

The following are the receipts under the principal headings, showing a comparison with the previous year:—

					1926-27.	1927-28.	Increase.	Decrease.
					£	£	£	£
Import duties	..	..	..	..	42,991	46,855	3,864	..
Export duties—								
Copra	..	..	..	..	10,874	13,849		
Cocoa	..	..	..	..	1,087	1,614		
Rubber	..	..	..	..	460	1,666		
Bêche-de-mer	..	..	..	..	..	13		
					12,421	17,142	4,721	..
Shipping fees	..	..	..	..	2,379	2,121	..	258
Lease of sheds, &c.	..	..	..	..	682	1,059	377	..
Taxes	..	..	..	..	9,421	9,511	90	..
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	2,611	1,892	..	719
Totals	..	..	..	..	70,505	78,580	9,052	977
Less	..	..	..	..	..	..	977	..
Net increase	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,075	..

CUSTOMS STATISTICS.

(See also graph in Appendix D.)

The total value of imports for the calendar year 1927 was £304,369, as compared with £324,940 for 1926, a decrease of £20,571. The following table shows the countries whence imported, with a comparison for the previous year:—

From				1926.		1927.	
				Value.	Percentage.	Value.	Percentage.
				£		£	
United Kingdom	..	..	..	50,368	15.5	62,893	20.6
New Zealand	..	..	..	92,159	28.4	88,839	29.2
Australia	..	..	..	87,850	27.0	68,700	22.5
United States of America	..	..	..	66,273	20.4	51,345	16.8
Other countries	..	..	..	28,290	8.7	32,542	10.9
Total	..	..	..	324,940	100.0	304,369	100.0

The import-trade decrease of £20,571 is made up as follows: Decreases from New Zealand, £3,270; Australia, £19,150; United States of America, £14,928. Increases are shown in United Kingdom, £12,525; Fiji, £885; Germany, £1,648; other countries, £1,719. The principal items which may be commented on are: Flour declined £3,396 (Australia); rice, £1,062 (Australia); rice, unmilled, £6,977 (Australia); timber, £2,473 (U.S. America); vehicles, including motor-vehicles and parts, £5,416 (Canada £2,000 and U.S. America £3,416); benzine, £3,771 (U.S. America). Increases are as follows: Drugs, £1,223 (United Kingdom); machinery, £2,001 (United Kingdom); drapery, £3,004 (United Kingdom).

The exports for 1927 show an increase of £15,195 on the previous year, the figures being £335,978, as compared with £320,783 for the calendar year 1926. The increase is shown in cocoa and rubber.

Copra.—The export of copra for the calendar year 1927 was 11,665 tons, valued at £242,672, as compared with 12,249 tons, valued at £275,086, for 1926. The political agitation is responsible for the shortage, as the Natives are the principal producers, and in making a very conservative estimate it is considered that about 2,000 tons have been lost through this movement.

Cocoa.—The cocoa export was 792 tons, valued at £48,216, in comparison with 356 tons, valued at £20,151, for the year 1926. Good crops are reported, and it is anticipated the present year will see an increase on last year's figures.

Rubber.—The export of rubber has increased considerably, the figures for 1927 showing 158 tons, valued at £24,802, as compared with 33½ tons, valued at £6,702, for the previous year. With new plantations being worked it is considered there will be a further increase in this year's output.

Re-exports.—These amount to £18,229, which includes £16,164 bullion, for the year 1927, as compared with £18,260, including £15,800 bullion, for the year 1926.