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CANADA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
JUDICIAL STATISTICS BRANCH

CRIMINAL STATISTICS

for the year ended

SEPTEMBER 30, 1928

Indictable offences by provinces 1927-28  
Indictable offences by classes 1924-28  
Summary convictions by provinces 1927-28  
Summary convictions by offences 1924-28

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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
JUDICIAL STATISTICS BRANCH  
OTTAWA

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Criminal Statistics for the year ended  
September 30th, 1928

The total number of prosecutions for criminal offences (indictable) recorded for the year ended September 30th, 1928, was 26,693 against 23,563 for 1927. This is an increase of 3,130 or 13.3 p.c. The convictions for the two years were 21,720 and 18,836 respectively, which shows an increase of 2,884 or 15.3 p.c., which is the largest increase since the years 1913 and 1914 when the increases in convictions stood: 17.69 p.c. and 17.02 respectively.

By classes, the convictions for indictable offences increased as follows: Class I, offences against the person, 14.65 p.c. Class II, offences against property with violence, 14.54 p.c. Class III, offences against property without violence, 10.94 p.c. Class IV, malicious injury to property, 13.31 p.c. Class V, forgery and offences against the Currency, 16.14 p.c. Class VI, other offences, 31.03 p.c.

The total number of summary convictions (non-indictable) for 1928 was 245,763 against 193,240 for 1927, being an increase of 52,523 or 27.18 p.c., which is the greatest increase in summary convictions since these statistics were recorded - over fifty years. The principal increase was in breaches of traffic regulations which rose from 96,340 in 1927 to 141,493 in 1928 or 46.87 p.c. Other increases are shown in breaches of liquor laws, 22.33 p.c., profanation of the Lord's Day, 35.31 p.c., Fishery and game laws, 28.43 p.c., Revenue laws, 32.96 p.c. and non-support of family, 24.66 p.c. The principal decreases were contributing to delinquency of children, 64.80 p.c., and frequenting bawdy houses, 10.87 p.c.



The convictions for 1927 and 1928 were as follows:

Indictable Offences by Provinces.

|                                  | 1927   | 1928   | Increase |          |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------|----------|----------|
|                                  |        |        | No.      | Per cent |
| Prince Edward Island .....       | 14     | 43     | 29       | 20.71    |
| Nova Scotia .....                | 680    | 891    | 211      | 16.42    |
| New Brunswick .....              | 287    | 365    | 78       | 27.18    |
| Quebec .....                     | 3,621  | 4,299  | 678      | 18.72    |
| Ontario .....                    | 7,962  | 9,052  | 1,090    | 13.70    |
| Manitoba .....                   | 1,457  | 1,672  | 215      | 14.76    |
| Saskatchewan .....               | 1,492  | 1,761  | 269      | 18.03    |
| Alberta .....                    | 1,483  | 1,701  | 218      | 14.77    |
| British Columbia .....           | 1,833  | 1,931  | 98       | 5.34     |
| Yukon and N.W. Territories ..... | 7      | 5      | -        | -        |
| CANADA .....                     | 18,836 | 21,720 | 2,884    | 15.31    |

The above shows an increase in every province, The territories dropped from 7 to 5.

Indictable Offences by Classes and Crimes

| O F F E N C E S                                     | Number of Convictions |       |       |       |       |
|---|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|   | 1924                  | 1925  | 1926  | 1927  | 1928  |
| CLASS I. Offences against the person -              |                       |       |       |       |       |
| Murder .....  | 21                    | 18    | 15    | 10    | 19    |
| " attempt to commit .....                           | 12                    | 11    | 7     | 16    | 18    |
| Manslaughter .....                                  | 26                    | 37    | 45    | 40    | 35    |
| Abortion and concealing birth .                     | 20                    | 20    | 19    | 21    | 21    |
| Rape and other offences against decency .....       | 385                   | 395   | 370   | 442   | 439   |
| Procuration .....                                   | 14                    | 21    | 20    | 42    | 30    |
| Bigamy .....  | 49                    | 34    | 31    | 66    | 52    |
| Shooting,stabbing and wounding.                     | 148                   | 126   | 168   | 192   | 159   |
| Assault of females and wife ...                     | 65                    | 66    | 111   | 145   | 158   |
| " aggravated .....                                  | 388                   | 414   | 482   | 519   | 640   |
| " on police .....                                   | 442                   | 439   | 475   | 471   | 433   |
| " on battery  | 1,052                 | 996   | 1,261 | 951   | 1,283 |
| Non-support of family .....                         | 201                   | 237   | 218   | 170   | 220   |
| Wife desertion .....                                | 11                    | 15    | 23    | 12    | 15    |
| Causing injury by fast driving.                     | 42                    | 4     | 17    | 27    | 52    |
| Other offences against the person .....             | 53                    | 73    | 106   | 84    | 74    |
| TOTALS .....  | 2,929                 | 2,908 | 3,368 | 3,208 | 3,678 |
| CLASS II. Offences against property with violence - |                       |       |       |       |       |
| Burglary, house, warehouse and shopbreaking .....   | 1,558                 | 1,705 | 1,417 | 1,731 | 1,948 |
| Robbing and demanding with menaces .....            | 160                   | 229   | 208   | 168   | 219   |
| TOTALS .....  | 1,718                 | 1,934 | 1,625 | 1,899 | 2,167 |



Indictable Offences - (Concluded)

| O F F E N C E S   | N u m b e r o f C o n v i c t i o n s |        |        |        |        |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|   | 1924                                  | 1925   | 1926   | 1927   | 1928   |
| CLASS III. Offences against property without violence -     |                                       |        |        |        |        |
| Bringing stolen goods into Canada .....                     | 5                                     | 4      | 2      | -      | 4      |
| Embezzlement.....   | 4                                     | 8      | 6      | 34     | 8      |
| False pretences .....                                       | 677                                   | 805    | 882    | 1,190  | 1,294  |
| Feloniously receiving stolen goods .....                    | 376                                   | 403    | 400    | 376    | 398    |
| Fraud and conspiracy to defraud.                            | 550                                   | 667    | 593    | 697    | 737    |
| Horse and cattle stealing .....                             | 57                                    | 44     | 37     | 26     | 48     |
| Theft .....   | 6,164                                 | 6,610  | 6,651  | 7,108  | 7,870  |
| Theft of mail .....   | 34                                    | 33     | 21     | 32     | 19     |
| Theft of automobile .....                                   | 280                                   | 222    | 366    | 465    | 638    |
| TOTALS .....  | 8,147                                 | 8,796  | 8,958  | 9,928  | 11,016 |
| CLASS IV. Malicious offences against property -             |                                       |        |        |        |        |
| Arson .....   | 45                                    | 34     | 38     | 33     | 33     |
| Malicious injury to horses, cattle and other property ..... | 189                                   | 161    | 201    | 245    | 282    |
| TOTALS .....  | 234                                   | 195    | 239    | 278    | 315    |
| CLASS V. Forgery and other offences against currency -      |                                       |        |        |        |        |
| Offences against currency .....                             | 4                                     | 3      | 2      | 3      | 5      |
| Forgery and Uttering forged documents .....                 | 324                                   | 405    | 383    | 474    | 549    |
| TOTALS .....  | 328                                   | 408    | 385    | 477    | 554    |
| CLASS VI. Various Offences -                                |                                       |        |        |        |        |
| Breach of Trade-Marks Act .....                             | 31                                    | 83     | 48     | 60     | 26     |
| Carrying unlawful weapons .....                             | 87                                    | 89     | 125    | 90     | 112    |
| Conspiracy .....  | 21                                    | 39     | 53     | 34     | 49     |
| Criminal Negligence .....                                   | 45                                    | 44     | 55     | 40     | 65     |
| Breach of gambling and lottery Acts .....                   | 348                                   | 450    | 550    | 908    | 1,403  |
| Illicit stills .....  | 955                                   | 548    | 405    | 353    | 291    |
| Keeping bawdy houses and inmates thereof .....              | 701                                   | 942    | 739    | 809    | 844    |
| Perjury and subornation of perjury .....                    | 78                                    | 60     | 60     | 69     | 70     |
| Offences against public morals .                            | 85                                    | 179    | 191    | 66     | 69     |
| " " Opium and Narcotic Drug Act .....                       | (a)                                   | (a)    | (a)    | (a)    | 302    |
| Prison breach, and escape from custody .....                | 123                                   | 142    | 152    | 126    | 155    |
| Breach of Inland Revenue Laws...                            | 241                                   | 120    | 193    | 201    | 240    |
| Riot and affray .....                                       | 52                                    | 70     | 113    | 78     | 103    |
| Attempt to commit suicide .....                             | 30                                    | 61     | 71     | 78     | 74     |
| Sodomy .....  | 49                                    | 58     | 55     | 49     | 69     |
| Various and miscellaneous.....                              | 56                                    | 93     | 63     | 84     | 118    |
| TOTALS .....  | 2,902                                 | 2,978  | 2,873  | 3,045  | 3,990  |
| GRAND TOTALS .....  | 16,258                                | 17,219 | 17,448 | 18,835 | 21,720 |

(a) Included in the summary convictions.





Summary Convictions of Non-indictable Offences by  
Provinces

|                                   | 1927    | 1928    | Increase | Decrease | Percent |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|----------|----------|---------|
| Prince Edward Island .....        | 392     | 662     | 270      | -        | 68.88   |
| Nova Scotia .....                 | 4,362   | 4,499   | 157      | -        | 4.08    |
| New Brunswick .....               | 2,565   | 3,031   | 466      | -        | 18.02   |
| Quebec .....                      | 28,732  | 29,302  | 570      | -        | 1.99    |
| Ontario .....                     | 101,345 | 146,586 | 45,241   | -        | 44.64   |
| Manitoba .....                    | 16,420  | 19,921  | 3,501    | -        | 21.32   |
| Saskatchewan .....                | 8,243   | 9,108   | 863      | -        | 10.76   |
| Alberta .....                     | 8,801   | 10,927  | 2,126    | -        | 24.16   |
| British Columbia .....            | 22,292  | 21,598  | -        | 694      | 3.11    |
| Yukon and N. W. Territories ..... | 88      | 51      | -        | 37       | 42.04   |
| CANADA .....                      | 193,240 | 245,685 | 52,445   | -        | 27.14   |

The summary convictions increased in every province excepting British Columbia where there was a decrease of 3.11 p.c.

Summary Convictions by Offences.

| OFFENCES   | Number of Convictions |         |         |         |         |
|--|-----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|  | 1924                  | 1925    | 1926    | 1927    | 1928    |
| Assaults .....   | 3,277                 | 3,404   | 2,967   | 3,436   | 3,499   |
| Breach of peace .....  | 100                   | 153     | 155     | 152     | 193     |
| Carrying firearms and unlawful weapons .....                       | 492                   | 410     | 385     | 386     | 383     |
| Contempt of court .....  | 54                    | 21      | 29      | 32      | 28      |
| Cruelty to animals .....   | 371                   | 422     | 446     | 545     | 474     |
| Disturbing religious and like meetings .....                       | 22                    | 40      | 22      | 25      | 28      |
| Fishery and Game Acts, offences against .....                      | 1,346                 | 1,369   | 1,195   | 1,245   | 1,599   |
| Gambling Acts, offences against .....                              | 4,514                 | 5,252   | 5,347   | 5,858   | 5,923   |
| Immigration Act, offences against .....                            | 61                    | 57      | 77      | 61      | 40      |
| Inspection and Sales Acts, offences against .....                  | 217                   | 194     | 142     | 227     | 198     |
| Adulteration of food -<br>(Food and Drug Acts) .....               | 152                   | 263     | 231     | 240     | 221     |
| Weights and Measures -<br>Acts, offences against .....             | 81                    | 136     | 106     | 82      | 87      |
| Liquor, Prohibition and Temperance Acts,<br>offences against ..... | 10,449                | 11,636  | 13,512  | 12,477  | 15,263  |
| Malicious or wilful damage to property .....                       | 731                   | 738     | 679     | 807     | 782     |
| Masters' and Servants' Acts, offences against .....                | 259                   | 233     | 140     | 210     | 244     |
| Non-payment of wages .....   | 1,037                 | 1,103   | 1,277   | 1,231   | 882     |
| Breaches of traffic regulations .....                              | 60,058                | 63,778  | 78,027  | 96,340  | 141,493 |
| Breaches of other by-laws .....                                    | 11,459                | 11,843  | 12,874  | 13,437  | 14,564  |
| TOTAL .....  | 71,517                | 75,621  | 90,901  | 109,777 | 156,057 |
| Non-support of family and neglecting<br>children .....             | 906                   | 1,003   | 932     | 1,192   | 1,486   |
| Contributing to delinquency of<br>children .....                   | 412                   | 836     | 709     | 1,002   | 608     |
| Opium and narcotic Drug Act, various<br>offences against .....     | 996                   | 823     | 743     | 491 (a) | 304     |
| Profanation of the Lord's Day .....                                | 642                   | 1,067   | 784     | 824     | 1,115   |
| Railway Acts, various offences against .....                       | 355                   | 615     | 730     | 775     | 917     |
| Trespass on railway .....  | 669                   | 1,070   | 731     | 925     | 1,062   |
| Stealing ride on railway .....                                     | 464                   | 681     | 404     | 929     | 633     |
| Revenues Laws, offence against .....                               | 518                   | 502     | 422     | 804     | 1,069   |
| Trespass .....   | 683                   | 645     | 829     | 593     | 604     |
| Vagrancy .....   | 4,483                 | 5,665   | 6,805   | 7,701   | 8,502   |
| Drunkenness .....  | 27,338                | 26,751  | 28,317  | 31,171  | 33,224  |
| Insulting, abusive and profane<br>language .....                   | 690                   | 511     | 576     | 629     | 568     |
| Frequenting bawdy houses .....                                     | 3,957                 | 3,553   | 3,267   | 2,397   | 2,162   |
| Loose, idle, disorderly .....                                      | 4,688                 | 5,265   | 4,281   | 5,292   | 5,297   |
| Various other offences .....                                       | 1,515                 | 1,675   | 1,772   | 1,724   | 2,311   |
| TOTALS .....   | 142,999               | 151,825 | 169,913 | 193,240 | 245,763 |

(a) Not including selling and possessing drugs, which appear in the tables for indictable offences.

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