

The principal decreases were—

Abusive, insulting, or threatening words or behaviour	30	Forgery and uttering	21
Assault (common)	47	Furious riding and driving	52
Assault and robbery	16	Indecent exposure or behaviour	37
Breaches of the peace	72	Obscene and profane language	140
Burglary, housebreaking, &c.	38	Theft (undescribed)	144
Disobeying orders of Court. &c.	65	Theft by servants	49
Drunkenness	2,033	Theft from dwellings	63
Failing to maintain wives, &c.	78	Trespass	42
		Vagrancy offences	188

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.
Auckland	4,745	4,556	189
Hamilton	1,556	1,481	75
Napier	1,602	1,524	78
Wanganui	2,284	2,146	138
Wellington	5,304	5,037	267
Greymouth	412	397	15
Christchurch	3,480	3,287	193
Dunedin	1,784	1,726	58
Invercargill	557	547	10
Totals	21,724	20,701	1,023

The percentage of arrests or summonses resulting from offences reported during the year 1917 was 95·29, the figures of the preceding year being 95·70.

SERIOUS CRIMES.

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

Crimes.	1916.		1917.	
	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests resulted.	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests resulted.
Arson	29	28	19	15
Assault and robbery	21	21	5	5
Burglary, breaking into shops, dwellings, &c.	440	300	402	286
Forgery and uttering	135	112	114	109
Murder	4	2	14	14
Murder, attempted	3	3	13	12
Rape	6	5	2	2
Receiving stolen property	73	73	74	74
Shooting with intent	3	3	1	1
Totals	714	547	644	518

Indecent and sexual offences were as under :—

Offences.	1916.	1917.
Assaults, indecent	97	90
Bestiality	...	3
Carnally knowing girls	41	46
Carnally knowing, attempted	11	9
Concealment of birth	4	2
Incest	5	16
Indecent exposure or behaviour	300	263
Rape	6	2
Rape, attempted	6	4
Sodomy	3	7
Sodomy, attempted	5	3
Totals	478	445