

Indecent and sexual offences were as under : —

Offences.	1926.	1927.
Unnatural offence	7	4
Unnatural offence, attempted	4	5
Indecently assaulting a male	36	61
Incest	16	7
Indecent acts	30	30
Concealment of birth	3	7
Assault, indecent	112	105
Rape	8	11
Rape, attempted	8	10
Carnally knowing girls	47	54
Carnally knowing girls, attempted	14	14
Abortion, procuring, &c.	10	9
Exposure of person and grossly indecent acts	312	240
Totals	607	557

DRUNKENNESS.

There has been a decrease of 970 in the number of prosecutions for drunkenness during the year as compared with the previous year.

The number charged with drunkenness in 1927 was 6,884 (6,546 males and 338 females), whereas in 1926 the number was 7,854 (7,489 males and 365 females).

From the following table it will be observed that 34·6 per cent. of the males and 49·7 per cent. of the females had previous convictions recorded against them, and 3·6 per cent. of the males were not permanent residents of the Dominion.

Return showing the Number of Persons charged with Drunkenness during the Year 1927, and the Number of Previous Convictions against them, so far as is known.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Not previously convicted	4,281	170	4,451
One previous conviction	898	47	945
Two previous convictions	422	33	455
Three previous convictions	232	14	246
Four previous convictions	177	14	191
Five previous convictions	163	14	177
Over five previous convictions	373	46	419
Totals	6,546	338	6,884

Number of foregoing who were members of the crews of vessels in port 236

The following table shows the convictions for drunkenness per ten thousand of the population for each year from 1922 to 1926 in Australia and New Zealand :—

	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Commonwealth	101·8	102·9	98·7	97·3	99·5
New Zealand	48·4	52·2	52·7	58·6	53·0

PROSECUTIONS AGAINST HOTELKEEPERS.

The number of prosecutions against hotelkeepers during the year shows a decrease of two as compared with the preceding year. There were 509 prosecutions, resulting in 292 convictions, during 1927, as against 511 prosecutions and 285 convictions in 1926.

SLY-GROC SELLING.

There were sixty-eight prosecutions during the year for selling liquor without a license, resulting in fifty-four convictions, and there were also fifty-nine prosecutions, resulting in forty convictions, for other offences against the provisions of the Licensing Act in force in no-license districts.

The fines imposed on sly-groc sellers during the year 1927 amounted to £1,074.

GAMING OFFENCES.

There were 670 prosecutions, resulting in 576 convictions, during the year under the Gaming Act, against 420 prosecutions and 373 convictions in 1926.