

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

	£
Auckland	54
Hamilton	569
Napier	145
Wanganui	170
Palmerston North	35
Wellington	180
Greymouth	..
Christchurch	20
Dunedin	170
Invercargill	53
Total	<u>£1,396</u>

The direct cost to the Department in detecting and prosecuting sly-grog sellers during the year was £361, this being £1,035 less than the amount of fines imposed.

GAMING OFFENCES.

There were 225 prosecutions, resulting in 176 convictions, during the year under the gaming laws, against 239 prosecutions and 208 convictions in 1917.

CRIMINAL REGISTRATION BRANCH.

During the year the finger-impressions of 2,233 prisoners were received, classified, searched, and filed, and 153 prisoners were identified as previous offenders in this Dominion, Australia, England, America, &c.; 1,153 photographs (excluding 26 enlargements) were taken by the photographers attached to this branch; the portraits of 1,042 prisoners were dealt with; and 368 photographs of discharged prisoners were reproduced in the *Police Gazette*.

On the 31st March the finger-print collection consisted of the impressions of 22,332 offenders, being an increase of 1,350 over the previous year.

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.
1904	3,500	3,500	117
1905	4,200	700	72
1906	5,000	800	88
1907	6,151	1,151	104
1908	7,622	1,471	123
1909	8,718	1,096	138
1910	9,919	1,201	140
1911	10,905	986	148
1912	12,097	1,192	178
1913	13,552	1,455	183
1914	15,302	1,750	230
1915	16,682	1,380	270
1916	18,134	1,452	218
1917	19,508	1,374	166
1918	20,982	1,474	132
1919	22,332	1,350	153

CANDIDATES FOR FORCE.

Eight men were permanently appointed to the Force during the year, their nationalities, religions, and occupations being as follows: Nationalities—New Zealand, 3; England, 3; Ireland, 1; Australia, 1. Religions—Church of England, 5; Presbyterian, 1; Roman Catholic, 2. Occupations—Ex-constables, 6; tram-motorman, 1; labourer, 1.

POLICE BUILDINGS, ETC.

The following works in connection with police-stations have been carried out during the year by the Public Works Department :—

New buildings erected: Houhora; Wairoa.

New buildings in course of construction: Oamaru.

Sites acquired: Blenheim (sergeant's residence), Tokanui.

Site and building purchased: Karori.

Alterations, improvements, &c., were effected at Auckland (Central), Aratapu, Addington, Amberley, Carterton, Darfield, Dunedin South, Featherston, Foxton, Granity, Hamilton, Inglewood, John-