OF THE

## COMMISSIONER

## OF THE GÁRDA SÍOCHÁNA ON CRIME

## FOR THE YEAR <br> 1953

DUBLIN :
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REPORT
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To The Minister for Justice.

## Sir,

I have the honour to submit herewith my Annual Report on Crime for the year ended 3Ist December, 1953.

## I N D EX.

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## PART I.

## INDICTABLE OFFENCES.

The number of indictable offences which were reported or became known to the Gárda Siochana during the year 1953 was 15,002 , which figure is 882 more than the number for the year 1952.

Proceedings were taken in $\mathbf{7 , 6 0 3}$ cases.
The increase in offences in 1953 is mainly in the Larceny group, where an increase of 668 is shown, including an increase of 628 in Larcenies of Pedal Cycles, and in offences relating to Housebreaking where the increase is 287 .

## Comparison witil Previous Year.

The number of offences recorded in each offence group in the years 1952 and 1953 are given in the following table :-


## Presons Charged.

A total of 7,138 persons were charged with the commisaion of indictable offences in the year 1053. Of this number, 6,368 were males, and 770 were females. The number convicted was 3,336, and the charges against a further 2,694 were held proved and the Probation of Offenders Act was applied.

For details of indictable offences and proceedings, see Appendix A.

## Compalative Figumes for Years 1948 to 1953.

Comparative figures of indictable offences and proceedings in the years 1948 to 1953 are given in the following table :-

| Yesin, | No, of Offences <br> roported or known <br> to the Garda. | No, of Offences in <br> which proceedings <br> Were instituted. | No, of Persons <br> proceeded <br> against. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1053 | 15,602 | 7,603 | 7,138 |
| 1052 | 14,720 | 7,603 | 6,803 |
| 1951 | 14,127 | 7,501 | 7,608 |
| 1850 | 12,231 | 6,925 | 6,289 |
| 1949 | 12,171 | 7,029 | 6,657 |
| 1948 | 14,949 | 7,963 | 7,906 |

Indictamle Offences and Detections by Girda Divisions.
Details of indictable offences and detections in each Gárda Division and in the Gárda Districts of the cities of Cork, Limerick, Waterford and Galway, in the year 1953, are given in Appendix B.

## Group Classification.

Indictable offences, proceedings and persons proceeded against, in the year 1953, in group classification, are given in the following table:-

| Gnour. | No. of offences known to the Gárda. | No, of offences in which procecdings were taken | No, of Persons proceeded against. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| I-Offonces ugainst the Penson ... | 531 | 470 | 350 |
| 11-Ofences againet Property with Viodence ... | 3,032 | 1,844 | 1,998 |
| 111-Offences againat Property without Viovence | 11,813 | 5,123 | 4,403 |
| IV-Offences not ineluded in the above Groups | 226 | $166$ | 157 |
| Torals $\quad .$. | 15,602 | 7,603 | 7,138 |

## Group I-Offences Against the Person

Offences of Murder, Manslaughter, Wounding, Assault, Intimidation, Cruelty to and Abandoning of Children and Sexual Offences are included in this Group.

Comparative figures for offences recorded and the number and percentage of offences in which proceedings were instituted in the years 1948 to 1953 are given in the following table :-

| Yeall. | No, of offences <br> known to the <br> Garda. | No. of offences in <br> whieh proceedings <br> wero instituted. | Perentages of <br> offences in <br> which procectinge <br> were instituted. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1953 | 531 | 470 | 83 |
| 1959 | 405 | 389 | 84 |
| 1951 | 466 | 348 | 78 |
| 1950 | 499 | 421 | 84 |
| 1949 | 406 | 430 | 87 |
| 1948 | 535 | 465 | 87 |

## Murder (or Persons aged above One Year).

Seven murders of persons aged above one year were recorded in the year 1953. Proceedings were taken in five cases and in the remaining two cases, the perpetrators committed suicide.

Brief particulars of the crimes are:-
Dublin Metropolitan Area.-On 12th January, 1953, the dead bodies of a young widow and her nine years' old daughter were found in the kitchenette of their home. The taps of a gas stove were turned on and their deaths were due to gas poisoning. The dead body of another child, a daughter aged four years, was found hanging by a soft cord from the end of a cot in a bedroom. The young woman in a fit of emotional strain following the death of her husband, had ended the lives of all three.

Co. Dublin.-On 11th June, 1953, at 12.15 a.m., a young married woman, living apart from her husband owing to domestic strife, opened the door of her mother's home in response to a knock. Her husband, who was outside the door, discharged a shot from a shotgun at her, inflicting fatal injuries. He then ran away, but later returned to the house, broke in through a window and shot himself when inside.

Co. Louth-On 18th July, 1953, a ten-year-old boy was found in a dying condition in a disused stable. He was removed to hospital where he died an hour later from fracture of the skull and strangulation.

A young man was arrested and charged with the crime, and at the Central Criminal Court he was found "Guilty but Insane," and was ordered to be kept in strict confinement during the pleasure of the Govermment.

Co, Kerry, -On 21st July, 1953, an 80 years old widow was severely beaten about the head with a piece of metal piping by her nineteen years' old grandson. She died some hours later. At the Central Criminal Court the grandson was found insane and unfit to plead and was ordered to be kept in custody during the pleasure of the Government.

Co. Limerick.-On 18 th November, 1953, at about 10 p.m., an elderly nurse, while walking alone on the public road, was set upon by a young man and was knocked down. A violent struggle ensued and she was strangled. A young man of the labouring class was arrested and charged with the crime. At the Central Criminal Court he was convicted and was sentenced to death. The sentence was carried out.

Co. Cork:-On 14th December, 1953, a man of the labouring class entered a Gárda Station and made a statement that he had killed his wife at their home. The dead body, with a gaping wound in the throat, was found stretched on a bed. The husband was arrested and charged with the crime. At the Central Criminal Court he was found " Not Guilty " and was discharged.

Dublin Metropolitan Area.-On 22nd December, 1953, the dead body of a young woman of no occupation was found in a laneway. A scarf was tied tightly around her neek and death had been caused by strangulation. A young seaman was arrested and charged with the crime. At the Central Criminal Court he was convicted and was sentenced to death. The sentence has been commuted to Penal Servitude for life.
(Three murders of persons aged above one year were recorded in year 1952.)

## Murder (of Infants aged One Year and under).

Five murders of infants aged one year and under were recorded in year 1953. Proceedings were taken in four cases, three of which were dealt with as Infanticide.

Brief particulars are :-
C. Kildare.-On 24th January, 1953, the dead body of a fenale infant was found on the roadside. A piece of black tape was tind around its neck and death had been caused by strangulation.

No one has been made amenable,

Galuay, E.R.-On 23rd April, 1953, a young domestic gave birth to a female infant at her employer's residence, and its dead body was later found in a ditch nearby. Death had been caused by suffocation. The girl was charged with Murder. At the Circuit Court she pleaded guilty to Infanticide, and she was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment, not to be enforced if she entered into recognizances to keep the peace for two years.

Co. Limerick:-On 7th June, 1953, the dead body of a female infant was found on a river bank ; death was due to respiratory failure. A young girl was arrested and charged with Murder. At the Central Criminal Court she pleaded guilty to Infanticide and she was discharged.

Co. Limerick:-On 24th August, 1953, a young domestic gave birth to a male infant at her home. The infant died from suffocation, due to pressure over its mouth and nose. The girl and her mother were arrested and charged with Murder. At the Central Criminal Court a Nolle Prosequi was entered in the case against the elder woman. The mother of the infant pleaded guilty to Infanticide and she was ordered to enter a Good Shepherd Convent for at least one month.

Co. Kildare.-In consequence of a statement made by a patient in a Mental Hospital, investigations were carried out by Gardai and resulted in the unearthing, between 2nd and 4 th September, 1953, of the remains and part remains of the bodies of six infants, which had been buried in and around outhouses near a residence. A young married woman, whose husband had been away from her was arrested and charged with the murder of all six infants. At the Central Criminal Court, she pleaded guilty to Infanticide on all six charges, and she was sentenced to three years' Penal Servitude.

In the year 1952, seven crimes were recorded and three of them were dealt with as Infanticide.

## Attrypts to Murder.

One crime of Attempt to Murder was recorded in the year 1953.

Brief particulars are :-
Dublin Metropolitan Area.-On 26th April, 1953, at 11.30 p.m., a young motor mechanic, on hearing his name called outside, came out of his home and was shot in the chest with a . 38 revolver, by a man who was sitting in a motor car outside. A man with whom the injured man had been drinking and squabbling earlier in the night, was arrested and charged. At the Central Criminal Court he was found "Not Guilty" and was discharged.

One crime of Attempted Murder was recorded in the year 1952 , also.

## Threats, ETC., to Murder.

Three crimes of Threatening to Murder were recorded in the year 1953.

## Brief particulars are :-

Co. Cork.-On 15th January, 1953, a note, threatening to put a bullet through his head, was dropped into the letter-box of a Solicitor's Office. The Solicitor had drawn up a Civil Bill for non-payment of rent against a local lady, who was strongly suspected of having written the letter. It was directed that no proceedings be taken.

Dublin Metropolitan Area.-On 10th June, 1953, a director of a city business firm received through the post, an anonymous letter, threatening that " he would be shot like a dog " if he went on with proceedings against a man who owed his firm a sum of money. Sufficient evidence to justify a prosecution was not procured.

Co. Kilkenny.-Between 26th August and 9th September, 1953, a postman received through the post, three letters, threatening himself and members of his family with death, if he took over a house and farm which had been allotted to him by the Department of Lands. An arrest was made in this case and the accused was convicted. He was sentenced to three months' imprisonment on each charge, to run concurrently, warrant not to issue if he paid a sum towards costs and expenses of the prosecution. The amount was paid.

One crime of Threatening to Murder was recorded in year 1952.

## Manslaughter (other than Traffic Fatalities)

Seven crimes of Manslaughter (other than Traffic Fatalities), were recorded in the year 1953. Proceedings were taken in all cases.

## Brief particulars are :-

Co. Cork.-On 5th May, 1953, an aged British Naval Pensioner died from asphyxia caused by pressure on his neek during a fracas with a sub-tenant in his house. The deceased had earlier on that day assaulted his assailant's wife and three-yearold child, striking the child in the face and pulling his wife's hair when she remonstrated with him. The assailant was arrested
and charged, and at the Central Criminal Court he was convicted of Manslaughter under provocation, and was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment with Hard Labour.

Co. Kilkenny.-On 7th May, 1953, at 9.50 p.m., a middleaged small farmer was found unconscious on the footway. He had a cut over his left eye and was also bleeding from the ears. He was removed to hospital where he died a few hours later. He had been assaulted by a man of similar age and class, who had lain in waiting for him, following an altercation in a public house. His assailant was arrested and charged, and at the Circuit Court held in Kilkenny he was convieted of Manslaughter, and was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment.

Co. Carlow.-On 10th May, 1953, at 9 a.m., an altercation occurred between two patients in a Mental Hospital. The elder one, a man of 75 years, was knocked to the ground and sustained a fracture of the skull which caused his death. His assailant, aged 58 years, was arrested, and at a Special Court it was ordered that he be transferred to a Criminal Lunatic Asylum.

Co. Cavan.-On 6th June, 1953, at 10.20 p.m., following an altercation in a public house, a 71 year old labourer was assaulted and knocked down by a 60 year old ex-British soldier. His head struck the roadway heavily, and he sustained injuries from which he died on the following day. His assailant was arrested and charged. At the Circuit Court held in Cavan he was found " Not Guilty " and was discharged.

Dublin Metropolitan Area.-On 25th August, 1953, a disturbance took place on board a ship travelling from Liverpool to Dublin, due to the violent conduct of a 19 year old seaman under the influence of drink. A 23 year old seaman who endeavoured to calm him was overpowered and thrown overboard. The assailant was arrested and charged with Murder. At the Central Criminal Court he was found "Not Guilty" of Murder, but "Guilty" of Manslanghter, and was sentenced to six years Penal Servitude.

Co. Laois.-On 23rd October, 1953, a brawl occurred in a tinkers' camp during which a 62 year old man was fatally stabbed in the back. Three young men were arrested and charged with Murder. At the Central Criminal Court two of the accused were found "Not Guilty" and were discharged. The Jury disagreed in the case of the third accused and he was put back for re-trial. On his re-trial at the Central Criminal Court he pleaded guilty to Manslaughter. His plea was accepted, and be was sentenced to five years' Penal Servitude.

Dublin Metropolitan Area.-On 23rd December, 1953, at 7.50 a.m., two men collided while walking along a city street.

An altercation took place and the men went their respective ways. The younger man, a 33 year old labourer, however, turned about, followed the other, a 53 year old lorry-driver, some short distance, and struck him a blow, knocking him into the roadway and causing him injuries which resulted in his death. The assailant was arrested, and at the Dublin Circuit Court he was foumd "Guilty" of Manslaughter and was sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment with Hard Labour. The sentence was, on appeal, reduced to six months' imprisonment with Hard Labour.

Three crimes of Manslaughter (other than Traffic Fatalities), were recorded in the year 1952.

## Manslavohter (Traffic Fatalitils).

Twenty-one crimes of Manslaughter (Traffic Fatalities), were recorded in the year 1953. Proceedings were taken in 20 cases, and in 4 cases the aceused were convicted. The case in which no proceedings were taken, concerned the death of a four-yearold girl who was found with severe head injuries lying in a Dublin side street and on admission to hospital was found to be dead. It was believed she had been knocked down by a motor vehicle, but sufficient evidence to justify a prosecution, could not be procured.

Six crimes were recorded in the year 1952. The increase in the number of crimes recorded in the year under review is due to the fact that all cases in which proceedings for Manslaughter were taken in 1953, are now accounted for, while in year 1952, only those cases in which the acoused were convicted or awaiting trial or the drivers of vehicles had not been traced, were accounted for.

## Woundina, Etc. (Felontrs).

Eight crimes of wounding and other acts endangering life were recorded in 1953. Proceedings were taken in seven cases, and in five cases the accused were convicted. One case is pending.

Nineteen crimes were recorded in year 1952.
Assaulet, Wounding, Etc. (Misdemeanours).
A total of 217 crimes of Assault, Wounding, etc. (Misdemeanours), was recorded in year 1953. Proceedings were taken in 208 cases, and in 163 cases the accused were convicted. In a further 16 cases the charges were held proved, and the Probation Act was applied. Eleven cases are pending.

In the year 1952 the number of crimes recorded was 147.

## Intimidation.

Six crimes of Intimidation were recorded for the year 1953, which figure is cleven less than the number for the year 1952. Proceedings were taken in two cases, in one of which, the three persons accused were dealt with under the Probation of Offenders Act. In the second case, the proceedings resulted in an aequittal.

## Sexual Offences ngainst Females.

The number of sexual offences against females recorded in year 1953 , was 175 , which is 8 less than the number in year 1952.

Comparative figures for offences and proceedings in the years 1948 to 1953 are given in the following table :-

| Yeall. | No. of offences <br> recorded. | No, of offenees in <br> which proceedings <br> wero taken. | Pereentage of <br> offences in <br> which proceedings <br> wees talken. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1953 | 175 | 153 | 87 |
| 1052 | 183 | 152 | 83 |
| 1951 | 162 | 155 | 83 |
| 1050 | 187 | 158 | 84 |
| 1949 | 197 | 161 | 82 |
| 1948 | 211 | 187 | 89 |

## Group II.-Offences against Property with Violence.

This group includes offences of Burglary, Honsebreaking, Robbery and Malicions Injury to Property.

The number of offences recorded in the group in 1953 was 3,032 , being an increase of 304 on the number recorded in 1952 . Proceodings were taken in 1,844 eases in 1953, and convictions were recorded in 1,109 cases. In an additional 536 cases the ${ }^{4}$ charges were held proved and the Probation Act was applied. 105 cases are shown pending.

Comparative figures of offences recorded and proceedings taken in the years 1948 to 1953, are given in the follownig table:-

| Yearis. | No. of oftenees rooorded. | No. of offences in whieh proceedings uere takea. | Percentage of Oliencen in which proceving wero Lakeni. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1953 | 3,032 | 1,844 | 61 |
| 1058 | 2,7e8 | 1,067 | 61 |
| 1051 | 2,506 | 1,805 | fill |
| 1050 | 2,445 | 1,623 | (6) |
| 1649 | 2,407 | 1,613 | 67 |
| 1948 | 2,583 | 1,774 | $6{ }^{3}$ |

## Housebreaking.

The total of offences relating to Housebreaking in the year 1953 was 2,878 , showing an increase of 287 compared with the number in 1952. The offence headings under which the major portion of the increase is recorded are, Housebreaking (Dwellinghouses), increase of 153 ; Breaking into Shops, Warehouses, ete., increase of 101, and Burglary, increase of 23.

Comparative figures for total offences relating to Housebreaking, and the number and percentage of offences in which proceedings were taken in the years 1948 to 1953 , are given in the following table :-

| Yexar. | No. of offences recoriled. | No, of offences in which proceedings were taken. | Fercentago of offences in which proceedlings were talken. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1963 | \$,878 | 1,767 | 61 |
| 1952 | 2,591 | 1,588 | 61 |
| 1951 | 2,636 | 1,600 | 64 |
| 1950 | 2,031 | 1,387 | 68 |
| 1949 | 2,030 | 1.410 | 69 |
| 1948 | 2,385 | 1,534 | 64 |

## Robbery.

Thirty-six offences of Robbery and Assaults with Intent to Rob, were recorded in year 1953. Firearms were not used in the commission of any of those offences.

Proceedings were taken in 10 cases, and in 17 cases the accused were convicted. In the two remaining cases, the charges were held proved and the Probation of Offenders Act was applied.

The most serious offences of this nature were committed in Dublin City and County, brief particulars of which are :-

Dublin Metropolitan Area.-On 15th June, 1953, when an employee of a dairying firm was about to enter a Bank, he was violently assaulted by two men, who snatched from him cash boxes containing $£ 1,066$ in cash and cheques valued $£ 356$, and escaped in a waiting car. No one has been made amenable.

Co. Dublin.-On 2nd September, 1953, four young men hired a taxi in the city and when some distance outside, they overpowered, gagged and bound the driver. They then drove to a Bank in Skerries which three of them entered and producing Starters' Pistols, from which a shot could not be discharged, they intimidated the officials and succeeded in getting away
with $£ 568$ in cash. Four arrests were made. Two of the accused were sentenced to three years' Penal Servitude, one was sentenced to five years' Penal Servitude and one, a youth of 16 years, was sentenced to threo years' Borstal Detention. All the money was recovered.

Dublin Metropolitan Area.-On 5th October, 1953, as the cashier of a city bakery firm was leaving the firm's premises to lodge money in a bank, he was assaulted by three men who took a bag containing $£ 641$ in cash from him and got away in a waiting car.

No one has been made amenable.
Dublin Metropolitan Area.-On 14th November, 1953, a lady cashier of a city victualling firm was on her way to a bank to lodge a sum of $£ 600$ in cash and cheques in a night safe, when she was assaulted by a young man who struck her a blow on the head and got away with the cash.

No one has been made amenable.
In the year 1952, the number of crimes of Robbery recorded was 23, and firearms were alleged to have been used in four cases.

## Arson and Other Malicious Injury to Property.

A total of 109 offences of Arson and Other Malicious Injury to Property was recorded for the year 1953, of which 44 were offences of Arson.

Proceedings were taken in 53 cases, and in 31 cases the accused were convicted. In a further 9 cases the charges were held proved and the Probation of Offenders Act was applied.

In the year 1952 a total of 106 offences was recorded, of which 60 were offences of Arson.

## Group IIL-Offences against Property Without Violence.

Included in this group are offences of Larceny, Embezzlement, Obtaining Goods, etc., by False Pretences, Frauds and Receiving Stolen Goods.

The total of offences recorded in the group for the year 1953, was 11,813, an increase of 512 compared with the total for the year 1952 .

Proceedings were taken in 5,123 cases, and in 2,451 cases the accused were convicted. In an additional 1,937 cases the charges were held proved and the Probation of Offenders Act was applied. 105 cases are shown pending.

Comparative figures of offences in this group and the number and percentage of cases in which proceedings were taken in the years 1948 to 1953 are given in the following table :-

| Yrali. | No, of offences recorded. | No. of offesces in which proceedings were taken. | Percentage of offences in which proceedings werv takea. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1853 | 11,813 | 5,123 | 43 |
| 1852 | 11,301 | 4,963 | 44 |
| 1951 | 10,513 | 5,158 | 49 |
| 1850 | 9,157 | 4,859 | 53 |
| 1949 | 9,130 | 4,884 | 53 |
| 1948 | 11,354 | 5,580 | 49 |

The increase in the number of offences in this group in 1953 as compared with the number in 1952, is due to an increase of 668 in offences of Larceny. In Larceny of Peda! Cyeles alone, the increase was 628. In the Dublin Metropolitan Area, the number of cyeles recorded as stolen in year 1953 was 2,767 , as compared with 2,213 in year 1952 .

There was a decrease of 102 in the number of offences of Fraud, Embezzlement, ete., and a decrease of 54 in offences of Receiving Stolen Goods in 1953, as compared with the number in 1952.

Comparative figures for the various forms of Larceny, as given in the Crime Statistical Tables for the years 1948 to 1953 , are :-

| Offences. | 1953 | 1952 | 1951 | 1950 | 1949 | 1948 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Lareeny from the Person ... | $\pm 82$ | 257 | 236 | 219 | 254 | $\pm 58$ |
| Lareeny in House to value of es, ete. | 575 | 601 | 505 | 560 | 613 | 786 |
| Lareeny from Dwellinghouse by Employve ... | 119 | 123 | 134 | 132 | 144 | 154 |
| Larceny of Explosives ... | , | 1 |  |  |  |  |
| Larceny of Motor Vehieles ... | 34 | 22 | 21 | 14 | 16 | 7 |
| Larceny of Pedal Cycles ... | 3,230 | 2,592 | 1.896 | 1,389 | 1,480 | 1,502 |
| Larceny from Unattended Vehicles | 1.451 | 1,283 | 1,312 | 1,161 | 944 | 1,392 |
| Larceny from Shops and Stalla | 1,134 | 1,096 | 1,017 | 921 | 923 | 1,023 |
| Larceny of Honses, Cattle and Shoep | 69 | 51 | 50 | 56 | 52 | 71 |
| Other Larconies (exceoding $i 5$ in value) ... ... | 1,3き2 | 1,633 | 1,307 | 1,000 | 1,045 | 1,830 |
| Other Larceniea (not exeeeding is in valne) ... | 2,030 | 3,052 | 3,180 | 2,832 | 2,974 | 3,768 |
| Totals ... ... |  | 10,561 | 9,792 | 8,414 | 8,388 | 10,211 |

Of the total Larcenies recorded in year 1953, 8,140 or over $72 \%$ were recorded in the Dublin Metropolitan Area as compared with 7,503 , or slightly under $72 \%$ in the year 1952 .

## Embezzlement

Forty offences of Embezzlement were recorded in the year 1053, as compared with 55 in the year 1952. In the Dublin Metropolitan Area, 27 offences were recorded in 1953, as compared with 40 offences in 1952.

Proceedings were taken in 38 cases in 1953, and in 18 cases convictions were recorded. In an additional 12 cases the charges were held proved and the Probation Act was applied.

## Obtaining Goods, Etc., by False Pretences.

The number of offences of Obtaining Goods, etc., by False Pretences in the year 1953, was 298, as compared with 406 in the year 1952. Seventy-six offences were recorded in the Dublin Metropolitan Area in 1953, compared with 102 offences in year 1952.
${ }^{2}$ Proceedings were taken in 215 cases in 1953, and convictions were recorded in 148 cases. In an additional 33 cases the charges were held proved and the Probation of Offenders Act was applied.

Eighteen cases are shown pending.

## Frauds.

Sixty-seven offences relating to Frauds were recorded in year 1953, compared with 46 in year 1052. Proceedings were taken in 48 cases, and in 18 cases the accused were convicted. In a further 3 cases the Probation of Offenders Act was applied.

In the Dublin Metropolitan Area, 33 offences were recorded in 1953, an increase of 12 on the number in 1952.

Group IV.-Offences not included in porbgorng Groups.
Offences in this group include Forgery, Perjury, Bribery, Riot and Unlawful Assembly, Offences against Public Decency, Offences under Coinage Acts, Attempting to Commit Suicide, Offences under Treason Act, Breaches of Offences against the State Act, and Other Indictable Offences, which are not included in Groups I, II or III.

A total of 226 offences was recorded in the group in 1953, which total is the same as that for the year 1952. Proceodings were taken in 166 cases, and in 81 cases the accused were convicted. In a further 59 cases the charges were held proved and the Probation of Offenders Act was applied.

In offences of Forgery and Uttering, there was a decrease of 24, the number of offences in 1953 being 117. In offences relating to Public Indecency, there was an increase of 22 , the number in 1953 being 34 , as compared with 12 in 1952. 31 of the 34 offences recorded in 1953 were committed in the Dublin Metropolitan Area. Twenty-four cases of Attempting to Commit Suicide were recorded in 1953, as compared with 17 in 1952.

## Organised Crimes of Violence.

One only crime of violence of an agrarian nature was recorded in 1953, in which a rick of straw valued at $£ 30$ was maliciously destroyed by fire.

In the year 1952, eleven organised crimes of violence were recorded, nine of which were of an agrarian nature.

## Value of Property Stolen and Recovered.

The value of property reported as stolen in the year 1953, was $£ 194,3454 \mathrm{~s} .8 \mathrm{~d}$., of which property valued at $£ 52,92516 \mathrm{~s} .9 \mathrm{~d}$. was recovered.

The offences against property with violence, i.e., Burglary, Housebreaking and Sacrilege, the value of property reported as stolen was $£ 71,827 \mathrm{17s}$. 9d., of which property valued at E22,284 3s. 10d. was recovered, and in offences against property without violence, i.e., Larcenies, the value of property reported as stolen was $£ 122,5176 \mathrm{~s} .11 \mathrm{~d}$., of which property valued at $£ 30,64112 s .11 \mathrm{~d}$, was recovered.

In the year 1952, the value of property reported as stolen was £164,743 158. 5 d . ; in offences of Burglary and Housebreaking, $£ 61,5278 \mathrm{~s} .11 \mathrm{~d}$., and in Larcenies, $£ 103,21668$, 6d., and the value of property recovered was $\$ 45,45711 \mathrm{~s} .3 \mathrm{~d}$., of which $£ 15,000 \mathrm{ll}$. 11d. was in relation to offences of Burglary, etc., and $£ 30,45619 \mathrm{~s}$. 4 d . in relation to Larcenies.

Comparative figures of offences in which property was stolen, and the value of stolen property in the years 1948 to 1953, are given in the following table:-

| - | Year | Less than $£ 1$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{f1} \\ & \text { to } \\ & \mathrm{c} 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { E2 } \\ & \text { to } \\ & \text { g5 } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 85 \\ \text { to } \\ 510 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{E} 10 \\ \text { to } \\ \mathrm{f} 50 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} t 50 \\ t o \\ £ 100 \end{gathered}$ | Over C 100 | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Offences against property with violence. | 1953 | 479 | 268 | 417 | 322 | 648 | 170 | 136 | 2,440 |
|  | 1952 | 363 | 257 | 402 | 317 | 608 | 124 | 123 | 2,204 |
|  | 105 t | 451 | 302 | 398 | 295 | 623 | 123 | 104 | 2,295 |
|  | 1950 | 357 | 237 | 338 | 274 | 406 | 83 | 69 | 1,761 |
|  | 1049 | 331 | 265 | 315 | 250 | 405 | 77 | 72 | 1.775 |
|  | 1048 | 392 | \$61 | 364 | 282 | 525 | 114 | 100 | 2,013 |
| Offences againat property without violence. | 1953 | 1,636 | 1,232 | 2,596 | 3,030 | 2,451 | 146 | 120 | 11,211 |
|  | 1952 | 1,734 | 1,460 | 2,479 | 2,506 | 2,133 | 127 | 101 | 10,540 |
|  | 1951 | 1,611 | 1,311 | 2,262 | 2,369 | 2,002 | 140 | 90 | 0,785 |
|  | 1950 | 1,888 | 1,149 | 2,014 | 1,762 | 1,431 | 79 | 77 | 8,400 |
|  | 1949 | 1,708 | 1,238 | 2,070 | 1,050 | 1,498 | 97 | 79 | 8,370 |
|  | 1948 | 2,168 | 1,511 | 2,357 | 2,100 | 1,545 | 129 | 83 | 10,193 |

## Persons Convicted of Indictable Offences.

The number of persons convicted of Indictable Offences in the year 1953, was $3,336-3,045$ males and 291 females-or almost $47 \%$ of the number charged.

The number convicted by Courts of Summary Jurisdiction was 3,024 , of which 2,749 were males and 275 females, and the number convicted by Circuit or Higher Courts was 312-296 males and 16 females.

Details of persons convicted are given in Appendix D (1).
The number of convicted persons in each age group and the percentage which each age group forms of the total persons convicted in the years 1948 to 1953 , are given in the following table :-

| Ase Group | Nesbes of Persoss Cosvreteio |  |  |  |  |  | Penckntaus |  |  | or Toral |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1933 | 10s2 | 1951 | 1950 | 1969 | 10.8 | 1853 | 1952 | 1951 | 1950 | 139 | 1958 |
| Under |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 3 | ${ }^{4}$ |
|  | 184 | 135 | 179 293 | 1178 | 135 | 189 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 6 |
| 16-is | 413 | 341 | 361 | 317 | 246 | 274 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 5 | 8 |
| 18-21 | 607 | 630 | E39 | 487 | 539 | 358 | 18 | 20 | 20 | 17 | 19 | 17 |
| 21-39 "\% .... | sal | 886 | 1,021 | 878 | 858 | 1,102 | 考 | 98 | 31 | 31 | 牫 | 34 |
| 30-40 ${ }^{-2}$ | S561 | 510 | 458 | 416 | 424 | 53 | 17 | 16 | ${ }_{14}^{14}$ | 13 | 15 15 | ${ }_{14}^{16}$ |
| Abeve 40 years | 381 | 416 | 378 | 377 | 401 | 470 | 11 | 13 | 12 | 13 | 15 | 14 |
| Torals | 3,736 | 3,183 | 3,260 | 2,796 | 2,543 | 3,269 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Chabge Proved and Probation of Offendehs Aot Applied.
The number of persons against whom the charges were held proved, and who were released under the Probation of Offenders Act, 1907, in the year 1953, was 2,691-almost $38 \%$ of the persons charged-of whom, 2,353 were males and 341 fomales.

Full details are given in Appendix D (2).
The number of persons in each age group and the percentage of the total persons so dealt with in the years 1948 to 1953 arc given in the following table :-

| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Ago } \\ & \text { Croup } \end{aligned}$ | Numati of Pkesove |  |  |  |  |  | Praciestage of Total |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1453 | 1932 | 1951 | 1950 | 1949 | 1945 | 1953 | 1254 | 1951 | 1850 | 196 | 1948 |
| Under |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14 yean - - | 844 | 221 | 944 | 923 | 810 | 864 | 31 | 49 | 31 | 32 | \% | 27 |
| 14.76 years - | 541 | 493 | 002 | 566 | 490 | 361 | 20 | 20 | 80 | 20 | 17 | 18 |
| 16-18 18 -1 - | 372 | 389 | 459 | 381 | 352 | 395 | 14 | 16 | 15 | 13 | 13 | 13 |
| 18-21 * $\quad$ - | 983 | 278 | 331 | 887 | 325 | 342 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 12 | 11 |
| 21-30 $30-40$ | 978 | ${ }_{1}^{268}$ | 275 | 338 | 350 | 433 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| Alove 40 zears | 158 | 149 | 201 | 183 | 211 389 | 267 280 | 7 | 7 | $\frac{7}{7}$ | 6 6 | 8 | 18 8 |
| Totala | 2,034 | 2.455 | 3,074 | 2,80] | 2,787 | 3,160 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Of the 7,138 persons charged in 1953 with the commission of indictable offences, 6,810 were finally dealt with, and the guilt of 6,030 or almost $89 \%$ was established, 3,336 by conviction, and 2,694 dealt with under the Probation of Offenders Act.

## Indictable Ofyences clearkd up in Year 1953.

The number of indictable offences cleared up in the year 1953 was 8,324 , details of which are contained in Cols. 3 and 17 of Appendix A (1), and Col. 2 of Appendix G (2), giving a detection percentage of 53 in relation to the number of indictable offences recorded for the year.

In the year 1952 the detection percentage was 52 .
The incidence of Indictable Offences and Detections for the years 1943 to 1953, is shown in Graphical form in Appendix A (3).

Indictable Offences-Procerdingos pending yrom Year 1952.-Results.

In Appendix A (1) to report for the year 1952, proceedings were shown pending in 417 cases. Of this number, 44 are shown still pending. Of the cases disposed of, convictions were recorded in 140 cases, and in a further 181 cases the charges were held proved and the Probation of Offenders Act was applied.

Full details are given in Appendix G (1).

## Detections in Indictable Ofyences Recohded in Year 1952.

During the year 1953, detections were made in 86 indietable offences which were recorded in the year 1952, but were not detected within that year.

Convictions were recorded in 61 cases, and in a further 3 cases the Probation of Offenders Act was applied.

The number of persons charged in connection with those offences was 51, of whom 42 were convicted and 4 dealt with under the Probation Act.

Full details are given in Appendix G (2).

## PART II.

## JUVENILES CHARGED WITH INDICTABLE OFFENCES.

During the last three months of year 1953 , a new procedure was introduced with approval of the Law Officers, whereby discretion is given to Gärda Officers to caution in the presence of their parents, instead of bringing them before the Court, juveniles under 14 years of age for minor indictable offences, where the injured parties do not object to such a course, and there is hope that the youngster will appreciate the caution, and parent will ensure supervision.

88 such juveniles (including 19 young girls) were so cautioned during the period.

## Indictable Offences.

Juvenile offenders cautioned in last three months of year 1953 :-

|  | No. Cautioned | Male | Femalo |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Housebroaking ( + ... | 15 | 15 | - |
| Lareeny of Peelal Cyeler ... | 6 | 5 | 1 |
| Laroeny from Slops and Stalls | 38 | 25 | 10 |
| Lasceny from Unattended Veluelon | 6 | 5 | 1 |
| Other Larcenios (excoeding is in value) | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| Other Larcenies (not exceeding is in value) | 18 | 12 | 6 |
| Other Offruces -.. | 1 | 1 | - |
| Toral | 88 | 63 | 19 |

The number of persons aged under 18 years，charged with indictable offences，who were dealt with by the Courts in the year 1953，was 2,474 ，which is 133 more than the number for the year 1952

Full details of juvenile offenders charged with indictable offences are given in Appendices E and F．

Comparative figures of offenders，male and female，under the various offence headings，dealt with in the years 1948 to 1953 ， are given in the following table ：－

| Otiesees | 1953 |  | 1354 |  | 1051 |  | 1360 |  | 1340 |  | 1938 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 3. | F． | $\mathbf{M}$ ． | $\boldsymbol{V}$ | M． | F． | M． | $\boldsymbol{r}$ ． | M． | V． | M． | $\boldsymbol{r}$ |
| Bientary <br> Illuestryakis | NE |  | 138 |  | 17 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Latreny of Fodal Crution | 80\％ | 雃 | 洼 | ${ }_{1}^{21}$ | 848 | $2{ }^{2}$ | 008 | 14 | $00^{7}$ | 34 | 813 | － 3 |
| Larory trom Enationded |  |  | 12 |  | 12 | 16 | 12 | 21 | 106 | 6 | 0 | 4 |
| latory frenisklope wat | 156 | 8 | 141 | 5 | 10t | 6 | （1） | 1 | 148 | 6 | $18 \%$ | ＊ |
| stath |  |  |  | 27 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other Lammeter（exceed． |  |  |  |  |  | 6 | 27 | 22 | 211 | ＊2 | 256 | 30 |
| Other Laravies（not ex． | $17 \%$ | 41 | 150 | 12 | 231 | 43 | 160 | 3 | 155 | 3 | $t 0$ | 3 |
|  | ग1 | 30. | 681 | es | 48 | 64 | $4 \times 3$ | 4 | 465 | 75 |  | 106 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Properity } \\ & \text { otber Oflenen } \end{aligned}$ | $1{ }^{4}$ |  | 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 18 | 12 | 明 | 8 | 115 | 15 | \％ | 15 | 12 L | 14 | wis | 10 |
| TOTALA | \％est | $19 \%$ | 2，157 | 154 | 2，483 | 200 | 2.203 | 100 | 2，053 | 191 | 2，739 | 45 |

## Sex and Agr of Oyfexdrbs．

Comparative figures of offenders，male and female，in each age group，dealt with in the years 1948 to 1953，are given in the following table：－

| Yeare． |  | Under 12 years |  | 12 to 14 years |  | 14 to 16 years |  | 16 to 18 yeam |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | M． | F． | M． | F． | M． | F． | M． | F． |
| 1053 | $\cdots$ | 403 | 40 | 651 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 195 1051 | $\cdots$ | 430 517 | 23 31 | 489 | 45 | 688 702 | 68 | 579 636 | 55 67 |
| 1051 1950 | $\ldots$ | 517 520 | 31 +3 | 610 519 | 48 | 721 | 59 | 645 645 | 67 71 |
| 1949 | $\ldots$ | 434 | 23 | 519 495 | 35 50 | 621 | 53 | 697 | 49 |
| 1948 | $\ldots$ | 607 | 38 | 495 637 | 50 | 608 670 | $60$ | $516$ | $33$ |
| ， | ．．． |  | 3 | 037 | 03 | 670 | 61 |  |  |

In three of the four age groups there was an increase in the number of offenders dealt with in 1953，as compared with the number in 1952 ．In the under 12 years and 12 to 14 years groups，there was an increase of 50 in each and in the 16 to 18 years group，an increase of 44．There was a decrease of 11 in years group，an increase of
the 14 to 16 years group．

## Cibcumstances contributing to Deinnquency．

The main causes or circumstances which，in the opinion of the Gárda，contributed to juvenile delinquency in the year 1953， were（1）Lack of Parental Control， 1,065 cases or $43 \%$ ；（2）Desire to get Money for Amusement， 669 cases or $27 \%$ ；（3）Youthful Gang Influence， 329 cases or $13 \%$ ；（4）Mischief， 298 cases or $12 \%$ ；（5）Criminal Associations， 82 cases or $3 \%$ ，and（6）Necess－ ity， 31 cases or $1 \%$ ．

Comparative figures for the years 1948 to 1953 are given in the following table ：－

|  | 1953 | 1952 | 1951 | 1950 | 1949 | 1945 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Lack of Parental Control | 1，005 | 963 | 1，153 | 095 | 1，082 | 1，103 |
| Desime to get money for Amusement ．．．．．． | 669 | 695 | 733 | 635 | 671 | 704 |
| Mischief ．．．．．． | 298 | 319 | 443 | 4 m 2 | 273 | 464 |
| Youthful Gang Influence ．．． | 329 | 259 | 287 | 289 | 237 | 223 |
| Criminal Associations ．．． | 82 | 96 | 67 | 75 | 61 | 57 |
| Necessity $\quad .$. | 31 | 29 | 19 | 30 | 20 | 35 |
| Torats ．．． | 2，474 | 2，341 | 2，702 | 2，433 | 2，244 | 2，630 |

## Preqentage of Juvenile Offenders in relation to other

 Persons charged with Indictable Offences．The number of juvenile offenders dealt with in the year 1953， formed almost $35 \%$ of the total persons charged with indictable offences．In the year 1952，they formed $34 \%$ of the total．

The number of juvenile offenders and the approximate per－ centage of the total persons charged with indictable offences in the years 1948 to 1953 ，are given in the following table ：－

| Yeab | No，of Javenile Offenden deals with for Indietable Offences | Percentago of Total Number of Pensons Charigod with Indictable Offences， |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1953 | 2，474 | $35 \%$ |
| 1952 | 9，341 | $34 \%$ |
| 1951 | 2，202 | $38 \%$ |
| 1950 | 2,453 | 30\％ |
| 1949 | 2，244 | 34\％ |
| 1948 | 2，630 | $33 \%$ |

## Offences charged against Juveniles.

Of the total number of juveniles dealt with in 1953, the number charged with offences relating to Housebreaking was 923 or $37 \%$ of the total as compared with 788 or $33 \%$ in the year 1952. The number charged with offences of Larceny was 1,383 , or $56 \%$ of the total as compared with 1,431 , or $64 \%$ of the total in year 1952 .

The number of juveniles dealt with under the various offence headings, and the percentage which juveniles formed of the total persons charged with those offences in the years 1948 to 1953, are given in the following table :-

| Offence |  | Year | No. of Juvenile Oflendens Charged | Percentage of Total Persons Charged |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Burglary ... | ** | 1953 <br> $195 \pm$ <br> 1951 <br> 1950 <br> 1949 <br> 1948 | $\begin{array}{r} 26 \\ 13 \\ 14 \\ 9 \\ 7 \\ 12 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 27 \\ 11 \\ 13 \\ 10 \\ 7 \\ 12 \end{array}$ |
| Houselirnaking | ** | $\begin{aligned} & 1953 \\ & 1959 \\ & 1951 \\ & 1950 \\ & 1949 \\ & 1948 \end{aligned}$ | 897 <br> 775 <br> 898 <br> 820 <br> 688 <br> 879 | $\begin{aligned} & 51 \\ & 49 \\ & 50 \\ & 54 \\ & 45 \\ & 52 \end{aligned}$ |
| Larceny -.. | ** | 1953 <br> 1959 <br> 1951 <br> 1950 <br> 1940 <br> 1948 | $\begin{aligned} & 1,383 \\ & 1,431 \\ & 1,554 \\ & 1,334 \\ & 1,261 \\ & 1,469 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 34 \\ & 36 \\ & 33 \\ & 35 \\ & 34 \\ & 34 \end{aligned}$ |
| Malicious Injury Froperty ... | to | 1953 <br> 1952 <br> 1951 <br> 1950 <br> 1949 <br> 1948 | $\begin{array}{r} 34 \\ 26 \\ 104 \\ 176 \\ 142 \\ 161 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 39 \\ & 33 \\ & 40 \\ & 47 \\ & 50 \\ & 40 \end{aligned}$ |
| Other Offenees | ** | 1953 <br> 1952 <br> 1951 <br> 1050 <br> 1949 <br> 1948 | $\begin{array}{r} 134 \\ 96 \\ 132 \\ 114 \\ 146 \\ 109 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 19 \\ 9 \\ 19 \\ 10 \\ 12 \\ 8 \end{array}$ |

Juvenile Offenders released under the Probation of Offenderes Act.
The number of juvenile offenders released under the Probation of Offenders Act in the year 1953 was 1,627 , or almost $66 \%$ of the total offenders dealt with.

The number of offenders charged for the first time was 1,839 of whom 1,337 or $73 \%$ were released under the Probation Act,

The number charged for the socond time was 446, of whom 209 or $47 \%$ were released under the Probation Act, 32 for the first time and 177 for the second time.

The number charged for the third time was 115 of whom 48 or $42 \%$ were released under the Probation Act, 2 for the first time, 13 for the second time and 33 for the third time,

The number charged for the fourth time or oftener was 74, of whom 33 or $45 \%$ were released under the Probation Act, one for the first time, 6 for the second time, 7 for the third time, and 19 for the fourth time or oftener.

Full details are given in Appendix F (2).
Juvenile Offenders by Girda Divisions
Details of Juvenile Offenders dealt with in each Gárda Division in year 1953, and of offences charged, are given in the Appendices.

See Appendix F (1).

## Family Income.

The income to the homes of juvenile offenders in the yoar 1953, is given in the following table :-

| Weekly Income |  |  | No, of Offenders |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Under £2 ... | +... | $\ldots$ | 84 |
| £2 to $£ 4$. | .... | ‥* | 401 |
| £4 to £ 6 .... | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | 627 |
| £6 to £8 .... | ... | .... | 587 |
| £8 and over | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 587 59 |
| Not ascertainable | ... | +.** |  |
| Total | .... | +17 | 2,474 |

Full details are given in Appendix F (3).

## PART III.

## NON-INDICTABLE OFFENCES.

The number of persons proceeded against for the commission of non-indictable offences in the year 1953 was 130,555 , which figure is 9,561 less than the total for the year 1952. The decrease is rocorded principally in relation to offences under Highway

Acts, decrease of 5,893 ; Finance Act, 1925-Dog Licensing, decrease of 1,657 ; Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1926, decrease of 1,040, and Education and School Attendance Acts, decrease of 682. The principal increases were under Intoxicating Liquor Laws, increase of 472 , and Betting and Gaming, increase of 268 ,

The number of persons convicted was 98,805 , or almost $76 \%$ of the number prosecuted. The offences charged against a further 23,818 persons, $18 \%$ of the number prosecuted, were held proved and the Probation of Offenders Act was applied.

Comparative figures of total persons prosecuted for nonindictable offences in the years 1948 to 1953 are :-
$\left.\begin{array}{ccc}\text { Year } & & \begin{array}{c}\text { Number of } \\ \text { Persons }\end{array} \\ 1953 & \ldots & \ldots . \\ \text { Prosecwted }\end{array}\right\}$

Full details of proceedings and results are given in Appendices C (1) and C (2).

In Appendix C (3) prosecutions and convictions for nonindictable offences in the years 1943 to 1953 are given in graphical form.

## Assaults.

A total of 1,272 persons were prosecuted for assaults in the year 1953, 50 for aggravated assaults, 160 for assaults on Guards, and 1,062 for common assaults.

Convictions were recorded against 756 persons, 196 of whom were sentenced to imprisonment without the option of a fine, and 518 were fined.

The number of persons against whom the charges were held proved and the Probation of Offenders Act applied was 220.

In the year 1952 the number of persons prosecuted was 1,146, 87 for aggravated assaults, 181 for assaults on Guards, and 978 for common assaults.

## Cruelity to Animals.

A total of 234 persons were prosecuted in the year 1953 for offences of Cruelty to Animals. 173 persons were convicted, and a further 37 were dealt with under the Probation of Offenders

Act. Of the 173 persons convicted, 2 were sentenced to imprisonment without the option of a fine, and the remainder were fined.

In the year 1952 the number of persons prosecuted was 346 , of whom 247 were convicted, and 61 others were dealt with under the Probation of Offenders Act.

## Dogs-Ofyences in relation to Licensina of.

The number of persons prosecuted in year 1953 for having in possession unlicensed dogs was 8,393 . The number convicted was 3,577 , all of whom were fined. A total of 3,715 were dealt with under the Probation of Offenders Act.

In the year 1952 a total of 10,050 persons were prosecuted for such offences, 4,520 were convicted and fined, and 4,468 were dealt with under the Probation of Offenders Act.

## Education and School Attendance Acts.

The number of persons prosecuted in connection with offences under these Acts in 1953 was 4,457 , which figure is 682 less than the number for 1952.

The number convicted in 1953 was 3,121 , all of whom were fined. 1,106 other persons were dealt with under the Probation of Offenders Act, the children in 36 cases being sent to Industrial Schools.

Of the 5,139 persons prosecuted in 1052 , the number convicted was 3,511 , and a further 1,359 were dealt with under the Probation of Offenders Act, the children in 137 cases being committed to Industrial Schools.

## Road Traffic Act, 1933.

A total of 75,020 persons, 8,081 of whom were females, were prosecuted in 1953 for offences against the Road Traffic Act. This total is 3,860 less than the total for the year 1952, when 78,880 persons, 8,024 of whom were females, were prosecuted.

Prosecutions for offences under this Act formed over $57 \%$ of the total prosecutions for non-indictable offences in the year 1953, as compared with $56 \%$ in year 1952.

Comparative figures of prosecutions, convictions, ete., in the years 1948 to 1953 are given in the following table :-

| Year | No. of Persons Prosecuted | No, of Convietions | Charge Proved and Probation Aet applied | Charge withdrawn or dismissed | Otherwise dispoeed of |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1983 | 75,000 | 50,415 | 12,371 | 3,234 |  |
| 1052 | -78,880 | 63,546 | 12,033 | 3,298 | 3 |
| 1951 | 84,989 | 67,914 | 13,346 | 3.723 | 6 |
| 1950 | 87,218 | 70,256 | 13,383 | 3,579 |  |
| 1949 | 97,910 | 81,639 | 12,277 | 4,003 | - |
| 1948 | 100,08 | 82,632 | 13,015 | 4,430 | 5 |

The number of prosecutions for " Lighting Offences " in the year 1953, was 53,137 , which figure is 2,599 less than the number for year 1952.

In offences relating to the lighting of Mechanically Propelled Vehicles, the decrease in prosecutions was 952, in the cases of Pedal Cycles the decrease was 1,456 , and in relation to Other Road Users, 191.

Comparative figures of offences prosecuted in the years 1948 to 1953 are given in the following table:-

| Year | Offenees against Lighting Regulations by :- |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Drivers of Mechanically Propelled Vehicles | Pedal Cyclinta | Other Road Usern | Total |
| 1953 | 14,005 | 36,386 | 2,746 |  |
| 1952 | 14,957 | 37,842 | 2,937 | 55,736 |
| 1951 | 15,951 |  | 2,902 | 58,424 |
| 1950 | 14,616 | 42,452 | 2,636 | 50,704 |
| 1949 | 12,927 | 54,637 | 4,407 | 71,971 |
| 1948 | 12,194 | 59,136 | 4,684 | 71,971 76,014 |

The number of prosecutions in 1953 for offences of Dangerous and Careless Driving show a slight decrease, compared with the number in 1952, and offences of Driving or Attempting to Drive while Drunk show a slight increase.

Comparative figures of prosecutions for those offences in the years 1950 to 1953 are :-

| Year | Dangvross and Careless Driving |  | Driving of Attempting to Drive while Drunk |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Meehanically Fropelled Vehiclea | Other | Mechanically Propelled Vohicles | Othen |
|  | 3,087 |  |  |  |
| 1958 | 4,164 | 609 | 503 | 125 |
| 1051 | 4.437 | 645 | 472 | 150 |
| 1950 |  |  |  |  |

## Intoxicating Liquor Laws.

The number of persons prosecuted for offences against the Intoxicating Liquor Laws in the year 1953 was 18,133, an increase of 472 as compared with the number for year 1952 .

Prosecutions for Drunkenness totalled 4,091 in 1953, compared with 3,762 in 1952. Prosecutions for Simple Drunkenness numbered 2,396 in 1953, compared with 2,070 in 1952, and prosecutions for Drunkenness with Aggravations numbered 1,695, three more than the number in 1952.

For offences by Licensed Persons or their servants, the number of prosecutions in 1953 was 2,160 , as compared with 2,298 in 1952, of which totals the numbers of prosecutions for offences against Closing Regulations were 2,031 and 2,134 respectively.

For unlicensed sale of drink, the number of persons prosecuted in 1953, was 44, as compared with 31 in year 1952.

For "Other Offences against the Intoxicating Liquor Laws" -including, found on licensed premises during prohibited hours, giving false name and address or refusing to give same when so found, refusing to quit licensed premises when lawfully requested, false representation as bona fide traveller, etc.-the number of persons prosecuted in 1953 was 11,882 as compared with 11,570 in 1952.

Comparative figures for prosecutions, convictions, etc., in the years 1948 to 1953 are given in the following tables :-

INTOXICATING LIQUOR LAWS.

| Year | No, of Prosecutions | No. of Convictions | Charge proved and Probation of Offendins Aet applied | Change withdrawn or dismissed | Otherwise <br> Dipposed of |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1953 | 18,133 | 16,139 | 1,017 | 975 | 2 |
| 1952 | 17,661 | 15,886 | 868 | 890 | 8 |
| 1951 | 17,225 | 15,582 | 884 | 756 | 3 |
| 1950 | 15,688 | 14,050 | 790 | 848 | $\bigcirc$ |
| 1949 | 16,754 | 15,214 | 729 | 810 | 1 |
| 1948 | 16,163 | 14,182 | 795 | 1,175 | - |

DRUNKENNESS.

| Year | No. of <br> Proeccutiona | No, of Conviction: | Charge proved and Prohation of Offenders Act applied | Charge withdrawn or dismiverl | Otherwise Disposed of |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1953 | 4,091 |  |  |  |  |
| 1959 | 3,762 | 3,206 | 458 | 113 | 1 |
| 1951 | 3,744 | 3,18* | 468 | 95 | 1 |
| 1950 | 3,773 | 3,109 | 437 | 177 | $\underline{-}$ |
| $1049$ | 3,931 | $3,398$ | 447 | $\begin{array}{r} 137 \\ 86 \end{array}$ | - |
| 1948 | 4,157 | $3,570$ | 443 | $\begin{array}{r} 80 \\ 135 \end{array}$ |  |

OFFENCES AGAINST CLOSING REGULATIONS.

Yoar \begin{tabular}{c|c|c|c|c|c}

\hline | No, of |
| :---: |
| Promecutions | \& | No, of |
| :---: |
| Conviotions | \& | Chargo |
| :---: |
| proved and |
| Probation of |
| Offenters |
| Aet applied | \& | Charge |
| :---: |
| withdrawn |
| or |
| diamised | \& | Otherwise |
| :---: |
| Disposed |
| of | <br>

\hline 1953 \& 2,031 \& 1,816 \& 31 \& 184 \& - <br>
1959 \& 2,134 \& 1,909 \& 37 \& 187 \& -1 <br>
1951 \& 2,109 \& 1,899 \& 48 \& 161 \& 1 <br>
1950 \& 1,896 \& 1,698 \& 35 \& 163 \& - <br>
1949 \& 1,988 \& 1,767 \& 44 \& 177 \& - <br>
1948 \& 1,875 \& 1,561 \& 69 \& 245 \& - <br>
\hline
\end{tabular}

OTHER OFFENCES AGAINST INTOXICATING LIQUOR LAWS.

| Year | No, of Prosecutions | No, of Convietions | Charge proved and Probetion of Offenders Aot applied | Charge withdrawn of dismised | Otherwise Disposed of |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1963 <br> $105{ }^{2}$ <br> 105! <br> 1950 <br> 1949 <br> 1948 | 11,8s2 <br> 11,765 <br> 11.370 <br> 9,852 <br> 10,673 <br> 9,853 | $\begin{array}{r} 10,798 \\ 10,771 \\ 10,501 \\ 9,031 \\ 9,941 \\ 8,900 \end{array}$ | 444 <br> 376 <br> 368 <br> 315 <br> 926 <br> 957 | 640 <br> 612 <br> 600 <br> 504 <br> 505 <br> 736 | $\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |

## Illicit Distillation.

For offences relating to Illicit Distillation, 75 persons were prosecuted in year 1953, as compared with 102 in year 1952. Of the 75 persons prosecuted, 48 were convicted, one was sentenced to imprisonment without the option of a fine, and the remaining 47 were fined.

The charges against three persons were dealt with under the Probation of Offenders Act.

## Live Stock Bherding Acts.

184 persons were charged in year 1953 with offences against the Live Stock Breeding Acts of whom 163 were convicted and fined, and a further 13 were dealt with under the Probation Act.

In the year 1952 the number of persons charged was 269 , of whom 244 were convicted and fined, and 16 were dealt with under the Probation Act.

## Malicious Injury to Property.

The number of persons prosecuted in year 1953 for nonindictable offences of Malicious Injury to Property was 1,244 , an increase of 24 as compared with the number in 1952. A total of 726 persons were convicted, and 77 were sent to prison without the option of a fine. A further 349 persons were dealt with under the Probation of Offenders Act.

Comparative figures of prosecutions, convictions, ete., for the years 1948 to 1953 are given in the following table :-

| Year | No, of <br> Prosecutions | No, of <br> Convictions | Chargo <br> Proved and <br> Probation of <br> Offebders <br> Aot applied | Chargo <br> withdrawa <br> or <br> dismissed | Otherwise <br> Dipposed <br> of |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1953 | 1,244 | 726 | 349 | 109 | - |
| 1959 | 1,220 | 757 | 290 | 171 | 2 |
| 1951 | 1,234 | 755 | 304 | 175 | -2 |
| 1950 | 915 | 523 | 263 | 128 | 1 |
| 1949 | 1,039 | 552 | 333 | 150 | 2 |
| 1948 | 1,264 | 739 | 285 | 235 | 2 |

## Revenue Laws.

A total of 1,848 persons were prosecuted in year 1953 for offences against the Revenue Laws as compared with 2,027 in year 1952. Of this total, 1,281 persons were convicted and fined, and 352 were dealt with under the Probation of Offenders Act.

Comparative figures of prosecutions, convictions, etc., for the years 1948 to 1953 are given in the following table :-

| Year | No, of Prosecutions | No, of Convictions | Charge proved and Probation of Offenders Act appliced | Chargo withairawn of Alismisood | Otherwise <br> Dinposed of |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10.3 | 1,845 | 1,281 | 358 | 215 | - |
| 1052 | 2,027 | 1,406 | 463 | 158 | - |
| 1951 | 1,708 | 1,501 | 341 | 158 | = |
| 1950 | 1,395 | 1,014 | 245 | 136 | - |
| 1949 | 1,169 | 880 | 216 | 73 | - |
| 1948 | 755 | $5 \% 1$ | 105 | 79 | - |

## Vaghancy Laws.

The number of persons prosecuted for offences against the Vagrancy Laws in 1953 was 458 , of whom 267 were convicted. 211 were sent to prison without the option of a fine, and 49 were fined. The charges against a further 130 were held proved and the Probation of Offenders Act was applied.

The number prosecuted for offences of "Begging " was 324, of whom 212 were convicted and 176 sent to prison without the option of a fine. 80 were dealt with under the Probation of Offenders Act.

For offences of "Sleeping out and not having visible means of subsistence," 47 persons were prosecuted in 1953. 22 were dealt with under the Probation Act and 15 were convicted. 12 were sent to prison without the option of a fine.

In the year 1952 the number of persons charged was 495 , of whom 349 were charged with Begging, and 32 with "Sleeping out, etc."

## Othrr Non-Indictable Opfences.

Miscellaneons offences for which no special headings are provided, are included under heading "Other Offences " at foot of Appendix C (1). Details of those offences are given in Appen-
dix C (2). dix C (2).

The number of persons prosecuted for offences included under this heading, in year 1953, was 216, of whom 119 were charged with "Conduct Calculated to Provoke a Breach of the Peace," and 41 were charged with offences under the Supplies and Services (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1946.

In year 1952 the number of persons prosecuted was 327, of whom 206 were charged with "Conduct Calculated to Provoke a Breach of the Peace," and 59 with offences under the Supplies and Services (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1946.

## PART IV.

## SCIENTIFIC ADDS TO CRIME DETECTION.

A special section, known as the Technical Bureau, is attached to Crime Branch Headquarters, which provides valuable assistance to Gárdai throughout the country in the investigation of crime by means of scientifie aids.

The section is provided with up-to-date equipment.

The staff is appointed from experienced members who have had technical training, and lectures and practical demonstrations in modern methods of criminal investigation are provided for members of Detective Branch, also for uniformed members in the more populous areas and for recruits when in training.

The section comprises six sub-sections, viz, :-
(1) Investigation.
(4) Mapping.
(2) Fingerprints and
(5) Ballisties.
Criminal Records.
(3) Photography.
(6) Wireless.

Brief particulars of the work done by the units during the year are :-

## (1) Investigation.

The services of this unit are sought by local officers to assist in the investigation of serious crimes. The Headquarters unit forms a useful link between Headquarters and local officers at all stages of the investigation, and co-relates enquiries extending over various areas. When necessary, the unit arranges for the employment of extern experts, such as the State Pathologist, State Analyst, Handwriting, Textile Experts, etc.

During the year 1953, officers spent 214 days in visiting the scenes of crimes, including suspected murder, forgery, malicious damage, safebreaking and arson.

Preliminary examination of handwriting exhibits and of articles of clothing, etc., for stains eliminated many of these, and so saved considerable expense of examination by extern experts.

The number of exhibits received for examination during the year was 615, of which 426 were eliminated.

## (2) Fingerprints and Cridinal Records.

These records provide a complete record of previous convictions of each criminal, a description, photograph, and history of the subject with the modus operandi employed.

The total number of criminal records now filed is 75,617 , representing an increase of 2,439 on the 1952 figure.

Fingerprints found at the scenes of crimes are classified, and compared with those already recorded, and when no identification is made (as is the case of new entrants to crime), the prints are preserved for future reference and comparison. When a new criminal is arrested, it is thus often possible to connect him with outstanding crimes.

Enquiries are daily received from and sent to, other police forces, and interchange of fingerprints and records is made in the case of travelling criminals.

Regular issues of Fogra Tora, in two parts, are prepared in this sub-section.

Part I deals with persons wanted for crime, missing persons, and descriptions of property stolen or recovered, for which owners are sought.

Part II contains photographs of convicted persons, re-convictions, with their descriptions, which are filed at Stations for reference.

Photographs of convicted persons are supplied in convenient pocket-book form to detectives and Stations in cities.

The following summary gives an idea of the work done in the sub-section during the year.
(1) Total number of criminal records filed $\quad 75,617$
(2) Number of new registrations $\quad 2,439$
(3) Sets of fingerprints received for search … 3,594
(4) Number of identifications made therefrom .... 1,136
(5) Other data sent to or from other record offences $\quad 782$
(6) Number of sets of prints sent to other bureaux for search
(7) Articles examined 206
(8) Articles examined 686
(8) Number of identifiable marks found 417
(9) Number of culprits identified 101
(10) Number of innocent persons eliminated … 169
(11) Visits to scenes of crimes

212
(12) Days attending Courts .... .... 43
(13) Number of insertions in Fogra Tora
(14) Modus Operandi cards filed 53
(15) Number of letters dispatehed … .... 8,751
(3) Photography.

This sub-section deals with all phases of police photographs, including :-
(a) Photos of criminals for circulation.
(b) Scenes of crimes and road traffic accidents.
(c) Dead bodies at scenes, morgues, etc.
(d) Documents, forgeries, and suspect handwriting ; restored obliterated writing; examination with ultra-violet. light for forgeries, alterations, ete.
(c) Photography of fingerprints and enlargement for Court purposes.
(f) Photostatio copies of maps and other documents.
(g) Miero-photography of marks on bullets, tool-marks on iron, woodwork for comparison.

During the year the members of this sub-section prepared 7,753 photographs and 1,100 photostatic copies.

Members attended 131 Courts, 327 scenes and 20 conferences.
Photographic work was also performed for the following Government Departments :-
(a) Department of Posts and Telegraphs.
(b) Department of Industry and Commerce.
(c) Department of Lands.
(d) Currency Commission, Central Bank.
(e) National Library.
(4) Mapping.

This sub-section supplies maps for all Police purposes, including scenes of crime and road traffic accidents for Court purposes, special traffic charts, and charts for the Department of Justice.

Scenes of crimes, accidents, ete., were visited on 157 days, maps prepared numbered 937, Courts attended, 175.

The Courts have come to rely on the production of maps made by Gardai as a valuable part of evidence, and members of the Mapping Staff are frequently complimented by the Courts for the excellence of their work.
(5) Ballistics.

The duties performed by this sub-section include examination and comparison of guns, bullets, cartridge cases and explosives, restoring erased numbers on motor engines, pedal cycles, batteries, etc. ; examination of glass fragments found at the scenes of road accidents, or in clothing of suspects ; examination and comparison of cutting instruments used in forcing doors, windows, safes, etc.

The following exhibits were examined during the year:-

| Firearms |  | 32 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Bullets, cartridge cases, etc | $\ldots .$. | 453 |
| Cycles | $\ldots .$. | 26 |
| Miscellaneous exhibits | $\ldots . .$. | 192 |

Courts attended numbered 42 , and scenes of 24 crimes visited.
Firearms for official use were also repaired or refitted in the sub-section.

During the year the moulage glass fracture process was used to advantage in a hit-and-run fatal road accident case. In this case, a small glass fragment found at the scene was positively identified with the damaged windscreen. Micro-photographs were produced of the glass fragment, and a moulage casting from the windscreen. The accused was convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment.

In a case of wounding of a woman, portion of a pocket knife which had been used to stab the injured party was found at the soene. The portion was positively identified with a pocket knife which was the property of the accused. Accused was convicted and received a suspensory sentence.

By special arrangement, the member in charge of the subsection was afforded an opportunity of visiting quarries to got practical experience in the handling and use of explosives. The different types of blasting were fully demonstrated, and instruetions regarding the use of fuses, detonators and gelignite were given.

## (6) Wireless

A central transmitting and receiving station is established at Headquarters, which is operated by remote control at Dublin Custle.

The range covers some 30 miles from Dublin depending on the contours of country.

There are 19 vehicles fitted with radio, which includes three in the Dublin-Wicklow Division. The remainder of the vehicles are attached to the Dublin Metropolitan Division. All of these are 2-way, capable of receiving and transmitting messages. Two of the vehicles in the Dublin City area are fitted with public address equipment.

There are 7 fixed stations fitted with two-way radio and 12 fixed stations fitted with receiving equipment only.

Wireless cars in Dublin City and the adjoining districts in Counties Dublin, Wicklow and Kildare, are continuously circulating and form a link with foot and cycle patrols. These vehicles are in constant touch with Headquarters.

Particulars of serious crimes, traffic accidents, street disturbances, etc., are broadcast, and cars are directed to scenes or to cut off the escape of fleeing criminals. Messages are also received at Garda Stations on the perimeter of the City, and patrols from these Stations are notified when necessary.

Wireless communications are also linked up to relay complaints received from the public over the " 999 " telephone system, regarding crime, suspicious loiterers, etc., enabling speedy attention to be given by the Gárda Siochina to complaints. Several arrests on the spot have resulted within a few minutes of the receipt of complaints, and drivers in "hit and run" accidents have been intercepted.

During the year there were 9,164 " 999 " calls received.
In 494 cases the calls transmitted to radio cars resulted in arrests.

Radio cars attended the following scenes of crime :-

| , |  | 620 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Larcenies |  | 621 | " | 250 | , |
| Malicious injury to property |  | 259 |  | 97 | " |
| Robberies from the person |  | 39 |  | 7 |  |

Arrests were also made in 549 other cases.
The following examples will serve as an indication of the type of work performed by these vehicles and their crews :-

On 4/1/1953, as a result of a " 999 " telephone message, one of the patrol cars went to Ballsbridge area where the crow arrested two persons for bag snatching.

On the $3 / 3 / 1953$, an all-station message was radioed to patrol cars to the effect that a motor car had been stolen from Ranelagh. Fifteen (15) minutes after the receipt of this meseage, the crew of a patrol car observed the stolen vehicle at Dawson Street and arrested four youths in possession of it.

On the $5 / 4 / 1953$, the crew of one of the vehicles observed two men in the commission of a housebreaking in the South Circular Road area. The men were arrested and subsequently sentenced to 6 months' imprisonment at the Dublin Circuit Court.

On $31 / 7 / 1953$, as a result of a " 999 " telephone message to the effect that a nurse had been attacked near a city hospital, the culprit was arrested later on the same date and appropriate charges preferred.

On 11/9/1953, the crew of a vehicle intercepted a man in Liffey Street with a motor wheel complete. He attempted to evade arrest by running away. A chase ensued and the man was taken into custody.

Portable wireless sets are also on issue to foot patrols in Dublin for use in the control of traffic at public meetings, sports fixtures, etc.

Gárda Headquarters is now situate at the Depôt, Phoenix Park, Dublin (telephone 71156).

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
D. COSTIGAN,

Commissioner.




VALEE OF PROPERTY STOLEN ASD RECOHERED.





## AP1ENDIN B

Table showing by groups in respect of Each Garda Division tind the Gatdi Digtalets of the cities of Cork, Jimerich, W'aterford and Galway, the number of Indeiable Offentes and the number of Detectuns in the yeir 295.3.


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