

HEAVY FINES FOR IGNORING THE BAN.

Christchurch Times May 6, 1944

Two persons were brought before the Christchurch magistrates on Monday, charged with unlawfully entering a protected area.

The first, Beatrice Turner, was fined £3.

P.C. King, who was on duty at Highcliffe, saw accused, and asked to see her identity card. She produced it, and he saw it was marked Frome, Somerset. He pointed this out to her and asked if she was aware this was a banned area. She replied that she was and that she was staying with her parents at 3, Southville Road, Southbourne. Witness then commenced to write the address in his notebook, when she asked him what he was doing. He stated that he was going to ascertain whether her parents did live there. She replied, "My parents do not live there, I came up here to stay the week-end with my sister, who lives there." He told her he would report the case, and she said, "Well, I was not stopped at Bournemouth Central Station, I shan't pay a fine, the State will have to keep me."

The second was Mary Nicholls, who was fined £5.

Inspector Thomas stated that he was on duty at Christchurch Station, when he saw defendant, and inquired the reason of her visit to this area. She replied, "I have come here to visit my husband."

The Inspector then turned and asked one of the men in the regiment she had mentioned if he knew of a Sgt. Nicholls, and he replied that he did not. She then said the sergeant was not really her husband. The Inspector told her that she had no right to be here and instructed a police officer to see her on the train.

Witness went on to say that on the next day he was walking along the bank of the river at Christchurch, when he saw defendant with the sergeant. He went up to them and told her he had warned her not to come into this area. She replied that she took the train to London, but got off at Southampton, catching the bus back to Christchurch, but she had only been here a few hours.

On taking her to Christchurch Police Station, Det.-Con. Winspear recognised her as a person he had seen in a public house the previous evening.

She then admitted that she had stayed the night in Christchurch with the sergeant, saying that she got off the train at Sway, and took the bus back.

For helping her to remain here, Sgt. Percy Rogers was fined £1.

Inspector Thomas stated that he warned defendant not to encourage Mrs. Nicholls into this area again, but he had obviously ignored the warning. The magistrates on the Bench were Major W.O. Campbell (in the chair) and Mr. D. Llewellyn