

1916.  
NEW ZEALAND.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.  
**PRISONS BOARD**  
(ANNUAL REPORT OF) FOR 1915.

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

SIR,—

22nd May, 1916.

I have the honour to forward herewith the report of the Prisons Board for the year 1915.

I have, &amp;c.,

The Hon. the Minister of Justice, Wellington.

ROBERT STOUT, President.

**REPORT.**

DURING the year 1915 the Board held meetings at Wellington, Waikeria, Waipa, Kaingaroa, New Plymouth, Auckland, Lyttelton, Addington, Paparua (Templeton), and Invercargill. The following table shows the dates of the meetings, and the cases considered :—

Date.	Place of Meeting.	Cases considered of		Total.
		Habitual Criminals and Offenders.	Persons undergoing Reformatory Detention.	
February 17 ...	Wellington ...	39	16	55
March 15 ...	Waikeria ...	3	56	59
„ 17 ...	Waipa ...			
„ 17 ...	Kaingaroa ...			
April 26 ...	Wellington ...	...	1	1
May 3 ...	New Plymouth ...	43	59	102
„ 5 ...	Auckland ...			
June 4 ...	Wellington ...	3	20	23
August 27 ...	„ ...	7	23	30
October 12 ...	„ ...	...	1	1
November 23... ..	Lyttelton ...	6	97	103
„ 23... ..	Addington ...			
„ 23... ..	Paparua ...			
„ 25 and 26 ...	Invercargill ...			
Totals ...	...	101	273	374

The total number of cases considered during the year was 374, of which 101 were habitual criminals and 273 prisoners undergoing reformatory detention. Several of the cases were those of persons who came more than once before the Board: the total number of distinct cases being 329, of which 86 were habitual criminals and 243 reformatory detention prisoners.

Thirty-six habitual criminals were recommended for release on probation, of which number 34 were actually released during the year. The number of prisoners undergoing reformatory detention who were recommended for release on probation was 112, and 99 of these were so released before