

Return showing the Number of Prosecutions against Hotelkeepers within each Principal Centre during the Year 1921 as compared with 1920, the Number convicted, and the Number discharged or otherwise dealt with.

Centre.			Prosecutions, 1920.	Prosecutions, 1921.	Convictions, 1921.	Discharged or otherwise dealt with, 1921.
Auckland and suburbs	...	...	6	4	1	3
Wellington and suburbs	...	...	23	27	14	13
Christchurch and suburbs	...	...	9	11	11	...
Dunedin and suburbs	...	...	4	25	13	12
Totals	...	...	42	67	39	28

SLY-GROG SELLING.

There were 49 prosecutions during the year for selling liquor without a license, resulting in 38 convictions, and there were also 82 prosecutions, resulting in 64 convictions, for other offences against the provisions of the Licensing Act in force in no-license districts.

The fines imposed on sly-grog sellers during the year 1921 amounted to £1,914, the same amount as in 1920.

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

	£
Whangarei	20
Auckland	530
Hamilton	480
Gisborne	...
Napier	20
New Plymouth	132
Wanganui	415
Palmerston North	...
Wellington	202
Greymouth	...
Christchurch	75
Timaru	30
Dunedin	...
Invercargill	10
Total	£1,914

The direct cost to the Department in detecting and prosecuting sly-grog sellers during the year was £438, this being £1,476 less than the amount of fines imposed.

GAMING OFFENCES.

There were 245 prosecutions, resulting in 194 convictions, during the year under the Gaming Act, against 279 prosecutions and 196 convictions in 1920.

CRIMINAL REGISTRATION BRANCH.

During the year the finger-impressions of 3,374 persons were received, classified, searched, and filed, an increase of 293 on the number received last year. 255 persons were identified as previous offenders, either in this Dominion, the Australian States, or England. 1,054 photographs were taken by the photographers attached to the branch, the portraits of 2,631 prisoners (10,869 photos) were dealt with, and 806 photographs of discharged prisoners were reproduced in the *Police Gazette*.

On the 31st March the finger-print collection consisted of the impressions of 28,408 persons, an increase of 1,758 on last year's figures.

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.	Year.	Number of Prints in Collection.	Increase on Previous Year.	Prisoners traced as Previous Offenders.
1904	3,500	3,500	117	1914	15,302	1,750	230
1905	4,200	700	72	1915	16,682	1,380	270
1906	5,000	800	88	1916	18,134	1,452	218
1907	6,151	1,151	104	1917	19,508	1,374	166
1908	7,622	1,471	123	1918	20,982	1,474	132
1909	8,718	1,096	138	1919	22,332	1,350	153
1910	9,919	1,201	140	1920	23,686	1,354	176
1911	10,905	986	148	1921	26,650	2,964	232
1912	12,097	1,192	178	1922	28,408	1,758	255
1913	13,552	1,455	183				