

SESSION II.  
1921.  
NEW ZEALAND.

---

# THE POLICE FORCE OF THE DOMINION

(ANNUAL REPORT ON).

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

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The COMMISSIONER OF POLICE to the Hon. the MINISTER IN CHARGE OF POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Police Department, Wellington, 1st November, 1921.

I HAVE the honour to present the annual report on the Police Force for the year ended the 31st March last.

### STRENGTH OF FORCE.

On the 31st March last the number of permanent members of the Force of all ranks was 882, being an increase of 38 during the year. The total is made up as follows:—

Superintendents	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Inspectors	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Sub-Inspectors	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Senior Sergeants	..	..	..	..	..	..	34
Sergeants	..	..	..	..	..	..	78
Constables	..	..	..	..	..	..	700
Senior Detectives	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Detective-sergeants	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Detectives	..	..	..	..	..	..	27

In addition to the above there were—

Police surgeons	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Matrons	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
District constables	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Native constables	..	..	..	..	..	..	3

There were also 68 temporary constables appointed under section 2 of the Police Force Amendment Act, 1919: 48 of these were recruits undergoing a period of probationary service with a view to permanent appointment; the remaining 20 were temporary constables appointed during the war period who were over age or otherwise unsuitable for permanent appointment.

### STATIONS.

New stations have been established at Matamata, Seatoun, and Millerton, and the stations at Miramar and Stafford have been closed.

New police districts have been established with headquarters at Whangarei, New Plymouth, and Gisborne respectively.

Whangarei district comprises 16 stations which were included in the northern portion of the Auckland District; New Plymouth district consists of 14 stations formerly in Wanganui District; and Gisborne District was formed by the transfer of 11 stations from Napier District and 2 from Hamilton District. The boundaries of Hamilton and Wanganui districts have also been altered, whereby 5 stations have been transferred from the former to the latter.

## CASUALTIES.

The following are the casualties for the year ended 31st March last: Retired on pension under the Public Service Superannuation Act, 7; died, 4; resigned voluntarily, 42; called upon to resign, 2; dismissed, 3: total, 58. This is 2 less than in the preceding year.

## CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The criminal statistics (Appendix A) deal with offences reported to the police during the year ended the 31st December last, and show an aggregate net increase of 1,828 on the figures of 1919. The proportion of offences to the population was 2.09 per cent., as against 1.99 the previous year.

The principal increases during the year appear under the following headings, viz. :—

Theft (undescribed) .. .. .	661	Vagrancy offences .. .. .	101
House or shop breaking .. .. .	39	Unlawfully using motor-cars, &c... ..	121
Receiving stolen property .. .. .	28	Failing to maintain wives, &c. .. ..	267
Forgery .. .. .	42	Embezzling cargo .. .. .	36
Drunkenness .. .. .	764	Being found on licensed premises after hours	228
Using profane, indecent, or obscene language	25	Unlawful betting .. .. .	32

There were decreases in the following :—

Assault (common) .. .. .	88	Selling liquor after hours .. .. .	95
Mischief .. .. .	78	Breaches of prohibition orders .. .. .	76
Assaulting or obstructing police.. .. .	69	Absconding from industrial schools .. .. .	41
Gaming with instruments .. .. .	68	Ship-desertion .. .. .	36

The following return shows the number of offences reported in each police district during the year, the number of cases in which arrests or summonses resulted, and the number in which no prosecution followed :—

Police District.	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests or Summonses resulted.	Number in which no Arrests or Summonses resulted.
Whangarei .. .. .	699	678	21
Auckland .. .. .	5,214	4,965	249
Hamilton .. .. .	2,340	2,225	115
Napier .. .. .	1,999	1,916	83
Wanganui .. .. .	1,748	1,686	62
Palmerston North .. .. .	1,173	1,117	56
Wellington .. .. .	5,334	5,035	299
Greymouth .. .. .	1,025	996	29
Christchurch .. .. .	3,596	3,287	309
Timaru .. .. .	795	751	44
Dunedin .. .. .	1,285	1,194	91
Invercargill .. .. .	898	868	30
Totals .. .. .	26,106	24,718	1,388

The percentage of arrests or summonses resulting from offences reported during the year 1920 was 94.68, the figures of the preceding year being 96.02.

## SERIOUS CRIMES.

The following is a return of the number of serious crimes as compared with the previous year :—

Crimes.	1919.		1920.	
	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests resulted.	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests resulted.
Arson .. .. .	22	19	16	15
Robbery and aggravated robbery .. .. .	5	4	21	16
Burglary, breaking into shops, dwellings, &c. .. .. .	521	426	573	446
Forgery and uttering .. .. .	112	104	149	127
Murder .. .. .	9	9	13	12
Murder, attempted .. .. .	1	1	8	8
Rape .. .. .	8	7	4	4
Receiving stolen property .. .. .	63	63	91	91
Wounding with intent .. .. .	3	3	4	4
Totals .. .. .	744	636	879	723

Indecent and sexual offences were as under:—

Offences.	1919.	1920.
Unnatural offence .. .. .	2	5
Unnatural offence, attempted .. .. .	3	1
Indecently assaulting a male .. .. .	14	12
Incest .. .. .	3	5
Indecent acts .. .. .	28	18
Concealment of birth.. .. .	5	2
Assault, indecent .. .. .	72	70
Rape .. .. .	8	4
Rape, attempted .. .. .	2	8
Carnally knowing girls .. .. .	24	14
Carnally knowing girls, attempted .. .. .	8	7
Abortion, procuring, &c. .. .. .	11	10
Exposure of person and grossly indecent acts .. .. .	208	220
<b>Totals .. .. .</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>376</b>

#### DRUNKENNESS.

There has been an increase of 763 in the number of prosecutions for drunkenness during the year as compared with the previous year.

The number charged with drunkenness in 1920 was 8,979 (8,470 males and 509 females), whereas in 1919 the number was 8,216 (7,758 males and 458 females).

The following return shows the number of prosecutions for drunkenness in each police district during the year 1920 as compared with 1919:—

Police District.	Number of Prosecutions, 1919.	Number of Prosecutions, 1920.	Increase.	Decrease.
Whangarei .. .. .	137	153	16	..
Auckland .. .. .	1,473	1,775	302	..
Hamilton .. .. .	631	763	132	..
Napier .. .. .	702	689	..	13
Wanganui .. .. .	500	539	39	..
Palmerston North .. .. .	394	359	..	35
Wellington.. .. .	2,240	2,478	238	..
Greymouth.. .. .	154	187	33	..
Christchurch .. .. .	912	1,109	97	..
Timaru .. .. .	336	283	..	53
Dunedin .. .. .	542	407	..	135
Invercargill .. .. .	195	237	42	..
<b>Totals .. .. .</b>	<b>8,216</b>	<b>8,979</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>236</b>

From the following table it will be observed that 32·88 per cent. of the males and 58·94 per cent. of the females had previous convictions recorded against them, and 13·5 per cent. of the males were not permanent residents of the Dominion.

*Return showing the Number of Persons charged with Drunkenness during the Year 1920, and the Number of Previous Convictions against them, so far as is known.*

Police District.	Not previously convicted.		One Previous Conviction.		Two Previous Convictions.		Three Previous Convictions.		Four Previous Convictions.		Five Previous Convictions.		Over Five Previous Convictions.		Totals.		Number of Foreigners who were Members of Crew of Vessels in Port.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Whangarei .. .. .	137	..	14	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	153	..	..
Auckland .. .. .	964	41	149	12	114	18	78	9	97	14	112	10	138	19	1,652	123	414	
Hamilton .. .. .	647	9	54	5	28	..	13	..	3	..	4	..	..	..	749	14	..	
Napier .. .. .	344	7	104	7	67	..	38	..	43	..	38	2	34	5	668	21	26	
Wanganui .. .. .	342	8	83	3	49	1	27	..	8	..	8	..	10	..	527	12	10	
Palmerston North.. .. .	248	10	25	..	15	..	24	2	12	1	11	1	10	..	345	14	..	
Wellington .. .. .	1,746	106	210	44	142	27	71	19	34	14	28	4	31	2	2,262	216	460	
Greymouth .. .. .	136	..	16	..	9	..	3	1	5	..	6	..	11	..	186	1	45	
Christchurch .. .. .	540	15	123	9	56	9	70	14	36	9	47	7	154	20	1,026	83	121	
Timaru .. .. .	166	3	30	2	20	..	15	..	8	..	7	..	31	1	277	6	7	
Dunedin .. .. .	227	8	47	1	23	3	24	1	6	..	13	1	50	3	390	17	51	
Invercargill .. .. .	188	2	24	..	15	..	4	..	1	..	..	..	3	..	235	2	11	
<b>Totals .. .. .</b>	<b>5,685</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>8,470</b>	<b>509</b>	<b>1,145</b>	

Return showing the Number of Persons arrested for Drunkenness within each Principal Centre during the Years 1919 and 1920, the Number convicted, the Number discharged or otherwise dealt with (Males and Females shown separately), and the Increase or Decrease in Arrests.

Centre.	Number arrested, 1919.		Number arrested, 1920.		Number convicted, 1920.		Number discharged or otherwise dealt with, 1920.		Increase in Arrests. M. and F.	Decrease in Arrests. M. and F.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Auckland and suburbs ...	898	83	1,035	81	1,032	81	3	...	135	...
Wellington and suburbs	1,742	154	1,826	196	1,825	195	1	1	126	...
Christchurch and suburbs	525	51	706	80	703	80	3	...	210	...
Dunedin and suburbs ...	400	21	390	17	388	17	2	...	...	14
Totals ...	3,565	309	3,957	374	3,948	373	9	1	471	14

Return showing the Number of Persons arrested for Drunkenness on Sundays within each Principal Centre during the Years 1919 and 1920 (Males and Females shown separately).

Centre.	Number arrested, 1919.		Number arrested, 1920.		Number convicted, 1920.		Number discharged or otherwise dealt with, 1920.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Auckland and suburbs ...	39	1	63	1	63	1	...	...
Wellington and suburbs...	50	2	64	...	64	...	...	...
Christchurch and suburbs	6	1	5	1	5	1	...	...
Dunedin and suburbs ...	10	...	9	...	9	...	...	...
Totals ...	105	4	141	2	141	2	...	...

The following table shows the convictions for drunkenness per ten thousand of the population for each year from 1915 to 1919 in Australia and New Zealand:—

	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
Commonwealth ..	126.6	102.5	93.0	86.1	80.2
New Zealand ..	117.9	97.3	78.3	63.5	67.4

#### PROSECUTIONS AGAINST HOTELKEEPERS.

The number of prosecutions (498) against hotelkeepers during the year shows an increase of 10 as compared with the preceding year.

Return showing the Number of Prosecutions against Hotelkeepers in each District during the Year 1920 as compared with 1919, the Number convicted, and the Number discharged or otherwise dealt with.

District.	Prosecutions, 1919.	Prosecutions, 1920.	Convictions, 1920.	Discharged or otherwise dealt with, 1920.
Whangarei ...	4	8	5	3
Auckland ...	45	15	5	10
Hamilton ...	18	24	10	14
Napier ...	65	20	18	2
Wanganui ...	111	88	40	48
Palmerston North ...	35	26	13	13
Wellington ...	78	66	42	24
Greymouth ...	58	172	54	118
Christchurch ...	24	33	18	15
Timaru ...	11	16	9	7
Dunedin ...	10	18	8	10
Invercargill ...	29	12	7	5
Totals ...	488	498	229	269

Return showing the Number of Prosecutions against Hotelkeepers within each Principal Centre during the Year 1920 as compared with 1919, the Number convicted, and the Number discharged or otherwise dealt with.

Centre.	Prosecutions, 1919.	Prosecutions, 1920.	Convictions, 1920.	Discharged or otherwise dealt with, 1920.
Auckland and suburbs ...	22	6	...	6
Wellington and suburbs	15	23	11	12
Christchurch and suburbs	9	9	4	5
Dunedin and suburbs	2	4	1	3
Totals ...	48	42	16	26

## SLY-GROG SELLING.

There were 70 prosecutions during the year for selling liquor without a license, resulting in 58 convictions, and there were also 53 prosecutions, resulting in 43 convictions, for other offences against the provisions of the Licensing Act in force in no-license districts.

The fines imposed on sly-grog sellers during the year 1920 amounted to £1,914, as against £1,820 in 1919.

The amount of fines in the various districts are as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Whangarei .. .. .	84	0	0
Auckland .. .. .	442	10	0
Hamilton .. .. .	766	0	0
Hapier .. .. .	..	..	..
Wanganui .. .. .	267	0	0
Palmerston North .. .. .	..	..	..
Wellington .. .. .	87	10	0
Greymouth .. .. .	5	0	0
Christchurch .. .. .	77	0	0
Timaru .. .. .	125	0	0
Dunedin .. .. .	20	0	0
Invercargill .. .. .	40	0	0
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>£1,914</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

The direct cost to the Department in detecting and prosecuting sly-grog sellers during the year was £439, this being £1,475 less than the amount of fines imposed.

## GAMING OFFENCES.

There were 279 prosecutions, resulting in 196 convictions, during the year under the Gaming Act, against 324 prosecutions and 224 convictions in 1919.

## CRIMINAL REGISTRATION BRANCH.

The work in this branch continues to increase. During the year the finger-impressions of 3,081 persons were received, classified, searched, and filed, an increase of 395 on the number received in the preceding year. 232 prisoners were identified as previous offenders in either this Dominion, Australia, or England (an increase of 56); 1,716 photographs were taken by the photographers attached to the branch (increase, 586); the portraits of 1,996 prisoners were dealt with (increase, 472); and 444 photographs of discharged prisoners were reproduced in the *Police Gazette* (decrease, 4).

The finger-print system has continued to prove its value as a means of identification. During the year many "wanted" persons have been traced by means of their finger-prints, and in all criminal cases in which finger-print evidence was tendered the accused, with one exception, admitted their guilt.

On the 31st March the finger-print collection consisted of the impressions of 26,650 persons, an increase of 2,964 on last year's figures.

The following table shows the increase of the finger-print collection since the introduction of the system in March, 1903:—

Year.	Number of Prints in Collection.	Increase on Previous Year.	Prisoners traced as Previous Offenders.	Year.	Number of Prints in Collection.	Increase on Previous Year.	Prisoners traced as Previous Offenders.
1904 ..	3,500	3,500	117	1913 ..	13,552	1,455	183
1905 ..	4,200	700	72	1914 ..	15,302	1,750	230
1906 ..	5,000	800	88	1915 ..	16,682	1,380	270
1907 ..	6,151	1,151	104	1916 ..	18,134	1,452	218
1908 ..	7,622	1,471	123	1917 ..	19,508	1,374	166
1909 ..	8,718	1,096	138	1918 ..	20,982	1,474	132
1910 ..	9,919	1,201	140	1919 ..	22,332	1,350	153
1911 ..	10,905	986	148	1920 ..	23,686	1,354	176
1912 ..	12,097	1,192	178	1921 ..	26,650	2,964	232

## CANDIDATES FOR FORCE.

Ninety-six men were permanently appointed to the Force during the year, their birthplaces, religions, and occupations being as follows: Birthplaces—New Zealand, 70; England, 9; Scotland, 4; Wales, 1; Ireland, 7; Australia, 4; Norway, 1. Religions—Church of England, 36; Roman Catholic, 24; Presbyterian, 1; Methodist, 12; Brethren, 1; Church of Christ, 1; Salvation Army, 1. Occupations—Asylum-attendant, 1; blacksmiths, 4; bakers, 2; butchers, 2; bushman, 1; blindmaker, 1; clerks, 2; canvasser, 1; carpenter, 1; cook, 1; cheese-factory hand, 1; cutter, 1; draper, 1; ex-constables, 6; engineer, 1; farm labourers, 22; firebrigadesman, 1; fellmonger, 1; grocer, 1; insurance agent, 1; labourers, 21; miner, 1; motor-driver, 1; metal worker, 1; plumbers, 3; ploughmen, 5; railway employees, 3; storemen, 2; school-teacher, 1; sawmill hands, 2; salesman, 1; soldier, 1; telegraphist, 1; taxi-driver, 1.

## POLICE BUILDINGS, ETC.

The following works in connection with police-stations have been carried out during the year by the Public Works Department:—

New buildings erected: Te Araroa (lock-up), Napier (motor-garage), Palmerston North (sergeant's residence), Mount Cook, Wellington (sergeant's residence), Dannevirke (police-station, lock-up, and residence), Eastbourne (lock-up), Eketahuna (new stables), Seddon (additions), Hokitika (offices and residence).

Properties purchased: Police-stations—Rongotea, Woodhaugh, Lower Riccarton, Levin, Portobello, Port Chalmers, Seatoun, Ashhurst, Millerton, Belfast, Upper Hutt, Otira, Cuba Street (Palmerston North), Fortrose, Wanganui East, Green Island, St. Kilda, Ravensbourne, St. John's (Wanganui), Brooklyn, Hamilton (sergeant's residence), Whangarei (Inspector's residence), Hamilton (detective's residence), Invercargill (Senior Sergeant's, sergeant's, and detective's residences), Wellington (Chief Detective's residence), Greymouth (Inspector's residence).

Sites acquired: Miramar, Ohaeawai, Herekino, Middlemarch, and Feilding.

Additions, alterations, improvements, &c., were effected at Whangarei, Hikurangi, Kaikohe, Kawakawa, Mangonui, Auckland (central), Takapuna, Otahuhu, Helensville, Mercer, Otorohanga, Tauranga, Gisborne, Wairoa, Napier, Port Ahuriri, Taumarunui, Ongarue, Tokaanu, Fitzroy, Hawera, Normanby, Waitotara, Palmerston North, Wellington South (training-depot), Masterton, Johnsonville, Wellington (central), Upper Hutt, Pongaroa, Kilbirnie, Weraroa, Lower Hutt, Lyall Bay, Petone, Pahiatua, Nelson (station and quarters), Nelson (cottages), Richmond, Port Nelson, Christchurch (Inspector's residence), Bealey Flat, Cheviot, Papanui, Timaru, Lyttelton, Sumner, Upper Riccarton, Akaroa, Addington, Fendalton, Woolston, Amberley, Sydenham, New Brighton, Glenavy, Temuka, Balclutha, Clinton, Dunedin (central), Hampden, Kurow, Lawrence, Milton, Mornington, Outram, Owaka, Ravensbourne, St. Kilda, Tapanui, Waitahuna, Wyndham, Invercargill (detective's residence).

## GROWTH OF DEPARTMENT.

The following return shows the growth of the Department, the continued increase of the population, and the total number of offences (irrespective of by-laws offences) reported, and in which arrests or summonses resulted, each year since 1877, prior to which date each province in the Dominion had its own Police Force, and reliable data are not available:—

Year.	Officers.	Non-commissioned Officers.	Detectives.	Constables.	Total.	Police to Population.	Cost per Inhabitant.	Population.	Offences reported.	Offences where Arrests or Summonses resulted.	Arrests for Drunkenness (included in "Offences reported").
1878	25	90	14	329	458	1 to 944		432,352	14,157	13,959	6,668
1879	25	84	16	364	489	1 to 948		463,572	16,374	14,696	6,794
1880	25	86	21	379	511	1 to 949		484,939	17,837	16,723	6,484
1881	13	73	18	337	441	1 to 1,136	Not obtainable	500,976	16,635	15,212	5,587
1882	13	72	19	343	447	1 to 1,158		517,626	18,613	17,470	6,860
1883	13	72	20	356	461	1 to 1,173		540,753	18,775	17,727	7,572
1884	13	70	17	365	465	1 to 1,263		587,295	18,263	17,322	7,151
1885	20	65	17	372	474	1 to 1,293		613,212	18,955	17,723	7,034
1886	20	66	18	390	494	1 to 1,266		625,849	18,135	17,000	6,260
1887	20	69	18	395	502	1 to 1,265		635,215	17,752	16,500	5,226
1888	13	69	17	388	487	1 to 1,328		646,913	12,897	11,854	5,387
1889	13	65	17	389	484	1 to 1,347		652,125	12,945	11,885	5,444
1890	12	66	13	403	494	1 to 1,346		664,855	13,115	12,177	5,866
1891	7	61	14	404	486	1 to 1,375	668,353	12,674	11,748	5,416	
1892	7	60	14	401	482	1 to 1,401	2/9	675,775	13,153	12,187	5,360
1893	7	53	14	407	481	1 to 1,439	2/8½	692,426	13,165	12,100	5,251
1894	7	55	13	410	485	1 to 1,472	2/7¼	714,258	13,530	12,500	4,594
1895	7	51	13	416	487	1 to 1,495	2/6¾	723,121	14,010	12,435	4,636
1896	6	51	13	414	484	1 to 1,530	2/7½	740,699	14,673	13,171	5,005
1897	7	45	12	453	517	1 to 1,461	2/7½	754,016	15,219	14,042	5,204
1898	7	56	16	457	536	1 to 1,435	2/8	768,910	16,378	14,730	5,532
1899	11	53	15	475	554	1 to 1,414	2/9½	783,317	16,865	15,561	6,289
1900	11	56	20	499	586	1 to 1,359	2/10¾	796,359	18,358	17,131	7,299
1901	11	56	20	504	591	1 to 1,381	2/10¼	816,290	19,909	18,742	8,057
1902	12	58	20	514	604	1 to 1,375	2/10¾	830,800	19,771	18,802	8,269
1903	12	59	20	522	613	1 to 1,388	2/10¾	851,068	20,736	19,867	8,815
1904	12	59	21	534	626	1 to 1,398	2/10¼	875,648	21,066	20,118	9,615
1905	12	65	25	553	655	1 to 1,375	2/10½	900,682	20,249	19,251	8,707
1906	14	71	25	557	667	1 to 1,387	2/10½	925,605	21,160	20,241	9,210
1907	14	78	30	577	699	1 to 1,375	3/0	961,604	23,204	22,244	10,203
1908	15	83	32	604	734	1 to 1,331	3/2½	977,215	23,510	22,484	10,343
1909	16	87	35	633	771	1 to 1,308	3/4¼	1,008,373	23,930	22,880	10,657
1910	16	86	34	639	775	1 to 1,330	3/3½	1,030,657	25,106	23,949	11,718
1911	15	87	38	648	788	1 to 1,333	3/4½	1,050,410	24,999	23,492	11,699
1912	15	89	39	692	835	1 to 1,287	3/5	1,075,250	25,981	24,837	11,884
1913	17	93	41	695	846	1 to 1,303	3/8	1,102,389	25,415	24,364	11,707
1914	17	94	40	719	870	1 to 1,304	3/9	1,134,506	27,563	26,494	13,189
1915	19	100	37	755	911	1 to 1,257	4/1	1,145,840	28,412	27,096	13,268
1916	19	104	36	757	916	1 to 1,258	4/2¾	1,152,669	24,920	23,848	10,833
1917	20	108	36	734	898	1 to 1,280	4/3	1,150,002	21,724	20,701	8,800
1918	20	111	38	732*	901	1 to 1,274	4/6½	1,147,391	19,067	18,043	7,228
1919	20	112	41	705*	878	1 to 1,319	5/2½	1,158,156	24,278	23,312	8,216
1920	21	114	38	743*	916	1 to 1,325	4/11¾	1,214,184	26,106	24,718	8,979
1921	23	112	47	768*	950	1 to 1,310	6/4¼	1,244,620	...	...	...

\* Includes temporary constables.

## GENERAL.

On the 18th August, 1920, the Right Hon. W. F. Massey, Prime Minister, handed over the administration of the Police Department to the Hon. E. P. Lee, Minister of Justice.

During the year from the 1st April, 1920, to the 31st March, 1921, the following promotions took place: 1st December, 1920—Sub-Inspector Dew to Inspector. 1st January, 1921—Sub-Inspectors Mathieson, Hutton, Wohlmann, Emerson, and Cassells to Inspectors; Senior Sergeants Eales, Muggeridge, Murray, and Willis to Sub-Inspectors. Eight sergeants were promoted to the rank of Senior Sergeant, and eight constables were promoted to the rank of sergeant. Fourteen constables were appointed detectives.

*Increase in Districts.*—The policy, referred to in my reports of 1919 and 1920, of reducing the area of large districts has been carried a further stage, and three new districts have been formed during the year—viz., Whangarei (1st May, 1920) and Gisborne and New Plymouth (1st January, 1921). Smaller and more manageable districts have been the result of the subdivision, and the fruits of the policy are evident in the closer attention to supervision which Inspectors are now able to give. The benefits will be still greater as time goes on. A corollary to that policy is the extension of the jurisdiction of Superintendents, which hitherto was confined to their own districts. The four Superintendents located at the four principal cities have had their authority extended to the Inspectors' Districts in the vicinity, and the Dominion has been divided amongst them in four police divisions as follows: Wellington Division, including the Districts of Wellington, Wanganui, New Plymouth, Palmerston North, and Napier; Auckland Division, including the Districts of Auckland, Whangarei, Hamilton, and Gisborne; Canterbury Division, including the Districts of Christchurch, Timaru, and Greymouth; Otago Division, including the Districts of Dunedin and Invercargill.

For administration purposes the four cities are the local headquarters of the districts included in the respective divisions. Certain special functions have been assigned to the Superintendents, while the responsibility of each Inspector has been maintained intact. An effect of the rearrangement of districts is that the number of Sub-Inspectors is reduced from seven to four; while the number of districts under the charge of Inspectors has been increased from eleven to fourteen. Sub-Inspectors are now required only at the four cities.

*Administration of Samoa.*—At the request of the Hon. the Minister of External Affairs, Sub-Inspector Wohlmann was transferred to the Samoan Administration, and was appointed Commissioner of Police of Western Samoa.

*Discipline.*—One sergeant was reduced in rank, two constables were compelled to resign, and three constables were dismissed. The conduct of the Force on the whole has been very good.

*Loss.*—The total loss of men from all causes was fifty-eight, equal to 6.576 per cent. The proportion in the Metropolitan Police Force of London was 6.645 per cent. Notwithstanding the increase in the numerical strength of the Force, this number has been practically constant since 1906, in which year the highest record was attained—viz., sixty-six.

*Training Recruits.*—It is gratifying to be able to report that the training-depot, Rintoul Street, was reopened on the 17th May this year, when a class of twenty-five men was received for training. A class of fifty men is at present undergoing instruction, and a class of thirty is called up for training on the 1st December. It is hoped that these additions will go a long way towards filling the shortage in numbers to which officers in charge of districts draw attention, as well as to meet fresh demands from places not provided with police.

The provisions of the Police Force Amendment Act, 1919, enabling temporary constables to be appointed, proved to be very useful during the time the training-depot was closed. Men who were recruited but not trained were sworn in as temporary constables and put on probation for a period of three months, during which they received what instruction was possible together with practical work and experience. The system worked fairly well, and was the best possible in the circumstances; but the contrast between it and the system of training in the depot served to emphasize the great value of the latter. The type of recruits offering is very good on the whole; many of them are at or near the minimum age, which is a distinct advantage in that they are more amenable to training, discipline, and instruction than men who approach the maximum age, many of whom desire to join the Police Force in the hope of finding it a "soft job" after failure or disappointment in other callings.

The number of temporary constables taken on under the provisions of the War Legislation Amendment Act, 1916, section 32, and now remaining in the service is eighteen.

*Housing.*—The question of housing members of the Force is still acute, but, owing to the recruiting of a large number of young unmarried men who are accommodated in the barracks of the principal cities, a degree of relief will be experienced presently as the married constables are moved into country stations.

In my former reports I drew attention to the expediency of providing married constables in the cities with residences in the immediate vicinity of the stations to which they are assigned. The reasons then put forward still hold good, for there will always be a good proportion of married constables in the cities. Their tendency naturally is to seek for houses in the more remote outskirts of the cities, in order to secure better conditions as regard rent and environment. The effect is to render mobilization for emergencies, such as great fires, &c., difficult and slow. A good deal has been done within the last five years as regards acquiring residences for officers in charge of districts, and non-commissioned officers in charge of stations. Premises for police-stations in the country districts have also been purchased when favourable conditions existed. It is desirable to carry this process on until the Department is equipped with its own property throughout the Dominion, but in the present financial conditions I refrain from urging anything but what is absolutely essential.

*Gaming Amendment Act, 1920.*—This Act, which came into operation on the 28th August, 1920, made the business of a bookmaker unlawful, and made it penal for any person to bet with a bookmaker. Certain provisions relating to evidence, and facilitating proof of offences, were also included. The Act undoubtedly made it more difficult for bookmakers to carry on the business, but in practice the police found it very difficult, as before, to convict the offenders. The police have been roundly censured for permitting the bookmaker to exist, with the power of the new Act to extinguish him; but those who believed it was possible to extinguish him with legislation backed up by drastic police action are as confiding and credulous as those who suppose that the thief and the burglar, the unlawful practitioner and murderer, may be extinguished by means of the Crimes Act (which declares their business to be unlawful) put into operation by a Police Force which is generally admitted to be reasonably efficient. Drastic legislation followed by vigorous police action can keep these evils in check, but the causes are deeper-rooted than legislation or police efforts can reach. The same applies with at least equal force to the evils the Gaming Acts were intended to combat. The police, I am confident, have done, and will continue to do, all that is possible to enforce these Acts.

*Arms Act, 1920.*—This Act came in force on the 1st January, 1921. It entailed an extraordinary amount of work upon the police; owing to the immense number of cases to be dealt with registration was slow, and could not be completed within the time fixed by statute. The obligations imposed by the Act have been very cheerfully complied with by all classes of the community. There is no reason to believe that evasion of the duty to register has taken place to any great extent; but all evasions will be discovered sooner or later, with varying consequences to the offenders according to the degree of delay or evasion. It is considered that the Act, when in full operation for some time, will have a beneficial effect in reducing the number of fatalities due to the use of firearms.

*Serious Crime.*—The criminal statistics for 1920 show an extraordinary number of cases of homicide, there being thirteen cases of murder and thirteen of manslaughter. There were also eight cases of attempted murder. It is impossible to assign any reason for such an extraordinary number—no common cause in the conditions of the people can be discovered which would account for it. The circumstances in which the crimes were committed indicate that they were not preventable by any police measures. As many of the crimes were committed with firearms, it is believed that the operation of the Arms Act will eventually, though not immediately, reduce the number of fatalities due to the criminal use of firearms.

The skill and ability displayed in detecting some of the murder cases, which were of an exceptionally difficult nature, show that we have in New Zealand a Police Force which may compare favourably with any similar body in the Empire.

*Valedictory.*—This is the last annual report which it will be my privilege to submit for the information of the Government and Parliament. I have voluntarily tendered my resignation, and it has been accepted, to take effect on 31st December proximo. I regret that circumstances do not permit me to spend the remaining period allowed by statute in the service of the country. It only remains for me now, when I may do so without impropriety as being “gratitude for favours to come,” to express my sincere gratitude to the Honourable Ministers who have had charge of the police administration during my term of office as Commissioner, for their confidence, support, and assistance in all matters appertaining to my work. It is pleasing—indeed, it is due to them—to put on record that they have maintained in practice the fine ideal which all authorities on the subject contend for as regards the relations of the Minister to the chief executive police officer—viz., that the latter should be supported in the proper execution of his duties and held responsible for efficient administration, but otherwise without interference. At the same time, no blind trust was imposed in me—every act, every proposal was carefully scrutinized by the Minister, and his counsel was readily given in every difficulty. It is unnecessary to stress the effect this attitude had in maintaining the authority of the Commissioner and promoting the discipline of the Force. I have also to express my appreciation of the handsome manner in which members of Parliament dealt with all matters relating to the police during my term of office. That was a period of exceptional stress and difficulty, but the attitude of Ministers and members made comparatively easy a burden of duty which might otherwise be intolerable. It is unnecessary for me to bespeak similar consideration for my successor, Mr. A. H. Wright.

I leave with the satisfaction of knowing that the foundations of a very fine Police Force are laid, and that its full development and perfection as a highly efficient executive instrument of government, of the first importance in promoting the safety, comfort, and happiness of the community, are assured. These results are due to the outstanding interest which Ministers, under whom I have had the honour to serve as official head of the Department, evinced in the welfare of the Force. What they have done for the development and welfare of the service in recent years shows that they realized that these objects are worthy of the ambition of any Minister to achieve, and is a guarantee of similar support in the future.

#### REPORTS OF OFFICERS IN CHARGE OF DISTRICTS.

Extracts from the annual reports of officers in charge of districts are hereto annexed.

J. O'DONOVAN,  
Commissioner of Police.



## EXTRACTS FROM ANNUAL REPORTS OF OFFICERS IN CHARGE OF DISTRICTS.

## INSPECTOR EMERSON, WHANGAREI DISTRICT.

I took charge of the district on the 1st January, 1921.

The strength of the Force at the 31st March last was—1 Inspector, 1 Senior Sergeant, 2 sergeants, 18 constables, 1 detective, 1 district constable, and 3 Native constables.

There has been an increase of one constable at Whangarei, and a decrease of a Native constable, who resigned, at Kaitaia. I recommend that a second constable be appointed to Kaitaia, as the work there is far too much for one constable to cope with; further, I recommend that two additional constables be appointed to Whangarei Station. At present there are three constables for street duty at Whangarei. One of them is fully engaged on inquiries, a second is almost half his time away on escort, and the third attends to town duty. Whangarei is a growing town, and more police are required to deal with work coming in.

Inspector L. Mullany, who was in charge of the district, died on the 22nd August, 1920. The Native constable, stationed at Kaitaia, was discharged on voluntary resignation on the 31st July, 1920. These were the only casualties during the year.

The number of offences reported during the year total 699, as against 698 the previous year. Of the offences reported there were 678 in which action was taken. Increases in the following offences are reported: Mischief, 9; murder, 1; drunkenness, 16; drunk and disorderly, 9; unlawfully using horses, motor-cars, &c., 10; betting, unlawful, 23; failing to pay maintenance-moneys, 7; illegally supplying liquor to Natives, 10. Decreases are shown in the following offences: Assaults (common), 34; theft (undescribed), 36; house or shop breaking, 14; breach of peace, 13; cruelty to animals, 5; drunk in charge of horses, 9; breaches of prohibition orders, 21.

The only serious crimes committed during the year were two alleged murders. One Wiremu Pita was charged with shooting Douglas Phillips at Mokau on the 30th May, 1920. He was acquitted at Auckland Supreme Court. The other case was that of Thomas Needham, who killed his son at Maungaturoto in January last. He was found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to five years' imprisonment.

The conduct of the members of the Force has been good. There were no defaulters during the year.

## SUPERINTENDENT WRIGHT, AUCKLAND DISTRICT.

The authorized strength on the 31st March last was—1 Superintendent, 1 Inspector, 1 Sub-Inspector, 2 Senior Sergeants, 21 sergeants, 127 constables, 1 Senior Detective, 4 detective sergeants, 8 detectives, 1 acting detective; total 167. In addition there were 2 matrons, 1 police surgeon, and 3 district constables.

During the year the northern portion of the Auckland District was formed into a separate district under an Inspector, with headquarters at Whangarei. The following stations—viz., Aratapu, Dargaville, Hikurangi, Houhora, Kaikohe, Kaitaia, Kawakawa, Mangawai, Mangonui, Maungaturoto, Ohaeawai, Rawene, Waipu, Whangarei, Whangaroa, and Russell—were included therein. This will afford much better supervision over the northern portion of the Dominion, and tend to efficiency.

The only increase to the strength during the year has been 1 sergeant at Freeman's Bay (Auckland), 1 detective-sergeant at Auckland, and 1 constable at Queen Street Wharf.

During the past five years the total increase to the strength of the district as now constituted has been 3 sergeants, 2 detectives, and 1 constable—an absurdly inadequate number. This has been due to the difficulty of recruiting, and not through any desire on the part of the Department to limit the employment of a sufficient number to meet requirements. At the same time the inadequate staff has caused the responsible officers considerable anxiety, and thrown upon all a task which they have had hard work to carry out satisfactorily.

At the present time the following increases are urgently required: 15 constables for the city, 1 constable for Mount Eden, 1 constable for Newmarket, 1 constable for Freeman's Bay, 2 constables for the wharf, and 1 constable for Onehunga, a total of 21. This will only satisfy the existing pressing demand.

The casualties during the year have been—Superannuated, 1 sergeant and 1 constable; discharged as unsuitable, 3 constables; resigned, 17 constables. A great proportion of the latter were temporary constables who found that the work did not suit them.

The offences return for this district shows that in 1920 a total of 5,214 offences were reported, as compared with 4,834 the previous year, a net increase of 380. Of the offences reported over 95 per cent. were accounted for either by arrest or summons, leaving 249 undetected; 310 cases were committed, for trial, and 265 of them resulted in convictions at the Supreme Court; 4,238 were summarily convicted, and 417 discharged. The offences return shows increases under the headings of theft (undescribed), 101; house and shop breaking, 25; receiving stolen property, 36; forgery, 23; drunkenness, 302; obscene language, 33; vagrancy, 27; failing to maintain families, 30; disobeying maintenance orders, 67; embezzling cargo, 33; keeping brothels, 22. Decreases under the following headings are shown: Assaults, 32; gaming with instruments, 49; selling liquor after hours, 46; breach of prohibition orders, 131. None of these figures call for special comment, as they are the increases and decreases experienced year by year.

A considerable amount of selling liquor without a license by persons known as "droppers" has been going on round the wharves and back streets of Auckland on Sundays and during hours in which hotels are closed, and this has no doubt been responsible for a number of cases of drunkenness. The police have taken prompt steps to bring these sly-grog sellers before the Court, and a good number of convictions have been obtained, substantial fines being inflicted. The practice still, however, prevails, and will receive further attention.

During the year two deliberate murders took place in this district. The first occurred on the night of the 13th March, 1920, when a man named Dennis Gunn visited the house of the Ponsonby Postmaster, Mr. Braithwaite, shot him dead with a revolver, stole his office keys, and afterwards robbed the strong-room of the post-office of a large sum of money. Prompt action was taken, and the murderer arrested a few days afterwards. He was subsequently tried, convicted, and hanged.

The other occurred at Pukekawa, an isolated place near Tuakau, on the night of the 24th August, 1920, when a man named Samuel John Thorne shot a settler named Sidney Seymour Eyre, who was asleep in his bed, by putting a shot-gun through the open window and close to Eyre's head and blowing the top of his head off, jealousy and revenge being the motives. Thorne lived by himself some twenty miles away, and it was extremely difficult to obtain sufficient evidence to satisfy a jury of his guilt. However, this was done, and he was subsequently convicted and hanged.

In both these cases it was only the prompt and careful inquiries, coupled with the closest observation, that enabled the police to gather the necessary evidence, and the result proved that the police are quite able to do justice to the most difficult problems, and the officers concerned were justly complimented by the Judge, juries, and the Press.

The conduct of the police during the year has been highly satisfactory; no serious and very few complaints of any kind have been made against them by the public. Considering that the training-depot has been closed for some years now, and that the men taken on have been put into uniform at once on joining without the usual two or three months' tuition that they would have had in normal times, I think they deserve great credit for performing their duty as well as they have done. I have had to inflict very few punishments for breaches of discipline.

The work thrown upon the police steadily increases. The Arms Act, which came into force on the 1st January last, has entailed an enormous amount of work, but I am pleased to say that the work has been willingly and efficiently done. I have no doubt that the provisions of the Act will prove of great value, and will lessen the indiscriminate use of revolvers that has been far too prevalent in the past, not only by criminals but by irresponsible persons and youths. To give some idea of the amount of work entailed by this Act, I need only mention that upwards of 17,000 arms have been registered, 600 automatic pistols handed in and compensation paid for, and over 300 applications received for licenses to retain automatic pistols, each of which has to be carefully investigated and reported upon.

#### INSPECTOR SHEEHAN, HAMILTON DISTRICT.

The authorized strength of the district on the 31st March was—1 Inspector, 3 Senior Sergeants, 3 sergeants, 1 detective, 54 constables, and 1 district constable.

At the beginning of the year, owing to the formation of the new police districts of New Plymouth and Gisborne, 7 stations were cut out of the district—viz., Taumarunui Sub-district, comprising 5 stations with 1 sergeant and 6 constables, was added to Wanganui District, and Opotiki sub-district, comprising 2 stations with 1 sergeant and four constables, was added to Gisborne District, reducing the authorized strength by 2 sergeants and 10 constables.

The strength of the district was increased during the year by the appointment of a constable to the new station opened at Matamata. Waihi Station is still two constables short, and its strength should be brought up to normal.

During the year Headquarters Station had great difficulty in carrying out the duties required, the strength of the station being quite inadequate for the amount of work to be done. Increases in strength are required as follows, in keeping with the volume of work done, and the rapid growth of population, and the increasing progress of the town and district: Hamilton Station—One detective and three constables. Frankton Junction—One constable for extra patrol work. As pointed out last year, this portion of the borough is becoming thickly populated. Rotorua Station—An extra constable is urgently required at this station. Tauranga Station—I would again like to draw attention to the necessity of appointing a sergeant to the charge of this station. Piopio—As pointed out last year, this centre requires the services of a permanent constable.

It is anticipated that during the coming year large developments may be expected in connection with the hydro-electric-power supply, and the services of an extra constable or more may be required, according to the scale on which the work is carried out.

The only casualties were one constable and one district constable resigned from the service.

The offences return for 1920 shows that 2,340 offences were reported during the year, as compared with 2,148 for the previous year, an increase of 192. Increases appear under the following heads: Theft (undescribed), 74; burglary, 12; forgery, 13; drunkenness, 132; vagrancy, 17; breach of prohibition order, 84; murder, 1; manslaughter, 1; procuring abortion, 3. Decreases appear in the following: Theft from dwellings, 15; house and shop breaking, 30; mischief, 38; obscene language, 26; assaults on police, 25; illegally supplying liquor to Natives, 18.

Under the heading of "Increases" the offences, when analysed, are not serious, and with one exception—that of murder—the offences are of the ordinary character. The accused charged with murder was found by medical experts to be suffering from delusions when he committed the offence, and was committed to the mental hospital during the pleasure of the Minister of Justice. Under the heading of "Decreases" there is nothing special calling for attention.

Of the offences reported, 95 per cent. were accounted for either by arrest or summons.

The sly-grog evil, while still existing, has been kept well in check during the year. The number of offences of this nature has decreased considerably, and the total amount of fines inflicted during the year was £766.

With very few exceptions the conduct of the members of the Force throughout the district has been excellent.

The Arms Act, 1920, coming into operation at the beginning of the year, created a vast amount of additional work, especially with the depleted condition of the Force at present existing in this district.

#### INSPECTOR CASSELLS, GISBORNE DISTRICT.

On the 1st January of this year I took over charge of the new Gisborne District, which comprises the original Gisborne Subdistrict with the addition of Opotiki and Whakatane Stations, formerly incorporated in the Hamilton District.

On the 31st March, 1921, the authorized strength of the Force in this district was 28 of all ranks. The total is made up as follows: 1 Inspector, 1 Senior Sergeant, 2 sergeants, 22 constables, 1 detective, and 1 temporary constable. The actual strength on the same date was 26, there being a shortage of 1 sergeant and 1 constable. An increase of at least 3 constables is urgently required to the authorized strength at the Gisborne station. At present only four constables are available for beat duty, and the size of the town warrants the increase.

I would recommend that a station be established at Kaiti, which is a suburb of Gisborne with a rapidly increasing population, and which, owing to its situation, cannot be regularly patrolled from the main station.

The offences return is dealt with in the Napier District annual report.

The general conduct of the Force throughout the district has been good, and, although short-handed, the work has been satisfactorily performed.

#### INSPECTOR MARSACK, NAPIER DISTRICT.

On the 31st March, 1921, the authorized strength of the Force in this district was 48 of all ranks. The total is made up as follows: 1 Inspector, 2 Senior Sergeants, 4 sergeants, 35 constables, 1 detective sergeant, 1 detective, and 4 temporary constables. The actual strength on the same date was 45, there being a shortage of 1 sergeant, 1 detective, and 1 constable.

On the 1st January, 1921, a new police district was formed, with headquarters at Gisborne. Ten stations originally in the Napier district have been detached therefrom and incorporated in the Gisborne District.

The necessity for the subdivision of the Taradale Subdistrict is very marked, as it is impossible for the one constable stationed there to efficiently supervise the subdistrict as it now exists. There are seven licensed hotels in this district, three of which are at a considerable distance from the station—viz., Tarawera, sixty miles, Te Pohue, thirty-two, and Puketitiri, thirty-one miles. Five new soldier settlements have been recently established, distant from fourteen to thirty-three miles from Taradale, and several railway camps, containing over 100 men, are scattered along the Eskdale Valley. I would strongly recommend that a station be opened in the vicinity of Petane, to ensure the proper supervision of this portion of the Taradale Subdistrict. I would also recommend the reopening of the Nuhaka Station, as, owing to the railway and harbour-construction works at Waikopuku, the population has increased, and these townships are too far from Wairoa for efficient supervision.

There were no deaths or dismissals during the year, but 2 sergeants and 1 constable resigned from the service.

The offences return shows that the total number of all offences reported for the past year was 1,999, an increase of 40 over that of the preceding year. Of this number, 1,916 cases were dealt with by the Courts, leaving 83 undetected offences. Offences against the rights of property show an increase of 118 cases reported over the preceding year's figures. Of these cases, however, 83.5 per cent. were dealt with by the Courts. On the other hand, offences against morality show a considerable decrease, and drunkenness has also decreased by 13 cases.

There has been no crime of a very serious nature during the year. Three charges of manslaughter were dealt with, two of which were due to the reckless driving of motor-vehicles, and the third a charge against a young woman in connection with the death of her illegitimate child. In each case the person committed was acquitted by the jury.

The general conduct of the police has been good, and the relations between the uniform and detective branches have been cordial, to the benefit of the working of the whole service. The activity of the members of the Force stationed in Maori districts in enforcing compliance with the licensing laws has been maintained, and several prosecutions have taken place.

I would repeat the recommendation made in my last annual report regarding the advantage of an alteration in the licensing laws, to the effect that it should be an offence for a Native to be found in possession of liquor, off licensed premises, in a proclaimed area, and that the police be empowered to search Natives suspected of so being in possession of liquor, and seize any liquor found, without warrant.

The Arms Act has been put into force since the 1st January, 1921. So far 8,850 arms have been registered in this district, 76 automatic pistols and 9,964 rounds of ammunition surrendered to police, and 210 automatic pistols have also been handed in, whose owners are applying, under section 4 subsection (3) of the Act, for licenses to retain same.

## INSPECTOR HUTTON, NEW PLYMOUTH DISTRICT.

The New Plymouth Police District was formed on the 1st January, 1921, and placed under my charge, and consists of 14 stations.

The actual strength on the 31st March, 1921, was 1 Inspector, 1 Senior Sergeant, 1 Detective Sergeant, 2 sergeants, and 22 constables, which was 1 constable below the authorized strength—viz., 1 at New Plymouth. The authorized strength of the district has been increased by the appointment of a district and an assistant clerk.

A new station is very badly wanted at Moturoa and the Breakwater, to cope with the compliants on the wharf and shipping and about larrikjns in that district. It is approximately two and a half miles from the main station, and when a constable is required the only constable on duty in the street has to be sent.

Two additional constables are necessary at New Plymouth, to allow of another constable for night duty, and one as a reserve in case of leave, and sickness in the district. Two additional constables are required at Hawera. The town is growing considerably, and at present police patrol ceases at 1 a.m. A continuous service, owing to the growth of this town and population, is necessary. One additional constable is required at Stratford to permit of a continuous service in that town, owing to its expansion. At the present time, owing to the numerous duties thrown on the police and the wants of local bodies and committees, there are insufficient men at times in the district to cope with the requirements, even when all the men are available for duty. Single men could be provided for at New Plymouth, but at Moturoa, Hawera, and Stratford the lack of house accomodation is a factor that will have to be taken into consideration.

The conduct of the police has been good. One constable was fined for breach of Police Regulations, and another resigned to go farming.

The offences for the year are accounted for and included in the Wanganui District annual report. There was no serious crime calling for special mention.

## INSPECTOR FOUHY, WANGANUI DISTRICT.

Since last annual report five King-country stations from Hamilton District were added to this district, fourteen Taranaki stations were cut off and now constitute the New Plymouth District.

The authorized strength of the Wanganui District at present is 37.

At least two extra constables are required at Wanganui, and one each at Taihape and Ohakune. These are the least numbers required, and should be supplied at the earliest convenience. In each case the increase of population is the cause of the request.

A new station should be formed at Castlecliff, on account of the increase of population.

The station at Matiere should be removed to Ohura, which is a more central and progressive place, and where the Department has a section in a convenient locality. Matiere is only a single man's station at present, and the building there is of little value.

The total number of offences reported during the year ended 31st December, 1920, was 1,748, as against 1,624 for the year 1919. There were increases in the following offences: Theft (undescribed), 57; theft from dwelling, 7; burglary, 6; burglary (attempted), 9; housebreaking (attempted), 12; breaches of peace, 22; drunkenness, 40; unlawfully using vehicles, 15; found in common gaming-houses, 33; unlawful betting, 19; breaches of prohibition order, 42. There have been decreases in the following offences: False pretences, 19; vagrancy, 11; gaming with instruments, 40; stealing postal packets, 15; failing to maintain, 14; ship-desertion, 10; selling liquor at unauthorized times, 31.

The conduct of all members of the force has been satisfactory, with the exception of four breaches of the Police Regulations. During the year there was one death, two resignations, and one dismissal.

The most serious crimes committed during the year were two cases of attempted murder, both of a very determined character. One professional man invited another man to his office and there fired several shots from an automatic pistol, one only of which took effect. The other was the case of a man who attempted to cut his wife's throat. Both offenders were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

There are still complaints of sly-grog selling in the King-country, but the police stationed there are doing their best to suppress it—with a fair amount of success.

## INSPECTOR MCKINNON, PALMERSTON NORTH.

The strength of the Force in the Palmerston North District on the 31st March, 1921, numbered 41, and included 1 Inspector, 2 Senior Sergeants (1 of whom was under orders to transfer), 1 sergeant, 1 detective-sergeant, 1 detective, 33 constables, and 2 temporary constables.

An additional constable is required for beat duty at Feilding. At Shannon, where important public works are in progress, the strength requires to be increased by one constable also. Four additional constables—one for plain clothes and three for beat duty—are required at Palmerston North.

During the year two motor-cycles were provided by the Department for use of the police at Palmerston North and Feilding respectively. The troop-horse at Palmerston North was disposed of. The motor-cycles have proved a great success, and are a real help in expediting inquiry work in the country districts; they have to a large extent counterbalanced the difficulties attendant on the shortage of men, and are proving a valuable factor in promoting efficiency, and greatly assist in facilitating the work of the Department.

The amount of work connected with the Arms Act has proved much heavier than was at first anticipated. I find it will be necessary to ask for the appointment of one man to act as Authorized Officer under the Act. He will be required to devote the whole of his time to the registration of arms, and to the many other duties involved in the effective and proper administration of this necessary and useful measure.

The station at Waldegrave Street, Palmerston North, was transferred to Cuba Street, where a new house was purchased for a police-station. The properties formerly rented at Ashhurst and Levin have also been purchased by the Department. It is of interest to note that no houses are now being rented by the Department in this district.

The Department has a large section of land adjacent to the police-station at Palmerston North on which there is room for at least three cottages. I beg to recommend that consideration be given to the matter of having houses for police built on this land. Action in this direction would not only result in a substantial saving to the Government in years to come, but would also materially increase efficiency in the Force, inasmuch as officers would be living within the precincts of the police-station, and their services would be available at any hour of the day or night in case of emergency. The building of such cottages would also be an important factor in the solution of the housing problem, a matter which is affecting the administration of the Department very seriously, and which is unlikely to be relieved for a long time.

The total number of offences reported during 1920 was 1,173, and of these 1,117 were detected and dealt with. The principal increases in offences were observed to be under the following heads: Obscene language, 10; vagrancy, 9; failing to maintain wives and children, 33; failing to pay maintenance moneys, 26; breaches of Licensing Act, 16. Decreases appear as follows: Theft (undescribed), 37; theft of animals, 9; housebreaking, 4; forgery, 3; drunkenness, 47; unlawfully using motor-cars, 7; absconding from industrial school, 45; ill-treating children, 7.

With one or two exceptions the conduct of the men has been very good; both branches of the service have worked harmoniously, with excellent results.

#### SUPERINTENDENT NORWOOD, WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

The authorized strength on the 31st March, 1921, was—1 Superintendent, 1 Inspector, 1 Sub-Inspector, 8 Senior Sergeants, 12 sergeants, 142 constables, 1 Chief Detective, 3 detective-sergeants, 7 detectives, 2 acting detectives, 2 matrons, and 1 surgeon; total, 181.

The police-station at Miramar (rented premises) has been vacated, and a building purchased at Seatoun in lieu thereof.

The casualties during the year were—Death, one constable; retired on pension, 1 constable; resigned voluntarily, 1 detective-sergeant, 1 detective, 5 permanent and 16 temporary constables; discharged, 1 temporary constable; dismissed, 1 permanent and 2 temporary constables.

The total number of offences reported during the year ending 31st December, 1920, was 5,334, as against 4,995 cases reported during the preceding period, an increase of 339. The principal increase is under the heading of drunkenness (2,478 cases, as against 2,240 the previous year), and offences against rights of property. Under the latter definition there is an increase as follows: Theft, 145; theft from dwellings, 8; theft by clerks, 4; false pretences, 4; and robbery, 2. Under the heading of vagrancy an increase of 28 cases is shown.

The recent legislation making it an offence to unlawfully use horses, motor-cars, &c., resulted in 38 cases being brought before the Court.

Under the Gaming Act there were 52 cases, as against 72 cases the preceding year, a decrease of 20.

Under the Licensing Act there were 468 cases, as against 578, a decrease of 110 cases. The principal decreases in this connection are under the heading of breaches of prohibition orders (85), and found on licensed premises after hours (16).

During the year there were two cases of murder reported. In one case a man at Carterton during a drunken dispute with another man shot the latter dead, the accused being found guilty of manslaughter. The second case was that of a woman whose body, with peculiar wounds on the face, was found floating in the Wellington Harbour. There was no direct evidence to show how these wounds were caused, but the Coroner held, on the evidence adduced at the inquest, that the woman was murdered.

The conduct of all ranks, with a few exceptions, has been satisfactory. In three cases defaulters were compelled to leave the service through committing serious breaches of the regulations, and in the other cases monetary penalties have been inflicted.

#### INSPECTOR MATHIESON, GREYMOUTH DISTRICT.

The actual strength of the Force on the 31st March last was—1 Inspector, 2 Senior Sergeants, 4 sergeants, 30 constables, and 1 detective; total, 38 of all ranks, being 7 constables short of authorized strength. An assistant clerk and two extra constables have been required at Greymouth for some time.

During the past year a house was purchased at Millerton and a constable was stationed there. The station at Stafford has been closed.

Inspector Cruickshank and Sergeant W. Folley retired on superannuation, and two constables were allowed to resign.

The total offences reported during the year were 1,025, compared with 696 in the previous year, being an increase of 329. Of the offences reported, 996 were accounted for by arrest or summons,

leaving a trifle over 2½ per cent. undetected. The principal increases were: Theft (undescribed), 24; drunkenness, 40; offences against Licensing Act, 244. No crimes of a serious nature or worthy of mention took place during the year.

The conduct of all members of the Force during the year has been good, no fines or punishments being inflicted.

#### SUPERINTENDENT DWYER, CHRISTCHURCH DISTRICT.

The actual strength of the Force in the district on the 31st March, 1921, was 114, made up as follows: 1 Superintendent, 1 Inspector, 5 Senior Sergeants, 9 sergeants, 78 constables, 10 temporary constables, 2 senior detectives, 3 detective-sergeants, and 5 detectives; also 2 matrons and 1 surgeon.

During the past ten years there has been no increase in the strength of the Force in the district, and at the present time I am 5 men short of the authorized strength, and I recommend that this shortage be made up as soon as possible, and that the authorized strength of the Force in the district be increased by 10—namely, 1 sergeant and 7 constables for the city, and an additional constable for St. Albans Station, and 1 for Lyttelton Station. A greater number of eligible young men have been recently offering themselves for enrolment in the Force, and now with the training depot in full swing the shortage of men in this district should be soon made good.

There were no stations opened and none closed in the district during the year. The residences occupied by the constables in charge at Belfast and Lower Riccarton have been purchased by the Department.

The casualties in the Force in the district were—1 constable died; 1 sergeant, 8 constables, and 4 temporary constables resigned from the Force; 1 detective-sergeant and 1 constable retired on superannuation; 1 temporary constable was compulsory retired, and 1 temporary constable was dismissed.

The number of offences reported in the district during the year ending 31st December, 1920, was 3,596, as compared with 3,085 in 1919. The principal increases in the various classes of offences were: Thefts (undescribed), 212; thefts by servants, 15; cruelty to animals, 13; drunkenness, 197; obscene language, 24; failing to maintain wife and children, 60; failing to pay maintenance-money, 70. The principal decreases were: House and shop breaking, 74; house and shop breaking (attempted), 26; mischief, 14; vagrancy, 9.

There has been no serious crime committed in the district that calls for any special remarks.

The conduct of the sergeants and constables in the district has been, with few exceptions, very good during the year.

The special attention of the police of this city has been directed to the enforcement of the provisions of the Gaming Amendment Act passed last session with a fair amount of success.

#### INSPECTOR HASTIE, TIMARU DISTRICT.

The strength of the Force in the Timaru District on the 31st March, 1921, was 1 Inspector, 2 Senior Sergeants, 4 sergeants, 1 detective, 31 permanent and 1 temporary constables; total, 40.

I would again point out the necessity for an increase in the authorized strength at Timaru Station of two constables, on account of men going on leave, on sick-list, and escorts, which reduces the staff so that there are insufficient men on street duty, especially when overseas steamers are in port. Several street disturbances have recently been caused by seamen off these ships.

An extra constable should be stationed at Fairlie, as this is one of the largest sub-districts, if not the largest, in the Dominion supervised by one constable. There are several hotels in the district, miles distant from the station, which should be visited regularly; but this the constable is unable to do, owing to the number of other duties he has to perform, such as Clerk of the Magistrate's Court, Registrar of old-age pensions, Inspector of Factories, agricultural statistics, and Authorized Officer under the Arms Act. It is practically impossible for one constable to carry out the duties satisfactorily.

A temporary station was opened at Pareora for the duration of the killing season at the freezing-works. The manager of the works kindly supplied sleeping-accommodation for the constable. As this is a growing township of about five hundred people, the time is not far distant when a constable will have to be stationed there permanently.

One temporary and two permanent constables resigned during the year.

The total number of offences reported during the year was 795, as against 823 for the year 1919, a decrease of 28. The principal increases for the year were—Thefts, 18; shop-breaking, 11; false pretences, 7; forgery, 3; assaults, 13. The decreases were—Mischief, 26; drunkenness, 61. There has been an entire absence of sexual offences. One very serious crime was committed—viz., the murder of a very promising young man—which is much to be regretted. After exhaustive inquiries by the local police, the murderer's identity was established, and he was eventually arrested at Lyttelton and convicted of the crime.

The conduct of the members of the Force of all ranks has been on the whole good, but five were punished for breaches of the regulations.

#### SUPERINTENDENT McGRATH, DUNEDIN DISTRICT.

The authorized strength of the Force in the district on the 31st March last was 1 Superintendent, 1 Sub-Inspector, 1 Senior Sergeant, 11 sergeants, 76 constables, 2 Senior Detectives, 4 detectives, 1 acting-detective, 2 matrons, and 1 surgeon. I have to repeat the recommendation I made last year for increases at the Dunedin and South Dunedin Stations.

No new stations were opened and no station was closed during the year, but new premises were purchased for police-stations at Portobello, St. Kilda, Ravensbourne, Green Island, and a new residence for the sergeant in charge at Port Chalmers.

The only casualties were 1 constable dismissed, 1 constable resigned, and 1 sergeant reduced to constable.

The total number of offences reported was 1,285, as against 1,426 for the previous year—a decrease of 141, of which 135 is accounted for by the decrease in drunkenness alone. 1,194 prosecutions took place, leaving 91—nearly all minor offences—unaccounted for. Increases appear in the offences return under the headings of—False pretences, 13; house and shop breaking, 41; forgery, 12; failure to pay maintenance-moneys, 38; found on licensed premises after hours, 16; trespass on railways, 8; smuggling, 6; murder, 2. Decreases appear under—Theft from dwellings, 18; mischief 28; drunkenness, 135; obscene and profane language, 19; found in gaming-houses, 18; failure to maintain wives and children, 35; breach of prohibition order, 21.

Regarding the two murders, in one case an elderly man killed his own daughter, a girl of seven or eight years of age, by striking her on the head with a stick. He was convicted of the crime and sentenced to death, but the sentence was commuted to imprisonment for life. The other case was that of a young woman whose death was caused by an illegal operation performed on her by a woman, who was tried for the murder, but was acquitted. She was, however, convicted at the same sessions of procuring abortion, and sentenced to a term of imprisonment. With the exception of these two cases, the district has, as usual, been remarkably free from crime of a serious nature.

The conduct of the police of all ranks, with a few exceptions, has been good. The younger men, who were rather unsettled for a time, are now more attentive to their duties, and are generally giving as much satisfaction as could be expected considering their lack of training and experience.

With reference to the recent legislation, I do not think the Gaming Act, 1920, will be of much assistance to the police in putting the bookmakers out of action while the offenders have the right of trial by jury. I would suggest that all offences under the Gaming Acts be brought within the summary jurisdiction of the Magistrate's Court.

I desire to draw attention to the fact that games which are declared by the Gaming Act, 1908, to be unlawful games are extensively carried on throughout the Dominion; but because the games are not played "in or in view of a public place or on premises of which the players have the use" within the meaning of that expression in the Gaming Act it has been held that there is no offence. It is quite a common practice for wharf labourers to assemble in sheds on wharves and play "two-up" and "sing-tai-loo" there. The employees of many large freezing-works and factories also play "two-up" on or near the premises, and in some places crowds of young men assemble in secluded places near the towns on Sundays and form what are known as "two-up schools" in the open air. Complaints are frequently made about this "two-up" playing, and people wonder why the police do not prosecute. If it is considered desirable to suppress this form of gambling, it should be made an offence to play an unlawful game anywhere.

#### INSPECTOR DEW, INVERCARGILL DISTRICT.

The strength of the Force in this district on the 31st March, 1921, was as follows: 1 Inspector, 1 Senior-Sergeant, 1 detective, 3 sergeants, and 38 constables; total, 43. The authorized strength is 42, but this is not sufficient to cope with the work of the district, and the total strength should be brought up to 45.

Residences for the Senior Sergeant, detective-sergeant, and sergeant were acquired at Invercargill during the last twelve months. It is now necessary to provide one for the officer in charge, or to build one on a site held by the Department.

The conduct of the men stationed here at present has been good, and they have all performed their work satisfactorily.

Three temporary constables were dealt with as defaulters; one resigned, and two were transferred.

An instruction class is still conducted by the Senior Sergeant, as opportunity permits, the good effect of which is noticeable on those attending. An improvement is noticeable in the physique of recruits offering lately, and I have been able to recommend a few very desirable men.

The total number of offences reported during the year ended 31st December, 1920, was 898, as against 837 for the year 1919. The principal increases were—Assaults, 17; thefts, 30; Breaking and entering, 6; drunkenness, 42; obscene language, 11; vagrancy, 13; gaming, 23. 93·8 per cent. of the offences reported were accounted for either by summons or arrest.

## APPENDIX A.

RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBER OF OFFENCES REPORTED, THE NUMBER OF OFFENCES FOR WHICH PERSONS WERE APPREHENDED OR SUMMONED, AND COMPARISON OF CRIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1919, AND YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1920.

Offences.	1919.		1920.								Increase or Decrease in Number of Offences reported.		
	Number of all Offences reported.	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests or Summonses resulted.	Results of Cases in which Persons were apprehended or summoned. (Charges against Males and Females separately.)						Number of Convictions amongst those committed for Trial.		Increase.	Decrease.
				Committed for Trial.		Summarily convicted.		Dismissed.		M.	F.		
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.				
<b>CRIMES AND JUSTICES OF THE PEACE ACTS, ETC.</b>													
Seditious offences .. .. .	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
<i>Misleading Justice.</i>													
Perjury and false oaths .. ..	6	9	9	6	1	..	..	2	..	1	1	3	..
False statements and declarations ..	32	27	27	13	6	3	..	1	4	11	5	..	5
Fabricating evidence .. .. .	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
<i>Escapes and Rescues.</i>													
Breaking prison .. .. .	7	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Escaping from prison or lawful custody ..	49	31	31	5	..	14	10	1	1	4	..	..	18
Assisting or aiding escape from prison or lawful custody .. .. .	..	3	3	1	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	3	..
Escaping from prison, attempted .. ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
<i>Offences against Religion.</i>													
Disturbing public worship .. .. .	9	15	15	..	..	15	..	..	..	..	..	6	..
<i>Offences against Morality.</i>													
Unnatural offence .. .. .	2	5	5	5	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	3	..
Unnatural offence, attempted .. ..	3	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
Unnatural offence, assault with intent to commit .. .. .	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Indecently assaulting a male .. .. .	14	12	12	9	..	..	..	3	..	6	..	..	2
Incest .. .. .	3	5	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..
Indecent acts .. .. .	28	18	16	4	..	9	..	3	..	3	..	..	10
Publishing obscene matter .. .. .	..	5	5	4	..	1	..	..	..	4	..	5	..
<i>Offences against the Person, &amp;c.</i>													
Neglecting duties tending to the preservation of life or health .. .. .	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Murder .. .. .	9	13	12	9	2	..	..	1	..	6	..	4	..
Murder, attempted .. .. .	1	8	8	7	..	..	..	1	..	3	..	7	..
Murder, conspiracy to commit .. .. .	..	2	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..
Murder, counselling or attempting to procure .. .. .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Manslaughter .. .. .	12	13	13	7	3	..	..	3	..	1	2	1	..
Suicide, attempted .. .. .	52	42	42	1	1	28	7	4	1	..	1	..	10
Suicide, aiding and abetting .. .. .	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
Concealment of birth .. .. .	5	2	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	3
Disabling or stupefying with intent to commit a crime .. .. .	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm .. .. .	3	4	4	1	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	1	..
Endangering safety of persons on railways or tramways .. .. .	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Putting explosive substances in places with intent to do bodily harm .. .. .	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Assault causing actual bodily harm ..	48	28	27	19	..	4	..	4	..	11	..	..	20
Causing actual bodily harm under circumstances that, if death had been caused, would be manslaughter .. .. .	5	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Assault, indecent .. .. .	72	70	63	52	..	2	..	9	..	29	..	..	2
Assault with intent to commit a crime ..	11	14	14	8	..	3	..	3	..	5	..	3	..
Assault .. .. .	870	782	777	5	..	636	8	115	13	4	..	..	88
Rape .. .. .	8	4	4	2	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	4
Rape, attempted .. .. .	2	8	7	4	..	..	..	3	..	1	..	6	..
Carnally knowing girls under sixteen years .. .. .	24	14	14	11	..	..	..	3	..	4	..	..	10
Carnally know girls under sixteen years, attempts to .. .. .	8	7	7	7	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	1
Abortion, procuring .. .. .	3	5	5	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..
Abortion, supplying means of procuring ..	3	5	5	4	..	..	..	1	..	3	..	2	..
Abortion, conspiring to procure .. .. .	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Bigamy .. .. .	12	11	11	10	1	..	..	..	..	8	1	..	1
Abduction .. .. .	3	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
Stealing children under fourteen years ..	1	5	5	..	..	4	..	..	1	..	..	4	..
Abandoning children under two years ..	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
<i>Offences against Rights of Property.</i>													
Theft (undescribed) .. .. .	3,248	3,909	3,132	247	10	2,460	170	222	23	201	9	661	..
Theft, attempted .. .. .	27	14	8	2	..	4	1	1	..	2	..	..	13
Theft from the person .. .. .	31	44	32	19	1	7	..	5	..	13	1	13	..
Theft from the person, attempted .. ..	2	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1



## APPENDIX A—continued.

RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBER OF OFFENCES REPORTED, THE NUMBER OF OFFENCES FOR WHICH PERSONS WERE APPREHENDED OR SUMMONED, AND COMPARISON OF CRIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1919, AND YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1920—continued.

Offences.	1919. Number of all Offences reported.	1920.									Increase or Decrease in Number of Offences reported.		
		Number of all Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests or Summonses resulted.	Results of Cases in which Persons were apprehended or summoned. (Charges against Males and Females separately.)						Number of Convictions amongst those committed for Trial.		Increase.	Decrease.
				Committed for Trial.		Summarily convicted.		Dismissed.		M.	F.		
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.				
<b>CRIMES AND JUSTICES OF THE PEACE ACTS, ETC.—continued.</b>													
<i>Offences against Rights of Property—ctd.</i>													
Theft from dwellings .. .. .	216	229	165	59	6	88	9	2	1	37	2	13	..
Theft from dwellings, attempted .. .. .	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Theft by clerks or servants .. .. .	91	92	92	20	1	60	5	5	1	19	1	1	..
Theft of animals (specified) .. .. .	46	57	48	15	..	28	..	5	..	4	..	11	..
Theft of animals, attempted .. .. .	6	2	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	4
Bringing stolen property into New Zealand .. .. .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
False pretences .. .. .	263	280	256	113	..	131	7	5	..	92	..	17	..
False pretences, attempted .. .. .	12	6	5	..	..	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	6
Obtaining credit by fraud .. .. .	20	5	5	2	..	2	..	1	..	1	..	..	15
False accounting by officials or clerks .. .. .	1	4	4	3	..	1	..	..	..	3	..	3	..
Conspiracy to defraud .. .. .	..	9	8	8	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	9	..
Fortune-telling or practising witchcraft .. .. .	2	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Robbery and aggravated robbery .. .. .	5	21	16	14	1	..	..	1	..	5	1	16	..
Assault with intent to rob .. .. .	8	10	10	10	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	2	..
Extortion by threats .. .. .	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Burglary .. .. .	34	49	28	16	..	9	..	3	..	9	..	15	..
Burglary, attempted .. .. .	4	13	10	9	..	..	..	1	..	9	..	9	..
House or shop breaking, &c. .. .. .	427	466	369	199	6	154	..	10	..	177	6	39	..
House or shop breaking, &c., attempted .. .. .	56	45	39	11	1	27	..	..	..	8	1	..	11
Being found in dwellinghouse by night .. .. .	3	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Being armed with intent to break or enter .. .. .	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Being disguised or in possession of housebreaking implements .. .. .	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Receiving property dishonestly obtained .. .. .	63	91	91	8	2	59	5	15	2	5	..	28	..
Forgery .. .. .	90	132	112	88	14	3	..	7	..	85	6	42	..
Uttering forged documents or false certificates .. .. .	22	17	15	11	..	4	..	..	..	8	..	..	5
Sending false telegram .. .. .	1	5	4	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	4	..
Procuring execution of document by false pretences .. .. .	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Personation .. .. .	2	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Coin, offences relating to .. .. .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Arson .. .. .	22	16	15	13	..	..	..	2	..	7	..	..	6
Arson, attempted .. .. .	..	7	5	2	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	7	..
Setting fire to crops, attempted .. .. .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Wilfully placing obstruction on railways .. .. .	1	6	4	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	5	..
Placing explosive with intent to destroy buildings, ships, &c. .. .. .	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Mischief .. .. .	682	604	570	17	..	489	13	50	1	9	..	..	78
Mischief on railways and tramways .. .. .	23	35	33	..	..	28	..	5	..	..	..	12	..
Possessing or making explosive substance, &c., with intent thereby to commit a crime .. .. .	1	2	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	..
Sending threatening letters .. .. .	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Threatening acts with intent to intimidate .. .. .	6	5	5	..	..	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Counselling the commission of an offence .. .. .	..	10	10	..	..	..	..	10	..	..	..	10	..
<b>POLICE OFFENCES ACT.</b>													
Breach of the peace or behaviour with intent .. .. .	563	545	545	..	..	461	14	70	..	..	..	..	18
Cruelty to animals .. .. .	172	196	196	..	..	149	1	45	1	..	..	24	..
Drunkenness .. .. .	7,765	8,384	8,384	..	..	7,867	501	15	1	..	..	619	..
Drunk while in charge of horses, &c., or loaded firearms .. .. .	147	190	190	..	..	189	..	1	..	..	..	43	..
Drunk and disorderly .. .. .	304	406	405	..	..	387	7	11	..	..	..	102	..
Prostitutes behaving in a riotous or indecent manner .. .. .	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Soliciting prostitution .. .. .	17	22	22	..	..	..	22	..	..	..	..	5	..
Exposure of person and grossly indecent acts .. .. .	208	220	217	2	..	197	7	11	..	1	..	12	..
Using profane, indecent, or obscene language .. .. .	950	975	970	2	..	893	23	50	2	1	..	25	..
Vagrancy (idle and disorderly persons, rogues and vagabonds, and incorrigible rogues) .. .. .	506	607	607	..	..	445	80	73	9	..	..	101	..
Assaulting, obstructing, or resisting constables, &c. .. .. .	322	253	253	..	..	246	..	6	1	..	..	..	69
Intimidation to restrict lawful acts .. .. .	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Inciting violence, disorder, or lawlessness .. .. .	4	3	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Unlawfully using horses, motor-cars, &c. .. .. .	31	152	150	4	..	134	1	11	..	3	..	121	..
Refusing to assist police .. .. .	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..

APPENDIX A—continued.

RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBER OF OFFENCES REPORTED, THE NUMBER OF OFFENCES FOR WHICH PERSONS WERE APPREHENDED OR SUMMONED, AND COMPARISON OF CRIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1919, AND YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1920—continued.

Offences.	1919.		1920.								Increase or Decrease in Number of Offences reported.		
	Number of all Offences reported.	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests or Summonses resulted.	Results of Cases in which Persons were apprehended or summoned. (Charges against Males and Females separately.)						Number of Convictions amongst those committed for Trial.		Increase.	Decrease.
				Committed for Trial.		Summarily convicted.		Dismissed.		M.	F.		
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.				
<b>GAMING ACT.</b>													
Common gaming-house, keeping or managing, &c.	18	14	14	..	..	10	..	4	..	..	..	..	4
Found in a common gaming-house ..	84	42	42	..	..	7	..	35	..	..	..	..	42
Gaming with instruments ..	155	87	85	..	..	72	..	13	..	..	..	..	68
Publishing advertisements relating to betting on horse-races	23	17	17	..	..	9	..	8	..	..	..	..	6
Lotteries, unlawfully establishing or conducting, &c.	4	12	12	..	..	7	..	5	..	..	..	8	..
Betting, unlawful ..	39	71	71	..	..	68	..	3	..	..	..	32	..
Trespassing on racecourse ..	..	25	25	..	..	23	..	2	..	..	..	25	..
Following occupation of bookmaker ..	..	2	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Loitering for betting purposes ..	..	11	11	..	..	..	..	11	..	..	..	11	..
Publishing betting-card ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
<b>POST AND TELEGRAPH ACT.</b>													
Posting packet containing explosive, &c.	1	5	5	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	4	..
Illegally opening or delaying postal packets	5	13	13	..	..	13	..	..	..	..	..	8	..
Stealing postal packets, mail-bags, &c.	35	17	15	3	..	10	..	2	..	3	..	..	18
Stealing money, &c., from postal packets	8	3	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Unlawfully opening mail-bags ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Fraudulently secreting or detaining misdelivered mail-bags, &c.	4	2	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Injuring post-office pillars or boxes ..	8	3	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
<b>DESTITUTE PERSONS ACT.</b>													
Failing to maintain wife or children ..	1,205	1,254	1,170	..	..	881	18	268	3	..	..	49	..
Failing for fourteen days to pay maintenance-moneys	1,017	1,235	1,124	..	..	819	38	251	16	..	..	218	..
Offences by husbands while separation orders are in force	24	20	20	..	..	18	..	2	..	..	..	..	4
Offences prescribed in sections 52 to 58 of Destitute Persons Act	12	11	11	..	..	10	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Failing to provide for maintenance of parents	..	6	6	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	6	..
<b>SHIPPING AND SEAMEN ACT.</b>													
Ship-desertion ..	56	20	10	..	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	36
Absent without leave ..	120	160	136	..	..	132	..	4	..	..	..	40	..
Offences against discipline ..	10	17	17	..	..	15	..	2	..	..	..	7	..
Wilfully damaging ship, stores, or cargo	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Embezzling cargo ..	21	57	56	1	..	50	..	5	..	..	..	36	..
Harbouring deserters ..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Stowing away ..	14	25	25	..	..	25	..	..	..	..	..	11	..
<b>LICENSING ACT.</b>													
Permitting drunkenness or violent conduct	24	21	21	..	..	3	2	13	3	..	..	..	3
Selling or supplying liquor to intoxicated persons	32	36	36	..	..	24	3	6	3	..	..	4	..
Permitting gaming, gambling, &c. ..	2	3	3	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	1	..
Selling or supplying liquor, or exposing for sale, or opening or keeping open premises at unauthorized times	369	274	274	..	..	124	11	122	17	..	..	..	95
Supplying liquor to persons under twenty-one years	66	43	43	..	..	33	2	8	..	..	..	..	23
Selling or supplying liquor to prohibited persons	60	66	66	..	..	49	3	14	..	..	..	6	..
Permitting prohibited persons to be on premises	..	2	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Unlawfully employing females in or about a bar	4	3	3	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	1
Employing minors in bars ..	5	5	5	..	..	3	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Illegally supplying liquor to Natives ..	82	74	74	..	..	66	..	8	..	..	..	..	8
Selling adulterated liquor ..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Obstructing Inspectors or refusing entrance to Inspectors or constables	15	7	6	..	..	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	8
Having or purchasing labels for bottling contrary to Act	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

APPENDIX A—*continued.*

RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBER OF OFFENCES REPORTED, THE NUMBER OF OFFENCES FOR WHICH PERSONS WERE APPREHENDED OR SUMMONED, AND COMPARISON OF CRIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1919, AND YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1920—*continued.*

Offences.	1919.		1920.								Increase or Decrease in Number of Offences reported.		
	Number of all Offences reported.	Number of all Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests or Summonses resulted.	Results of Cases in which Persons were apprehended or summoned. (Charges against Males and Females separately.)						Number of Convictions amongst those committed for Trial.		Increase.	Decrease.
				Committed for Trial.		Summarily convicted.		Dismissed.		M.	F.		
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.				
<b>LICENSING ACT—<i>continued.</i></b>													
Using bottles with labels more than once	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Breaches of prohibition orders ..	1,384	1,308	1,306	..	..	1,181	98	22	5	..	..	..	76
Found on licensed premises after closing-hours	830	1,058	1,053	..	..	868	6	159	20	..	..	228	..
Refusing to quit licensed premises ..	57	70	70	..	..	67	1	1	1	..	..	13	..
Selling or exposing liquor for sale without a license	50	70	70	..	..	52	6	12	..	..	..	20	..
Found on premises where liquor was seized under a warrant	3	30	30	..	..	28	..	2	..	..	..	27	..
Offences against provisions in force in no-license districts	64	53	53	..	..	43	..	9	1	..	..	..	11
Selling, supplying, or giving liquor to Maoris in Native licensing districts	20	11	11	..	..	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Offences against provisions of no-license in Native proclaimed areas	123	72	69	..	..	56	..	13	..	..	..	..	51
Supplying liquor to Natives in proclaimed districts	94	81	81	..	..	75	..	6	..	..	..	..	13
Illegally storing liquor in no-license district	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Refusing to provide accommodation for traveller	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
<b>MISCELLANEOUS.</b>													
Absconding from industrial schools ..	109	68	61	..	..	58	2	1	..	..	..	..	41
Bankruptcy offences .. ..	3	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
Brothels or houses of ill fame, keeping, &c.	17	37	37	..	..	9	19	7	2	..	..	20	..
Children, wilfully ill-treating, neglecting, abandoning, or exposing	71	36	36	..	..	20	13	..	3	..	..	..	35
Deserting or absenting from His Majesty's ships	7	9	6	..	..	5	..	1	..	..	..	2	..
Drunk or behaving in a violent or offensive manner, &c., on a railway, &c.	79	109	109	..	..	100	1	8	..	..	..	30	..
Failing to comply with conditions of release under First Offenders' Probation Act	34	48	41	3	..	33	1	4	..	3	..	14	..
Indecent Publications Act, offences under	4	8	8	..	..	5	1	2	..	..	..	4	..
Opium-smoking, &c. .. ..	3	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
Smuggling .. ..	9	10	10	..	..	4	..	6	..	..	..	1	..
Trespassing on railway and refusing to leave, &c.	26	34	34	..	..	33	1	..	..	..	..	8	..
Totals .. ..	24,278	26,106	24,718	1,114	62	20,423	1,119	1,861	139	831	42	2,869	1041
												1,828*	

\* Increase.





APPENDIX B—continued.

RETURN SHOWING THE STRENGTH, ETC., OF THE NEW ZEALAND POLICE FORCE—continued.

Stations.	Superintendents.	Inspectors.	Sub-Inspectors.	Senior Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Constables.	Senior Detectives.	Detective-sergeants.	Detectives.	Total.	Temporary Constables.	District Constables.	Native Constables.	Stations.	Superintendents.	Inspectors.	Sub-Inspectors.	Senior Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Constables.	Senior Detectives.	Detective-sergeants.	Detectives.	Total.	Temporary Constables.	District Constables.	Native Constables.
<b>Timaru District—</b>														<b>Dunedin District—</b>													
Timaru ..	1			1	2	12			1	17	1			<i>continued.</i>													
Duntroun ..						1				1				South Dunedin ..						4				4	1		
Fairlie ..						1				1				Waikouaiti ..						1				1			
Geraldine ..						1				1				Waitahuna ..						1				1			
Glenavy ..						1				1				Waitati ..						1				1			
Hampden ..						1				1				Woodhaugh ..						1				1			
Kurow ..						1				1				Totals ..	1	1	1	11	72	2	3	91	3				
Oamaru ..				1		7				8				<b>Invercargill District—</b>													
Pleasant Point ..						1				1				Invercargill ..	1		1	1	16				19				
St. Andrew's ..						1				1				Arrowtown ..					1				1				
Temuka ..				1		1				2				Bluff ..					1				2				
Waimataitai ..						1				1				Clinton ..					1				1				
Waimate ..					1	2				3				Fortrose ..					1				1				
Totals ..	1			2	4	31			1	39	1			Gore ..					1	3			4				
<b>Dunedin District—</b>														<b>Attached to head-quarters staff</b>													
Dunedin ..	1		1	1	7	29	2		3	44	2			Lent to Cook Islands Administration ..					1				1				
Alexandra ..						1				1				Lent to Samoan Administration ..	1				1				2				
Anderson's Bay ..						1				1				On leave prior to retirement ..	1				1				2				
Balclutha ..						1				1				Grand totals ..	4	16	3	34	78	700	7	13	27	882	68	7	3
Caversham ..						1				1																	
Clyde ..					1	1				2																	
Cromwell ..						1				1																	
Green Island ..						1				1																	
Kaitangata ..						1				1																	
Lawrence ..					1	1				2																	
Middlemarch ..						1				1																	
Milton ..						1				1																	
Mornington ..						1				1																	
Mosgiel ..						1				1																	
Naseby ..						1				1																	
North Dunedin ..					1	5				6																	
North-east Valley ..						1				1																	
Ophir ..						1				1																	
Outram ..						1				1																	
Owaka ..						1				1																	
Palmerston South ..						1				1																	
Port Chalmers ..					1	4				5																	
Portobello ..						1				1																	
Ranfurly ..						1				1																	
Ravensbourne ..						1				1																	
Roslyn ..						2				2																	
Roxburgh ..						1				1																	
St. Bathans ..						1				1																	
St. Clair ..						1				1																	
St. Kilda ..						1				1																	

APPENDIX C.

RETURN SHOWING THE PROPORTION OF POLICE TO POPULATION AND COST OF POLICE PER INHABITANT IN EACH OF THE UNDERMENTIONED PLACES.

Place.	Number of Police.	Estimated Population.	Proportion of Police to Population.	Cost of Police per Inhabitant.
New Zealand ..	950	1,244,620	1 to 1,310	s. d. 6 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Victoria ..	1,727	1,530,114	1 to 886	6 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
New South Wales ..	2,664	2,096,393	1 to 787	9 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Queensland ..	1,122	755,573	1 to 673	11 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
South Australia ..	553	494,867	1 to 894	7 7
Western Australia ..	481	329,228	1 to 684	10 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tasmania ..	235	213,527	1 to 908	7 5 $\frac{1}{2}$

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given; printing (800 copies), £40.