A drawback of 99 p.c. of the duty may be granted when domestic spirits, testing not less than 50 p.c. over proof, are delivered in limited quantities for medicinal or research purposes to universities, scientific or research laboratories, bona fide public hospitals, or health institutions in receipt of Federal Government aid.

12.—Gross Excise Duties Collected, Years Ended Mar. 31, 1949-54

Item	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
	\$ ·	\$	\$	\$	8	\$
Spirits	40,634,697	46,547,587	60,126,300		48,627,965	69,194,020
Validation fee	825,371	790,587				-
Beer or malt liquor	3,740,065	3,678,316	2,745,851	3,812,065	5,294,283	4,799,823
Malt syrup	51,825	_			-	-
Malt	55,853,055	56,018,292	65.409,427	73.748,003	80,584,283	78,733,288
Tobacco and cigarettes	106,033,181	115,778,732	114, 282, 662	100.547.951	116,701,207	96,724,855
Cigars	207.823	203.043	203,945	162,968		245,862
Licences	39,115	38, 241	38,009	36,092	38,183	36,519
Totals ¹	207,385,132	223,054,798	243,914,446	225, 475, 736	252,205,615	249,734,366

¹ These totals do not agree with net excise duties as shown in Table 8 owing to refunds and drawbacks and, for spirits, a transfer tax which is included here.

Statistics of Licences and Distillation.—As a result of the collection of excise duties, statistics are compiled of excise licences issued and of distillation.

13 .- Statistics of Licences and Distillation, Years Ended Mar. 31, 1949-54

Item	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Licences issued	27 6,750	28 7,250	28 8,000	29 7,375	7,750	29 7,500
Malt lb. Indian corn " Rye " Wheat and other grain, "	31,699,705 176,368,186 30,189,564 15,462,635	162,568,138 37,525,049	209,060,163 32,137,858	211,851,336 29,427,040	30,404,971	223,715,461
Totals, Grain Used lb.	253,720,090	229,745,700	286, 286, 573	292,892,153	273,200,160	302, 202, 523
Molasses used lb. Wine and other materials " Sulphide liquor gal. Proof spirits manu- factured proof gal.	128,034,436 8,733,086 98,080,000 23,643,036	5,237,900 89,712,658	8,496,194 86,454,960	8,330,301 99,344,940	22,614,185 4,674,714 98,380,740 22,517,166	3,696,117 394,040,231

The quantity of spirits manufactured has fluctuated greatly since 1920, varying from a low of 2,356,329 proof gal. in that year to a high of 35,555,059 proof gal. recorded in 1945.

Alcohol and Tobacco Taken Out of Bond.—The amounts of beverage spirits, malt beer, malt, cigars, cigarettes and other tobacco taken out of bond for consumption are given in Table 44, p. 1002.

Excise Taxes Collected

The statistics given in Table 14 represent gross excise tax collection by the Excise Division of the Department of National Revenue.