

Indecent and sexual offences were as under :—

Offences.	1924.	1925.
Unnatural offence	33	6
Unnatural offence, attempted	...	5
Indecently assaulting a male	65	52
Incest	15	7
Indecent acts	19	42
Concealment of birth	2	7
Assault, indecent	113	106
Rape	6	11
Rape, attempted	4	12
Carnally knowing girls	34	55
Carnally knowing girls, attempted	10	9
Abortion, procuring, &c.	17	16
Exposure of person and grossly indecent acts	211	224
Totals	529	552

DRUNKENNESS.

There has been an increase of 807 in the number of prosecutions for drunkenness during the year as compared with the previous year.

The number charged with drunkenness in 1925 was 8,277 (7,899 males and 378 females), whereas in 1924 the number was 7,470 (7,129 males and 341 females).

From the following table it will be observed that 37·22 per cent. of the males and 44·7 per cent. of the females had previous convictions recorded against them, and 7·86 per cent. of the males were not permanent residents of the Dominion.

Return showing the Number of Persons charged with Drunkenness during the Year 1925, and the Number of Previous Convictions against them, so far as is known.

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Not previously convicted	4,959	209	5,168
One previous conviction	992	42	1,034
Two previous convictions	522	20	542
Three previous convictions	321	15	336
Four previous convictions	217	14	231
Five previous convictions	240	19	259
Over five previous convictions	648	59	707
Totals	7,899	378	8,277

Number of foregoing who were members of the crews of vessels in port 621

The following table shows the convictions for drunkenness per ten thousand of the population for each year from 1920 to 1924 in Australia and New Zealand :—

	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
Commonwealth	92·7	96·9	101·8	102·9	98·7
New Zealand	71·6	69·0	48·4	52·2	52·7

PROSECUTIONS AGAINST HOTELKEEPERS.

The number of prosecutions against hotelkeepers during the year shows an increase of seventy-three as compared with the preceding year. There were 560 prosecutions, resulting in 294 convictions, during 1925, as against 487 prosecutions and 256 convictions in 1924.

SLY-GROG SELLING.

There were seventy-one prosecutions during the year for selling liquor without a license, resulting in forty-eight convictions, and there were also forty-two prosecutions, resulting in thirty-one convictions, for other offences against the provisions of the Licensing Act in force in no-license districts.

The fines imposed on sly-grog sellers during the year 1925 amounted to £1,294.

The direct cost to the Department in detecting and prosecuting sly-grog sellers during the year was £286, this being £1,008 less than the amount of fines imposed.