Tobacco, including cigarettes, is shown by the figures to have supplied about 63 p.c. of the revenue from excise duties in the fiscal year 1936.

11.—Details of Excise Duties Collected, fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1931-36.

(As shown in the Report of the Commissioner of Excise.)

Item.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Spirits	11,815,576	8,153,448	7,201,375	7,176,513	8,155,162	7,401,581
Validation fee	-	-		323,482	443,550	600,417
Beer or malt liquor	384,102	385,436	302,539	234,877	1,143,910	408,760
Malt syrup	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			-	168,705	163,710
Malt	4.138.910	3,633,438	2,875,779	2.773.984	6,263,464	7,691,832
Tobacco	41,699,017	36,647,484	29,330,598	25,857,511	27,903,910	28,678,512
Cigars	533,565	456,654	368,352	347,803	376,136	373,668
Licences	43,899	45,605	44,863	54,710	45,201	40,540
Totals	58,615,069	49,322,065	40,123,506	36,768,880	44,500,038	45,359,020

Statistics of Licences and Distillation.—As a by-product of the collection of excise duties, statistics are compiled of excise licences issued and of distillation; figures for recent years are given in Table 12.

12 .- Statistics of Distillation, fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1931-36.

Schedule.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Licences issuedNo. Licence fees\$	27 6,125	27 7, 125	24 6,250	20 5,750	18 5,000	18 4,750
Grain, etc., for Distillation—Malt. lb. Indian corn. " Rye. " Oats and other grain. " Wheat " Rice. "	19,519,949 35,879,402 47,421,646 64,150	10,802,254 19,657,775 27,121,120 189,080	6,807,119 17,871,546 17,552,045 17,125	8.259,033 27,497,313 13,929,865 121,208	3,878,133 22,508,624 4,772,654 119,000	6,460,673 32,961,102 7,128,903 192,098
Totals, Grain Used "	102,885,147	57,770,229	42,247,835	49,807,419	31,278,411	46,742,776
Molasses used lb. Wine and other materials "	70,304,701	71,988,200 15,917,061	39,272,923 3,071,695	69,111,370 1,525,833	48,550,415 2,387,528	74,932,898 304,531
Proof spirits manufac- tured proof gal. Duty Collected Ex-man- ufactory on Deficien-	9,286,780	7,099,637	4,345,834	6,411,230	4,321,457	6,553,190
cies and Assessment— Amountproof gal. Duty\$	965 8,677	9,643 87,061	575 5,187	297 2,076	80 559	664 2,655
Totals, duties collected plus licence fees \$	14,802	94,186	11,437	7,826	5,559	7,405

It will be seen from the above table that the quantity of spirits manufactured dropped between 1931 and 1933 from 9,286,780 proof gallons to 4,345,834 proof gallons. Since 1933 there has been an increase to 6,553,190 proof gallons for 1936. The duties collected ex-manufactory on deficiencies etc., plus licence fees fell from \$14,802 to \$5,559 between 1931 and 1935 but show an improvement at \$7,405 for 1936.

Alcohol and Tobacco Taken out of Bond.—In Table 13 are shown the quantities of spirits, malt liquor, malt, cigars, cigarettes, and tobacco taken out of bond for consumption in the fiscal years ended 1911 to 1936.

Between 1920 and 1936 the number of cigars taken out of bond fell from 270,089,761 to 124,570,870 and the quantity of tobacco, which was 23,049,012 lb. in 1920, had fallen to 20,870,651 lb. by 1925, since when there was a steady increase