

Subsection 4.—Juvenile Delinquency.

Juveniles under 16 years of age to the number of 7,699 were found guilty of various offences in the year ended Sept. 30, 1928, as compared with 8,185 in 1927 and 7,831 in 1926, a decrease of 486 in the latest year. Of these 5,063 were convicted of "major" offences and 2,636 of "minor" offences, terms which correspond very nearly to "indictable" and "non-indictable" offences, as applied to adults. Convictions for "major" offences numbered 5,156 in 1927 and convictions for "minor" offences 3,029. The offences proven against juveniles in 1927 and 1928 are shown by provinces in Table 36 and by chief types of major offences committed in Table 37.

36.—Juvenile Delinquents convicted of Major and Minor Offences, by Provinces and Sex, 1927 and 1928.

Provinces.		Major Offences.			Minor Offences.		
		1927.	1928.	Increase or Decrease.	1927.	1928.	Increase or Decrease.
Prince Edward Island.....	M.	21	11	— 10	—	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Total	21	11	— 10	—	—	—
Nova Scotia.....	M.	169	213	+ 44	82	89	+ 7
	F.	5	12	+ 7	10	6	— 4
	Total	174	225	+ 51	92	95	+ 3
New Brunswick.....	M.	155	140	— 15	58	68	+ 10
	F.	14	5	— 9	1	8	+ 7
	Total	169	145	— 24	59	76	+ 17
Quebec.....	M.	832	805	— 27	637	478	— 159
	F.	56	75	+ 19	215	101	— 114
	Total	888	880	— 8	852	579	— 273
Ontario.....	M.	1,973	1,724	— 249	948	792	— 156
	F.	60	76	+ 16	75	108	+ 33
	Total	2,033	1,800	— 233	1,023	900	— 123
Manitoba.....	M.	917	888	— 29	680	590	— 90
	F.	72	82	+ 10	80	57	— 23
	Total	989	970	— 19	760	647	— 113
Saskatchewan.....	M.	234	256	+ 22	29	51	+ 22
	F.	19	17	— 2	1	8	+ 7
	Total	253	273	+ 20	30	59	+ 29
Alberta.....	M.	262	336	+ 74	81	86	+ 5
	F.	5	4	— 1	3	—	— 3
	Total	267	340	+ 73	84	86	+ 2
British Columbia.....	M.	356	400	+ 44	116	176	+ 60
	F.	6	19	+ 13	13	18	+ 5
	Total	362	419	+ 57	129	194	+ 65
Canada.....	M.	4,919	4,773	— 146	2,631	2,330	— 301
	F.	237	290	+ 53	393	306	— 92
	Total	5,156	5,063	— 93	3,029	2,636	— 393

Major Offences.—In Table 37 are shown the various major offences for which juvenile delinquents were convicted in 1927 and 1928. It will be observed that theft, together with house- and shop-breaking, accounts for the great bulk of the offences; in 1928, 80 p.c. of the major offences were of this character.