

being laid against any person; extensive amendments relating to the allowing of time for payment of fines; amendments dealing with offences committed in aircraft in flight over the high seas; an amendment forbidding the publication in a newspaper or broadcast of a report that any admission or confession was tendered in evidence at a preliminary inquiry or a report of the nature of such admission or confession unless the accused has been discharged or, if the accused has been committed for trial, the trial has ended.

The Parole Act (SC 1958, c. 38), brought into force on Feb. 15, 1959, revises the parole system and provides for the establishment of a National Parole Board (see p. 333).

It is most important to notice that in 1960 (SC 1960, c. 44), Parliament enacted what is to be known as the Canadian Bill of Rights. Although the Act sets out further details, its general scope appears in Sect. 1 which reads as follows:—

"1. It is hereby recognized and declared that in Canada there have existed and shall continue to exist without discrimination by reason of race, national origin, colour, religion or sex, the following human rights and fundamental freedoms, namely,

- (a) the right of the individual to life, liberty, security of the person and enjoyment of property, and the right not to be deprived thereof except by due process of law;
- (b) the right of the individual to equality before the law and the protection of the law;
- (c) freedom of religion;
- (d) freedom of speech;
- (e) freedom of assembly and association; and
- (f) freedom of the press."

## Section 2.—Adult Offenders and Convictions

The main interest in adult criminal statistics is concerned with those persons guilty of the more serious crimes. Such offenders are fewer than those who commit summary conviction offences but, from the standpoint of the protection of society, they are more important.

Statistics of indictable crimes are based on *persons*. When a person is prosecuted at the same hearing for several offences, one of those offences is selected for tabulation. The rule followed is to select the offence for which the proceedings were carried to the furthest stage—to conviction and sentence where the prisoner was tried on several charges; where there were several convictions, the offence selected is that for which the heaviest punishment was awarded; where the final result of proceedings on two or more charges was the same, the most serious offence (as measured by the maximum penalty allowed by the law) appears in the tables. Where a person was prosecuted for one offence and convicted of another (e.g., charged with murder and convicted of manslaughter), the case appears only under the offence for which he was convicted. Statistics of summary conviction offences (pp. 318-322) are based on *convictions*.

The figures include only cases finally determined within the year. Those not entirely disposed of within the year (e.g., tried but sentence postponed) are held over for the next year's report.

The new Criminal Code, which became law in 1954 (SC 1953-54, c. 51), necessitated the alteration of certain statistical classifications. For instance, in the classification of indictable offences regroupings were made and some items added and others dropped. Also, indictable offences under the Criminal Code were shown separately from those under federal statutes. Summary convictions were classified as offences under the Criminal Code, federal statutes, provincial statutes and municipal by-laws, and methods of trial were arranged to conform with the provisions of the new Criminal Code. Thus, any comparisons between the data for 1956 and subsequent years and the data previously published should be made with care.