

1943  
NEW ZEALAND

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# PRISONS BOARD

(ANNUAL REPORT OF) FOR 1942

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*Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency*

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## MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Hon. Sir HUBERT OSTLER, Kt. (President); Sir DONALD MCGAVIN, Kt., C.M.G., D.S.O., M.D. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.); B. L. DALLARD, Esq.; THEO. G. GRAY, Esq., C.M.G., M.B., M.P.C.; and ERNEST EDWARDS, Esq. (Sir HUBERT OSTLER retired in February, 1943, and the Hon. Mr. Justice BLAIR was appointed in his place.)

SIR,—

3rd June, 1943.

I have the honour to forward herewith the report of the Prisons Board for the year 1942.

I have, &c.,

A. W. BLAIR,

President.

The Hon. the Minister of Justice.

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## REPORT OF THE PRISONS BOARD

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1942

THE Board has to report that during the year it visited each of the prisons, prison camps, and Borstal institutions in the Dominion. It dealt with a total of 933 cases at fifteen meetings held in Wellington and at the various institutions.

The following summary gives details of the cases considered and the decisions arrived at:—

<i>Cases dealt with.</i>		<i>Board's Decisions</i>	
Persons undergoing Borstal detention ..	333	Recommended for release on probation ..	482
Persons sentenced to reformatory detention ..	237	Deferred for later consideration ..	334
Persons sentenced to hard labour ..	283	Petitions declined ..	20
Habitual criminals ..	41	Recommended for discharge ..	27
Habitual offenders ..	..	Discharged from probation ..	18
Habitual criminals for remission of head sentence ..	2	Recommended remission of head sentence ..	1
Probationers under Crimes Amendment Act ..	17	Modification of terms of probation ..	1
Probationers under Offenders Probation Act ..	20		
	933		933

Having but recently assumed the office of President of the Prisons Board, I do not propose to comment on the 1942 statistics except to note that the satisfactory results shown by the statistics for previous years have continued to be maintained.

It is with regret the Board records the premature retirement of Sir Hubert Ostler, whose appointment as President terminated when, on account of failing health, he retired from the Supreme Court Bench in February of this year. Sir Hubert was profoundly interested in the work of the Board and the welfare of those coming under its purview. At considerable personal sacrifice he gave his time both willingly and liberally in this connection.