

## Appendix H.

### REPORT OF THE POLICE MAGISTRATES' COURTS FOR THE YEAR 1926.

#### (Victoria)

Mr. R. E. Lindsell acted as First Police Magistrate and Coroner from the 1st January to the end of the year.

Major C. Willson, O.B.E. acted as Second Police Magistrate from the 1st January to 19th December in addition to his duties as First Clerk.

Mr. W. Schofield acted as Second Police Magistrate from 20th December to the end of the year.

#### (Kowloon)

Mr. E. W. Hamilton acted as Police Magistrate Kowloon from the 1st January to 17th March.

Mr. J. H. B. Nihill acted as Police Magistrate Kowloon from 18th March to 10th November.

Mr. T. W. Ainsworth acted as Police Magistrate Kowloon from 11th November to the end of the year.

Mr. W. J. L. Smith, who acted as First Clerk and Magistrate from the beginning of the year, proceeded on leave on 3rd April.

Mr. W. F. Kerr acted as First Clerk from 23rd March to the end of the year.

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The number of cases was 30,516 as compared with 25,989 in 1925 and the revenue was \$233,529.18 as compared with \$211,227.43 in 1925.

Table I shows the total number of cases tried and the Revenue and Expenditure of the Magistracy for the years 1917-1926.

Table II gives a return of punishments awarded in respect of different classes of offences during the year.

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

Table IV shows the number of offences under various Ordinances tried during the year.

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

R. E. LINDSELL,  
*First Police Magistrate.*

12th April, 1927.

Table I.

Table showing total Number of Cases tried in, and Expenditure and Revenue of the Magistracy for the years 1917 to 1926.

YEAR.	EXPENDITURE.			REVENUE.			Total Number of Cases tried.	Percentage of Expenditure to Revenue.
	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.		
	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$	\$ c.		
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
1925.....	36,520.85*	6,451.65	...	211,227.43*	...	50,144.80	25,989	17.29
1926.....	15,665.69*	...	20,855.16	233,529.18*	22,301.75	...	30,516	6.71

\* Cases tried in New Territories Courts not included.

Table II.

HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND NEW TERRITORIES.

RETURN OF PUNISHMENTS awarded in respect of OFFENCES, during the Year.

Description.	PUNISHMENTS.		Assaults and other offences against the person.	Malicious injuries to property.	Gambling.	Offences against property other than malicious injuries to property or predial 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.
	Number of each kind inflicted.								
Fines, .....	27,618		219	5	1,408	110	5,339	10	20,527
Imprisonment in lieu of fine or security, ...	618		29	...	30	60	112	...	387
Peremptory Imprisonment, .....	4,136		100	9	58	1,265	1,684	1	1,019
Whipping, .....	343		4	...	8	118	33	...	180
Juvenile Prison, .....	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Exposed in Stocks, .....	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sentenced to House of Detention, .....	24		...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Bound over with or without Sureties, .....	440		198	1	1	49	2	2	187
TOTAL, .....	33,179		550	15	1,505	1,602	7,170	13	22,324

Table III.

**ABSTRACT of Cases under COGNIZANCE of the POLICE MAGISTRATES' COURTS during the Year 1926.**

CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENCES.	TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES.	TOTAL NUMBER OF PRISONERS.	Convicted and Punished.		Discharged.	Committed for Trial at the Supreme Court.	Committed to Prison or Detained pending Orders of H.E. the Governor.	Ordered to find Security.			Witnesses punished for preferring False Charge or giving wilful False Testimony.	Undecided.	Total Number of Prisoners.		Summons for Defendants.	Summons for Witnesses.	Notices of Re-hearing.	WARRANTS ISSUED BY THE POLICE MAGISTRATES DURING THE YEAR.					TOTAL.										
			M.	F.				To keep the Peace.	To-be of Good Behaviour.	To answer any Charge.			M.	F.				M.	F.	Arrest.	Distress.	Search.		For entering Gambling Houses.	Magistrates' Orders.								
Assaults and other offences against the person, .....	576	701	249	64	151	5	18	...	...	...	91	21	97	2	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	609	52	9,209	66	4	201	27	448	379	48	7,464	
Malevolent injuries to property, .....	22	25	13	1	8	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	1	9,209	66	4	201	27	448	379	48	7,464	
Gambling, .....	607	1,564	1,478	26	158	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,537	27	9,209	66	4	201	27	448	379	48	7,464	
Offences against property other than malicious injuries to property or pedlar larceny, .....	1,823	1,977	1,456	82	325	18	47	...	...	...	2	...	9	23	13	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,852	125	9,209	66	4	201	27	448	379	48	7,464
Offences against Revenue Acts, Highway Acts, Health Acts, and other Acts, relating to the social economy of the Colony, .....	2,057	2,070	1,774	83	203	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,061	91	9,209	66	4	201	27	448	379	48	7,464
Offences against Opium Ordinance No. 30 of 1923, .....	4,729	7,806	6,367	122	1,291	13	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	9	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,570	136	9,209	66	4	201	27	448	379	48	7,464
Offences against Masters and Servants Acts, including Acts relating to indentured coolies, .....	16	19	11	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	...	9,209	66	4	201	27	448	379	48	7,464
Other offences, .....	20,681	22,716	20,012	1,001	1,398	104	15	...	...	...	77	10	1	...	93	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	21,682	1,120	9,209	66	4	201	27	448	379	48	7,464
<b>Total, .....</b>	<b>30,516</b>	<b>36,978</b>	<b>31,360</b>	<b>1,879</b>	<b>3,540</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>35,509</b>	<b>1,592</b>	<b>9,209</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>7,464</b>

\* TOTAL MALES AND FEMALES, ..... 37,101

\* Consisting of Offenders not sentenced to Imprisonment.

Table IV.

POLICE COURTS.

List of OFFENCES TRIED during the year 1926.

OFFENCES.	No. of CASES.	No. of PHI- SONERS.	OFFENCES.	No. of CASES.	No. of PHI- SONERS.
Accessories and Abettors Ordinance—3 of 1865 .....	5	5	<i>Brought forward,</i> .....	202	210
Advertisement Regulation Ordinance—19 of 1922 .....	10	10	Common Law Offences .....	92	88
Arms and Ammunition Ordinance—2 of 1900,— Contraventions of .....	166	173	Copyright Ordinance—11 of 1918 .....	1	1
Asiatic Emigration Ordinance—30 of 1915 .....	2	2	Coroners Abolition Ordinance—5 of 1888 .....	2	2
Bankruptcy Ordinance—7 of 1891 .....	2	2	Criminal Intimidation Ordinance—13 of 1920 .....	24	45
Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance—7 of 1896,— Contraventions of .....	2	3	Criminal Procedure Ordinance—9 of 1899 .....	2	2
Boarding House Ordinance—23 of 1917 .....	9	9	Dangerous Goods Ordinance—1 of 1873,— Contraventions of Regulations made thereunder.....	60	71
Coinage Offences Ordinance—7 of 1865,— Offences relating to the King's gold and silver coin, (Sections 3—12) .....	2	2	Dangerous Drugs Ordinance—22 of 1923 .....	4	3
( " 13—14) .....	1	1	Deportation Ordinance—25 of 1917 .....	121	128
( " 15—20) .....	3	3	Dogs Ordinance—5 of 1893,— Contraventions of .....	401	396
<i>Carried forward,</i> .....	202	210	Emergency Regulations Ordinance—5 of 1922 .....	12	13
			Employers and Servants Ordinance—45 of 1902,— Proceedings under .....	11	12
			<i>Carried forward</i> .....	932	971

Table IV,—Continued.

List of OFFENCES, ETC.,—Continued.

OFFENCES.	NUMBER OF CASES.	No. of PRISONERS.	OFFENCES.	NUMBER OF CASES.	No. of PRISONERS.
<i>Brought forward</i> ,.....	952	971		2,682	3,830
Extradition Ordinance—5 of 1875 .....	1	1	Larceny Ordinance.— <i>Contd.</i>	13	3
Forgery Ordinance—11 of 1922,— Uttering forged bank notes, (Sections 8—10) .....	11	9	Larceny of cattle and other animals, (Sections 9—17), " of things attached to or growing on land, (Sections 22—28) .....	283	316
Forgery Ordinance—4 of 1865 (Sections 2—3).....	27	27	Larceny from the person and similar Offences, (Sections 29—37) .....	178	200
Fugitive Offenders Act, 1881 .....	2	2	Sacrilege, Burglary and house breaking, (Sections 38—47) .....	46	64
Gambling Ordinance—2 of 1891,— Contraventions of and Offences under .....	607	1,664	Larceny in dwelling houses, (Sections 48—49), .....	71	88
Gunpowder and Fireworks Ordinance—14 of 1901,— Contraventions of and Offences under .....	7	7	" in ships, Wharves, &c., (Sections 50—53) ... " or embezzlement by clerks, servants, &c., (Sections 54—60) .....	9	9
Importation and Exportation Ordinance—12 of 1922 .....	164	183	Frauds by bankers, agents, &c., (Sections 62—74) .... Obtaining property by false pretences, (Sec. 75—78).. Receiving stolen property, (Sections 79—87) .....	72	78
Interpretation Ordinance—31 of 1911 .....	2	2	Apprehension of Offender's and other proceeding, (Section 91—97) .....	23	23
Indecent Exhibition Ordinance—3 of 1918 .....	11	9	Licensing Ordinance—8 of 1887,— Contraventions of and Offences under .....	23	23
Larceny Ordinance—5 of 1865,— Larceny by Bailee (Section 4) .....	909	946	" of Regulations made thereunder .....	155	186
Simple Larceny .....	9	9	Live Stock Import and Export Regulation Ordinance— 15 of 1903 .....	7	7
<i>Carried forward</i> ,.....	2,682	3,830	<i>Carried forward</i> .....	3,583	3,526
				1,561	1,566
				8	8
				8,789	9,947

Table IV.—Continued.  
LIST OF OFFENCES, ETC.,—Continued.

OFFENCES.	NUMBER OF CASES.	NO. OF PRISONERS.	OFFENCES.	NUMBER OF CASES.	NO. OF PRISONERS.
<i>Brought forward</i> , .....	8,739	9,947	<i>Brought forward</i> .....	11,229	13,744
Liquor Licence Ordinance—9 of 1911,—			Merchandise Marks Ordinance—4 of 1890,—		
Contraventions of and Offences under Part I, (Sections 3—40) .....	68	66	Contraventions of and Offences under .....	5	5
Part II, (Sections 41—73) .....	2	2	Misdemeanour Punishment Ordinance—1 of 1898,—		
" III, ( " 74—96) .....	13	14	Offences under .....	133	133
Magistrates Ordinance—3 of 1890,—			New Territories (Regulations) Ordinance—8 of 1899 .....	3	7
Offences under .....	2,328	3,606	Offences against the person Ordinance—2 of 1865,—		
Malicious Damage Ordinance—6 of 1865—			Homicide, (Sections 2—9) .....	20	23
Injuries by sea or River banks etc., (Sec. 25—26) .....	1	1	Attempt to Murder (Sections 10—14) .....	1	1
Miscellaneous injuries, (Sections 42—44) .....	17	20	Acts causing or tending to cause danger to life, &c., (Sections 16—31) .....	28	25
Marine Store Protection Ordinance—13 of 1919 .....	16	16	Assaults, (Sections 32—43) .....	432	543
Married Women (Maintenance in case of desertion) Ordinance—10 of 1905,—			Foreable taking or detention of persons, (Sections 44—45) .....	14	20
Proceedings under .....	9	9	Bigamy (Section 46) .....	1	1
Merchant Shipping Ordinance—10 of 1899,—			A punishable Offences (Sections 50—54) .....	1	1
Contraventions of and Offences under Part VI, (Sections 21—30) .....	21	24	Opium Ordinance—30 of 1923,—		
Contraventions of Regulations made thereunder .....	15	39	Contraventions of, Part I, (Sections 1—3) .....	1	1
			" " " II, ( " 4—8) .....	111	163
			" " " III, ( " 9—20) .....	4,613	7,638
			" " " IV, ( " 21—43) .....	4	4
<i>Carried forward</i> , .....	11,229	13,744	<i>Carried forward</i> , .....	16,591	22,309



Table IV,—Continued.

List of OFFENCES, ETC.,—Continued.

OFFENCES.	No. of CASES.	No. of PRE- SONERS.	OFFENCES.	No. of CASES.	No. of PRE- SONERS.
<i>Brought forward</i> .....	18,233	23,965	<i>Brought forward</i> .....	23,067	29,351
Servant Quarters Ordinance—11 of 1903,— Offences under .....	5	7	Summary Offences Amendment—10 of 1924 .....	2	2
Small tenements Recovery Ordinance—10 of 1897.....	1	1	Tobacco Ordinance—10 of 1916 .....	61	64
Societies Ordinance—8 of 1920.....	5	14	Tramways Ordinances—10 of 1902,—		
Stamp Ordinance—8 of 1921,— Offences under .....	99	99	Contraventions of Offences under.....	18	18
Stamp duties management Ordinance—35 of 1911 ..	9	9	Vagrancy Ordinance—9 of 1897,— Proceedings under .....	45	48
Stowaways Ordinance—5 of 1903,— Offences under .....	22	49	Vehicles and Traffic Regulation Ordinance—40 of 1912,— Contraventions of Regulations made thereunder .....	6,937	7,096
Summary Offences Ordinance—1 of 1845,— Nuisances, Trespasses and Similar Offences, (Sections 3—21) .....	4,108	4,402	"    and Offences .....	362	373
Offences against good order, (Sections 22—35) .....	299	500	Water Works Ordinance—16 of 1903,— Offences under .....	10	10
Possession of stolen goods, (Sections 36—44) .....	290	304	Weights and Measures Ordinance—2 of 1885,— Contraventions of and Offences under .....	12	12
Proceedings under Miscellaneous Provisions, (Sections 42—51) .....	1	1	Wild Birds and game preservation Ord.—6 of 1885 .....	3	4
<i>Carried forward</i> .....	23,067	29,351	Undecided Cases .....	123	123
			TOTAL, .....	80,439	87,101

**Table V.**

**4.—ABSTRACT of CASES brought under COGNIZANCE of the POLICE MAGISTRATES' COURTS during a period of ten years 1917-1926.**

CASES, HOW DISPOSED OF, AND THE NUMBER OF MALE AND FEMALE PRISONERS UNDER EACH HEAD.																								
Year	Total number of cases.	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.				
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
1917, ...	11,922	11,727	441	2,168	92	119	3	6	...	248	34	...	1	...	...	...	...	42	...	14,311	570			
1918, ...	9,805	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	...	...	...	...	...	...	39	2	13,673	475			
1920, ...	15,267	15,520	517	1,541	119	186	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			
Total, ...	67,329	69,120	2,390	9,565	597	603	28	17	...	887	106	...	1	...	...	2	...	203	9	78,304	3,119			
Average per Year, ...	13,465.8	13,824	478	1,913	119.4	120.6	5.6	3.4	...	167.4	21.2	...	2	...	...	4	...	40.6	1.8	15,660.8	623.8			
1922, ...	18,535	18,338	614	2,018	76	198	...	...	...	246	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	2	20,335	722			
1923, ...	21,720	22,975	356	3,190	72	246	...	...	...	264	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	98	5	26,773	450			
1924, ...	27,724	28,708	359	3,154	172	171	6	...	...	376	38	...	...	...	...	...	...	176	15	34,585	1,090			
1925, ...	25,790	25,896	1,595	4,099	242	178	2	...	...	323	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	2	30,696	1,864			
1926, ...	30,516	31,360	1,379	3,540	149	83	...	...	...	403	64	...	...	...	...	...	...	123	...	35,509	1,592			
Total, ...	124,285	127,277	4,803	18,001	711	876	8	...	...	1,612	172	...	...	...	...	...	...	632	24	148,398	5,718			
Average per Year, ...	24,857	25,455.4	960.6	3,600.2	142.2	175.2	1.6	...	...	322.4	34.4	...	...	...	...	...	...	126.4	4.8	29,679.6	1,143.6			
Grand Total for the 10 Years, ...	191,614	196,397	7,193	27,566	1,308	1,479	36	17	...	2,449	278	...	1	...	...	2	...	835	33	226,702	8,837			
Average per Year, ...	19,161.4	19,639.7	719.3	2,756.6	130.8	147.9	3.6	1.7	...	244.9	27.8	...	1	...	...	2	...	83.5	3.3	22,670.2	883.7			

## SUPREME COURT AND MAGISTRACY.

COMPARATIVE TABLE showing the Number of Offences, Apprehensions, Convictions,  
and Acquittals for the last Four Years.

	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Number of persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Police Magistrates, .....	27,123	35,484	32,358	36,976
The number of summary convictions :—				
1. For Offences against the person .....	264	411	330	313
2. Gambling .....	1,754	1,958	1,921	1,504
3. For Offences against the property other than predial larceny	1,368	2,013	1,500	1,552
4. For other Offences .....	11,818	18,728	17,847	22,881
5. For Opium Offences .....	3,218	6,457	5,895	6,489
The Number of persons acquitted in the Inferior Courts .....	3,262	5,326	4,389	3,689