

OFFENDERS PROBATION ACT, 1920.

Under section 12 of the Offenders Probation Act, 1920, provision is made enabling any person released under that Act to apply to the Prisons Board for discharge from probation after completion of half the period to which offender was sentenced. During the year thirty requests of this nature were received, and after careful consideration of the facts in each case the Board agreed to the discharge of twenty-one of the applicants.

TABLE E.—SHOWING RELEASES AND DISCHARGES, ETC., EFFECTED EACH MONTH.

1922.	Released on Probation.			Discharges from Prison.			Discharges from Probation.				Re- missions.	Total.
	Hard-labour Cases.	Habitual Criminal Cases.	Reformative Detention Cases.	Hard-labour Cases.	Habitual Criminal Cases.	Reformative Detention Cases.	Hard-labour Cases.	Habitual Criminal Cases.	Reformative Detention Cases.	Offender Pro- bation Cases.		
January ..	4	2	24	7	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	41
February ..	7	5	9	2	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	26
March ..	7	3	30	6	1	3	..	1	1	7	1	60
April ..	4	1	18	4	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	29
May ..	10	1	25	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	42
June ..	6	..	13	5	..	..	..	..	..	10	1	35
July ..	6	1	13	8	..	4	..	..	2	1	3	38
August ..	6	..	11	4	..	2	..	..	1	1	1	26
September ..	1	1	10	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
October ..	..	..	5	3	..	3	..	..	1	..	1	13
November ..	12	14	27	8	3	6	..	1	2	..	1	74
December ..	2	1	5	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	12
Totals ..	65	29	190	60	4	24*	2	2	7	22	10	415

* Includes one discharge from mental hospital.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

The following table shows the cases considered year by year by the Board since its inception :—

TABLE F.

Year.	Habitual Criminals and Offenders.	Reformative Detention.	Hard Labour.	Probationers for Discharge from Probation.		Totals.
				Crimes Amend- ment Act.	Offender Proba- tioners.	
1911 ..	65	105	..	..	..	170
1912 ..	159	259	..	..	..	418
1913 ..	157	403	..	..	..	560
1914 ..	117	332	..	..	..	449
1915 ..	101	273	..	..	..	374
1916 ..	102	322	..	..	..	424
1917 ..	95	329	14	..	..	438
1918 ..	87	201	92	..	..	380
1919 ..	97	471	115	18	..	701
1920 ..	74	467	75	32	..	648
1921 ..	75	564	167	18	17	841
1922 ..	93	594	271	19	30	1,007
Totals ..	1,222	4,320	734	87	47	6,410

The above table indicates very clearly the growth of the Board's work since it was first established in 1911. In 1912, the first full year of operation, 418 cases were dealt with, while for the year under review (1922) 1,007 prisoners and probationers of all classes came before the Board. This large increase is partly accounted for by the fact that since the year 1917 all hard-labour prisoners have been placed under the Board's jurisdiction, while in 1921 the duties of the Board were further added to by the power given it in that year to grant discharges from probation to persons released under the Offenders Probation Act. The total cases dealt with under these two headings alone numbered 301 during the past year. The further increase that has taken place is to some extent due to the growth