

1910.
NEW ZEALAND.

THE POLICE FORCE OF THE DOMINION

(ANNUAL REPORT ON).

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

The COMMISSIONER OF POLICE to the Hon. the MINISTER OF JUSTICE.

SIR,—

Justice Department, 9th May, 1910.

On the retirement of Mr. Dinnie, on the 31st of December last, the Government decided to combine the offices of Under-Secretary for Justice and Commissioner of Police. I therefore took over the administration of the Force, in addition to my other duties, and I now submit the annual report as required by the Police Regulations.

STRENGTH OF FORCE.

On the 31st March last the strength of the Force was 775 of all ranks, being an increase of 4 during the year. The total is made up as follows:—

Inspectors	9
Sub-inspectors	7
Station sergeants	4
Sergeants	82
Constables	622
Chief detectives	5
Detectives	29
Acting-detectives	17

In addition to the above there were—

Police surgeons	4
Matrons	4
District constables	19
Native constables	9
Troop horses	38

STATIONS.

New stations have been opened at Fendalton, Frankton, Hikuai, Islington, Kirikiriroa, Rimu, Tewera, Tokomaru Bay, Waikaremoana, Wakefield, and Wellsford.

The district constable at Portobello has been replaced by a regular member of the Force, and the following stations have been closed: Broad Bay, Frasertown, Horopito, Kanieri, Kerepehi, Port Albert, Spring Grove.

The station hitherto known as Sheffield is now called Annat. and that known as Tairua is now called Hikui.

CASUALTIES.

The following are the casualties for the year ended the 31st March last: Retired under Police Provident Fund Act, 14; died, 3; resigned voluntarily, 17; dismissed, 8; discharged, 1; called upon to resign, 20: total, 63. This is 4 more than in the preceding year.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The criminal statistics (Appendix A) deal with all offences reported to the police during the year ended the 31st December last, and show an aggregate net increase of 420 on the figures of 1908. The proportion of offences to the population was 2.32 per cent. as against 2.33 the previous year.

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

Arson	15	Gaming offences	32
Assaults, common	127	Illegally on premises	25
Assaults and robbery	22	Indecent exposure	50
Breaches of the peace	71	Introducing liquor into Maori pas	24
Cruelty to animals	22	Sly-grog selling	76
Disobeying orders of Court	72	Soliciting prostitution	46
Drunkenness	314	Theft (undescribed)	47
Failing to support relatives	56	Vagrancy	131
Forgery and uttering	51		

The principle decreases were :—

Assaults, indecent	9	Obstructing police	33
Assaults causing bodily harm	11	Receiving stolen property	30
Burglary	112	Theft by servants	33
Deserting wives and families	108	Theft from dwellings	29
Deserting merchant ships	61	Theft from person	20
Disorderly and riotous conduct	102	Theft of cattle and horses	12
Malicious injury to property	23	Theft of sheep	10
Obscene language	30		

It will be noticed that the increase has been mostly confined to the less serious form of crime, such as assaults, breaches of the peace, drunkenness, sly-grog selling and vagrancy, whilst there has been a gratifying decrease under the heading of burglary and certain classes of theft.

The percentage of arrests or summonses resulting from all offences reported during the year under review is 95.61, the figures of the preceding year being 95.63.

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 :—

District.	Number of all Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests or Summonses resulted.	Number in which no Arrests or Summonses re- sulted.
Auckland	6,063	5,829	234
Thames	719	697	22
Napier	1,994	1,930	64
Wanganui	2,554	2,488	66
Wellington	5,508	5,308	200
Greymouth	804	770	34
Christchurch	3,652	3,492	160
Dunedin	2,116	1,882	234
Invercargill	520	484	36
	23,930	22,880	1,050

SERIOUS CRIMES.

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

Crimes.	1908.		1909.	
	Number of all Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests resulted.	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests resulted.
Arson	13	8	28	27
Assault and robbery	35	32	57	55
Burglary (breaking into shops and dwellings)	476	364	364	242
Forgery and uttering	135	114	186	176
Murder	6	5	7	7
" attempted	12	12	5	4
Rape	11	10	8	8
Receiving stolen property	65	63	35	35
Shooting with intent	6	5	6	6
	759	613	696	560

During the last nine years the number of serious crimes as above described has varied from 520 to 759, so that the present total (696) does not call for comment.

Indecent and sexual offences were dealt with as under :—

Crimes.	1908.	1909.
Assaults, indecent	64	55
Bestiality	1	2
Carnally knowing girls	13	18
Carnally knowing, attempted	4	7
Concealment of birth	3	4
Incest	7	2
Indecent exposure	267	317
Rape	11	8
Rape, attempted	10	12
Sodomy	3	6
Sodomy, attempted	4	1
	387	432

DRUNKENNESS.

There has been an increase of 314 in the number of persons prosecuted for drunkenness during the year as compared with the previous year.

From the following table it will be observed that 40·89 per cent. of the males and 73·78 per cent. of the females had previous convictions recorded against them, and 7·45 per cent. of the males were not permanent residents in the Dominion.

RETURN showing the NUMBER of PERSONS charged with DRUNKENNESS during the Year 1909, and the Number of Previous Convictions against them, so far as is known.

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 Foregoing who were Members of Crews of Vessels in Port.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Auckland ..	1,022	30	298	19	156	10	99	14	76	16	59	11	390	80	2,100	180	329
Thames ..	121	5	69	3	25	4	7	..	1	..	1	..	9	..	233	12	..
Napier ..	675	17	142	7	56	2	29	..	18	..	9	..	89	5	1,018	31	28
Wanganui ..	919	51	134	13	46	8	24	2	21	..	7	1	25	..	1,176	75	2
Wellington ..	1,508	85	310	36	218	36	231	37	202	32	43	28	127	50	2,639	254	162
Greymouth ..	160	5	63	5	21	2	9	1	6	..	4	..	13	..	276	13	18
Christchurch ..	863	41	207	20	108	9	64	12	53	9	60	10	167	44	1,522	145	83
Dunedin ..	446	19	118	4	49	5	25	4	11	3	10	3	85	31	744	69	90
Invercargill ..	123	2	18	..	12	..	6	..	2	..	3	..	3	1	167	3	24
	5,837	205	1,359	107	691	76	494	70	390	60	196	53	908	211	9,875	782	736

The number charged with drunkenness in 1908 was 10,343 (9,637 males and 706 females), whereas in 1909 the number was 10,657 (9,875 males and 782 females).

RETURN showing the NUMBER of PERSONS arrested for DRUNKENNESS within each Principal Centre during the Years 1908-9, the Number convicted, the Number discharged or withdrawn (Males and Females shown separately), and the Total Decrease in Arrests.

Centre.	Number arrested, 1908.		Number arrested, 1909.		Number convicted, 1909.		Number discharged or withdrawn, 1909.		Total Increase in Arrests.	Total Decrease in Arrests.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Auckland and suburbs ...	1,348	165	1,180	96	1,178	96	2	...	...	237
Wellington and suburbs	2,091	185	2,039	224	2,035	223	4	1	...	13
Christchurch and suburbs	651	108	771	109	769	109	2	...	121	...
Dunedin and suburbs ...	708	62	581	66	578	65	3	1	...	123
Totals ...	4,798	520	4,571	495	4,560	493	11	2	121	373

Total decrease, 252.

RETURN showing the NUMBER of PERSONS arrested for DRUNKENNESS on SUNDAYS within each Principal Centre during the Years 1908-9 (Males and Females shown separately).

Centre.	Number arrested, 1908.		Number arrested, 1909.		Number convicted, 1909.		Number discharged or withdrawn, 1909.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Auckland and suburbs ...	19	2	23	...	23	...	...	...
Wellington and suburbs...	26	4	32	6	32	6	...	...
Christchurch and suburbs	18	2	19	3	19	3	...	...
Dunedin and suburbs ...	7	1	9	2	9	2	...	...
Totals ...	70	9	83	11	83	11	...	...

In attempting to draw conclusions from these figures it should be borne in mind that the number of charges does not represent the number of distinct and separate persons charged, as repeated charges against the same person are included in the total. Similarly, the number of persons shown as not previously convicted cannot be guaranteed as strictly accurate. A man may be convicted of drunkenness in, say, Auckland one week and in Dunedin the next, and unless the Dunedin police were aware of the previous conviction, which may or may not be the case, he would be shown in the Dunedin return as not previously convicted. I point this out as a caution against attempting to deduce, from the statistics given, conclusions that may not be justified by the actual facts.

PROSECUTIONS AGAINST HOTELKEEPERS.

The number of prosecutions (213) against hotelkeepers during the year shows an increase of 36 as compared with the preceding year.

RETURN showing the NUMBER of PROSECUTIONS against PUBLICANS in each District during the Year 1909 as compared with 1908, the Number convicted, and the Number discharged or withdrawn.

District.	Prosecutions, 1908.	Prosecutions, 1909.	Convictions.	Discharged or withdrawn.
Auckland ...	24	49	12	37
Thames ...	5	8	5	3
Napier ...	30	13	9	4
Wanganui ...	13	19	9	10
Wellington ...	11	28	17	11
Greymouth ...	45	55	36	19
Christchurch ...	25	24	7	17
Dunedin ...	23	16	8	8
Invercargill ...	1	1	...	1
Totals ...	177	213	103	110

RETURN showing the NUMBER of PROSECUTIONS against PUBLICANS within each Principal Centre during the Year 1909, the Number convicted, and the Number discharged or withdrawn.

Centre.	Prosecutions.	Convictions.	Discharged or withdrawn.
Auckland and suburbs ...	16	...	16
Wellington and suburbs ...	10	6	4
Christchurch and suburbs ...	5	1	4
Dunedin and suburbs ...	5	3	2
Totals ...	36	10	26

SLY-GROG.

There were 235 prosecutions during the year for sly-grog selling, resulting in 154 convictions, against 158 prosecutions and 127 convictions during the preceding year.

The difficulty in obtaining evidence in support of charges of sly-grog selling is increased by the disinclination of the general public to afford the police any assistance in this respect, and for this reason it is found necessary to resort to methods which are distasteful both to the public and the police. There is, however, no alternative unless the law-breakers are to be allowed to go their own way unchecked.

The fines imposed on sly-grog sellers during the year 1909 amounted to £2,358 15s., as against £1,749 15s. in 1908.

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

	£	s.	d.
Auckland	529	15	0
Thames	620	0	0
Napier	69	0	0
Wanganui	72	0	0
Wellington	518	0	0
Greymouth .. .. .	..	..	..
Christchurch	242	0	0
Dunedin	205	0	0
Invercargill	103	0	0
Total	£2,358	15	0

The direct cost to the Dominion in detecting and prosecuting sly-grog sellers during the year was £1,090 19s. 6d., this being £1,267 15s. 6d. less than the amount of fines imposed.

GAMING OFFENCES.

There were 239 prosecutions, resulting in 208 convictions, during the year under the gaming laws, against 213 prosecutions and 184 convictions in 1908.

The question of licensing bookmakers will have to be very seriously considered, and some restriction be placed upon the many undesirable characters who under the present law follow the profession of bookmaking.

FINGER-PRINT BRANCH.

On the 31st March last the finger-print collection consisted of the impressions of 9,919 offenders, being an increase of 1,201 on the previous year.

During the year 140 offenders, whose antecedents were unknown to the police of the districts in which they were in custody, were, by means of their finger-impressions, identified as previously convicted persons, showing an increase of two over last year.

The following table shows increase of the finger-print collection, and prisoners traced thereby for the past six years.

Year.	Number of Prints in Collection.	Increase on Previous Year.	Prisoners traced as Previous Offenders.
1905	4,200	700	72
1906	5,000	800	88
1907	6,151	1,151	104
1908	7,622	1,471	123
1909	8,718	1,096	138
1910	9,919	1,201	140

Finger-prints of persons in custody here have been identified in each of the Australian States, in Cape Town, London, and Denmark as those of persons previously convicted in those places, while prints of persons in custody in the various States of Australia and South Africa have been identified here as those of persons previously convicted in New Zealand.

Of forty-seven finger-marked articles taken possession of by police in the investigation of various offences eleven prosecutions resulted, convictions being recorded in all cases.

As an instance of the practical assistance the branch is to the general police, a series of burglaries took place in Wellington during the latter part of last year, and from finger-prints left behind by the offenders it was clearly demonstrated that the same persons were responsible for the whole of the burglaries, thus narrowing the scope of the inquiry. The offenders were subsequently arrested and convicted.

The photographic portion of the branch is still working well, during the year 628 photographs being finished, at an average price of just under 2d. each.

CANDIDATES FOR FORCE.

Sixty-seven men were taken on during the year, their nationalities, religions, and occupations being as follows:—Nationalities: Australia, 8; England, 6; India, 1; Ireland, 5; New Zealand, 41; Scotland, 5; West Indies, 1. Religions: Baptist, 1; Church of England, 25; Methodists, 3; Presbyterians, 20; Roman Catholics, 15; Wesleyans, 3. Occupations: Artillerymen, 3; bakers, 2;

blacksmiths, 2; bricklayers, 2; cabinetmaker, 1; carpenters, 2; carter, 1; clerks, 2; drivers, 3; electrical operator, 1; ex-constables, 3; farm labourers, 11; farmers, 2; grocer's assistant, 1; labourers, 13; milkman, 1; miners, 4; motormen, 2; piano-tuner, 1; platelayer, 1; ploughman, 1; postman, 1; sawmill hand, 1; seaman, 1; shepherds, 2; soldier, 1; telegraphist, 1; woodwork-machinist, 1.

POLICE PROVIDENT FUND.

On 31st March last the amount standing to the credit of the fund was £32,204 7s. 1d., being an increase on the previous year of £390 19s. 3d. On the same date there were on the fund 3 ex-Inspectors, 1 ex-sergeant-major, 21 ex-sergeants, 55 ex-constables, 5 ex-detectives, and 2 widows of deceased constables, their aggregate annual allowances being £8,231 8s.

This fund has now been merged in the Public Service Superannuation Fund.

Since the Police Provident Fund Act, 1899, came into force the Government have saved the sum of £22,606 8s. 11d. in the form of retiring-allowances which would no doubt have been paid had it not existed.

STATIONS, ETC.

During the year the following works have been completed:—

New Buildings.

Chatham Islands	..	Station.	New Plymouth	..	Station.
Christchurch	..	Inspector's residence.	Otira	..	Lock-up.
Dunollie	..	Station.	Rakaia	..	Station.
Epsom	..	Lock-up.	Rawene	..	Lock-up.
Islington	..	"	Rotorua	..	Offices.
Kaikohe	..	Station.	Shannon	..	Station.
Kaitaia	..	"	Sydenham	..	"
Kirikiroa	..	"	Takaka	..	"
Lincoln	..	"	Thames	..	"

New Building in Course of Erection.

Pongaroa .. Station.

Additions, Improvements, &c.

Coalgate	..	Painting, &c.	Papanui	..	Drainage and water.
Hamilton	..	Outbuildings, &c.	Picton	..	Alterations.
Hunterville	..	Water and drainage.	Russell	..	Painting, &c.
Kawhia	..	Wash-house and renovations.	Wellington (Newtown)	..	Additions.
Manaia	..	Repairs and painting.	Weraoia	..	Conversion old post-office to constables' quarters.
Palmerston North	..	Ditto.	Whangarei	..	Additions.

Properties acquired.

Culverden	..	Site.	Kaikohe	..	Site.
Eden Terrace (Auckland)	..	Station.	New Brighton	..	"
Ellerslie	..	"	Wakefield	..	Station.
Frankton	..	Site.	Woolston	..	"
Johnsonville	..	"			

First Aid to the Injured.

During the year ended March, 1910, 61 probationers presented themselves, at the conclusion of their course of training at the depot, for examination in "first aid to the injured," the examinations being held under the auspices of the St. John Ambulance Association.

Of the 61 men who sat, all passed.

The maximum number of marks was gained in seven cases, the average of those who passed being 84.69. (Maximum, 100; bare pass, 50.)

The lecturer was in each case Dr. Henry, Police Surgeon, and the examiners different medical men appointed by the Association.

The New Zealand Police Force.

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

Year.	Officers.	Non-Commis- sioned.	Detectives.	Constables.	Total.	Police to Population.	Cost per Inhabit- ant.	Population.	Offences reported.	Offences where Arrests or Sum- monses re- sulted.	Arrests for Drunkenness (included in "Offences reported").
1878	25	90	14	329	458	1 to 944	Not obtain- able	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		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	3/3	646,913	12,897	11,854	5,387
1889	13	65	17	389	484	1 to 1,347	3/0 $\frac{3}{4}$	652,125	12,945	11,885	5,444
1890	12	66	13	403	494	1 to 1,346	3/2	664,855	13,115	12,177	5,866
1891	7	61	14	404	486	1 to 1,375	3/2 $\frac{1}{2}$	668,353	12,674	11,748	5,416
1892	7	60	14	401	482	1 to 1,401	3/2 $\frac{1}{2}$	675,775	13,153	12,187	5,360
1893	7	53	14	407	481	1 to 1,439	2/9	692,426	13,165	12,100	5,251
1894	7	55	13	410	485	1 to 1,472	2/8 $\frac{1}{2}$	714,258	13,530	12,500	4,594
1895	7	51	13	416	487	1 to 1,495	2/7 $\frac{1}{4}$	728,121	14,010	12,435	4,636
1896	6	51	13	414	484	1 to 1,530	2/6 $\frac{1}{2}$	740,699	14,673	13,171	5,005
1897	7	45	12	453	517	1 to 1,461	2/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	754,016	15,219	14,042	5,204
1898	7	56	16	457	536	1 to 1,435	2/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	768,910	16,378	14,730	5,532
1899	11	53	15	475	554	1 to 1,414	2/8	783,317	16,865	15,561	6,289
1900	11	56	20	499	586	1 to 1,359	2/9 $\frac{1}{4}$	796,359	18,358	17,131	7,299
1901	11	56	20	504	591	1 to 1,381	2/10 $\frac{3}{4}$	816,290	19,909	18,742	8,057
1902	12	58	20	514	604	1 to 1,375	2/10 $\frac{1}{2}$	830,800	19,771	18,802	8,269
1903	12	59	20	522	613	1 to 1,388	2/10 $\frac{1}{2}$	851,068	20,736	19,867	8,815
1904	12	59	21	534	626	1 to 1,398	2/10 $\frac{1}{2}$	875,648	21,066	20,118	9,615
1905	12	65	25	553	655	1 to 1,375	2/10 $\frac{1}{2}$	900,682	20,249	19,251	8,707
1906	14	71	25	557	667	1 to 1,387	2/10 $\frac{1}{2}$	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	3/2 $\frac{1}{4}$	977,215	23,510	22,484	10,343
1909	16	87	35	633	771	1 to 1,308	3/4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,008,373	23,930	22,880	10,657
1910	16	86	34	639	775	1 to 1,330	3/3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,030,657	...	...	...

In addition to the strength of the Force as shown above, there are 19 district constables, 9 Native constables, 4 police surgeons (one in each city), 4 matrons (one in each city), and 38 troop horses.

INSPECTORS' REPORTS.

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

I have, &c.,

F. WALDEGRAVE,
Commissioner of Police.

EXTRACTS FROM ANNUAL REPORTS OF OFFICERS IN CHARGE OF DISTRICTS.

INSPECTOR CULLEN, AUCKLAND DISTRICT.

The casualties in the Force in this district during the year ended the 31st March last were as follows: 1 sergeant died and 11 constables resigned.

New stations were opened at Kirikiriroa (Hamilton East), Frankton, and Wellsford, and Port Albert Station was closed.

New stations will need to be opened at Remuera, Mount Albert, Richmond (Grey Lynn), and Takapuna. The opening of a new station at Remuera has already been approved, but a constable cannot be stationed there till such time as we can secure a house for him to reside in.

The criminal statistics for the district for the year ended 31st December, 1909, show an increase in minor offences such as drunkenness, common assaults, cruelty to animals, failing to support parents, obscene language, petty thefts, and vagrancy. There has been a marked decrease in cases of house-breaking, &c., as compared with the year 1908.

The conduct of the senior members of the Force in the district has been very satisfactory, but that of some of the junior hands who came here from the depot or on transfer from other districts has been quite the reverse; a good few of these undesirables are now out of the service.

INSPECTOR KIELY, THAMES DISTRICT.

During the year ended 31st March, 1910, the district has been almost free from serious offences.

The new police buildings here were handed over and taken possession of on the 16th August last, so that the members of the Force here are now well provided for.

New offices, which were much needed, have also been provided for the police at Rotorua, the building being a substantial four-roomed cottage, containing two offices and two bedrooms.

There are two stations in the district—Rotorua and Opotiki—where the strength requires to be increased by an additional constable.

The conduct of the members of the Force during the year has, on the whole, been very good, with the exception of one or two cases, where just punishment has been inflicted.

INSPECTOR DWYER, NAPIER DISTRICT.

The return of crime for the year ending 31st December last shows that 1,994 offences were reported to the police, and out of that number 1,930 were detected. This shows a substantial decrease in crime as compared with the returns for the previous year when 2,311 offences were reported. The decrease is spread over all the stations, Dannevirke showing the largest decrease, there being 169 less offences reported there than in the previous year. This decrease is accounted for by the closing down of several of the sawmills and the throwing-out of employment of a large number of hands, who had to seek for work elsewhere.

In drunkenness alone there was a decrease of 103 during the year.

The conduct of the sergeants and detectives has been good during the year, and so has that of the constables with but few exceptions.

The whole of the district continues to prosper, and Gisborne and surrounding district are increasing in population so rapidly that an additional constable is much needed for the Town of Gisborne, as one man is almost continually employed on relieving and escort duty.

INSPECTOR WILSON, WANGANUI DISTRICT.

The strength of the Force is 76—1 Inspector, 1 Sub-Inspector, 8 sergeants, 63 constables, and 3 detectives—a total of 76, and 1 district constable.

Settlement along the Main Trunk Line, the Wanganui River, Whangamomona, and the Mokau districts continues. New settlers are constantly taking up land. Bushfelling, grass-sowing, and fencing continue to give employment to a large number of men. On the Stratford-Ongarue construction works some 600 men are employed.

At Wanganui at least one more constable is required. I consider any town the size of Wanganui should have a watchhouse-keeper on duty at the station all night. This we cannot do without seriously interfering with the working of the town at night.

At Palmerston North I think a constable could be well employed as plain-clothes constable. The work of the detective is too great to be thoroughly done, and he needs the assistance suggested.

The population of the district is approximately 140,000; the present Force is 76. This works out at one man to each 1,842 persons; so that on a population basis we should have many more men.

The conduct of the men, on the whole, has been very good, and, as a rule, they have been zealous, careful, and attentive in the discharge of their duties.

The wholesale licenses granted at Raetihi, Ohakune, Rangataua, Awakino, and Mokau will be discontinued at the end of June next. From my own knowledge, and reports from reliable persons, these licenses are worse than the open bar, and cause more drunkenness and rowdiness amongst the younger men.

INSPECTOR ELLISON, WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

The authorised strength of the Force in this district on the 31st of March last was 153 and the actual strength 151, including 1 constable who has been absent for several months in other districts on special duty.

The increase to the authorised strength during the year was 1 acting detective and 2 constables to the head station at Wellington.

The Offences Return furnished in January shows the total number of offences reported during last year was 5,508, a decrease of 357 on the previous year. The number of undetected offences was 200, as against 222 for the previous year. Many of the undetected offences were petty thefts.

On the whole, the year's work shows a fairly good result.

The decrease in offences may be to some extent attributed to the fact that money was not so plentiful for spending purposes in the community as for a few years previously, but with a large moving population some offences may vary considerably at different periods without any apparent reason.

The conduct of the Force, as a rule, was good, and whilst some men do not show a great deal of tact and energy, and are slow to learn their work, the past year shows a great deal of creditable work and a satisfactory result.

The detective staff has worked well and energetically, and the same can be said of many of the uniform service, there being, as a rule, a general desire to perform onerous and often unpleasant duties in a straightforward loyal manner.

INSPECTOR BLACK, GREYMOUTH DISTRICT.

The strength of the Force on the 31st March last was 1 Inspector, 5 sergeants, 31 constables, and 1 detective; total, 38, being 1 constable short of the authorised strength of 39. The strength has been increased by an extra constable at Westport.

The conduct of the men in this district, as a whole, has been good during the last twelve months, although in a few instances a number of constables have been fined for breaches of Police Regulations and neglect of duty.

The criminal statistics for the year show an increase of 50 on previous year's total, made up principally by drunkenness, obscene and profane language, and other offences of a less serious nature.

The total offences reported during the year were 804, out of which number 770 are accounted for by arrests and summonses, leaving 34 undetected, or about 4 per cent. on the whole.

INSPECTOR GILLIES, CHRISTCHURCH DISTRICT.

On the 31st March last the strength of the Force was 142 men made up of all ranks as follows: Inspector, 1; Sub-Inspectors, 2; station sergeant, 1; sergeants, 14; constables, 113; detectives, 7; acting-detectives, 4. There is a surgeon and matron attached to Christchurch Station.

The total number of offences reported during the year ending 31st December, 1909, was 3,652, and the number of persons apprehended or summoned was 3,492. An increase of 348 offences is shown in comparison with the return for the year 1908.

During the year fines were imposed in cases prosecuted by the police for sly-grog selling amounting in the aggregate to £242. Ten cases were dealt with at Ashburton and sixteen cases at Oamaru. The utmost vigilance by the local police in no-license districts is required to obtain evidence against offenders, as residents do not care to become informers or assist the police in proceedings against sly-grog sellers.

The conduct of the men has been, on the whole, satisfactory. I am pleased with some of the younger constables, who are taking an interest in their duty. Some of the recruits are behaving in a manner very creditable to themselves and to the Department.

INSPECTOR O'BRIEN, DUNEDIN DISTRICT.

On the 31st March last the strength of the Force in this district was, 1 Inspector, 1 Sub-Inspector, 1 station sergeant, 11 sergeants, 75 constables, 1 chief detective, 3 detectives, and 2 acting detectives, 1 police surgeon, and 1 matron.

The number of offences (excluding breaches of by-laws and other trivial matters) reported to the police during the year ended 31st December last was 2,116, as compared with 2,213 for the previous year, showing a decrease of 97; and the number of persons apprehended or proceeded against by summons during the year was 1,882. I regret again to have to remark that juveniles (persons under sixteen years) and also persons under the age of twenty-one years are responsible for many of the offences of the more serious nature.

During the year there were 14 prosecutions for sly-grog selling, resulting in 9 convictions. The fines imposed amounted to £205. A difficulty in obtaining the necessary evidence for conviction in such cases still obtains. Many respectable residents who willingly assist the police in the detection of other offences refrain from giving assistance in this connection, on the score that they do not like the risk of being regarded as "informers."

During the year the conduct of members of the Force of both branches of the service, has, with very few exceptions, been exemplary. On nearly all occasions (both day and night) sergeants and constables have been found most attentive to their respective duties, which are many. The detective branch of the service has during the year done good work, including the solving of many questions as to persons responsible for the commission of offences, both locally and in other parts of the Dominion, during the preceding year.

INSPECTOR MITCHELL, INVERCARGILL DISTRICT.

During the year ended 31st December last 520 offences were reported, being a marked decrease on the number—620—for the preceding year. Of these, 484 were detected, being about 93 per cent.

There were 170 cases of drunkenness, inquiry showing that the supplies of liquor had been obtained in a legitimate way from outside the no-license area.

There were 12 convictions for sly-grog selling, and fines totalling £103 imposed.

The strength of the Force in this district on the 31st of March last was 1 Inspector, 4 sergeants, 31 constables, 1 detective, and 1 district constable.

The conduct of members of the Force, with one or two exceptions, has been good, and they have been attentive to their duty, as evidenced by the satisfactory percentage of detected offences.

Casualties here have been 3 constables transferred to and 2 from other districts.

APPENDIX B.

RETURN showing the STRENGTH and DISTRIBUTION of the NEW ZEALAND POLICE FORCE on the 31st March, 1910.

Stations.	Inspectors.	Sub-Inspectors.	Station-Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Constables.	Chief Detectives.	Detectives.	Acting-Detectives.	Total.	Probationers.	District Constables.	Native Constables.	Matrons.	Surgeons.
Auckland District—														
Auckland ..	1	1	1	5	46	1	4	5	64				1	1
Aratapu ..					1				1					
Avondale ..					1				1					
Birkenhead ..					1				1					
Cambridge ..					1				1					
Cowes ..					1				1					
Dargaville ..					2				2					
Devonport ..			1	3					4					
Eden Terrace ..			1	4					5					
Ellerslie ..				1					1					
Epsom ..				1					1					
Frankton ..				1					1					
Freeman's Bay ..				2					2					
Hamilton ..			1	2					3					
Helensville ..				1					1					
Herekino ..										1				
Hikurangi ..				1					1					
Hobsonville ..										1				
Hohoua ..										1				
Howick ..				1					1					
Huntly ..				1					1					
Kaikōhe ..				1					1					
Kaitiaki ..				1					1					
Kawakawa ..				1					1					
Kawhia ..				1					1					
Kihikihi ..				1					1					
Kingsland ..				1					1					
Kirikiriroa ..				1					1					
Mangawai ..										1				
Mangonui ..				1					1					
Mercer ..				1					1					
Mount Roskill ..				1					1					
Newmarket ..			1	3					4					
Newton ..			4	9		2			15					
Ngāruawāhia ..				1					1					
Northcote ..				1					1					
Ōhaeawai ..										1				
Okupu (G. Barr) ..				1					1					
Ōnehunga ..			1	2					3					
Ongarue ..				1					1					
Otahuhu ..				1					1					
Otorohanga ..				1					1					
Pahi ..				1					1					
Panmure ..				1					1					
Papakura ..				1					1					
Parnell ..				3					3					
Ponsonby ..				3					3					
Pukekohe ..				1					1					
Queen St. Wharf ..			1	6					7					
Raglan ..				1					1					
Raurimu ..				1					1					
Rawene ..				1					1					
Russell ..				1					1					
Taumarunui ..				1					1					
Te Awamutu ..				1					1					
Te Kuiti ..				1					1					
Tuakau ..				1					1					
Waipu ..				1					1					
Waiuku ..				1					1					
Warkworth ..				1					1					
Wellsford ..				1					1					
Whangarei ..			1	2					3					
Whangaroa ..				1					1					
Totals ..	1	1	1	16	128	1	6	5	159	8	4	1	1	
Thames District—														
Thames ..	1		1	5		1			8					
Coromandel ..				1					1					
Hikua ..				1					1					
Karangahake ..				1					1					
Katikati ..										1				
Morrinsville ..				1					1					
Omaio ..										1				
Opotiki ..				1					1					
Paeroa ..				1					1					
Rotorua ..			1	3					4					
Shortland ..				1					1					
Taupo ..				1					1					
Tauranga ..				1					1					
Te Aroha ..				1					1					
Te Puke ..				1					1					
Te Whaiti ..										1				
Tokaanu ..										1				
Waihi ..			1	6					7					
Waikino ..				1					1					
Whakatane ..				1					1					
Whitianga ..				1					1					
Total ..	1		3	28		1			33	3	3			
Napier District—														
Napier ..	1			2	7			1	11					
Carlyle Street ..					1				1					
Clive ..					1				1					
Dannevirke ..				1	2				3					
Gisborne ..				1	5			1	7			1		
Hastings ..				1	3			1	5					
Herbertville ..											1			
Ongaonga ..					1				1					
Ormondville ..					1				1					
Porongahau ..					1				1					
Port Awanui ..					1				1					
Scinde (Napier) ..					1				1					
Spit (Napier) ..					1				1					
Taradale ..					1				1					
Te Karaka ..					1				1					
Tokomaru Bay ..					1				1					
Tolaga Bay ..					1				1					
Tuparoa ..												1		
Waikaremoana ..												1		
Waipawa ..					1				1					
Waipiro Bay ..					1				1					
Waipukurau ..					1				1					
Wairoa ..					1				1			1		
Weber ..												1		
Woodville ..					2				2					
Totals ..	1			5	35			3	44		4	2		
Wanganui District—														
Wanganui ..	1			2	10			1	14					
Aramoho ..					1				1					
Ashhurst ..					1				1					
Bull's ..					1				1					
Eltham ..					1				1					
Feilding ..				1	2				3					
Foxton ..					2				2					
Hawera ..				1	2				3					
Hunterville ..					1				1					
Inglewood ..					1				1					
Kimbolton ..					1				1					
Manaia ..					1				1					
Mangaweka ..					1				1					
Marton ..					2				2					
Moawhango ..											1			
Mokau ..					1				1					
New Plymouth ..				1	5			1	7					
Normanby ..					1				1					
Ohakune ..					1				1					
Opunake ..					1				1					
Palmerston N. ..	1				10			1	12					
Patea ..					1				1					
Raetihi ..					1				1					
Rahotu ..					1				1					
Rongotea ..					1				1					
Shannon ..					1				1					
St. John's (Wanganui) ..					1				1					
Stratford ..					2				2					
Taihape ..					1				1					
Terrace End (Palmerston N.) ..					1				1					
Tewera ..					1				1					
Waitara ..					1				1					
Waitotara ..					1				1					
Wanganui East ..					1				1					
Waverley ..					1				1					
Willis Street (Palmerston N.) ..					1				1					
Totals ..	1	1		7	63			3	75		1			
Wellington District—														
Wellington ..	1	2	1	7	45	2	5	4	67			1	1	
Blenheim ..				1	4				5					
Brooklyn ..					1				1					
Carterton ..					2				2					
Clyde Quay ..					1				1					
Collingwood ..					1									

APPENDIX B—continued.

RETURN showing the STRENGTH, &c., of the NEW ZEALAND POLICE FORCE—continued.

Stations.	Inspectors.	Sub-Inspectors.	Station-Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Constables.	Chief Detectives.	Detectives.	Acting-Detectives.	Total.	Probationers.	District Constables.	Native Constables.	Matrons.	Surgeons.
Wellington District—contd.														
Mangatainoka ..					1				1					
Manners Street ..					1				1					
Martinborough ..					4				5					
Masterton ..				1	4				5					
Motueka ..					1				1					
Mount Cook ..				4	18			1	23					
Nelson ..				1	6			1	8					
Otaki ..					1				1					
Pahiatua ..					2				2					
Petone ..				1	2				3					
Picton ..					2				2					
Pongaroa ..					1				1					
Richmond ..					1				1					
Seddon ..					1				1					
Takaka ..					1				1					
Te Nui ..					1				1					
The Port ..					1				1					
Thorndon Quay ..					1				1					
Tinakori Road ..					1				1					
Upper Hutt ..					1				1					
Wakefield ..					1				1					
Wellington S. ..				2	2				4	17				
Totals ..	1	2	1	17	117	2	5	6	151	17	1		1	1
Greymouth District—														
Greymouth ..	1			2	5		1		9					
Ahaura ..					1				1					
Blackball ..					1				1					
Brunnerton ..					1				1					
Charleston ..					1				1					
Denniston ..					1				1					
Dunollie ..					1				1					
Granity ..					1				1					
Hokitika ..				1	2				3					
Karamea ..					1				1					
Kumara ..					1				1					
Lyell ..					1				1					
Murchison ..					1				1					
Okarito ..					1				1					
Otira ..					1				1					
Reefton ..				1	2				3					
Rimu ..					1				1					
Ross ..					1				1					
Seddonville ..					1				1					
Stafford ..					1				1					
Westport ..				1	5				6					
Totals ..	1			5	31		1		38					
Christchurch District—														
Christchurch ..	1	1	1	6	40	1	4	4	58				1	1
Addington ..					1				1					
Akaroa ..					2				2					
Annat ..					1				1					
Amberley ..					1				1					
Ashburton ..				1	5				6					
Belfast ..					1				1					
Bingsland ..					1				1					
Chatham Islands ..					1				1					
Cheviot ..					1				1					
Coalgate ..					1				1					
Culverden ..					1				1					
Fairlie ..					1				1					
Fendalton ..					1				1					
Geraldine ..					2				2					
Glenavy ..					1				1					
Hampden ..					1				1					
Islington ..					1				1					
Kaiapoi ..					2				2					
Kaikoura ..					1				1					
Kurow ..					1				1					
Leeston ..					1				1					
Lincoln ..					1				1					
Linwood ..					1				1					
Little River ..					1				1					
Lyttelton ..				1	5		1		7					
Methven ..					1				1					
New Brighton ..					1				1					
Ngapara ..					1				1					
Oamaru ..				2	6				8					
Oxford ..					1				1					
Papanui ..					1				1					
Phillipstown ..					1				1					
Pleasant Point ..					1				1					
Totals ..	1			5	31		1		38					
Christchurch District—contd.														
Rakaia ..					1				1					
Rangiora ..					1				1					
Riccarton ..					1				1					
St. Albans ..					1				1					
St. Andrew's ..					1				1					
Southbridge ..					1				1					
Sumner ..					1				1					
Sydenham ..					1				1					
Temuka ..					2				2					
Timaru ..				1	7		1		10					
Waikari ..					3				3			1		
Waimate ..					1				1					
Woolston ..					1				1					
Totals ..	1	2	1	14	118	1	6	4	142		1		1	1
Dunedin District—														
Dunedin ..	1	1	1	6	29	1	3	2	44				1	1
Alexandra South ..					1				1					
Anderson's Bay ..					1				1					
Balclutha ..					1				1					
Caversham ..					1				1					
Clyde ..				1	1				2					
Cromwell ..					1				1					
Green Island ..					1				1					
Kaitangata ..					1				1					
King Street ..				1	5				6					
Lawrence ..				1	1				2					
Middlemarch ..					1				1					
Milton ..					1				1					
Mornington ..					1				1					
Mosgiel ..					1				1					
Naseby ..					1				1					
North-east Valley ..					1				1					
Ophir ..					1				1					
Outram ..					1				1					
Owaka ..					1				1					
Palmerston S. ..					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					
South Dunedin ..				1	5				6					
Waikouaiti ..					1				1					
Waitahuna ..					1				1					
Waitati ..					1				1					
Woodhaugh ..					1				1					
Totals ..	1	1	1	11	75	1	3	2	95				1	1
Invercargill District—														
Invercargill ..	1			2	9		1		13					
Arrowtown ..					1				1					
Bluff ..				1	2				3					
Clinton ..					1				1					
Gladstone ..					1				1					
Gore ..				1	2				3					
Half-moon Bay ..												1		
Lumsden ..					1				1					
Mataura ..					1				1					
Nightcaps ..					1				1					
N. Invercargill ..					1				1					
Orepuki ..					1				1					
Otautau ..					1				1					
Pembroke ..					1				1					
Queenstown ..					2				2					
Riverton ..					1				1					
S. Invercargill ..					1				1					
Tapanui ..					1				1					
Waikaka ..					1				1					
Winton ..					1				1					
Wyndham ..					1				1					
Totals ..	1			4	31		1		37		1			
On leave prior to retirement ..					1				1					
Grand totals ..	9	7	4	82	622									

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.	Population.	Proportion of Police to Population.	Cost of Police per Inhabitant.
New Zealand	775	1,030,657	1 to 1,330	s. d. 3 3½
Victoria	1,595	1,303,357	1 to 817	4 5
New South Wales..	2,434	1,621,677	1 to 666	5 9½
South Australia ..	424	416,047	1 to 981	4 4½
Queensland	969	572,654	1 to 591	7 4½
Western Australia	495	273,543	1 to 553	8 6½
Tasmania	232	186,860	1 to 805	4 3

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given; printing (2,000 copies), £11 10s.

Price 6d.]

By Authority : JOHN MACKAY, Government Printer, Wellington.—1910.