

Coast curfew now 10.30pm

Sussex Daily News, September 2nd 1940

Sussex Coast Curfew Now 10.30 p.m.

IRKSOME RESTRICTION LIFTED

THE Regional Commissioner has given directions fixing the curfew hour at Brighton, Hove, Worthing, Eastbourne and Hastings at 10.30 p.m. The order came into force on Saturday evening.

The effect of the change is that instead of people having to be out of the curfew area by dusk they may now stay until 10.30.

The extension follows an interview which the Mayor of Brighton (Councillor J. Talbot Nanson, J.P.), and the Town Clerk (Mr. J. G. Drew) had with the Regional Commissioner at Tunbridge Wells last week.

The Mayor drew the Commissioner's attention to the difficulties which the curfew imposed and put forward the views not only of Brighton but of other Sussex coastal resorts.

An extraordinary sense of relief will be felt by the news. Correspondence in the "Sussex Daily News" had shown the sense of grievance felt by residents in the curfew area, both private and those in business, and the "Sussex Daily News" had strongly advocated some modification of a system which was gradually shortening the outdoor liberties of those people.

The concession has been cordially welcomed by all concerned. The pleasing reaction to it was seen quite early on Saturday when people who, until the curfew, had been accustomed to complete the week with a dinner at some rendezvous on the Front fixed up their parties at once. Hotel and boarding-house keepers who had had inquiries on the matter were glad to pass on the information in the strong hope that business would ensue.

Pre-Curfew Patronage

At the Norfolk Hotel, Brighton, the weekly dance attracted something like the pre-curfew patronage, and Mr. Maurice Bloom, the Managing Director, speaking to the "Sussex Daily News" yesterday evening, expressed satisfaction that much of the inconvenience which had been caused by the Order was now being removed. He hoped the concession would cause an extension of the season now people were allowed to get a little fresh air along the Front after dinner. At any rate it was greatly appreciated, and an addition which would be very welcome would be the opening of part of the beach for limited periods.

At St. Catherine's Lodge, Kingsway, Hove, there were great hopes that increased business would ensue.

Not only private convenience, but public work has been interfered with by the Order, and one of those who has carried on under difficulties is Alderman A. W. F. Varley, of Carlisle-road, Hove, who has lived in the area for 30 years. Speaking to a "Sussex Daily News" reporter yesterday he said his neighbours and he would be quite willing to sacrifice their freedom, in the evenings or any other time, if they were convinced that any good purpose was being served. But was it? What was the object of the curfew? Out of what conditions did it arise? If there was a reason for it when it was imposed, what alteration had occurred in the circumstances? It was all very puzzling, but he was glad that a more reasonable hour had now been arrived at.

NEW HOURS FOR ENTERTAINMENTS

Patrons of the Hippodrome, Brighton, are requested to note the new times of performances which are made possible by the revision of the curfew hour.

Performances will now start at 5.50 p.m. and 8 p.m. The Odeon Cinema, West-street, Brighton, is similarly affected and the last complete programme commences at 6.45 p.m.

The Palladium Cinema, King's-road, Brighton, is to close at 10.15 p.m., thus allowing patrons a quarter of an hour to leave the restricted area.