the marble tilings for the floor, and the electric lighting plant. In 1858 the deceased gentleman married Miss Benjamin, sister

of Mr. P. Benjamin, who was sub-editor of the *Register*. He leaves eleven children, five daughters and six sons. One daughter is married to Mr. L. Moss, the others being Misses S. R. L. and E. Cohen. The eldest son, Mr. B. E. Cohen, is manager of the jewellery department of Messrs. P. Falk & Co.; the next, Mr. M. Cohen, is in the Architect-in-Chief's office, Perth; whilst the third, Mr. S. E. Cohen, manages the jewellery department of Messrs. Hoffmann & Co., Sydney. The other three sons are Messrs. P., L., and F. Cohen. Mr. Cohen, who was in business for nine years at Goolwa, was attacked by pleurisy some little time back, and on top of this came cancer. During his illness Mr. Cohen, who was 60 years of age, was attended by Dr. J. C. Verco. The funeral takes place at 3 o'clock to-day.

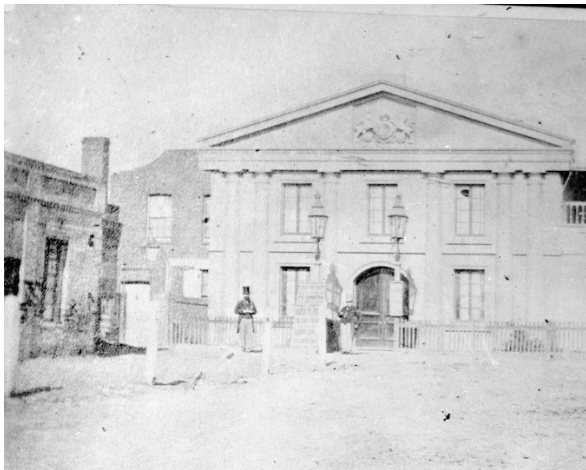
Bench of Magistrates, Quarterly Licensing Meeting, New General Licenses, 14 June 1858

[*South Australian Register*, 15 June 1858]

signed by three magistrates, a captain of the steamer, and several neighbours. He stated that the locality of the Mourouide Hotel was so dangerous from the floods, that Mr. Harvey would be compelled to remove, even if no fresh licenses were granted to him. He observed that the two nearest hotels were 25 and 30 miles distant. Mr. Belmont said his client was not in attendance.

Cohen transferred the license for the "Theatre Tavern" to Abraham Jacob Solomon, 13 December 1858

Known by various names and with various licensees, the "Theatre Tavern" was probably the building on the left, adjoining the Victoria Theatre in Gilles Lane, off Currie Street (approx. 1861).



[State Library of South Australia B3323]

Adelaide Hebrew Congregation, 1879

[*Boothby's Adelaide Almanac and Directory for South Australia*, 1879]

ADELAIDE HEBREW CONGREGATION.
(Synagogue, Rundle-street.)
President, Solomon Saunders, Esq.
Treasurer, H. Bennett, Esq.
Committee—Messrs E. Cohen, W. J. Gollin,
P. Benjamin, A. J. Solomon, Moses
Brandon
Minister, Rev A. T. Boas
Secretary, Mr D. S. Hart
Trustees, Messrs Isaac Solomon, Israel Simons, and M. J. Solomon
Auditors, Messrs M. C. Jacobs, and J. M. Cashmere
Board of Management of the Adelaide,
Jewish Sabbath School, Messrs Solomon
Saunders (Chairman), G. Bennett, W.
J. Gollin, J. Solomon, P. Behjamin

Synagogue, Rundle Street, approximately 1871

[State Library of South Australia B3779]



The Synagogue stood almost directly opposite the Austral.

Frearson's map of Adelaide, Hindmarsh Ward, 1879-80

The location of Cohen's Family Hotel/Austral is shown in red; although Frearson's map was published in 1880, the hotel was not marked on the map.

Other public houses are indicated in the original by small black rectangles; in 1880 the pubs closest to Cohen's Family Hotel were:

- ① Tavistock (demolished)
- ② Exeter
- ③ East End Market
- ④ Stag
- ⑤ Crown & Anchor
- ⑥ General Gordon (now Griffin's Head)
- ⑦ York (demolished)



Rundle Street, facing east, approximately 1878

[State Library of South Australia B3779]

The approximate location of Cohen's Family Hotel is indicated by the red arrow.



Cohen's Family Hotel

News of the Week,

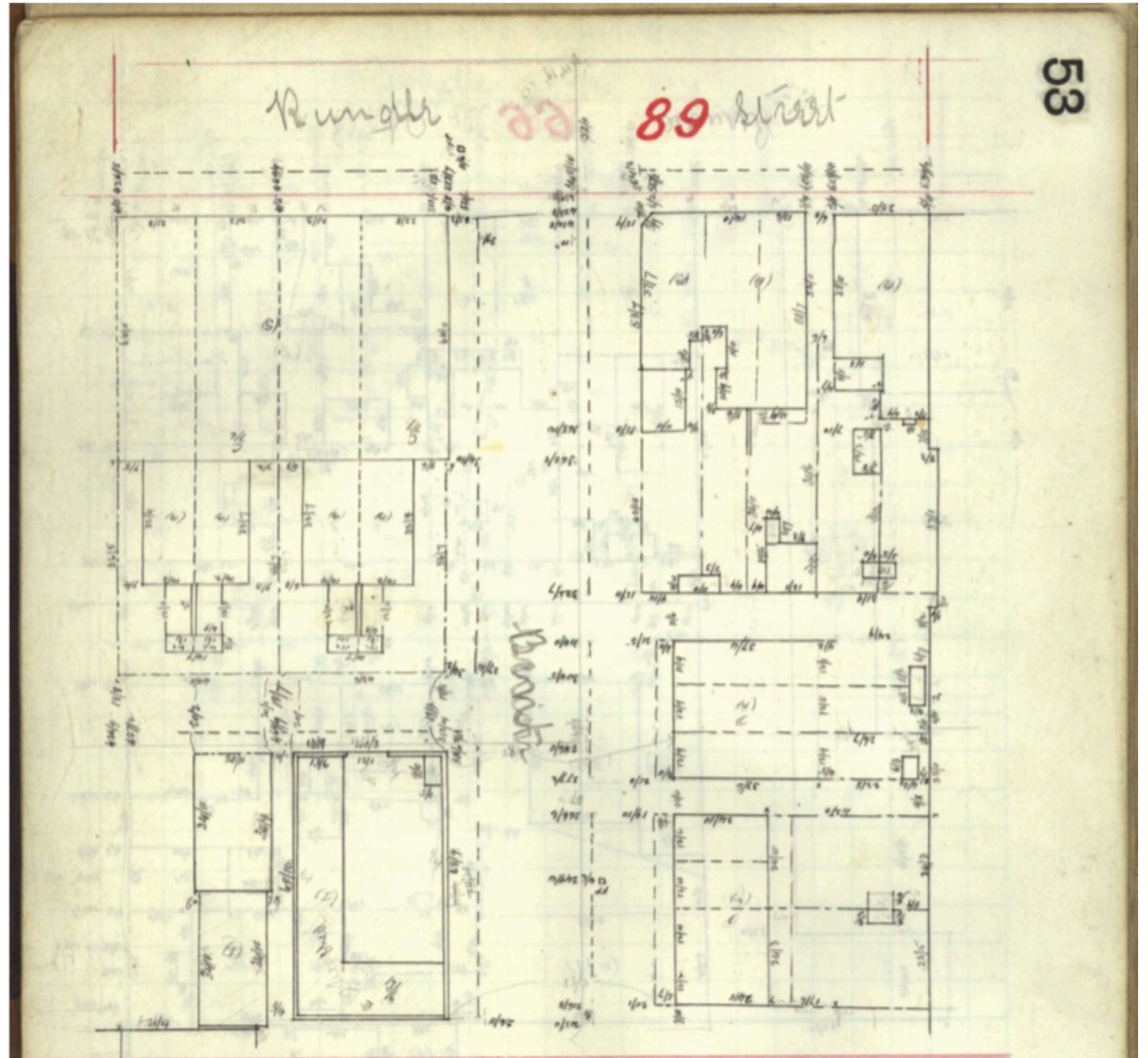
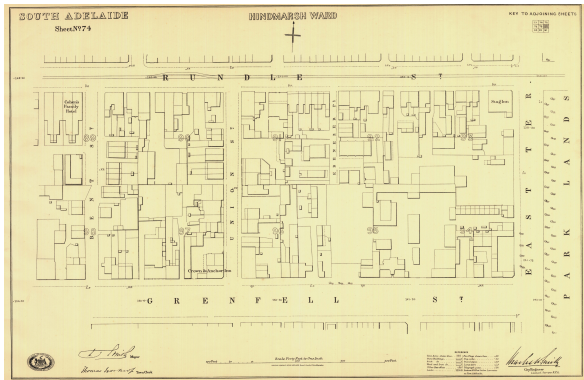
10 August 1878

[*South Australian Chronicle and Weekly Mail*,
10 August 1878]

The tender of Mr. J. Jude, amounting to £8,894, for the erection of four shops and dwelling houses in Rundle-street east for the South Australian Company has been accepted, and the work will be commenced immediately. The premises included in the contract comprise basement, ground, first and second floors, and occupy a frontage of 86 feet, and are to form ultimately a portion of an extensive range of buildings, extending from Bent-street on the east side to the premises lately erected by Mr. Hornabrook on the west side—a total frontage of 300 feet. The elevations are designed in the Italian style, and will be executed with coursed freestone and cement dressings. The work throughout is to be of the most substantial character. Mr. W. McMinn is the architect.

**Smith's Survey Field Book for Town Acre 89,
1879-80**
[Adelaide City Council Archives]

Smith's Survey, Sheet 7, 1880
[Adelaide City Council Archives]



Corner of Rundle and Bent Streets, approx. 1879 [SLSA B2483]



Notice of deposit of plans of hotel,
3 November 1879

[*Evening Journal*, 4 November 1879]

I EMANUEL COHEN, of Rundle-street, Adelaide, Gentleman, do hereby give notice pursuant to clause 8 of the Licensed Victuallers Act, No. 68 of 1877, that I did on the third day of November, 1879, DEPOSIT with the Clerk of the Adelaide Licensing Bench PLANS of the Buildings of an HOTEL erected by me at the corners of Rundle-street and Bent-street, Adelaide.

Dated 3rd November, 1879.

E. COHEN.

Witness—THOS. POPE, Articled Clerk to W. Pope, Solicitor, Adelaide. xk

Adelaide Licensing Bench, Quarterly Meeting,
Plans filed, 8 December 1879

[*South Australian Chronicle and Weekly Mail*, 13 December 1879]

PLANS FILED.

Aldridge, Bruce, & Wigley, hotel, Adelphi-terrace, Glenelg; A. Atkinson, hotel at Brompton Park; George Baker, Tramway Terminus Hotel, township of Albert Park; F. Barrett, hotel at Bayswater; Bucknall & Botting, Bismarck Hotel, Halifax-street east; Bucknall and Botting, Bird-in-Hand, Dry Creek; Emanuel Cohen, Cohen's Family Hotel, Rundle-street, Adelaide; Richard Neville Colley, hotel at north-east corner of section 204, Glenelg; Thomas Cowan, Railway Hotel, Bartleville; John Philip Lee, Oriental Hotel, Magill-road, Norwood; L. H. Lumb, hotel at Portland Estate; G. E. Mather, hotel at corner of East-terrace and Carrington-street, Adelaide; Mrs. Prowse, hotel at Glenelg; G. R. Selth, Market Hotel, Port Adelaide; G. F. Sorrell, hotel at West Thebarton; A. G. Wylde, Ovingham Hotel, Bowden and Ovingham.

The bench adjourned till the second Monday in March.

Adelaide Licensing Bench, Annual Meeting,
Publicans' new licenses granted,
8 March 1880

[*Express and Telegraph*, 9 March 1880]

Emanuel Cohen, Cohen's Family Hotel, Rundle-street, Adelaide. Mr. Stock appeared for applicant, and the Attorney-General for Mr. Thos. Candler, of the Tavistock Hotel, who opposed on the ground that the house was not required. The inspector also opposed. The bench were of opinion that the house was required, and granted the application.

Cohen's Family Hotel, February 1880

[Adelaide Observer, 21 February 1880]

COHEN'S FAMILY HOTEL.

Last year the Royal Commission which sat to enquire into the state of the liquor laws reported, amongst other things, that the testimony brought before them generally was that there was a great want of really first-class hotel accommodation for families and visitors to the city. Such accommodation Mr. E. Cohen seeks to afford in the hotel in Rundle-street east for which he has applied for a licence, and there is no doubt that the premises are both comfortable and convenient in a very marked degree. The rooms, of which there are about forty, are unusually lofty, spacious, and well ventilated, and they have been furnished throughout with the most complete regard to detail and even elegance. The height of the apartments on the ground floor is sixteen feet, and the second storey fifteen feet, and on the third fourteen feet. There are a large dining-room, hung with mirrors and oil-paintings; private sitting-rooms, a smoking-room, and, what is far more exceptional in these colonies, a handsomely appointed drawing-room twenty feet square for the general use of the lodgers. But the great feature in the house are unquestionably the bedrooms. These are exceptionally large and well lighted, each having a patent ventilator in the sill of the window, so that a current of fresh air flows into the apartment when the window is closed. The rooms are uniformly fitted-up with Huon-pine and marble furniture, French porcelain toilet services, and other conveniences—even to engravings for the adornment of the walls. There are double staircases and separate bath-rooms for ladies and gentlemen. The cellar accommodation extends under the whole of the premises, which are very cool. About a dozen representative gentlemen visited the house on Tuesday at the invitation of Mr. Cohen, and,

having inspected the various rooms, generally pronounced the accommodation to be first-class. After they had partaken of an elaborate luncheon, Mr. W. Townsend, M.P., in proposing success to Mr. Cohen, said there could be but one opinion—that the house supplied a much-needed want, and was such a one as ought to receive a licence, affording as it did, in no figurative sense, the comforts of home. Mr. Cohen, in responding, said he had recognised the want which had been referred to, and had endeavoured to the best of his ability to supply it.

HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS

**COHEN'S FAMILY HOTEL,
CORNER OF
BUNDLE AND BENT STREETS.**

E. COHEN

Begs to inform his numerous Friends and the Public generally that he has opened the above Commodious and Elegantly Furnished Hotel with accommodation second to none in the colony for Families and Visitors, where they can have every attention paid to their wants and comforts, and trusts to merit a share of their patronage.

None but the Best Wines, Spirits, Beers, &c., kept in Stock, and supplied to Families at Wholesale Prices.

A First-class Table d'Hôte at 1 o'clock

75c

E. COHEN.

Help Wanted

[Evening Journal, 9 March 1880 and 20 May 1880]

WANTED, a thorough competent **BARMAN** for Cohen's Family Hotel, corner of Bent and Rundle streets. Apply on the premises between the hours of 9 and 1 o'clock. First-class references required. 70

WANTED, thoroughly competent **HOUSE-MAID** and **PARLOURMAID**; those with previous hotel experience preferred. Apply Cohen's Family Hotel, Rundle-street east, between the hours of 10 and 12. 141-2

Decorative window painting

[Evening Journal, May 1880]

DECORATIVE WINDOW-PAINTING.—There is a handsome specimen of this work to be seen at the bottle department of Cohen's Family Hotel. At each side of the window stands a large female mythological figure in gold and silver, above them are bouquets of flowers in natural colours, and over all extends an arch of grapes and vine-leaves. The work was executed by Mr. R. Nelsen.

Adelaide Local Courts

[Adelaide Observer, 2 October 1880]

ADLAIDE: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23.

[Before Mr. H. E. Downer, S. M.]

EMANUEL COHEN v. G. SHARP.—Claim for £2 12s., balance due for board and lodging. Mr. Bray defended. Plaintiff was the landlord of Cohen's Family Hotel in Rundle-street, and the defendant was Mr. Granville Sharp, who has lately been lecturing in Adelaide on the Chinese at home and abroad. According to the plaintiff's evidence the defendant engaged rooms for himself and wife for one week with the option of remaining longer, the terms agreed on being the same as were printed on the hotel cards, viz., two guineas each per week, and for every additional day over the week 8s. each per day. When they were coming to terms the defendant said it was very unfair to charge 8s per day, as it was altogether out of proportion to the rate of two guineas per week. He came on the Thursday afternoon, and left on the Saturday afternoon. Mrs. Sharp did not come till within a few minutes of his leaving. When the bill was presented Mr. Sharp disputed the charge of four guineas for one week's board and lodging for himself and Mrs. Sharp, and refused to pay more than 32s., being at the rate of 8s. each per day for two days. The defendant denied that he took the rooms for a week, and said he could not have done so, as his movements were very uncertain at that time. He contended that he had already paid far more than the plaintiff was entitled to, because Mrs. Sharp was never in the hotel, and there was no understanding that he was to pay for two persons if she did not come. The S.M. said that the evidence for the plaintiff preponderated, and he must give a verdict for the amount claimed. Verdict for plaintiff accordingly.

Tender for the lease of,
Cohen's Family Hotel, 1882
[Evening Journal, 31 March 1882]

FIRST-CLASS FREE HOTEL.
TO BREWERS, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS, AND THOSE DESIROUS OF SECURING ONE OF THE BEST HOTELS IN THE CITY.

TENDERS will be received by the undersigned up till noon of Tuesday, April 4, 1882, for a LEASE of Ten Years from March 26, 1882, of all those commodious and centrally situated Premises known as COHEN'S FAMILY HOTEL and Single Bottle Department, RUNDLE-STREET EAST, at a weekly rental of £12 per week.

The Hotel contains 20 large and spacious Bedrooms, 4 private Sitting-rooms, 3 Bathrooms together with Dining-room, commercial and private Parlours; also, Cellarage unsurpassed in the colony, five-stall Stables, with room for ten more if required, all Stable and Yard accommodation, and every requisite that is required for carrying on a large and profitable Hotel and Single Bottle Department in all its branches.

The Lease will contain no improvement clauses, as the present proprietor has expended a large amount in putting the whole of the premises in most complete order.

Stock, Furniture, and Fixtures to be taken at Valuation.

No Tender necessarily accepted.

For further particulars apply to
80ths94v

E. COHEN, Proprietor

Adelaide Licensing Bench,
Transfer of license,
Cohen's Family Hotel, 1882
[Evening Journal, 12 September 1882]

TRANSFERS OF PUBLICANS' LICENCES GRANTED.
G. P. Badman to T. Goldsmith, Stag Inn, Rundle-street, Adelaide, and billiard.
E. Barnfield to W. H. Smith, Victoria Hotel, Willaston.
H. C. C. Baumgartel to T. Watkins, Rising Sun Inn, Lobethal.
Sarah Bickford and J. P. Bickford to C. Biggins, Jetty Hotel, Glenelg.
J. Bray to W. A. Stewart, Victor Harbour Hotel, Victor Harbour.
R. S. Brown to C. L. A. Bauer, Buck's Head Hotel, Stepney, and billiard.
R. Evans to M. J. P. Tucker, Coobowie Hotel, Coobowie.
W. H. Fairlie to G. Truman, City Hotel, Hindley-street, Adelaide.
J. F. Freudenberg to G. Tyley, Queen's Arms, Adelaide, and billiard.
J. G. Gibson to J. G. Gibson, Cohen's Hotel, Rundle-street, Adelaide.

[South Australian Register, 11 May 1882]

HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS
GIBSON'S FAMILY HOTEL
(LATE COHEN'S),
RUNDLE-STREET, ADELAIDE.

J. G. GIBSON,
Late of Wilmington and Port Augusta.

This Commodious Hotel is replete with every convenience, elegantly furnished, and affords superior accommodation for families and visitors. Private Sitting-rooms and Bedrooms *en suite*. A conveyance is at the Railway Station to meet patrons on arrival of trains from the North and on arrival of steamers.

All communications by wire or by letter with regard to accommodation, &c., promptly attended to.

A large and well-assorted Stock of best brands of Ales, Wines, and Spirits always on hand. In the Bottle Department I am prepared to send cases, assorted or otherwise, to all parts of the colony wholesale. Price-lists on application.

zk J. G. GIBSON, Proprietor.

Adelaide Licensing Bench,
Transfer of license,
United Service Club Hotel, 1892
[Express and Telegraph, 14 December 1892]

The United Service Club Hotel is now the Ambassadors Hotel, opposite the Town Hall in King William Street.

ADELAIDE LICENSING BENCH.
THE QUARTERLY MEETING.

The quarterly meeting of the Adelaide Licensing Bench was held at the City Police Court on Tuesday. There were present the Hon. S. Tomkinson (in the chair), Sir John Colton, Messrs. J. Gordon, S. M., W. Gilbert, M.P., W. C. Buik, T. Giles, L. A. Jessop, and A. D. Handyside, M.P.

PUBLICANS' TRANSFERS.

Emanuel Cohen from Kate Phillips, United Service Club Hotel.

David Collier from Mary Kearns, the Mill Inn, Gawler.

Frederick A. Heinike from William Zenner, the Railway Hotel, Freeling.

John Lewis and Charles E. Aldridge from John Lewis, the Napoleon Hotel, Adelaide.

James Manson from Albert Barton, the Hyde Park Hotel, Hyde Park.

The license for the United Service Club Hotel was transferred from Emanuel Cohen to Philip Lee in June 1893.

THE ADELAIDE ARCADE.

On Wednesday afternoon the foundation stone of the new Arcade to be erected between Rundle and Grenfell streets, was laid by the Mayor (Mr. W. Bunday, J.P.) in the presence of a large crowd of people. His Worship and fourteen members of the City Council arrived at the spot just prior to 3 o'clock, and the ceremony was performed at that hour. The locality of the stone is the corner next to the shop of Messrs. Smith and Parker, and the stone itself was a narrow marble block containing the following inscription—"Adelaide Arcade. This stone was laid by His Worship the Mayor (W. Bunday, Esq., J.P.) the 6th day of May, 1885. W. Pett & Sons, contractors; Withall and Wells, architects." Mr. Solomon presented His Worship with a silver trowel with which to perform the ceremony. Mr. BUNDEY said it afforded him very much pleasure to lay the stone of the first Arcade erected in Adelaide. Nothing would give him greater delight than to see the city prosper, though it was true that at present great depression existed. Similar distress had, however, arisen in years gone by, and he only hoped that better times would soon prevail through the length and breadth of the land. He looked upon this undertaking as one which would be a benefit in the future as well as at present, and his best wish was that prosperity might crown the efforts of the promoters in their work. His WORSHIP then called for three cheers for the Company, after which, at Mr. Solomon's suggestion, the crowd cheered the Mayor. Under the stone was placed a bottle containing copies of the daily papers, and a document, including, among other information, the following:—

"Adelaide Arcade Company, Limited.
Shareholders—Saul Solomon, Joachim Matthies Wendt, Lewis Henry Berens, Patrick Gay, Robert Carr Castle, Hermann Carl Koeppen Wendt, Emanuel Cohen.

Directors—Saul Solomon (Chairman), J. M. Wendt, E. Cohen, P. Gay, and L. H. Berens. Secretary, Gavin Forest Gardner; solicitors, Symon, Bakewell, & Symon; architects, Withall & Wells; contractors, W. Pett and Sons. May 6, 1885." An adjournment was then made to the King of Hanover Hotel, where several toasts were drunk. Mr. SOLOMON, in proposing the Mayor's health, expressed the hope that he had not only laid the foundation-stone of this building, but that he had also initiated a season of renewed prosperity in the colony. The promoters had sufficient confidence in the undertaking, and felt satisfied that it would be a commercial success in every way. The MAYOR, in responding, said that he looked forward to a grand future for the colony, and that what was now being done would be for the benefit of their children. Adelaide had of late years been very much improved by buildings, and visitors from other parts to the city frequently expressed their surprise on seeing it so much advanced. They were delighted to find men among them who were willing to expend their capital for the benefit of the citizens, and no one would launch into a venture of this description without having fully weighed the future. He trusted that the result would be far beyond the promoters' anticipations. His WORSHIP then proposed the toast of "The Company," to which Mr. SOLOMON responded, mentioning that the promoters had carefully considered the question. Their scheme was not of mushroom growth, or even the result of two or three months' study, as several of the gentlemen interested had been considering the matter for years past, but it had required three fires to enable them to secure the present site. The Company was perfectly prepared to maintain any risk which might attend the affair, but he thought they deserved a pat on the back for undertaking such

an extensive scheme during these depressed times. The heavy rents demanded for small business places was one of the principal objects which induced them to devise a scheme which would meet that difficulty, and he was convinced the venture would return something tangible to its promoters. Mr. G. D. GREEN proposed "The Architects," remarking that the building would be a credit not only to Adelaide and the Company, but to Messrs. Withall & Wells, who had so very skilfully prepared the plans. Mr. WITHALL responded. Mr. E. T. SMITH, M.P., followed with the toast of "The Builders." During his speech Mr. Smith said that he trusted that the objectionable assessment now enforced would soon be abolished, and that one dealing with the land only substituted. The assessment was at present made on the property, and as an instance of the unfairness of such a course he referred to the shops lately erected in Rundle-street east by the South Australian Company and Mr. Martin, half of which are still vacant. Speaking of the builders of the Arcade, Mr. SMITH said that the Company had secured the services of a competent firm, and with the architects there was little doubt that the building would be a substantial and creditable edifice. Mr. W. PETT acknowledged the toast, and stated that though the specified time for completing the contract was short he had no doubt that the building would be ready to hand over to the promoters when the day arrived. The toast of "The Corporation" was given by Mr. BUIK, and responded to by Aldermen KITHER and FOX, and that of "The Corporation Officers" followed before the company, numbering about 50.



[State Library of South Australia B2903]



[State Library of South Australia B7292]

Meeting of creditors, 1886

[Adelaide Observer, 11 September 1886]

A meeting of the creditors of Mr. Emanuel Cohen, of Adelaide, merchant, was held at the office of Messrs. W. & T. Pope, King William-street, Adelaide, on Friday, August 10, Mr. A. W. Meeks in the chair. The balance-sheet showed—Liabilities, £11,127; contingent, £22,000; total, £33,127. Assets, £13,344; contingent, £22,000; total, £35,344; estimated surplus, £2,216. It was resolved that the estate should be assigned to Messrs. A. W. Meeks (Gibbs, Bright, & Co.), and F. H. Wigg (H. H. Wigg & Son), and that the calling of the meeting should not be deemed an act of insolvency.

Cohen insolvent, 1887

[Adelaide Observer, 26 November 1887]

In the ASSIGNED ESTATE of EMANUEL COHEN, late Merchant of Adelaide.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Trustees in this Estate, in pursuance of Clause 187 of the Insolvent Act, 1860, have this day filed in the Court of Insolvency such Accounts as by the said Act is required, and that they propose to pay a FIRST and FINAL DIVIDEND of FIFTEEN SHILLINGS AND FOURPENCE FARTHING (15s. 4½d.) in the Pound to all Creditors who have proved their Claims and signed the Deed or assented thereto in writing on and after the 24th December, at 69, Grenfell-street.

Dated this 23rd day of November, 1887.

328v30 F. H. WIGG, } Trustees.
A. W. MECKS, }

Rundle Street looking west; Newlyn's International Hotel, approx. 1886

[SLSA B10255]



