

Alcoholic liquors were generally sold under specified conditions by licensed hotels or licensed shops until the First World War. During that War prohibition was established generally but, in more recent years, the Provincial Governments have taken over the sale of liquors through liquor commissions.

A possible reason for the slight decrease in offences against the liquor Acts in 1948 is the separate listing of breaches under the Indian Act, most of which have to do with liquor. Previous to 1948, such offences were compiled under the liquor Acts or under drunkenness.

### 15.—Convictions for Offences against the Liquor Acts, by Provinces, Years Ended Sept. 30, 1939-48

NOTE.—Figures for 1900-38 are given in the corresponding tables of previous Year Books beginning with the 1933 edition.

Year	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Yukon	N.W.T.	Canada
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1939.....	230	1,181	619	2,423	5,144	1,052	593	913	1,307	24	27	13,513
1940.....	215	1,149	379	2,102	5,372	997	927	831	903	37	34	12,946
1941.....	250	1,273	431	3,206	6,346	624	894	1,298	994	25	28	15,369
1942.....	188	1,323	477	3,037	6,901	1,130	982	1,294	1,508	24	34	16,898
1943.....	118	1,369	473	2,070	6,751	1,086	1,099	1,106	944	47	36	15,099
1944.....	56	2,240	814	1,287	8,332	1,057	1,010	1,108	1,047	119	23	17,093
1945.....	155	2,324	911	2,626	10,655	1,429	1,416	1,454	1,215	39	13	22,237
1946.....	374	3,436	1,411	2,274	15,779	2,059	2,697	2,514	2,615	57	146	33,362
1947.....	354	2,503	1,742	1,494	12,889	2,229	2,712	2,623	1,741	46	153	28,486
1948.....	329	2,274	1,274	1,519	13,891	1,921	2,311	2,670	1,443	39	73	27,744

**Convictions of Females.**—The number of convictions against females for non-indictable offences has increased steadily each year since 1944, the increase in 1948 over 1947 amounting to 50 p.c. Only two provinces, New Brunswick and Saskatchewan, recorded decreases in 1948 from the previous year. In British Columbia the number of convictions was more than doubled, though some 90 p.c. of this increase was due to infractions of traffic regulations. Ontario convictions increased by 62 p.c., Prince Edward Island by 51 p.c. and Nova Scotia by 22 p.c.

Breaches of traffic regulations accounted for most of these convictions, numbering 36,593 in 1948 as compared with 18,698 in 1947. Drunkenness came next with 4,742, a small increase of 139 over 1947. Infractions of the liquor Acts showed a reduction from 1,524 in 1947 to 1,390 in 1948, and convictions recorded as vagrancy were down 33 p.c. Minor infractions of municipal by-laws accounted for almost 7 p.c. of the total in 1948.

### 16.—Convictions of Females for Non-Indictable Offences, by Provinces, Years Ended Sept. 30, 1944-48

Province or Territory	Numbers of Convictions					Percentages of Convictions of Females to Total Convictions				
	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Prince Edward Island.....	69	82	124	43	65	5.7	5.9	4.6	1.5	2.5
Nova Scotia.....	562	645	635	333	469	6.8	6.6	4.9	3.2	3.5
New Brunswick.....	430	424	515	480	348	4.7	4.3	3.7	3.4	2.9
Quebec.....	5,299	7,066	6,974	6,738	6,803	3.7	4.5	3.9	3.6	3.7
Ontario.....	10,343	10,780	19,804	20,581	33,360	5.5	5.1	5.6	5.1	8.1
Manitoba.....	1,293	1,211	1,688	1,715	1,812	6.1	5.3	4.1	3.6	3.6
Saskatchewan.....	402	427	616	526	513	5.4	4.7	4.4	3.5	3.4
Alberta.....	634	754	909	1,057	1,156	5.6	6.5	5.6	5.7	6.2
British Columbia.....	1,391	1,907	2,509	2,936	7,254	6.8	8.3	7.8	6.4	9.3
Yukon and N.W.T.....	19	27	31	49	76	4.9	7.8	6.5	7.5	13.9
<b>Canada.....</b>	<b>20,442</b>	<b>23,323</b>	<b>33,805</b>	<b>34,508</b>	<b>51,856</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>6.3</b>