

PART I.—CRIME OF ADULTS*

Section 1.—Total Offences

After the First World War, there was a gradual increase in crime. There is some reason to believe that a similar trend is in evidence to-day.

During 1946 there were 713,631 cases of adult offenders handled by the courts as compared with 504,181 cases in 1945. Of this total 53,959 charges were of an indictable nature while 659,672 were non-indictable. The corresponding figures for 1945 were 48,263 for indictable and 455,918 for non-indictable crimes. The total convictions in 1946 numbered 706,611 an increase of 41.9 p.c. over 1945.

* Persons 16 years of age or over.

ADULT CONVICTIONS PER 100,000 POPULATION

<u>Post-War Period</u>	<u>Indictable</u>	<u>Non-indictable</u>	<u>Total</u>
<i>First World War—</i>			
1917.....	193	1,221	1,414
1918.....	213	1,300	1,513
1919.....	222	1,343	1,565
1920.....	215	1,684	1,899
1921.....	221	1,795	2,016
<i>Second World War—</i>			
1944.....	355	3,597	3,952
1945.....	346	3,762	4,108
1946.....	381	5,360	5,741

