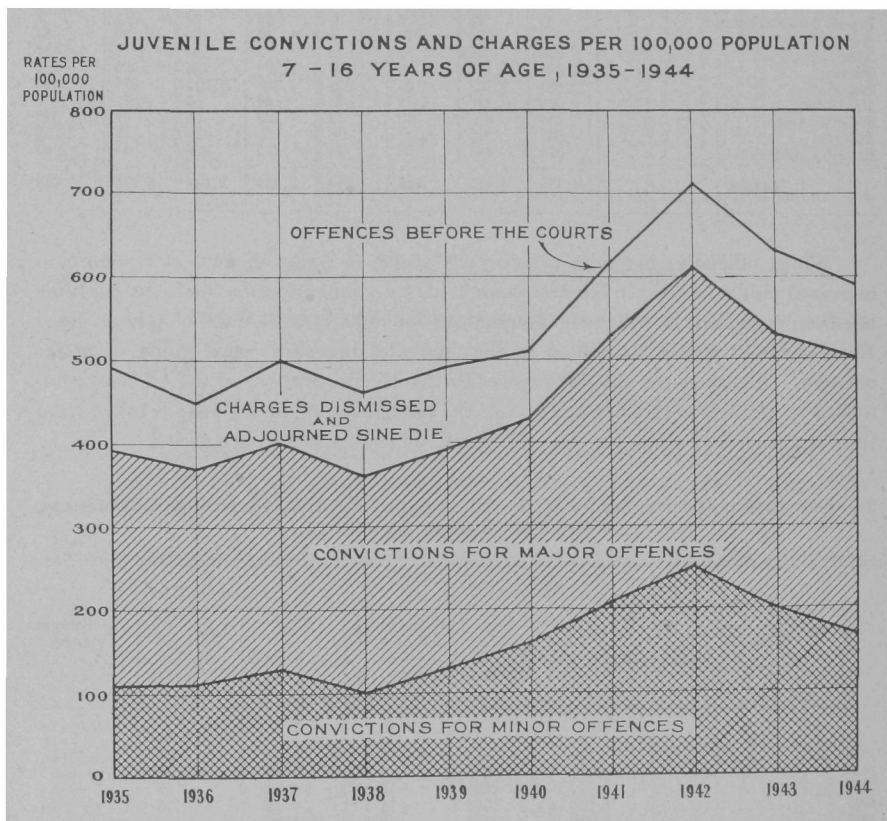


Meanwhile, in the age group 16-21, indictable crime showed decreases of 9.6 p.c., 9.4 and 1.3 p.c., respectively, for 1940, 1941 and 1942. This trend was the very opposite of the trend in the juvenile group (7 to 16 years).

During the years 1943 and 1944, when the efforts of the authorities seemed to have arrested the sizable juvenile increases, crime in the 16 to 21 group showed increases of 18.7 and 13.7 p.c.



Major Offences.—From Table 23 it will be observed that theft and receiving stolen goods; breaking, entering and theft; and other wilful damage to property account for the great bulk of the offences. In 1944, 92.9 p.c. of the major offences were in these classes.

Wartime Trends.—Major offences for juveniles, which had decreased 6.3 p.c. during the five years immediately preceding the War, increased by 30.1 p.c. during the war years, 1939-44. The increases were chiefly in theft, burglary, damage and common assault. Theft, which had decreased 8.9 p.c. in the five years preceding the War, increased 9.4 p.c. during the war years. Theft of automobiles and bicycles, which are not included in above classification of theft have also shown great increases during the War, though convictions for theft of automobiles were increasing just as rapidly during the five-year pre-war period. The rate of increase