

DRUNKENNESS.

There has been an increase of 209 in the number of prosecutions for drunkenness during the year as compared with the previous year.

The number charged with drunkenness in 1929 was 6,810 (6,491 males and 319 females), whereas in 1928 the number was 6,601 (6,298 males and 303 females).

From the following table it will be observed that 34 per cent. of the males and 49·5 per cent. of the females had previous convictions recorded against them, and 4·8 per cent. of the males were not permanent residents of the Dominion.

Return showing the Number of Persons charged with Drunkenness during the Year 1929, and the Number of Previous Convictions against them, so far as is known.

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Not previously convicted	4,283	161	4,444
One previous conviction	749	44	793
Two previous convictions	388	26	414
Three previous convictions	251	28	279
Four previous convictions	133	9	142
Five previous convictions	149	5	154
Over five previous convictions	538	46	584
Totals	6,491	319	6,810

Number of foregoing who were members of the crews of vessels in port, 315.

The following table shows the convictions for drunkenness per ten thousand of the population for each year from 1924 to 1928 in Australia and New Zealand:—

	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Commonwealth	98·7	97·3	99·5	101·3	94·27
New Zealand	52·7	58·6	53·0	44·6	43·2

PROSECUTIONS AGAINST HOTELKEEPERS.

The number of prosecutions against hotelkeepers during the year shows a decrease of sixteen as compared with the preceding year. There were 651 prosecutions, resulting in 383 convictions, during 1929, as against 667 prosecutions and 361 convictions in 1928.

SLY-GROG SELLING.

There were 100 prosecutions during the year for selling liquor without a license, resulting in eighty-six convictions, and there were also forty-two prosecutions, resulting in thirty-three convictions, for other offences against the provisions of the Licensing Act in force in no-license districts.

The fines imposed on the sly-grog sellers during the year 1929 amounted to £1,342 10s.

GAMING OFFENCES.

There were 280 prosecutions, resulting in 243 convictions, during the year under the Gaming Act, against 319 prosecutions and 295 convictions in 1928.

Prosecutions of Bookmakers.

The following return shows the result of prosecutions in connection with bookmaking during the year ended 31st March, 1930:—

Offence.	Number of Prosecutions.	Number of Convictions.	Amount of Fines imposed.
Carrying on business of bookmaker	47	32	£ 1,557
Keeping common gaming-house	60	58	2,842
Found in common gaming-house	25	21	45
Laying totalizator odds	18	17	281
Publishing betting-charts	11	10	165
Betting with bookmaker	2	2	4
Street betting	9	7	160
Totals	172	147	5,054