

A branch of the Criminal Registration Office was established at Auckland in June, 1928, and the following indicates the work performed there up to the 31st March last. The finger-impressions of 619 persons were received, and of this number 303 have been classified and card-indexed; 5 persons were identified as previous offenders. The photographs of 294 prisoners were taken, and 1,605 photographs supplied to the Department. 224 miscellaneous photographs of exhibits, views of localities, &c., required in prosecutions were also supplied. The finger-print forms of 389 remanded prisoners received from the Criminal Registration Branch, Wellington, for result of prosecutions and previous local criminal history were dealt with. One offender was identified by finger-prints left at the scene of a burglary, and he pleaded guilty at the Supreme Court. Finger-print evidence was also responsible for the conviction of two youths for a series of thefts from slot telephone-boxes.

GROWTH OF DEPARTMENT.

The following return shows the growth of the Department, the continued increase of the population, and the total number of offences (irrespective of by-law offences) reported, and in which arrests or summonses resulted, each year since 1877, prior to which date each province in the Dominion had its own Police Force, and reliable data are not available:—

Year.	Officers.	Non-commis- sioned Officers.	Detectives.	Constables.	Total.	Police to Population.	Cost per Inhabit- ant.	Population.	Offences reported.	Offences where Arrests or Summonses resulted.	Arrests for Drunkenness (included in "Offences reported").
1878	25	90	14	329	458	1 to 944	Not obtain- able	432,352	14,157	13,959	6,668
1879	25	84	16	364	489	1 to 948		463,572	16,374	14,696	6,794
1880	25	86	21	379	511	1 to 949		484,939	17,837	16,723	6,484
1881	13	73	18	337	441	1 to 1,136		500,976	16,635	15,212	5,587
1882	13	72	19	343	447	1 to 1,158		517,626	18,613	17,470	6,860
1883	13	72	20	356	461	1 to 1,173		540,753	18,775	17,727	7,572
1884	13	70	17	365	465	1 to 1,263		587,295	18,263	17,322	7,151
1885	20	65	17	372	474	1 to 1,293		613,212	18,955	17,723	7,034
1886	20	66	18	390	494	1 to 1,266		625,849	18,135	17,000	6,260
1887	20	69	18	395	502	1 to 1,265		635,215	17,752	16,500	5,226
1888	13	69	17	388	487	1 to 1,328	3/1 $\frac{1}{4}$	646,913	12,897	11,854	5,387
1889	13	65	17	389	484	1 to 1,347	2/10 $\frac{3}{4}$	652,125	12,945	11,885	5,444
1890	12	66	13	403	494	1 to 1,346	2/10 $\frac{3}{4}$	664,855	13,115	12,177	5,866
1891	7	61	14	404	486	1 to 1,375	2/11 $\frac{1}{2}$	668,353	12,674	11,748	5,416
1892	7	60	14	401	482	1 to 1,401	2/9	675,775	13,153	12,187	5,360
1893	7	53	14	407	481	1 to 1,439	2/8 $\frac{1}{2}$	692,426	13,165	12,100	5,251
1894	7	55	13	410	485	1 to 1,472	2/7 $\frac{1}{4}$	714,258	13,530	12,500	4,594
1895	7	51	13	416	487	1 to 1,495	2/6 $\frac{3}{4}$	728,121	14,010	12,435	4,636
1896	6	51	13	414	484	1 to 1,530	2/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	740,699	14,673	13,171	5,005
1897	7	45	12	453	517	1 to 1,461	2/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	754,016	15,219	14,042	5,204
1898	7	56	16	457	536	1 to 1,435	2/8	768,910	16,378	14,730	5,532
1899	11	53	15	475	554	1 to 1,414	2/9 $\frac{1}{4}$	783,317	16,865	15,561	6,289
1900	11	56	20	499	586	1 to 1,359	2/10 $\frac{3}{4}$	796,359	18,358	17,131	7,299
1901	11	56	20	504	591	1 to 1,381	2/10 $\frac{1}{4}$	816,290	19,909	18,742	8,057
1902	12	58	20	514	604	1 to 1,375	2/10 $\frac{3}{4}$	830,800	19,771	18,802	8,269
1903	12	59	20	522	613	1 to 1,388	2/10 $\frac{1}{2}$	851,068	20,736	19,867	8,815
1904	12	59	21	534	626	1 to 1,398	2/10 $\frac{1}{4}$	875,648	21,066	20,118	9,615
1905	12	65	25	553	655	1 to 1,375	2/10 $\frac{1}{4}$	900,682	20,249	19,251	8,707
1906	14	71	25	557	667	1 to 1,387	2/10 $\frac{1}{2}$	925,605	21,160	20,241	9,210
1907	14	78	30	577	699	1 to 1,375	3/0	961,604	23,204	22,244	10,203
1908	15	83	32	604	734	1 to 1,331	3/2 $\frac{1}{4}$	977,215	23,510	22,484	10,343
1909	16	87	35	633	771	1 to 1,308	3/4 $\frac{1}{4}$	1,008,373	23,930	22,880	10,657
1910	16	86	34	639	775	1 to 1,330	3/3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,030,657	25,106	23,949	11,718
1911	15	87	38	648	788	1 to 1,333	3/4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,050,410	24,999	23,492	11,699
1912	15	89	39	692	835	1 to 1,287	3/5	1,075,250	25,981	24,837	11,884
1913	17	93	41	695	846	1 to 1,303	3/8	1,102,389	25,415	24,364	11,707
1914	17	94	40	719	870	1 to 1,304	3/9	1,134,506	27,563	26,494	13,189
1915	19	100	37	755	911	1 to 1,257	4/1	1,145,840	28,412	27,096	13,268
1916	19	104	36	757	916	1 to 1,258	4/2 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,152,669	24,920	23,848	10,833
1917	20	108	36	734	898	1 to 1,280	4/3	1,150,002	21,724	20,701	8,800
1918	20	111	38	732*	901	1 to 1,274	4/6 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,147,391	19,067	18,043	7,228
1919	20	112	41	705*	878	1 to 1,319	5/2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,158,156	24,278	23,312	8,216
1920	21	114	38	743*	916	1 to 1,325	4/11 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,214,184	26,106	24,718	8,979
1921	23	112	47	768*	950	1 to 1,310	6/4 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,244,620	26,551	25,054	8,671
1922	22	118	43	826*	1,009	1 to 1,289	6/3 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,300,967	24,699	22,843	6,409
1923	23	118	44	818*	1,003	1 to 1,321	5/8 $\frac{1}{4}$	1,325,301	26,119	24,356	7,035
1924	23	120	47	837*	1,027	1 to 1,312	5/8 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,347,853	27,025	25,048	7,470
1925	23	121	51	831*	1,026	1 to 1,344	5/9 $\frac{1}{4}$	1,379,487	30,470	28,668	8,277
1926	24	121	52	888*	1,085	1 to 1,299	5/9 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,409,692	31,615	29,199	7,854
1927	22	123	56	895*	1,096	1 to 1,312	5/8 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,437,980	32,144	29,799	6,884
1928	23	127	54	913*	1,117	1 to 1,301	5/9	1,453,517	33,138	30,622	6,601
1929	23	128	56	948*	1,155	1 to 1,273	6/1 $\frac{1}{4}$	1,470,649

* Includes temporary constables.