

Convictions in all six classes into which indictable crimes are divided for statistical purposes increased in 1946 over 1945. Crimes against the person increased by 25.6 p.c., malicious damage to property by 23.6 p.c. and forgery and uttering by 63.0 p.c. This last high increase was due to some extent to multiple convictions. Of the 610 persons convicted of forgery and uttering, 270 had an average of just under four convictions each.

Convictions for assaults of various kinds were up by 24.6 p.c. and manslaughter and murder by 47.5 p.c. Among the provinces, the highest increases for murder and manslaughter were shown in Quebec for manslaughter (10 cases in 1945 and 16 in 1946), in Ontario for both murder and manslaughter (8 cases of murder in 1945 and 13 in 1946, and 14 cases of manslaughter in 1945 as compared with 24 in 1946, 8 of which were originally murder charges), and in Alberta for murder (1 case in 1945 and 9 in 1946). The Alberta convictions included 5 against German prisoners of war for the murder of a fellow prisoner. Shooting and wounding increased by 54.8 p.c., the highest increases for this offence being in Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Convictions for arson increased by 80.4 p.c. in 1946 over 1945 and dangerous and reckless driving by 119.3 p.c.

Theft, robbery and burglary (house- and shop-breaking) and assault (aggravated and common) accounted for 51.8 p.c. of the convictions for indictable offences in 1946. Theft, including theft of automobiles, comprised 26.7 p.c.

3.—Convictions for Indictable Offences, by Classes, Years Ended Sept. 30, 1945 and 1946

Class and Offence	1945		1946		Increase or Decrease in Convictions
	Charges	Con- victions	Charges	Con- victions	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	p.c.
Class I.—Offences Against the Person—					
Abduction.....	17	9	44	20	+122.2
Assault, common and aggravated.....	5,988	4,814	7,409	5,998	+24.6
Offences against females ¹	1,151	817	1,348	1,005	+23.0
Manslaughter and murder.....	137	59	201	87	+47.5
Attempted murder; shooting and wounding.....	132	91	184	138	+51.6
Non-support, desertion.....	404	290	514	368	+26.9
Other offences against the person.....	145	117	207	168	+43.6
Totals, Class I.....	7,974	6,197	9,907	7,784	+25.6
Class II.—Offences Against Property With Violence—					
Burglary and robbery.....	6,089	5,297	6,639	5,783	+9.2
Totals, Class II.....	6,089	5,297	6,639	5,783	+9.2
Class III.—Offences Against Property Without Violence—					
Fraud, embezzlement and false pretences.....	2,127	1,896	3,032	2,798	+47.6
Receiving stolen goods.....	1,895	1,376	1,797	1,266	-8.0
Theft.....	13,956	12,280	14,361	12,522	+2.0
Totals, Class III.....	17,978	15,552	19,190	16,586	+6.6

¹ Offences against females include the following crimes: abortion, assault against females, assault against wife, indecent assault, carnal knowledge, incest, procuration, rape, attempted rape, seduction and wife desertion.