

Experience has shown that the percentage of crimes against property rises with hard times and falls during periods of prosperity. The increase in the number of thefts, burglary, and shop-breaking is a phase that can be expected to pass with the approach of better times.

The following return shows the number of offences reported in each police district during the year, the number of cases in which arrests or summonses resulted, and the number in which no prosecution followed :—

Police District.					Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests or Summonses resulted.	Number in which no Arrests or Summonses resulted.
Whangarei	...	...	...	...	1,028	974	54
Auckland	...	...	...	...	8,607	7,287	1,320
Hamilton	...	...	...	...	2,060	1,889	171
Gisborne	...	...	...	...	1,755	1,717	38
Napier	...	...	...	...	1,855	1,723	132
New Plymouth	...	...	...	...	1,309	1,268	41
Wanganui	...	...	...	...	1,516	1,465	51
Palmerston North	...	...	...	...	1,447	1,366	81
Wellington	...	...	...	...	6,057	5,558	499
Nelson	...	...	...	...	1,182	1,067	115
Greymouth	...	...	...	...	1,840	1,799	41
Christchurch	...	...	...	...	4,217	3,499	718
Timaru	...	...	...	...	1,097	1,048	49
Dunedin	...	...	...	...	1,723	1,582	141
Invercargill	...	...	...	...	1,521	1,448	73
Totals	...	...	...	...	37,214	33,690	3,524

The percentage of arrests or summonses resulting from offences reported during the year 1930 was 90·53, the figures of the preceding year being 92·18.

SERIOUS CRIMES.

The following is a return of the number of serious crimes as compared with the previous year :—

Crimes.					1929.		1930.	
					Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests resulted.	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests resulted.
Arson	...	...	...	...	56	50	68	64
Robbery and aggravated robbery	...	...	...	...	2	2	31	23
Burglary, breaking into shops, dwellings, &c.	...	...	...	...	1,092	783	1,263	804
Forgery and uttering	...	...	...	...	146	131	208	196
Murder	...	...	...	...	6	5	7	7
Murder, attempted	...	...	...	...	5	5	3	2
Rape	...	...	...	...	16	14	10	10
Receiving stolen property	...	...	...	...	140	138	142	142
Wounding with intent	...	...	...	...	4	4	1	1
Totals	...	...	...	...	1,467	1,132	1,733	1,249

Indecent and sexual offences were as under :—

Offences.					1929.	1930.
Unnatural offence	...	...	...	...	11	6
Unnatural offence, attempted	...	...	...	...	1	2
Indecently assaulting a male	...	...	...	...	37	40
Incest	...	...	...	...	8	3
Indecent acts	...	...	...	...	23	21
Concealment of birth	...	...	...	...	4	3
Assault, indecent	...	...	...	...	93	127
Rape	...	...	...	...	16	10
Rape, attempted	...	...	...	...	11	7
Carnally knowing girls	...	...	...	...	47	68
Carnally knowing girls, attempted	...	...	...	...	19	8
Abortion, procuring, &c.	...	...	...	...	6	5
Exposure of person and grossly indecent acts	...	...	...	...	285	305
Totals	...	...	...	...	561	605