

Prosecutions of Bookmakers.

The following return shows the result of prosecutions in connection with bookmaking during the year ended 31st March, 1928 :—

Offence.	Number of Prosecutions.	Number of Convictions.	Amount of Fines imposed.
			£
Carrying on business of bookmaker	36	27	962
Keeping common gaming house	57	47	2,683
Found in common gaming house	1	1	2
Laying totalizator odds	8	8	118
Publishing betting-charts	3	..	..
Street betting	7	7	300
Betting with bookmaker	114	110	764
Totals	226	200	4,829

POLICE PROSECUTIONS.

The following is a return of the number of convictions for which fines were imposed and the total amount of such fines in respect of prosecutions instituted by the police during the year ended 31st March, 1928 :—

Fines payable to	Number of Convictions.	Total Amount of Fines imposed.
		£ s. d.
Consolidated Fund	14,672	28,139 5 0
Main Highways Revenue Fund (section 24, Motor-vehicles Act, 1924)	2,741	7,162 0 6
Local Authorities (By-law offences)	2,039	2,192 19 6
	19,452	£37,494 5 0

CRIMINAL REGISTRATION BRANCH.

The finger impressions of 3,454 persons were received, classified, searched, and filed during the year; 276 persons were identified as previous offenders, who, had it not been for the finger-print system, would have passed as first offenders; 1,271 photographs were taken by the photographers attached to the branch; the photographs of 2,109 prisoners (7,551 photographs) were dealt with, and 624 photographs were reproduced in the *Police Gazette*.

In fourteen cases of breaking and entering, finger-prints left by offenders when committing the crime were identified: All pleaded guilty, except two, and these two were found guilty on production of finger-print evidence in the Supreme Court.

During the year the finger-print system was responsible for the identification of seventeen persons wanted by the police.

The following table shows the increase in 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.	Year.	Number of Prints in Collection.	Increase on Previous Year.	Prisoners traced as Previous Offenders.
1904 ..	3,500	3,500	117	1917 ..	19,508	1,374	166
1905 ..	4,200	700	72	1918 ..	20,982	1,474	132
1906 ..	5,000	800	88	1919 ..	22,332	1,350	153
1907 ..	6,151	1,151	104	1920 ..	23,686	1,354	176
1908 ..	7,622	1,471	123	1921 ..	26,650	2,964	232
1909 ..	8,718	1,096	138	1922 ..	28,408	1,758	255
1910 ..	9,919	1,201	140	1923 ..	30,284	1,876	292
1911 ..	10,905	986	148	1924 ..	31,929	1,645	289
1912 ..	12,097	1,192	178	1925 ..	33,802	1,873	267
1913 ..	13,552	1,455	183	1926 ..	35,844	2,042	292
1914 ..	15,302	1,750	230	1927 ..	37,808	1,964	255
1915 ..	16,682	1,380	270	1928 ..	39,409	1,601	276
1916 ..	18,134	1,452	218				