

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

CASES DEALT WITH		BOARD'S DECISIONS	
Persons undergoing Borstal detention ..	352	Recommended for release on probation ..	189
		Recommended for discharge ..	Nil
		Deferred for later consideration ..	160
		Applications declined ..	3
	352		352
Persons sentenced to reformatory detention	409	Recommended for release on probation ..	229
		Recommended for discharge ..	2
		Deferred for later consideration ..	172
		Applications declined ..	6
	409		409
Persons sentenced to hard labour ..	232	Recommended for release on probation ..	165
		Recommended for discharge ..	3
		Deferred for later consideration ..	58
		Applications declined ..	6
	232		232
Habitual criminals for release or remission of head sentence .. .. .	35	Recommended for release on probation ..	13
		Recommended for remission of head sentence ..	2
		Deferred for later consideration ..	18
		Applications declined ..	2
	35		35
Probationers under Crimes Amendment Act	6	Recommended for discharge ..	5
		Deferred for later consideration ..	Nil
		Applications declined ..	1
	6		6
Probationers under Offenders Probation Act	13	Discharge granted ..	11
		Modification of terms of probation granted ..	Nil
		Deferred for later consideration ..	Nil
		Applications declined ..	2
	13		13

As you are aware, Sir, for the whole of the period covered by this report the Hon. Sir Archibald Blair was President of the Board. Sir Archibald occupied that position from the 26th February, 1943, until his retirement as a Judge of the Supreme Court on 2nd February, 1948. At an earlier meeting of the Board reference was made to the Judge's impending retirement, appreciation being expressed of his unfailing courtesy and friendliness, and regret being felt at the loss of His Honour's wide experience in criminal matters. The Judge when responding said he considered the members of the Board were performing in an honorary capacity a very valuable and necessary public service both conscientiously and well, and, as he had discovered, frequently at considerable inconvenience to themselves.

I have, as already indicated, but recently assumed the office of President of the Prisons Board, and therefore do not propose to comment on the statistics for 1947, except to note that the satisfactory results shown by the statistics for previous years have continued to be maintained.