

Mr. T. P. MILLS, District Probation Officer, Wellington.

Offenders Probation Act: Total dealt with, 228; total costs of prosecution and restitution-moneys collected, £343 11s. 2d.

With only one or two exceptions all the probationers at the close of the year were in employment, many having taken advantage of the existing relief schemes. The conduct of probationers generally has been satisfactory, the percentage of failures being much lower than usual. Considerable patience has been necessary in collecting moneys ordered to be paid by the Courts, but the response has been fairly good.

Crimes Amendment Act: The number dealt with was 151. On the whole these probationers have made a praiseworthy effort to justify the consideration extended to them in their release on parole.

The difficulty of obtaining satisfactory employment has affected the efforts of the Voluntary Probation Committee, but their sympathetic co-operation has been most marked whenever called upon.

Mr. W. H. DARBY, District Probation Officer, Christchurch.

Offenders Probation Act: Total dealt with, 204; total costs of prosecution and restitution-moneys collected, £184 14s. 8d.

The conduct of most probationers has been satisfactory. It is pleasing to be able to report that a number of new accounts have been opened in the Post Office Savings-bank during the year.

Crimes Amendment Act: The number dealt with under this heading was 77.

The different organizations in the city which have been in a position to assist us have rendered invaluable assistance during the year.

Mr. J. GARBUTT, District Probation Officer, Dunedin.

Offenders Probation Act: Total dealt with, 132; total costs of prosecution and restitution-moneys collected, £218 2s. 6d.

Crimes Amendment Act: Total dealt with was 54.

Taking into account that in many cases rehabilitation has had to be faced through some form or other of relief work, a noteworthy feature is the lower percentage of failures represented through proceedings for breaches of probation.

While in a general sense the success of probation is bound up in the present difficult question of rehabilitation, nevertheless, there is evidence in individual cases where, under most difficult conditions, an incentive to make good has been brought about by contact between an offender who is prepared to make an effort on right lines and members of our committee and others prepared to encourage the first fruits of true reform and who count it worth while to persist in their efforts.

This voluntary form of after-care work is indeed worthy of every encouragement that can be given it in its practical and educative aspects of social problems.

MAJOR GORDON, Probation Officer for Women, Auckland.

Offenders Probation Act: Total dealt with, 57; total costs of prosecution and restitution-moneys collected, £26 16s. 9d.

The year's work has been very encouraging and confirms my experience that the majority of those coming under my jurisdiction make good, and are grateful. I am more than ever convinced that the system is an excellent one for the assistance of women and girls.

Miss A. J. SIMPSON, Probation Officer for Women, Wellington.

Offenders Probation Act: Total dealt with, 55; total costs of prosecution and restitution-moneys collected, £47 17s. 6d.

Owing to the prevailing economic depression and consequent unemployment, I find it very difficult to collect restitution-moneys due. The prosecution of unemployed probationers for default in paying Court costs would serve no useful purpose, and the only alternative is to delay action until the probationers concerned are in a position to pay.

I have to thank numerous social organizations for generous help extended to unemployed girls and girls not receiving a living-wage.

Mr. H. COLE, Probation Officer, Palmerston North.

Offenders Probation Act: Total dealt with, 68; total costs of prosecution and restitution-moneys collected, £54 14s.

The prevailing conditions have made it difficult to find suitable employment for probationers, and, consequently, the payment of restitution has been affected. The majority of the probationers have fulfilled the conditions of their licenses satisfactorily.

Mr. M. CUSSEN, Probation Officer, Nelson.

Offenders Probation Act: Total number dealt with, 50; total costs of prosecution and restitution-moneys collected, £41 4s. 8d.

During the year the conduct of the probationers has been satisfactory. Under the present conditions I have had difficulty in keeping all probationers employed, and appreciate the co-operation of the Voluntary Committee and local social organizations.