

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

	£
Auckland .. .. .	54
Hamilton .. .. .	1,775
Napier .. .. .	40
Wanganui .. .. .	326
Wellington .. .. .	180
Greymouth .. .. .	55
Christchurch .. .. .	50
Dunedin .. .. .	145
Invercargill .. .. .	90
Total .. .. .	£2,715

The direct cost to the Department in detecting and prosecuting sly-grog sellers during the year was £567, this being £2,148 less than the amount of fines imposed.

#### GAMING OFFENCES.

There were 214 prosecutions, resulting in 181 convictions, during the year under the gaming laws, against 270 prosecutions and 228 convictions in 1914.

#### CRIMINAL REGISTRATION BRANCH.

This branch of the Department continues to be of great value to the Police Force.

During the year the finger-impressions of 2,972 prisoners were received, classified, searched, and filed, and 218 prisoners were identified as previous offenders in this Dominion, Australia, England, &c.; 537 photographs were taken; the portraits of 1,446 prisoners were dealt with; and 368 photographs of discharged prisoners were reproduced in the *Police Gazette*. The identity of one deceased person was established by his finger-prints. The *Police Gazette* increased in volume by 69 pages of printed matter.

In two noteworthy cases—viz., the attempt to break and enter the Bank of New South Wales at Eltham, and the breaking and entering of the Borough Council Chambers at Miramar, Wellington—the finger-print evidence was of the utmost importance and was responsible for bringing the four offenders concerned to justice.

On the 31st March last the finger-print collection consisted of the impressions of 18,134 offenders, being an increase of 1,452 over the previous year.

The following table shows the increase of 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.
1904 ... ..	3,500	3,500	117
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
1911 ... ..	10,905	986	148
1912 ... ..	12,097	1,192	178
1913 ... ..	13,552	1,455	183
1914 ... ..	15,302	1,750	230
1915 ... ..	16,682	1,380	270
1916 ... ..	18,134	1,452	218

#### CANDIDATES FOR FORCE.

Fifty-eight men were taken on during the year, their nationalities, religions, and occupations being as follows:—Nationalities: England, 13; Scotland, 4; Ireland, 10; New Zealand, 29; Australia, 2. Religions: Church of England, 21; Presbyterian, 12; Roman Catholic, 20; Methodist, 4; Church of Christ, 1. Occupations: Asylum attendant, 1; bakers, 2; butcher, 1; bushman, 1; carpenters, 7; carters, 4; contractor, 1; ex-constables, 10; ex-soldier, 1; farm labourers, 11; footman, 1; joiner, 1; labourers, 7; miners, 2; railway porters, 4; surfaceman, 1; railway fireman, 1; tram-conductor, 1; wheelwright, 1.

#### FIRST AID TO THE INJURED.

During the year ended 31st March, 1916, 47 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.