

Prosecutions of Bookmakers.

The following return shows the result of prosecutions in connection with bookmaking during the year ended 31st March, 1932 :—

Offence.	Number of Prosecutions.	Number of Convictions.	Amount of Fines imposed.
Carrying on business of bookmaker	36	34	£ 1,696 10 0
Keeping common gaming-house	58	49	2,091 10 0
Found in common gaming-house	12	8	10 0 0
Laying totalizator odds	21	18	204 0 0
Publishing betting-charts	10	6	49 10 0
Betting with bookmaker	1	1	40 0 0
Loitering for betting purposes	4	4	180 0 0
Totals	142	120	4,271 10 0

POLICE PROSECUTIONS.

The following is a return of the number of convictions for which fines were imposed and the total amount of such fines in respect of prosecutions instituted by the police during the year ended 31st March, 1932 :—

Fines payable to	Number of Convictions.	Total Amount of Fines imposed.
Consolidated Fund	10,481	£ 23,003
Main Highways Revenue Fund (section 24, Motor-vehicles Act, 1924)	3,986	7,773
Local authorities (by-law offences)	335	256
Total	14,802	31,032

CRIMINAL REGISTRATION BRANCH.

At headquarters the finger-impressions of 3,154 persons were received, classified, searched, indexed, and filed during the year; 215 persons were identified as previous offenders who, had it not been for the finger-print system, would have passed as first offenders; 2,105 photographs were taken by the photographers attached to the Branch; the photographs of 2,499 prisoners (5,355 photographs) were dealt with, and 624 photographs were reproduced in the *Police Gazette*.

In sixteen cases of breaking and entering finger-prints left by the offenders when committing the crimes were identified, and the offenders brought to justice. In four of these cases enlarged photographs were prepared and the necessary evidence tendered, resulting in a conviction in each case. The twelve other offenders pleaded guilty in the Lower Court.

During the year the finger-print system was responsible for the identification of fifteen persons wanted by the police, and also three deceased persons.

The Branch supplied over six hundred photographs (microscopic enlargements, &c.) in connection with a noted murder case in Palmerston North, and also prepared numerous enlarged photographs for the Coats murder trial in Wellington last November.

The following table shows the increase in the finger-print collection since the introduction of the finger-print system of identification 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	1919 ..	22,332	1,350	153
1905 ..	4,200	700	72	1920 ..	23,686	1,354	176
1906 ..	5,000	800	88	1921 ..	26,650	2,964	232
1907 ..	6,151	1,151	104	1922 ..	28,408	1,758	255
1908 ..	7,622	1,471	123	1923 ..	30,284	1,876	292
1909 ..	8,718	1,096	138	1924 ..	31,929	1,645	289
1910 ..	9,919	1,201	140	1925 ..	33,802	1,873	267
1911 ..	10,905	986	148	1926 ..	35,844	2,042	292
1912 ..	12,097	1,192	178	1927 ..	37,808	1,964	255
1913 ..	13,552	1,455	183	1928 ..	39,409	1,601	276
1914 ..	15,302	1,750	230	1929 ..	40,852	1,443	208
1915 ..	16,682	1,380	270	1930 ..	42,371	1,519	239
1916 ..	18,134	1,452	218	1931 ..	43,973	1,602	257
1917 ..	19,508	1,374	166	1932 ..	45,692	1,719	215
1918 ..	20,982	1,474	132				