

CASUALTIES.

The following are the casualties for the year ended 31st March last: Retired on pension under the Public Service Superannuation Act, 7; died, 4; resigned voluntarily, 42; called upon to resign, 2; dismissed, 3: total, 58. This is 2 less than in the preceding year.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The criminal statistics (Appendix A) deal with offences reported to the police during the year ended the 31st December last, and show an aggregate net increase of 1,828 on the figures of 1919. The proportion of offences to the population was 2.09 per cent., as against 1.99 the previous year.

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

Theft (undescribed)	661	Vagrancy offences	101
House or shop breaking	39	Unlawfully using motor-cars, &c... ..	121
Receiving stolen property	28	Failing to maintain wives, &c.	267
Forgery	42	Embezzling cargo	36
Drunkenness	764	Being found on licensed premises after hours	228
Using profane, indecent, or obscene language	25	Unlawful betting	32

There were decreases in the following :—

Assault (common)	88	Selling liquor after hours	95
Mischief	78	Breaches of prohibition orders	76
Assaulting or obstructing police.. .. .	69	Absconding from industrial schools	41
Gaming with instruments	68	Ship-desertion	36

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 :—

Police District.	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests or Summonses resulted.	Number in which no Arrests or Summonses resulted.
Whangarei	699	678	21
Auckland	5,214	4,965	249
Hamilton	2,340	2,225	115
Napier	1,999	1,916	83
Wanganui	1,748	1,686	62
Palmerston North	1,173	1,117	56
Wellington	5,334	5,035	299
Greymouth	1,025	996	29
Christchurch	3,596	3,287	309
Timaru	795	751	44
Dunedin	1,285	1,194	91
Invercargill	898	868	30
Totals	26,106	24,718	1,388

The percentage of arrests or summonses resulting from offences reported during the year 1920 was 94.68, the figures of the preceding year being 96.02.

SERIOUS CRIMES.

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

Crimes.	1919.		1920.	
	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests resulted.	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests resulted.
Arson	22	19	16	15
Robbery and aggravated robbery	5	4	21	16
Burglary, breaking into shops, dwellings, &c.	521	426	573	446
Forgery and uttering	112	104	149	127
Murder	9	9	13	12
Murder, attempted	1	1	8	8
Rape	8	7	4	4
Receiving stolen property	63	63	91	91
Wounding with intent	3	3	4	4
Totals	744	636	879	723