

The principal decreases were—

Abusive, insulting, or threatening words or behaviour	62	Cruelty to animals	64
Assaults, indecent	32	Deserting from merchant vessels	48
Breaches of the peace	73	Failing to maintain wives, &c.	87
		Malicious injury to property	44

The percentage of arrests or summonses resulting from all offences reported during the year 1914 was 96·12, the figures of the preceding year being 95·86.

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 resulted.
Auckland	5,535	5,324	211
Hamilton	1,992	1,925	67
Napier	2,214	2,119	95
Wanganui	2,611	2,513	98
Wellington	6,564	6,374	190
Greymouth	893	852	41
Christchurch	4,259	4,108	151
Dunedin	2,482	2,305	177
Invercargill	1,013	974	39
Totals	27,563	26,494	1,069

SERIOUS CRIMES.

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

Crimes.	1913.		1914.	
	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests resulted.	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests resulted.
Arson	23	20	16	16
Assault and robbery	26	24	29	27
Burglary, breaking into shops, dwellings, &c. .. .	365	283	443	328
Forgery and uttering	107	102	149	135
Murder	9	6	9	7
Murder, attempted	8	8	4	4
Rape	9	7	6	6
Receiving stolen property	59	58	53	53
Shooting with intent	8	8	2	2
Totals	614	516	711	578

During the last ten years the number of serious crimes as above described has varied from 548 to 759, the present total (711) being somewhat above the average.

Indecent and sexual offences were as under :—

Offences.	1913.	1914.
Assaults, indecent	89	57
Bestiality	3	2
Carnally knowing girls	35	27
Carnally knowing, attempted	5	12
Concealment of birth	2	1
Incest	4	2
Indecent exposure or behaviour	282	301
Rape	9	6
Rape, attempted	12	5
Sodomy	4	1
Sodomy, attempted	8	4
Totals	453	418