

## Appendix H.

### REPORT OF THE POLICE MAGISTRATES' COURTS FOR THE YEAR 1924.

Mr. J. R. Wood proceeded on leave on 22nd March and returned on 13th November.

Mr. R. E. Lindsell acted as First Magistrate and Coroner from 22nd March to 12th November and went on leave on 15th November.

Mr. E. W. Hamilton acted as 2nd Magistrate from 1st to 8th January and from 23rd February and was transferred to Kowloon Magistracy on 14th April.

Mr. C. D. Melbourne acted as 2nd Magistrate from 9th to 14th January.

Mr. G. N. Orme acted as 2nd Magistrate from 14th January to 23rd February.

Mr. N. L. Smith acted as 2nd Magistrate from 7th November to 31st December.

Major C. Willson was on leave from 17th May to 31st December.

Mr. E. W. Williams acted as First Clerk from 17th May to 23rd July.

Mr. W. J. Lockhart-Smith acted as First Clerk from 24th July to 31st December.

The number of cases was 27,877 as compared with 21,811 in 1923 and the revenue was \$261,372.23 as compared with \$184,926.15 in 1923.

Table I shows the total number of cases tried and the Revenue and Expenditure of the Magistracy for the years 1915-1924.

Table II shows the list of offences tried during the year.

Table III gives an abstract of cases under cognizance of the Police Magistrates' Courts during the year.

Table IV gives a return of punishments awarded in respect of certain classes of offences during the year.

Table V gives an abstract of cases brought under cognizance of the Police Magistrates' Courts during a period of the last ten years.

J. R. WOOD,  
*Police Magistrate.*

1st April, 1925.

**Table I.**

Table showing total Number of Cases tried in, and Expenditure and Revenue of the  
Magistracy for the years 1915 to 1924.

YEAR.	EXPENDITURE.			REVENUE.			Total Number of Cases tried.	Percentage of Expenditure to Revenue %
	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.		
	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.		
1915.....	44,041.33*	1,234.18	...	75,130.13*	...	16,979.21	12,263	58.62
1916.....	40,642.43*	...	3,398.90	109,664.82*	34,534.69	...	15,057	37.06
1917.....	38,510.07*	...	3,132.36	75,391.17*	...	34,273.65	11,922	51.08
1918.....	40,804.18*	2,294.11	...	69,603.39*	...	5,787.78	10,051	58.62
1919.....	40,774.23*	...	29.95	90,851.36*	21,247.97	...	12,998	44.77
1920.....	45,539.94*	4,765.71	...	103,132.51*	12,281.15	...	15,304	44.15
1921.....	21,867.02*	...	23,672.92	149,195.72*	46,063.21	...	17,374	14.65
1922.....	24,694.04*	2,827.02	...	159,928.50*	10,832.68	...	18,221	15.44
1923.....	24,532.48*	...	161.56	184,926.15*	24,998.65	...	21,811	13.27
1924.....	30,069.20*	5,536.72	...	261,372.23*	76,446.08	...	27,877	11.50

\* Cases tried in New Territories Courts not included.

Table II.

POLICE COURTS.

LIST OF OFFENCES TRIED during the year 1924.

OFFENCES.	No. of Cases.	No. of Prisoners.	OFFENCES.	No. of Cases.	No. of Prisoners.
Accessories and Abettors Ordinance—3 of 1865 .....	13	14	<i>Brought forward</i> .....	260	291
Arms and Ammunition Ordinance—2 of 1900.— Contraventions of .....	210	231	Offences relating to the King's foreign coin, (Sections 15—20) .....	6	8
Bankruptcy Ordinance—7 of 1891 .....	1	1	Offences against the King's coins, Miscellaneous (sections 21—22).....	1	1
Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance—7 of 1896, — Contraventions of .....	14	21	Common Law Offences .....	65	85
Boarding House Ordinance—23 of 1917 .....	2	2	Copyright Ordinance—11 of 1918 .....	2	2
Boycott Prevention Ordinance—40 of 1912 .....	2	2	Coroner's Abolition Ordinance—5 of 1888 .....	2	2
Chinese Marriage Preservation Ordinance—42 of 1912 .....	2	2	Criminal Intimidation Ordinance—13 of 1920 .....	22	34
Coinage Offences Ordinance—7 of 1865.— Offences relating to the King's gold and silver coin, (Sections 3—12) .....	15	17	Dangerous Goods Ordinance—1 of 1873.— Contraventions of Regulations made thereunder.....	83	87
Offences relating to the King's copper coin, (sections 13—14) .....	1	1	Dangerous Drugs Ordinance—22 of 1923 .....	7	...
			Defences (Sketching Prevention) Ordinance—1 of 1895 ..	4	6
			Deportation Ordinance—25 of 1917 .....	194	194
<i>Carried forward</i> .....	260	291	<i>Carried forward</i> .....	586	650

Table II,—Continued.

LIST OF OFFENCES, ETC.,—Continued.

OFFENCES.	NUMBER OF CASES.	No. of PRISONERS.	OFFENCES.	NUMBER OF CASES.	No. of PRISONERS.
<i>Brought forward</i> ,.....	588	650	<i>Brought forward</i> ,.....	710	780
Dogs Ordinance—5 of 1893,— Contraventions of .....	27	27	Gambling Ordinance—2 of 1891,— Contraventions of and Offences under .....	672	2,355
Education Ordinance—26 of 1913,— Part I (Sections 1—6) .....	1	1	Gunpowder and Fireworks Ordinance—14 of 1901,— Contraventions of and Offences under .....	5	5
Employers and Servants Ordinance—45 of 1902,— Proceedings under .....	60	60	Importation and Exportation Ordinance—12 of 1922 .....	19	20
Ferry Ordinance—28 of 1917 .....	1	1	Interpretation Ordinance—31 of 1911 .....	3	3
Fisheries (Dynamite) Ordinance—4 of 1911 .....	3	3	Larceny Ordinance—5 of 1865,— Simple Larceny .....	1,280	1,328
Fire Investigation Ordinance—8 of 1895 .....	1	1	Larceny of cattle and other animals, (Sections 9—17).. " of things attached to or growing on land, (Sections 22—28) .....	6	8
Forgery Ordinance—11 of 1922,— Forgery of documents with intent to defraud (Sec- tions 4—6).....	3	4	Larceny from the person and similar Offences, (Sections 29—37) .....	315	345
Uttering forged bank notes, (Sections 8—10) .....	25	28	Sacrilege, Burglary and house breaking, (Sections 38—47) .....	488	496
Forfeiture Ordinance—3 of 1891 .....	1	2	Larceny in dwelling houses, (Sections 48—49), .. " in ships, Wharves, &c., (Sections 50—53) .. " or embezzlement by clerks, servants, &c., (Sections 54—60) .....	59	68
Forest Officers Ordinance—32 of 1923 .....	2	3	Frauds by bankers, agents, &c., (Sections 62—74) .. Obtaining property by false pretences, (Sec. 75—78).... Receiving stolen property, (Sections 79—87) .....	47	95
	710	780	<i>Carried forward</i> ,.....	177	220
				3,803	5,868

Table II,—Continued.

LIST OF OFFENCES, ETC.,—Continued.

OFFENCES.	NUMBER OF CASES.	No. of Partis- sions.	OFFENCES.	NUMBER OF CASES.	No. of Partis- sions.
<i>Brought forward</i> .....	3,803	5,868		10,450	14,216
Lic using Ordinance—8 of 1887,— Contraventions of and Offences under Regulations made thereunder .....	3,027 930	3,043 938	Marine Store Protection Ordinance—13 of 1919 .....	3	3
Live Stock Import and Export Regulation Ordinance— 15 of 1903 .....	11	18	Married Women (Maintenance in case of desertion) Ordinance—10 of 1905,— Proceedings under .....	1	1
Liquor Licence Ordinance—9 of 1911,— Contraventions of and Offences under Part I. (Sections 3—40) .....	4	4	Medical Registration Ordinance—1 of 1884 .....	2	2
Part II, (Sections 41—73) .....	3	3	Merchant Shipping Ordinance—1 of 1899,— Contraventions of and Offences under Part VI, (Sections 21—30) .....	2	2
" III, ( " 74—96) .....	14	15	Contraventions of Regulations made thereunder ....	18	61
Magistrates Ordinance—3 of 1890,— Offences under .....	2,911	4,264	Merchandise Marks Ordinance—4 of 1890,— Contraventions of and Offences under .....	8	9
Malignous Damage Ordinance—6 of 1865.— Injuries by fire to buildings and goods therein, (Sec- tions 2—9).....	1	1	Misdemeanour Punishment Ordinance—1 of 1898,— Offences under .....	86	86
Injuries by crops and trees and vegetable productions, (Sections 16—23).....	11	13	New Territories (Regulations) Ordinance—8 of 1899 .....	8	9
" ships, (Sections 33—40) .....	1	2	Non-ferrous Metal Industry Ordinance—4 of 1922.....	1	1
Miscellaneous injuries, (Sections 42—44) .....	34	47			
<i>Carried forward</i> .....	10,450	14,216	<i>Carried forward</i> .....	10,579	14,390

**Table II,--Continued.**  
**LIST OF OFFENCES, ETC.,--Continued.**

OFFENCES.	No. of CASES.	No. of Par-SONERS.	OFFENCES.	No. of Par-SONERS.	No. of Par-SONERS.
<i>Brought forward,</i> .....	10,579	14,390			16,407
Offences against the person Ordinance--2 of 1865,-- <i>Brought forward,</i> .....					23,710
Homicide, (Section 2--9) .....	26	31	Post Office Ordinance--6 of 1900,-- Contraventions of and Offences under .....		2
Attempt to Murder (Sections 10-14) .....	1	1	Prison Ordinance--4 of 1899,-- Offences under .....		1
Acts causing or tending to cause danger to life, &c., (Sections 16--31) .....	48	62	Protection of Women and Girls Ordinance--4 of 1897,-- Offences under .....		55
Assaults, (Sections 32--43) .....	516	617	Public Health and Buildings Ordinance--1 of 1903,-- Contraventions of Part I, (Sections 1--7) .....		1
Forcible taking or detention of persons, (Sections 44--45) .....	28	53	" II, ( " 8--95) .....		505
Aominable offences, (Sections 50--54) .....	2	2	" III, ( " 96--235) .....		369
Offences against the person (Amendment) Ordinance-- 1 of 1923 .....	6	6	" IV, ( " 236--250) .....		31
Opium Ordinance--30 of 1923,-- Contraventions of, Part II, (Sections 4--8) .....	154	173	Failure to comply with E. A. Notice .....		100
" " III, ( " 9--20) .....	5,003	8,289	" " S. B. " .....		538
Pawn Brokers Ordinance--1 of 1860,-- Contraventions of .....	20	20	Public Places Regulation Ordinance--2 of 1870,-- Contraventions of Regulations made thereunder .....		9
Piracy Prevention Ordinance--23 of 1914, .....	1	1	Railway Ordinance--21 of 1909 .....		20
Piers Ordinance--11 of 1899,-- Contraventions of Regulations made thereunder .....	3	3	Reclamation Ordinance--17 of 1921 .....		1
Police Force Ordinance--11 of 1900,-- Offences under .....	20	32	Registration of Persons Ordinance--35 of 1923, .....		4
			Regulation of Chinese Ordinance--3 of 1888,-- Offences under Part V, (Sections 22--28) .....		35
<i>Carried forward,</i> .....	16,407	23,710	<i>Carried forward,</i> .....		18,075
					25,388

Table II,---Continued.

LIST OF OFFENCES, ETC.,---Continued.

OFFENCES.	No. OF CASES.	No. OF PRISONERS.	OFFENCES.	No. OF CASES.	No. OF PRISONERS.
<i>Brought forward</i> , .....	18,075	25,388	<i>Brought forward</i> , .....	22,509	30,222
Rent Ordinance—8 of 1923 .....	8	9	Theatres and Public Performances Regulation Ordinance—22 of 1919 .....	2	2
Rogue and Vagabond 5 Geo. IV, c. 83 .....	42	47	Tobacco Ordinance—10 of 1916 .....	124	129
Seditious Publication Ordinance—6 of 1914 .....	1	1	Tramways Ordinance—10 of 1902,— Contraventions of Offences under .....	24	24
Servant Quarters Ordinance—11 of 1903,— Offences under .....	3	7	"    Regulations made thereunder .....	1	1
Societies Ordinance—8 of 1920 .....	23	63	Vagrancy Ordinance—9 of 1897,— Proceedings under .....	31	37
Stamp Ordinance—8 of 1921,— Offences under .....	39	39	Vehicles and Traffic Regulation Ordinance—40 of 1912,— Contraventions of Regulations made thereunder .....	4,610	4,634
Stonecutter's Island Ordinance—4 of 1889,— Contraventions of and Offences under .....	24	56	"    and Offences .....	393	404
Stowaways Ordinance—5 of 1903,— Offences under .....	9	19	Volunteer Amendment Ordinance—2 of 1922 .....	1	1
Summary Offences Ordinance—1 of 1845,— Nuisances, Trespasses and Similar Offences, (Sections 3—21) .....	3,663	3,749	Water Works Ordinance—16 of 1903,— Offences under .....	8	9
Offences against good order, (Sections 22—35) .....	255	455	Weights and Measures Ordinance—2 of 1885,— Contraventions of and Offences under .....	18	18
Possession of stolen goods, (Sections 36—41) .....	366	388	Wild Birds and Game Preservation Ordinance— 15 of 1922 .....	3	3
Proceedings under Miscellaneous Provisions, (Sections 42—51) .....	1	1	Undecided Cases .....	153	191
<i>Carried forward</i> , .....	22,509	30,222	TOTAL, .....	27,877	35,675





**Table IV.**  
**3.—RETURN OF PUNISHMENTS awarded in respect of CERTAIN CLASSES of OFFENCES, during the Year 1924.**

PUNISHMENTS.		Assaults and other offences against the person.	Malicious injuries to property.	Gambling.	Offences against property other than malicious injuries to property or pedlar larceny.	Offences against Revenue Acts, Highway Acts, Health Acts, and other Acts relating to the social economy of the colony.	Offences against Masters and Servants Acts, including Acts relating to indentured coolies.	Other offences.
Description.	Number of each kind inflicted.							
Fines, .....	22,259	291	19	1,839	262	3,177	24	16,647
Imprisonment in lieu of fine or security, ...	1,740	19	1	23	145	253	2	1,297
Peremptory Imprisonment, .....	5,386	96	10	91	1,450	2,055	5	1,685
Whipping, .....	317	8	3	8	109	87	...	152
Solitary Confinement, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Exposed in Stocks, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sentenced to House of Detention, .....	32	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Bound over with or without Sureties, .....	441	128	7	...	58	41	5	202
Juvenile Offenders' Prison, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>TOTAL, .....</b>	<b>30,175</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>1,961</b>	<b>2,024</b>	<b>5,563</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>20,015</b>

**Table V.**

**4.—ABSTRACT of CASES brought under COGNIZANCE of the POLICE MAGISTRATES' COURTS during a period of ten years 1915-1924.**

Year.	Total number of cases.	CASES, HOW DISPOSED OF, AND THE NUMBER OF MALE AND FEMALE PRISONERS UNDER EACH HEAD.																			
		Convicted and punished.		Discharged.		Committed for trial at Supreme Court.		Committed to prison or detained pending order of His Excellency the Governor.		Ordered to find security		Did not appear and absconded.	Escaped before being brought for trial at the Magistracy.		Escaped.	Punished for preferring false charge or giving false testimony.		Undecided.		Total number of defendants.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
1915, ...	12,263	12,788	305	2,056	111	149	10	7	...	272	20	...	...	...	...	...	48	...	15,320	446	
1916, ...	15,637	14,881	455	2,233	96	116	4	10	...	313	40	...	...	...	...	...	72	...	17,625	595	
1917, ...	11,922	11,727	441	2,168	92	119	3	6	...	248	34	...	1	...	...	...	42	...	14,311	570	
1918, ...	9,865	9,359	373	1,947	127	117	10	...	...	197	41	...	...	...	...	...	49	...	11,665	545	
1919, ...	12,961	13,788	364	1,662	108	146	2	2	...	76	7	...	...	...	...	...	99	2	13,673	475	
Total, ..	62,008	62,543	1,938	10,066	534	647	29	25	...	1,106	142	...	1	...	...	...	250	2	72,594	2,631	
Average per Year, }	12,401.6	12,508.6	387.6	2,013.2	106.8	129.4	5.8	5	...	221.2	28.4	...	2	...	...	...	50	4	14,518.8	526.2	
1920, ...	15,267	15,520	517	1,541	119	136	5	4	...	143	19	...	...	...	1	...	35	2	17,380	665	
1921, ...	17,374	18,726	695	2,247	151	85	8	5	...	173	5	...	...	...	1	...	38	5	21,275	864	
1922, ...	18,535	18,338	614	2,018	76	198	...	...	...	246	30	...	...	...	...	...	35	2	20,835	722	
1923, ...	21,720	22,975	356	3,190	72	246	...	...	...	264	17	...	...	...	...	...	98	5	26,773	456	
1924, ...	27,724	28,708	859	5,154	172	171	6	...	...	376	38	...	...	...	...	...	176	15	34,585	1,096	
Total, ..	100,620	101,267	3,041	14,150	590	836	19	9	...	1,202	109	...	...	...	2	...	332	29	120,848	3,731	
Average per Year, }	20,124	20,253.4	608.2	2,830	118	167.2	3.8	1.8	...	240.4	21.8	...	...	...	4	...	76.4	5.8	24,169.6	758.2	
Grand Total for the 10 Years, }	162,628	166,810	4,979	24,216	1,124	1,483	48	34	...	2,308	251	...	1	...	2	...	632	31	193,442	6,422	
Average per Year, }	16,262.8	16,681	497.9	2,421.6	112.4	148.3	4.8	3.4	...	230.8	25.1	...	1	...	2	...	63.2	3.1	19,344.2	642.2	