

## (f) PETROL CONSUMPTION.

The following table shows a classification of the manner in which petrol was consumed in the Dominion during the last eight calendar years :—

Calendar Year.					Consumption of Petrol.		
					By Motor-vehicles (i.e., Petrol on which all Duty was paid).	Other—i.e., Engines, Aeroplanes, &c. (Petrol on which Refunds of Duty were made).	Total.
					Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
1928	..	..	..	..	41,457,150*	2,057,940*	43,515,090*
1929	..	..	..	..	56,575,840	3,650,040	60,225,880
1930	..	..	..	..	62,821,479	3,907,900	66,729,379
1931	..	..	..	..	55,203,252	5,286,000	60,489,252
1932	..	..	..	..	49,861,449	5,495,479	55,356,928
1933	..	..	..	..	51,262,371	5,400,000†	56,662,371
1934	..	..	..	..	55,914,450	6,100,000†	62,014,450
1935	..	..	..	..	61,744,902	6,483,600†	68,228,502†

\* Excludes an unknown amount of petrol on which duty was not paid.

† Estimated.

The total gallons are calculated from the quantity of motor-spirits on which motor-spirit tax was paid. In April, 1935, an arrangement was concluded between the Treasury and the Customs Department and the principal motor-spirit importers whereby the spirit might be taken from bond on condition that the tax would be paid within one month. This necessitated the figure for December, 1935, being estimated, with the result that the 1935 total figure is not exact, although it is considered sufficiently reliable for purposes of comparison. It will be observed that, although there was an increase of some 5,000,000 gallons consumed by motor-vehicles as compared with last year's figures, the peak year figures of 1930 have not yet quite been regained.

## 4. MOTOR-SPIRITS TAXATION ACT, 1927.

The following data show the yield from and distribution of the petrol-tax for the year ended 31st March, 1936. The figures regarding the net yield for previous years are given for comparative purposes :—

(a) YIELD.								£
Gross yield	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,087,682
Deductions—								
Refunds and cost of making same	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	169,023
Net yield	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£2,918,659

Net Yield (i.e., Gross Yield less Refunds), Year ended 31st March.								£
1928	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	143,516*
1929	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	802,232
1930	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	961,907
1931	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,314,450†
1932	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,677,520‡
1933	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,865,762§
1934	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,368,147
1935	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,610,607
1936	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,918,659

Total since inception of tax .. .. . £14,662,800

\* Part year only. † Increase from 4d. to 6d. per gallon as from 22nd July, 1930. ‡ Increase from 6d. to 8d. per gallon as from 7th October, 1931. § Increase from 8d. to 10d. per gallon as from 9th February, 1933.

## (b) DISTRIBUTION.

The distribution of the net yield of the petrol-tax for the last five years ended 31st March was as follows :—

	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
	£	£	£	£	£
Main Highways Board .. .. .	1,231,202	644,126	669,868	970,506	1,449,125
Boroughs (population of 6,000 and over) ..	107,061	99,489	101,728	112,370	126,011
Consolidated Fund .. .. .	321,685	1,105,182	1,579,965	1,511,499	1,326,261
Commission on collection .. .. .	17,572	16,965	16,586	16,232	17,262
Totals .. .. .	1,677,520	1,865,762	2,368,147	2,610,607	2,918,659