



British Guiana.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMPTROLLER OF
CUSTOMS & EXCISE

FOR THE YEAR

1959.

(Printed by the Authority of His Excellency the Governor.)

GEORGETOWN, DEMERARA, BRITISH GUIANA.

BRITISH GUIANA

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMPTROLLER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE FOR THE YEAR 1959.

CUSTOMS and EXCISE DEPARTMENT,
Georgetown, Demerara,
British Guiana.
4th May, 1960.

The Honourable Financial Secretary,

Sir,

I have the honour to submit for the information of His Excellency the Governor, the Annual Report on the work of this Department for the year ended 31st December, 1959.

REVENUE.

2. The gross revenue collected by the Department during 1959 amounted to \$23,239,897.89. After deducting various sums refunded during the year totalling \$102,890.36, the aggregate net revenue was \$23,137,007.53.

3. The following table gives particulars of net revenue collections in 1958 and 1959, together with the increase or decrease under each sub-head.

SUB-HEADS OF REVENUE	1958		1959		INCREASE		DECREASE	
	\$	c.	\$	c.	\$	c.	\$	c.
Import Duties	15,816,937.77		16,862,834.91		1,045,897.14		—	
Bonded Warehouses ..	73,720.43		75,956.77		2,236.34		—	
Export Duties	662,551.69		949,671.13		287,119.44		—	
Excise Duties —								
Rum	4,406,202.78		4,476,671.34		70,468.56		—	
Beer	473,624.95		454,383.03		—		19,241.92	
Bitters and Cordials ..	67,818.76		66,449.02		—		1,369.74	
Matches	35,545.00		42,520.00		6,975.00		—	
Methylated Spirits ..	1,900.15		1,769.71		—		130.44	
Miscellaneous	24,081.00		23,201.45		—		879.55	
Licences—								
Liquor	200,881.50		175,896.43		—		24,985.07	
Unspecified	4,628.00		4,634.50		6.50		—	
Other heads	8,689.31		3,019.24		—		5,670.07	
TOTAL NET RECEIPTS ..	21,776,581.34		23,137,007.53		1,412,702.98		52,276.79	
TOTAL NET INCREASE ..					1,360,426.19			

4. Of the total net revenue collected in 1959, approximately 72.9% was derived from import duty, 4.1% from export duty, 19.3% from excise duty on rum, 2% from excise duty on

beer, 0.5% from other excise duties, 0.8% from licences and 0.4% from other sources. The relative importance of the main revenue heads for the past two years compared with 1953, is indicated below.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL REVENUE

	1953	1958	1959
Import Duty	69.3	72.6	72.9
Export Duty	7.4	3.0	4.1
Excise Duty on Rum ..	20.9	20.2	19.3
Excise Duty on Beer ..	—	2.2	2.0
Other Heads	2.4	2.0	1.7
	100.0	100.0	100.0

A summary of the gross amounts of Customs revenue derived from the principal classes of commodities imported and exported during each of the past five years, is given in Appendix I.

5. The greatest amount of import duty levied on a single commodity in 1959 was \$3,373,679 on tobacco. The yield from this item was 20 per cent of the total import duty collected on all imports for the year. The quantities of imported tobacco cleared for consumption, and the duty collected thereon during the years 1958 and 1959 were as follows:—

	1958		1959		Increase (+) or Decrease (—)	
	Quantity Lbs.	Duty \$	Quantity Lbs.	Duty \$	Quantity Lbs.	Duty \$
Tobacco in leaf —						
Moisture content below 25 per cent.	782,010	3,128,038	681,301	3,133,981	— 100,709	+ 5,943
Moisture content 25 per cent. or more	33,709	77,531	34,104	88,427	+ 395	+ 10,896
Manufactured tobacco —						
Cigarettes	16,197	107,716	13,598	103,967	— 2,599	— 3,749
Cigars	514	3,819	522	4,455	+ 8	+ 636
Other kinds	6,526	34,807	6,770	42,849	+ 244	+ 8,042
TOTAL :	838,956	3,351,911	736,295	3,373,679	— 102,661	+ 21,768

Increases in the rates of import duty on tobacco products in January 1959 caused a small increase in the total duty collected thereon, although there was over-all reduction in clearances. In the most important sub-item in the tobacco group—leaf tobacco with moisture content below 25 per cent, which is used in the manufacture of cigarettes—consumption in 1959 fell 13 per cent below the level of the previous year. The main cause of the decline was reduced cigarette consumption probably due to the increased rate of import duty. Another contributory factor may have been the increased use of filter-tipped cigarettes which contain a smaller proportion of tobacco than ordinary cigarettes.

6. The total revenue collected on alcoholic beverages during 1959 was \$5,788,647, showing an increase of \$90,565 over collections for 1958. Of this total, import duty was \$827,392 in 1959 as compared with \$793,452 in 1958, while excise duty amounted to \$4,961,255 in 1959 and \$4,904,630 in the previous year. Comparative tables showing the excise and import duties collected on alcoholic beverages, and the quantities of such beverages cleared for home consumption during the past ten years, are set out in Appendix II to this report.

7. Comparison of the quantities of alcoholic beverages and tobacco cleared for home consumption during the year 1959, with those for the year 1950, shows the following percentage increases or decreases over the 10-year period.

	Increase %	Decrease %
Malt Liquors	308	—
Imported spirits	8	—
Rum, home-made	28	—
Imported leaf tobacco (moisture content under 25%)	25	—
Imported tobacco manufactures	45	—
Wines, local and imported	17	—
Imported leaf tobacco (moisture content 25% or more)	—	46

8. Claims for drawback of duty under the provisions of the Customs Ordinance, passed to the Treasury for payment during 1958 and 1959 totalled :—

	1958	1959
	\$ c.	\$ c.
On goods re-exported	80,671.74	50,329.05
On gasolene used as fuel for driving machinery in the colony	34,086.22	25,577.50
TOTAL	114,757.96	75,906.55

CONCESSIONS TO INDUSTRY.

9. The value of goods imported free of duty under the Industries Aid and Encouragement Ordinance amounted to \$7,510,032 in 1959 as compared with \$11,722,971 in 1958. In addition, import duty amounting to \$64,111 was refunded by order of the Governor in Council on goods valued \$674,701.

10. Assistance was given to various industries by concessions of duty-free gasolene, and drawback of duty on gasolene at the rate of 21 cents per gallon. The amount of duty so remitted amounted to \$296,092 in 1959 as compared with \$292,828 in 1958.

11. The following table shows the industries which benefited from the concessions on gasolene.

INDUSTRIES	Duty Free gasolene issued during 1959 (gallons)	Duty at 32 cents per gallon	Drawback gasolene issued during 1959 (gallons)	Duty at 21 cents per gallon	Total Duty Concessions	Percentage of Total
		\$		\$	\$	%
Balata and rubber production	5,565	1,781	—	—	1,781	0.6
Gold, columbite, tantalite and diamond mining	6,650	2,128	—	—	2,128	0.7
Wood-cutting	296,205	94,786	6,340	1,331	96,117	32.5
Rice production	531,580	170,106	—	—	170,106	57.4
Sugar production	—	—	96,437	20,252	20,252	6.8
Ranching	4,725	1,512	—	—	1,512	0.5
Other agricultural production	630	202	—	—	202	0.1
Launches, tugs, etc.	—	—	10,628	2,232	2,232	0.8
Bauxite production	—	—	8,392	1,762	1,762	0.6
TOTAL:	845,355	270,515	121,797	25,577	296,092	100.0

TOTAL TRADE.

12. The following table shows the total value of the external trade of the Colony for each of the past five years.

Unit — B.W.I. \$

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Imports	94,517,619	99,877,043	118,469,312	116,026,343	110,620,386
Domestic Exports ..	89,004,202	93,314,473	106,979,421	96,315,628	101,985,268
Re-exports	1,400,314	1,277,236	974,175	744,740	1,353,907
Stores for ships and aircraft —					
Domestic produce ..	36,967	28,759	39,831	30,053	33,769
Foreign produce ..	91,769	71,788	92,261	137,126	147,110
TOTAL TRADE ..	185,050,871	194,569,299	226,555,000	213,253,890	214,140,440

The above figures include:—

Exports of gold mined in the Colony	825,517	396,847	498,707	644,466	39,302
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Excluded from the above figures are:—

Other bullion and specie:—					
Imports	48,958	220,247	183,806	69,353	218,594
Exports	261,600	379,128	98,926	48,816	24,480
Transshipments	157,340	284,349	190,879	1,272,330	1,009,395
Exports from bonded warehouse	127,294	244,056	302,601	504,202	758,792
Personal effects:—					
Imports	326,742	282,297	437,939	381,905	380,964
Exports	344,742	420,204	478,522	481,035	542,977

BALANCE OF VISIBLE TRADE

13. The visible trade balances of the Colony for the years 1955 to 1959 were as follows:—

Unit — B.W.I. \$

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Domestic Exports ..	89,041,169	93,343,232	107,019,252	96,345,681	102,019,037
Re-Exports	1,492,083	1,349,024	1,066,436	881,866	1,501,017
TOTAL EXPORTS ..	90,533,252	94,692,256	108,085,688	97,227,547	103,520,054
TOTAL IMPORTS ..	94,517,619	99,877,043	118,469,312	116,026,343	110,620,386
Visible Trade Balance of } †	3,984,367	5,184,787	10,383,624	18,798,796	7,100,332

EXPORTS

14. The total value of goods exported from the Colony during the year 1959 (including goods exported through Parcels Post and the personal effects of emigrants) was \$104,063,031 as compared with \$97,708,582 in 1958, which shows an increase in the Colony's export trade of \$6,354,449 or 6.5 per cent.

15. Exports of domestic produce were valued \$102,031,151 (including stores for ships and aircraft valued \$33,769) in the year 1959, as against \$96,376,742 (including stores \$30,053) in 1958. Exports of foreign produce (re-exports) were valued \$2,031,880 (including stores \$147,110) in 1959, and \$1,331,840 (including stores \$137,126) in 1958.

16. The following table shows a comparison of the value of Total Exports, by Sections of the Standard International Trade Classification, for the years 1958 and 1959, with actual and percentage increases and decreases.

Total Exports according to Sections	1958	1959	Increase (+) or Decrease (—)	
Section	\$	\$	\$	%
0 — Food	62,783,353	64,004,199	+ 1,220,846	or 1.9
1 — Beverages and tobacco	3,574,094	3,632,477	+ 58,383	.. 1.6
2 — Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	25,123,583	29,544,615	+ 4,421,032	.. 17.6
3 — Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	119,707	139,712	+ 20,005	.. 16.7
4 — Animal and vegetable oils and fats	2,162	1,116	— 1,046	.. 48.4
5 — Chemicals (pharmaceuticals, toilet preparations, etc.)	1,131,693	1,201,778	+ 70,085	.. 6.2
6 — Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material (manufactures of wood, of leather, of glass, etc.)	1,524,806	3,280,313	+ 1,755,507	.. 115.1
7 — Machinery and transport equipment	1,543,568	653,411	— 890,157	.. 57.7
8 — Miscellaneous-manufactured articles (furniture, travel goods, clothing, etc.)	287,980	495,695	+ 207,715	.. 72.1
9 — Miscellaneous transactions	1,617,636	1,109,715	— 507,921	.. 31.4
TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS ..	97,708,582	104,063,031	+ 6,354,449	or 6.5

IMPORTS

17. The total value of imports (including goods imported through Parcels Post and the personal effects of immigrants) reached the sum of \$111,001,350 in 1959, which compared with the total of \$116,408,248 for 1958 shows a decrease of \$5,406,898 or 4.6 per cent.

18. The following table shows a comparison of the value of imports, by Sections of the Standard International Trade Classification, for the years 1958 and 1959, with actual and percentage increases and decreases.

Imports according to Sections	1958	1959	INCREASE (+) or DECREASE (—)	
Section	\$	\$	\$	%
0 — Food	22,068,613	22,147,058	+ 78,445	or 0.4
1 — Beverages and tobacco	1,890,112	1,687,863	— 202,249	.. 10.7
2 — Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	742,403	805,349	+ 62,946	.. 8.5
3 — Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	8,357,001	9,168,313	+ 811,312	.. 9.7
4 — Animal and vegetable oils and fats	1,444,592	1,386,375	— 58,217	.. 4.1
5 — Chemicals (dyes, pharmaceutical products, fertilizers, etc.)	9,265,508	9,017,872	— 247,636	.. 2.7
6 — Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	32,134,037	28,995,741	— 3,138,296	.. 9.8
7 — Machinery and transport equipment	28,544,527	26,357,071	— 2,187,456	.. 7.7
8 — Miscellaneous-manufactured articles (furniture, travel goods, clothing, etc.)	11,442,418	10,903,625	— 538,793	.. 4.7
9 — Miscellaneous transactions	519,037	532,083	+ 13,046	.. 2.5
TOTAL VALUE OF IMPORTS ..	116,408,248	111,001,350	— 5,406,898	.. 4.6

DIRECTION OF TRADE

19. The following table shows the percentage distribution of the Colony's trade with principal countries during each of the years 1957, 1958 and 1959.

COUNTRIES	IMPORTS			DOMESTIC EXPORTS			TOTAL TRADE		
	1957	1958	1959	1957	1958	1959	1957	1958	1959
United Kingdom ..	44	46	45	40	48	41	42	47	43
Canada	9	7	8	37	32	28	22	18	18
Other Commonwealth Countries	15	16	16	12	10	15	14	13	16
United States of America	18	16	14	7	6	9	13	12	11
Other Countries ..	14	15	17	4	4	7	9	10	12
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

The percentages are based on C.I.F. Values in the case of Imports, and F.O.B. Values for Exports. Although Re-exports are not shown separately in the above table, they are included in computing the percentages for Total Trade.

TRADE WITH BRITISH CARIBBEAN TERRITORIES

20. The total value of all goods (including the personal and household effects of emigrants) exported to the British Caribbean Territories during the year 1959 was \$16,304,204, of which the value of domestic produce was \$15,585,116. Of the domestic exports, 47.3% went to Trinidad, 26.0% to Jamaica, 14.6% to Barbados and 12.1% to the other Territories.

21. The value of imports from the British Caribbean Territories (including the personal and household effects of immigrants) amounted to \$12,002,062, of which 92.5% came from Trinidad, 2.7% from Barbados, 2.4% from St. Lucia, 2.1% from Jamaica and 0.4% from the remaining Territories.

TRANSHIPMENT TRADE

22. The total value of goods landed in the Colony for transhipment and transhipped during 1959 was \$1,009,395 as compared with \$1,272,330 in 1958 and \$190,879 in 1957.

SHIPPING

23. There were 2,152 vessels entered at the ports of the Colony during the year 1959 which were the same as in 1958. The number of vessels cleared during 1959 was 2,104 as against 2,075 vessels in 1958. The following table shows the number and net registered tonnage of shipping entered and cleared at each port of the Colony during the year 1959, together with the total increases or decreases in number and tonnage in relation to the previous year.

PORTS	ENTERED		CLEARED		TOTALS	
	No.	Tons Net	No.	Tons Net	No.	Tons Net
Georgetown	1,095	1,672,717	1,070	1,651,147	2,165	3,323,864
New Amsterdam	94	146,811	78	137,049	172	283,860
Springlands	650	12,139	645	10,257	1,295	22,396
Morawhanna	313	4,254	311	5,822	624	10,076
TOTALS 1959	2,152	1,835,921	2,104	1,804,275	4,256	3,640,196
TOTALS 1958	2,152	1,715,711	2,075	1,716,981	4,227	3,432,692
Increase (+) .. ..	.	120,210	29	87,294	29	207,504
Decrease (—) .. ..	.	.	.	.	.	.

AIRCRAFT

24. During 1959, five airlines — British West Indian Airways Ltd., Pan American World Airways Inc., K.L.M. Royal Dutch Airlines, Air France and the Brazilian Airways Company (Cruzeiro Do Sul) — operated scheduled flights to and from the Colony. The number of aircraft entering the Colony increased from 1,175 in 1958 to 1,276 in 1959. The numbers departing were 1,166 in 1958 and 1,279 in 1959.

RUM DISTILLATION, COMPOUNDING, ETC.

25. Eight rum distilleries operated during the year. The quantity of rum produced during 1959 was 2,895,896 proof gallons, as compared with 3,438,194 proof gallons in 1958, which shows a decrease in production of 542,298 proof gallons or 15.8 per cent.

26. The quantities of rum produced at each distillery operating in the Colony during the years 1955 to 1959 are shown in the following table.

DISTILLERY	PROOF GALLONS				
	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
BERBICE:—					
Skeldon	214,943	277,801	306,662	230,382	147,531
Port Mourant	364,973	—	—	—	—
Albion	264,848	668,479	619,275	554,381	368,206
Blairmont	201,416	239,188	290,053	219,193	184,384
DEMERARA:—					
Enmore	318,765	401,677	431,179	358,919	281,849
La Bonne Intention	133,207	207,457	257,033	207,032	139,790
Diamond	863,996	1,013,882	1,012,966	1,299,542	1,027,273
Versailles	99,512	42,880	61,203	41,663	44,047
Uitvlugt	342,619	461,580	522,433	527,082	702,816
TOTAL	2,804,279	3,312,944	3,500,804	3,438,194	2,895,896

27. The following quantities of spirits were methylated at distilleries during the last five years:—

DISTILLERY	PROOF GALLONS				
	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Skeldon	5,279	15,114	13,127	8,016	—
Albion	3,098	—	911	—	—
Blairmont	—	6,536	3,852	5,288	2,610
Uitvlugt	—	303	2,204	148	5,856
Diamond	1,656	—	—	—	1,377
TOTAL	10,033	21,953	20,094	13,452	9,843

28. During the year under review 120,335 proof gallons of locally produced rum were delivered for the purpose of methylation in warehouses, and for use in the manufacture of bay rum, lime rum and other compounds (except gin) under the provisions of the Bitters and Cordials Ordinance as follows:—

PROOF GALLONS	
Methylated spirits	49,608
Bay rum	2,441
Lime rum	50,920
Medicinal preparations	16,490
Other Compounds	876
TOTAL	120,335

29. Consumption of locally-produced rum fell to 469,900 proof gallons, showing a decrease of 30,805 proof gallons or 6.2 per cent below the previous year. Consumption of local wine rose by 5.1% from 29,419 liquid gallons in 1958 to 30,905 liquid gallons in 1959. Clearances of gin rose by 412 proof gallons, and the total quantity cleared during the year 1959 was 1,481 proof gallons.

30. The following table shows the quantities of excisable spirituous liquors (except methylated spirits) cleared for home consumption during each of the past five years.

COMMODITY	Unit of Quantity	QUANTITY				
		1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Rum	P. Gal.	495,728	509,737	524,519	500,705	469,900
Gin	P. Gal.	7,460	2,857	1,186	1,069	1,481
Wine	L. Gal.	25,716	31,669	28,738	29,419	30,905
Bitters	P. Gal.	117	110	63	64	—
Liqueurs	P. Gal.	—	13	48	12	69
Bay Rum	L. Gal.	1,383	1,144	919	1,870	770
Lime Rum	L. Gal.	4,316	6,640	6,388	6,380	7,393
Medicinal Preparations ..	L. Gal.	8,799	9,563	11,324	10,510	12,035

31. The quantity of beer produced locally during the year 1959 was 733,363 liquid gallons, which compared with 906,285 liquid gallons in 1958, shows a decrease of 172,922 liquid gallons or 19.1 per cent.

32. During the year 1959, the quantity of locally-manufactured matches cleared for home-consumption was 170,080 gross boxes not exceeding 60 matches each, on which excise duty amounting to \$42,520 was collected. Corresponding figures for 1958 were 142,180 gross boxes and \$35,545 excise duty.

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE LEGISLATION

33. Customs legislation for the year 1959, effected amendments to the Principal Ordinance, Chapter 309, as well as to parts I and III of its schedules. In addition, several areas were appointed as private warehouses, and approved places of unloading and loading under this Ordinance.

The relative enactments are as follows:—

Ordinances

No. 3 of 1959	Amendments to Part I of the 1st Schedule — The Trade Classification List and Tariff.	Increasing the rates of Import duties on several commodities.
No. 15 of 1959	Amendments to Parts I and IV of the First Schedule. — The Trade Classification List and Tariff.	Imposing Export duties on Unrefined cane sugar at the rate of \$1.00 per ton.
	Exemptions from Export Duties.	Excluding this article from the Schedule of Exemptions from Export Duties.
No. 24 of 1959	Amendments to Part I of the 1st Schedule. — Trade Classification List and Tariff.	Increasing the rates of Import duties on several commodities.
No. 25 of 1959	Amendments to the principal Ordinance, Chapter 309.	Duty on petroleum products delivered for home consumption from a warehouse to be assessed on actual quantity found at the time of delivery.

Orders in Council

No. 6 of 1959	Adding Sub-item 12 to item 27 of Part III of 1st Schedule.	Exempting from import duties, aluminium, aluminium alloys, plate glass, and sheet glass, when imported for the manufacture of aluminium goods.
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No. 37 of 1959	Adding item 62 to Part III of the 1st Schedule.	Exempting from Import duties imported or bonded motor spirits cleared for use in the Rupununi and shipped there by approved air services.
No. 39 of 1959	Amending item 642-04 of the Trade Classification List and Tariff (Part I of the 1st Schedule).	Increasing the rates of Import duties on drinking straws to 30% preferential and 46% general.
No. 40 of 1959	Deleting the proviso to item 3 (i) of Part III of the 1st Schedule and adding additional conditions governing exemptions under this item.	Specifying purposes for which aircrafts should be used when exemptions from import duties are claimed under item 3 (i) of Part III of the 1st Schedule.
No. 62 of 1959	Adding items 10 and 11 to the proviso appearing at the end of Part 1 of the 1st Schedule — The Trade Classification List and Tariff.	Item 10 admits at 2% preferential and 5% general, ingredients for use in the manufacture of medicinal tablets and capsules.
		Item 11 admits at 2% preferential and 5% general paper imported for use in the manufacture of drinking straws.

Resolutions

No. V	of 1959	Confirming Order in Council No. 6 of 1959	
No. XII	of 1959	,, ,, ,, ,,	No. 37 of 1959
No. XIII	of 1959	,, ,, ,, ,,	No. 39 of 1959
No. XIV	of 1959	,, ,, ,, ,,	No. 40 of 1959
No. XV	of 1959	,, ,, ,, ,,	No. 62 of 1959
No. XXII of 1959		Adding items 9 and 10 to Part IV of 1st Schedule.	Exempting alumina and manganese ore from Export Duties.

Regulations

No. 2	of 1959	Amending Appendix E to the Principal Regulations.	Granted Drawback of duties paid on the importation of materials used in the manufacture of medicinal and pharmaceutical products, perfumery, cosmetics, soap, and cleansing preparations.
No. 7	of 1959	Amending Appendix E to the Principal Regulations.	Granting Drawback of duties paid on the importation of raw materials used in the manufacture of drinking straws for exportation, and on steel used in the building of ships upon their exportation.

EXCISE LEGISLATION

- Ordinance No. 4 of 1959 Increasing the rate of Excise Duty on rum or other spirits (excluding methylated spirits) and on certain spirituous compounds, from \$8.80 to \$9.60 per proof gallon, with effect from 8th January, 1959.
- Notice No. 477 dated Appointing two buildings as Spirit Warehouses, one at Peter's Hall, 16th May, 1959. East Bank Demerara and the other at Uitvlugt Estate, West Coast Demerara.

REVENUE OFFENCES

34. During the year 1959, there were 53 breaches of the Customs Laws detected as against 51 in 1958, and 141 prosecutions for offences against the Excise Laws as compared with 104 in the previous year. A summary of offences over the past five years follows—

CUSTOMS

YEAR	No. of Cases	Cases of Imprisonment	Fines imposed or compensation paid	Proceeds of sales	TOTAL	Cases pending at end of year
1955	89	1	\$ 5,482	\$ 321	\$ 5,803	2
1956	46	—	7,539	11,200	18,739	4
1957	161	1	5,080	134	5,214	1
1958	51	—	1,892	124	2,016	—
1959	53	—	1,679	340	2,019	1

EXCISE

YEAR	No. of Prosecutions	No. of Convictions	No. of cases dismissed	Cases of Imprisonment	Fines imposed	Proceeds of Sales	Cases pending at end of year
1955	169	149	20	—	\$ 4,931	\$ 614	23
1956	153	113	40	—	7,537	376	26
1957	144	130	14	—	6,207	310	28
1958	104	75	22	1	3,917	2,404	7
1959	141	85	17	8	15,992	197	40

TRADE PER CAPITA

35. Imports and Exports per head of population for the last five years were:

	Imports	Exports
	\$	\$
1955	192	184
1956	198	188
1957	227	207
1958	216	181
1959	199	186

STAFF

36. Mr. E. S. McK. Chabrol retired from the service with effect from 15th October, 1959, and Mr. W. R. D. Glasford who was acting Comptroller of Customs and Excise from 1st February, 1959, was appointed to the post on 16th October, 1959; Mr. F. A. Gomes was appointed to act as Deputy Comptroller of Customs and Excise and Mr. J. R. Hill as Assistant Comptroller of Customs and Excise both with effect from 1st February, 1959.

Miss S. P. Van Sertima—Clerical Assistant, resigned from the Department.

The death of Mr. Persotum Singh who was attached to the Customs and Excise Department, New Amsterdam occurred on the 16th October, 1959.

Mr. L. H. Thom, Class I Officer attended a Study Course at the Customs and Excise Training School in Trinidad from 16th February, to 4th July, 1959. Messrs. R. C. Wiltshire and G. F. Fraser attended a course of Lectures at Adelaide House, London for three weeks and five weeks respectively.

REGISTRATION OF SHIPPING

37. Under the Merchant Shipping Acts as applied to this Colony by Law of Merchant Shipping Ordinance, Chapter 3, the Comptroller continued to carry out the duties of Registrar of Shipping. At Georgetown during the year 1959, nine vessels with a total net tonnage of 489 tons were registered, one of 186 tons was re-registered and the registry of one ship closed. On the 31st December, 1959, there were 74 ships with a total of 5,356 tons net remaining on Register at the ports of the Colony.

GENERAL

38. During the year two new private warehouses were appointed for the storage of petroleum products, and two new wharves were appointed sufferance wharves. The areas were situated at Bagotville and Vreed-en-Hoop, West Bank, Demerara.

39. It is proposed to establish a Customs station at Kaituma in the North West District during 1960, when it is anticipated that shipments of Manganese ore will be made from the site.

40. The Columbian Corporation, a Company registered in the United States of America applied to Government for pioneer status and for duty free machinery under the Industries Aid and Encouragement Ordinance to start a wood pulp industry. Operations were started in the Tiger Creek area, Essequibo, 8 miles below Bartica, in clearing an area for the industrial centre.

41. The cost of collecting the Customs and Excise Revenue during the year under review was 2.46 per cent of the total revenue as compared with 2.56 per cent in the preceding year.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. R. D. GLASFORD.
Comptroller of Customs & Excise.

APPENDIX I.

**Summary of the Gross Amounts of Customs Revenue on Imports and Exports for
the Five Years ended 31st December, 1955—1959, Distinguishing
the amounts derived from the Principal Items of Merchandise.**

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES.	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
A.—FROM IMPORTS	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Arms, (Ordnance), Ammunition and Explosives	40,147	35,484	31,350	33,271	24,827
Bakery Products	25,295	31,216	24,363	18,907	21,021
Beer, Ale, Stout and Porter	979,677	773,008	698,186	323,451	363,653
Blacking and Polishes,	30,517	30,160	33,314	33,336	35,155
Brooms and Brushes, Household	9,155	7,161	9,734	12,016	10,194
Butter	28,947	30,662	31,227	37,524	35,941
Candles	2,936	1,855	2,625	2,666	2,854
Cement	39,984	48,826	56,611	46,288	54,550
Cheese	50,569	51,500	46,868	55,382	43,189
Chemicals, other than Salt	65,907	63,845	64,940	57,505	62,501
Chinaware and Porcelain, Earthenware and Pottery	32,240	26,102	23,158	32,541	28,227
Cider	5,720	8,550	11,035	10,035	24,565
Clothing—under and outer Garments, including Hosiery	301,333	326,875	345,161	342,156	342,175
Coal	1,228	395	641	530	178
Cocoa	17,987	17,171	18,067	15,843	16,206
Confectionery	96,622	99,265	100,445	110,499	141,093
Cordage and Twine	26,141	21,456	27,896	33,455	29,085
Cork Manufactures	2,212	2,799	1,452	1,210	1,049
Cotton Fabrics of Standard Type, and Manufactures thereof (except apparel)	296,925	307,291	319,443	327,683	203,825
Cutlery	39,778	41,222	41,349	51,224	43,265
Electrical Goods and Apparatus	391,045	375,033	436,324	418,166	383,384
Fabrics of regenerated or partly regenerated cellulose, protein and similar fibres, and Manufactures thereof (except apparel)	372,982	332,599	388,676	374,003	462,614
Feeding Stuff for animals	18,077	25,185	31,623	29,428	47,568
Fish and Fish preparations	86,178	85,245	77,856	86,290	82,117
Footwear	139,159	148,708	161,236	140,864	134,102
Fruit and Nuts used as Fruit	78,150	94,562	106,018	111,939	118,734
Glass and Glassware	116,707	118,857	130,613	148,831	141,691
Grain, Flour and Pulse	641,951	616,739	695,863	653,872	688,590
Greases and Fats	13,790	13,230	20,488	12,713	14,060
Hardware	51,372	45,740	50,936	42,702	43,669
Hats, caps and other Headgear	77,875	53,998	78,847	56,141	56,236

APPENDIX I.—(Cont'd).

**Summary of the Gross Amounts of Customs Revenue on Imports and Exports for
the Five Years ended 31st December, 1955—1959, Distinguishing
the amounts derived from the Principal items of Merchandise.**

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES.	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
A.—FROM IMPORTS—(Continued)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Jams and Jellies	8,817	6,856	7,931	6,828	8,962
Jute Manufactures, Other than Cordage and Twine	52,114	33,982	35,356	32,849	26,553
Leather and manufactures of	4,728	4,009	3,886	4,141	4,364
Lime, of all kinds, except Manurial Lime	2,316	8,253	5,302	6,924	7,255
Linen and Hemp Manufactures (except apparel and Cordage)	2,976	6,063	10,597	3,343	2,725
Machinery	574,090	661,136	725,495	620,431	648,879
Manures, Manufactured	68,945	142,385	104,011	103,273	112,913
Margarine and Shortenings	38,951	36,364	27,840	24,306	35,293
Matches	9,241	35,232	45,917	8,873	1,034
Meats	100,817	112,914	97,035	103,232	100,578
Medicines and Pharmaceutics	237,641	218,038	247,725	255,873	279,757
Metals	690,689	713,883	787,776	649,370	821,001
Milk, condensed, evaporated and Powdered	198,083	207,725	221,384	217,771	193,860
Miscellaneous Foods and Food Preparations, n.e.s.	331,372	286,534	175,335	279,444	396,277
Musical Instruments	54,214	57,029	58,149	59,722	56,715
Oils—					
Animal and vegetable—unrefined (not essential oils)	32,970	45,558	46,409	29,047	24,791
Edible	3,838	2,977	18,657	2,743	4,985
Refined—fuel distilled, including gas oil and diesel oil, and other fuel oils	103,734	116,896	111,538	95,506	116,449
Refined—Illuminating Kerosene	208,161	236,353	260,726	283,824	312,840
do. —Lubricating	133,262	119,461	164,793	142,305	148,120
do. —Motor Spirit	1,015,238	1,144,835	1,200,773	1,234,387	1,369,765
Paper manufactures	194,192	195,418	251,292	248,967	239,306
Perfumery, cosmetics and Toilet Requisites (except soap)	165,390	156,427	192,360	189,132	220,318
Pickles, Sauces and Condiments	18,679	20,385	22,194	21,941	24,895
Pigments, paints, varnishes and other related materials	127,376	96,763	109,741	106,233	101,591
Plate and Plated ware	9,088	2,595	4,365	5,188	2,736
Rubber manufactures (except apparel and tyres and tubes)	26,368	39,575	38,089	42,012	48,612
Salt	38,676	45,142	49,591	47,818	48,474

APPENDIX I.—(Cont'd).

**Summary of the Gross Amounts of Customs Revenue on Imports and Exports for
the Five Years ended 31st December, 1955—1959, Distinguishing
the amounts derived from the Principal items of Merchandise.**

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES.	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
A.—FROM IMPORTS—(Continued)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Silk Fabrics and manufactures thereof (except apparel)	527	1,774	1,086	635	2,093
Soaps and cleansing preparations	43,003	51,148	64,121	69,706	76,046
Spices	35,816	30,552	43,952	26,949	38,302
Spirit—Potable	359,551	350,688	357,659	427,369	403,575
do. —Other	1,670	1,467	1,152	1,388	1,710
Stationery, other than Paper	24,890	26,224	24,535	29,144	29,244
Sugar	4,803	4,330	7,579	8,495	7,394
Tar and Pitch	5,187	3,282	4,698	5,178	3,611
Tea	54,696	55,045	53,000	57,506	55,004
Tobacco	2,642,474	2,755,752	2,869,040	3,351,911	3,373,679
Toys and Games	90,373	79,938	68,509	81,636	102,665
Umbrellas and Parasols	20,757	27,410	19,558	14,337	13,556
Vegetables	135,647	169,162	161,155	152,179	581,630
Vehicles—Road, including parts, tyres and tubes	1,049,826	1,079,427	1,229,638	1,203,039	1,351,517
Wines	27,767	32,952	34,224	32,597	35,161
Wood and Timber and Manufactures of ..	26,542	72,268	92,363	99,081	90,129
Woollen and Worsted Fabrics and Manufactures thereof (except apparel)	106,314	131,318	123,019	125,688	101,275
Other Goods and Special Transactions ..	2,352,739	1,372,162	1,844,424	1,724,830	1,677,645
TOTAL FROM IMPORTS : ..	14,515,154	14,832,426	16,090,328	15,857,622	16,959,602
B.—FROM EXPORTS					
Bauxite	1,114,931	1,123,272	991,222	613,927	681,608
Diamonds	4,853	4,508	4,160	4,659	9,140
Sugar	—	—	—	—	255,156
Other Goods and Special Transactions ..	9,651	7,278	7,109	6,877	21,707
TOTAL FROM EXPORTS	1,129,435	1,135,058	1,002,491	625,463	967,611
GRAND TOTAL	15,644,589	15,967,484	17,092,819	16,483,085	17,927,213

APPENDIX II.

Excise and Import Duties Collected on Alcoholic Beverages.

YEAR	SPIRITS				WINES		MALT LIQUOR		Cider, imported	Total Revenue (Spirits, Wines, Malt Liquor and Cider).	YEAR
	Imported Spirits (Whisky, Brandy, Gin, Rum, Liqueurs and other potable)	Rum Home-Made	Gin, bitters and other potable home-made.	TOTAL	Imported	Home-Made	Imported	Home-Made			
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
1950 ..	147,863	2,300,191	374	2,448,428	17,585	14,047	361,440	—	2,095	2,843,595	1950
1951 ..	176,246	2,702,505	996	2,879,747	17,327	14,480	478,780	—	1,544	3,391,878	1951
1952 ..	209,511	2,956,722	749	3,166,982	21,667	14,233	643,654	—	1,383	3,847,919	1952
1953 ..	233,772	3,148,116	59,606	3,441,494	24,032	10,956	631,393	—	3,083	4,110,958	1953
1954 ..	278,526	3,602,200	28,251	3,908,977	23,290	12,420	730,188	—	2,888	4,677,763	1954
1955 ..	359,551	3,965,826	60,615	4,385,992	27,767	12,858	979,677	—	5,720	5,412,014	1955
1956 ..	350,688	4,077,894	23,736	4,452,318	30,899	15,834	773,011	—	8,550	5,280,612	1956
1957 ..	357,659	4,227,056	10,368	4,595,083	34,224	14,369	698,186	72,505	11,035	5,425,402	1957
1958 ..	427,369	4,406,203	10,079	4,843,651	32,597	14,710	323,451	473,638	10,035	5,698,082	1958
1959 ..	403,575	4,476,671	14,748	4,894,994	35,161	15,453	364,091	454,383	24,565	5,788,647	1959

Quantities of Alcoholic Beverages Cleared for Home Consumption.

YEAR	SPIRITS — Proof Gallons				WINES, MALT LIQUOR AND CIDER—Liquid Gallons						YEAR
	Imported Spirits (Whisky, Brandy, Gin, Rum, Liqueurs and other potable).	Rum Home-Made	Gin, bitters and other potable home-made	TOTAL	WINES		MALT LIQUOR		Cider, imported	TOTAL	
					Imported	Home-Made	Imported	Home-Made ⁽¹⁾			
1950	13,160	366,988	62	380,210	4,027	28,095	218,523	—	5,378	256,023	1950
1951	14,150	372,759	166	387,075	3,981	28,960	287,312	—	3,966	324,219	1951
1952	19,860	407,851	125	427,836	4,943	28,467	397,483	—	3,546	434,439	1952
1953	12,962	434,223	8,219	455,404	5,604	21,913	373,508	—	6,248	407,273	1953
1954	15,290	495,098	3,872	514,260	4,823	24,840	431,089	—	5,837	466,589	1954
1955	18,500	425,728	7,577	521,805	6,621	25,716	468,501	—	11,466	512,304	1955
1956	18,088	509,737	2,967	530,792	5,887	31,669	368,921	—	17,270	423,747	1956
1957	18,191	524,519	1,297	544,007	6,387	28,738	333,188	360,412	22,278	751,003	1957
1958	20,704	500,705	1,145	522,554	6,235	29,419	155,351	906,285	20,228	1,117,518	1958
1959	14,242	469,900	1,550	485,692	6,749	30,905	157,854	733,363	25,428	954,299	1959

NOTE (1) The figures in this column exclude an allowance of 9 per cent. of the quantity produced, and include clearances free of duty. Also, the quantity shown for a calendar year cannot be directly related to the revenue figure for that year shown in the table above, because of the time allowed to elapse between the charging of duty and the actual payment thereof.