

The principal decreases were—

Assault, indecent	21	Theft of animals	38
Breaches of Arms Act	42	Theft by clerks or servants	31
Damaging telegraph equipment	61	Theft from dwellings	38
Offences by husbands whilst separation orders are in force	65	Theft (petty)	255
Receiving property dishonestly obtained	44	Trespass on racecourse	26

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	1,477	1,388	89
Auckland	7,739	6,800	939
Hamilton	2,925	2,815	110
Gisborne	1,560	1,511	49
Napier	1,699	1,591	108
New Plymouth	1,329	1,263	66
Wanganui	1,120	1,061	59
Palmerston North	1,761	1,692	69
Wellington	7,616	7,384	232
Nelson	886	847	39
Greymouth	1,112	1,030	82
Christchurch	4,666	4,266	400
Timaru	733	607	126
Dunedin	2,892	2,774	118
Invercargill	1,114	1,049	65
Totals	38,629	36,078	2,551

The percentage of arrests or summonses resulting from offences reported during the year 1937 was 93·39, the figures of the preceding year being 93·24.

SERIOUS CRIMES.

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

Crimes.	1936.		1937.	
	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests resulted.	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrests resulted.
Arson	15	14	12	8
Robbery and aggravated robbery	9	8	8	8
Burglary, breaking into shops, dwellings, &c.	1,063	774	1,116	819
Forgery and uttering	104	92	173	159
Murder	8	4	4	4
Murder, attempted	5	4	5	4
Rape	..	..	5	5
Receiving stolen property	166	166	122	123
Wounding with intent	2	2	3	3
Totals	1,372	1,064	1,448	1,133

Indecent and sexual offences were as under :—

Offences.	1936.	1937.
Unnatural offence	16	16
Unnatural offence, attempted	8	12
Indecently assaulting a male	66	73
Incest	13	20
Indecent acts	11	19
Concealment of birth	3	4
Assault, indecent	133	112
Rape	..	5
Rape, attempted	5	15
Carnally knowing girls	74	92
Carnally knowing girls, attempted	17	9
Abortion, procuring, &c.	11	18
Exposure of person and grossly indecent acts	202	222
Totals	559	617