

Tables 2 and 4 give the more important penitentiary statistics as reported to the Bureau of Statistics. The number of convicts in penitentiaries was 1,865 in 1911, rose to 2,118 in 1916 and declined to 1,468 in 1918. After demobilization and the depression of 1921, the number of convicts rose to 2,640 in 1922, declined to 2,225 in 1924 and then increased to 4,587 in 1933. The increase was particularly rapid after 1929, amounting to 1,818 or 65·7 p.c. in three years. The number of convicts in 1936, at 3,098, was lower than in any year since 1929, but in 1937 there was an increase of 5·4 p.c. with further increases of 9·7 p.c. in 1938 and 6·2 p.c. in 1939. By 1943 a decrease of 21·9 p.c. over the 1939 figure was shown, but in 1946 there was an increase of 7·4 p.c. over 1945. The number of paroles (ticket-of-leave) was 216 in 1946.

2.—Movement of Convicts in Penitentiaries, Years Ended Mar. 31, 1942-46

Item	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
In Custody, Beginnings of Years	3,688	3,232	2,969	3,078	3,129
Received—					
From gaols.....	1,094	1,154	1,348	1,312	1,579
By transfer.....	145	143	320	157	206
By cancellation of ticket-of-leave.....	1	Nil	2	1	Nil
Revocation of licence.....	1	“	Nil	Nil	1
From Military Authorities (prisoners of war).....	Nil	2	“	“	8
Paroled for Active Service and returned.....	“	Nil	“	2	Nil
Totals, Received	1,241	1,299	1,670	1,472	1,794
Discharged—					
By expiry of sentence.....	1,258	1,081	928	880	1,014
By transfer.....	145	143	320	157	206
By ticket-of-leave.....	232	264	243	320	216
By deportation.....	9	15	10	22	13
By unconditional release.....	18	28	35	15	9
By death.....	14	11	7	11	11
By pardon.....	14	13	9	8	10
Released to Military Authorities.....	1	Nil	Nil	2	77
By release on order of court.....	5	4	6	4	3
By return to provincial authorities.....	1	3	2	1	2
By transfer to Boy's Industrial School.....	Nil	Nil	1	1	Nil
Totals, Discharged	1,697	1,562	1,561	1,421	1,561
In Custody, Ends of Years	3,232	2,969	3,078	3,129	3,362

Table 3 shows the ages of convicts by groups. In 1946, of the total of 3,362, 13 p.c. were under 21 years of age and 45 p.c. between 21 and 30 years of age; thus, 58 p.c. were 30 years of age or less. In 1914, there were 2,003 convicts of whom 9·3 p.c. were under 20 and 44·4 p.c. between 20 and 30, a total of 53·7 p.c. under 30. In 1923, there were 2,486 convicts and 11·3 p.c. were under 20, 46·6 p.c. between 20 and 30, or 57·9 p.c. under 30 years of age. Detailed statistics of the place of birth, conjugal state, sex and religion of convicts are presented in Table 4.

3.—Ages of Convicts in Penitentiaries, as at Mar. 31, 1939-46

Age Group	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Under 21 years.....	390	463	465	421	447	486	455	452
21 to 30 “.....	1,592	1,574	1,473	1,283	1,168	1,288	1,386	1,529
31 to 40 “.....	1,080	1,040	995	897	705	676	676	750
41 to 50 “.....	442	430	477	420	395	398	395	390
51 to 60 “.....	207	183	191	191	182	160	152	174
Over 60 “.....	92	77 ¹	87	80	72	70	65	67
Totals	3,803	3,772	3,688	3,232	2,969	3,078	3,129	3,362

¹ Includes one unknown.