

Acquittals in Relation to Convictions.—In 1941 Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan and the Territories showed increases as compared with 1940 in the number of convictions for indictable offences. In 1942, the number of convictions was less than in 1941 for each of the provinces but the Territories showed an increase. The percentage of acquittals to convictions for recent years is greatest in Ontario with Nova Scotia or Alberta taking second place. The variation in position of the provinces, however, aside from Ontario, shows fairly wide fluctuation.

7.—Charges, Convictions, and Percentages of Acquittals of Adults Charged with Indictable Offences, by Provinces, Years Ended Sept. 30, 1940-42

Province	1940		1941		1942		Percentages of Acquittals		
	Charges	Con- victions	Charges	Con- victions	Charges	Con- victions	1940	1941	1942
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.			
Prince Edward Island.....	260	251	217	207	226	205	3.5	4.8	10.2
Nova Scotia.....	1,825	1,573	1,999	1,675	1,892	1,646	13.8	19.3	14.9
New Brunswick.....	1,199	1,131	1,260	1,185	1,119	1,063	5.7	6.3	5.3
Quebec.....	13,112	12,152	12,433	11,514	11,167	10,269	7.3	8.0	8.7
Ontario.....	21,448	17,558	19,280	15,861	18,457	15,070	18.1	21.6	22.5
Manitoba.....	3,768	3,353	3,210	2,811	2,731	2,419	11.0	14.2	12.9
Saskatchewan.....	3,135	2,896	3,412	3,106	2,805	2,621	7.9	9.9	7.0
Alberta.....	4,908	4,411	3,846	3,263	3,721	3,193	10.1	17.8	16.5
British Columbia.....	3,837	3,392	3,340	2,996	3,130	2,792	11.6	11.5	12.1
Yukon and N.W.T.....	24	16	29	28	35	31	33.3	3.6	12.9
Canada.....	53,516	46,723	49,026	42,646	45,283	39,309	12.7	15.0	15.2

Classes of Indictable Offences and Analyses of Convictions.—The 1942 convictions were 7.8 p.c. lower than in 1941 when they were 8.7 p.c. below the 1940 figure. Decreases in theft, embezzlement, false pretences, fraud, receiving stolen goods, horse- and cattle-stealing, burglary, robbery, forgery and uttering, and gambling, which are among the crimes providing the greatest percentage of all indictable convictions, were leaders in the decline of indictable crime during the war years. They were also the leaders in the heavy increase in indictable crime during the three years preceding the War. Convictions for theft increased 18.3 p.c. in the three pre-war years and decreased 29.3 p.c. since the War started. Theft comprises nearly one-third of all indictable offences.

8.—Indictable Offences of Adults, by Classes, Years Ended Sept. 30, 1940-42

Class and Offence	1940		1941		1942	
	Charges	Con- victions	Charges	Con- victions	Charges	Con- victions
Class I.—Offences Against the Person						
Abduction.....	29	13	21	19	21	11
Assaults.....	4,549	3,632	4,906	3,914	5,440	4,301
Offences against females.....	1,260	923	776	567	800	540
Manslaughter and murder.....	152	65	158	60	159	68
Attempted murder; shooting and wound- ing.....	125	85	145	108	134	92
Non-support, desertion.....	539	414	509	380	412	325
Other offences against the person.....	164	136	150	94	152	128
Totals, Class I.....	6,818	5,265	6,665	5,142	7,118	5,465
Class II.—Offences Against Property With Violence						
Burglary and robbery.....	6,074	5,416	4,727	4,217	4,406	3,920
Totals, Class II.....	6,074	5,416	4,727	4,217	4,406	3,920