

55. The following schedule shows comparative figures relating to the number of traffic offences over the last seven years :—

Year ended 31st March,	Offences reported.	Prosecuted.	Convicted.	Charges dismissed.	Charges withdrawn.	Offenders warned.
1941	7,491	6,032	5,758	108	166	2,431
1942	3,680	2,615	2,475	52	88	1,125
1943	3,961	2,463	2,363	38	62	1,498
1944	5,288	3,491	3,338	74	79	1,797
1945	7,341	4,803	4,598	76	129	2,538
1946	10,650	6,467	6,288	69	110	4,183
1947	10,123	5,456	5,303	80	73	5,667

Table No. 13 in the Appendix shows the nature of the offences which resulted in convictions during each of the past four years.

F. INSPECTION OF MOTOR-VEHICLES

56. All motor-vehicles in the Dominion are subject to a mechanical inspection every six months, and for this purpose they may be divided into the following groups :—

- (1) Passenger-service vehicles.
- (2) Goods-service vehicles.
- (3) All other vehicles.

57. **Passenger-service Vehicles.**—All vehicles which carry passengers for hire—namely, omnibuses, trolley-buses, service cars, passenger-trucks, school buses, rental cars, taxis (excluding taxis operating in the four main centres, which are inspected by the Metropolitan Licensing Authorities)—are examined each six months by departmental Vehicle Inspectors appointed for this purpose.

58. The vehicles concerned are required to display a certificate of fitness on which is inscribed the number of passengers or the maximum loads which the vehicles are authorized to carry.

59. The examination is a thorough one and embraces the matters which may affect not only the safety of the passengers, but also their health and comfort.

60. **Goods-service Vehicles.**—All vehicles which carry goods for hire are examined by departmental Vehicle Inspectors each six months, and the certificate of fitness which is required to be carried on the vehicle sets out the authorized load.

61. The following table gives the number of passenger and goods-service vehicles in operation in the Auckland, Wellington, Canterbury, and Otago districts :—

Area.	Passenger-service Vehicles.										Goods-service Vehicles.	Total.
	Omnibuses.	Trolley Buses.	Service Cars.	Service Coaches.	Passenger trucks.	School Buses.	School Vehicles.	Taxis.	Rental Cars.	Ambulances.		
Auckland ..	434	4	93	117	199	227	44	435	277	39	3,650	5,519
Wellington ..	326	..	125	60	122	126	30	430	273	39	3,025	4,556
Canterbury ..	192	11	99	55	104	71	35	178	187	27	1,538	2,497
Otago ..	128	..	57	34	61	83	29	152	98	17	1,250	1,909
Totals ..	1,080	15	374	266	486	507	138	1,195	835	122	9,463	14,481