

BRITISH GUIANA

OF THE

DEEDS AND SUPREME COURT REGISTRIES

1959

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DEEDS REGISTRY,

Georgetown,

13<sup>th</sup> August, 1960.

Sirs,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Departmental Report on the Deeds Registry and the Supreme Court Registry for the year 1959. As ex officio Registrar of the Supreme Court, and ex officio Registrar of the following: Joint Stock Companies, Trade Marks, Patents and Designs, Business Names, Life Assurance Companies, Industrial and Provident Societies and Trade Unions, this Report deals with those matters also. On the coming into force of the Land Registry Ordinance, the Registrar of Deeds will also function as Registrar of Lands.

2. The Magistrates are under the control of the Honourable the Chief Justice, but subject to his direction the administration of the Magistrates' Department is conducted by the Registrar.

PART I/

The Honourable

The Chief Secretary,

Member for the Supreme Court Registry.

The Honourable

The Attorney General,

Member for the Deeds Registry.

THE JUDICIARY

3. The Honourable the Chief Justice returned to the Colony and assumed duty on 14th January, 1959 after spending his casual leave in Barbados. He subsequently left British Guiana on 30th December, 1959 for Barbados on pre-retirement leave. Mr. Justice Luckhoo assumed duty on the same date as acting Chief Justice.

4. Mr. Justice Phillips left the colony on 16th December, 1959 on transfer to Jamaica. As a result of the vacancy created, Mr. H.B.S. Bollers, whose previous acting appointment had come to an end on 1st September, 1959, was again appointed to act as Puisne Judge as from 16th December.

5. Mr. Justice Date who was on vacation leave from 20th December, 1958, returned to the colony on 31st May, 1959, and resumed duty on 1st June.

6. Mr. Justice Gordon arrived in the colony on 2nd September, and assumed duty on the same date as a Puisne Judge of the colony.

7. Mr. Justice Miller was appointed a Puisne Judge of British Guiana as from 24th December.

8. Mr. Justice Jailal continued to act as Puisne Judge until the return to the colony of Mr. Justice Date on 31st May. Mr. Justice Jailal then proceeded on vacation leave. He returned to the colony in December, and as a result of Mr. Justice Luckhoo's appointment to act as Chief Justice, he was again appointed to act as Puisne Judge with effect from 30th December.

SUPREME COURT REGISTRY

9. Mr. R.E. Persaud, Registrar of Deeds and of the Supreme Court left the Colony on vacation leave on 22nd July, and resumed duty later in the year. During his

absence/

absence Mr. A.T. Singh, Deputy Registrar of the Supreme Court, acted as Registrar and Mr. H. Bacchus, Principal Officer acted as Deputy Registrar of the Supreme Court.

10. During the year Mr. H. Bacchus, Sub-Registry Officer, was appointed Principal Officer vice Mr. J.E. Murray, now Deputy Registrar of Deeds.

11. Mr. H. Bacchus, Principal Officer, went on vacation leave on the 21st November, and was away on leave for the rest of the year.

12. Mr. J.E.N. Earl, Judicial Officer, left the colony on vacation leave on 21st May, and resumed duty later in the year.

13. Miss A.M.F. McWatt, Secretary, left the colony on vacation leave on 30th September, and was still on leave at the end of the year.

14. Mr. M.V.B. Akai, Class I Clerk, went on leave on 29th October, and resigned from the Public Service on 4th December.

15. Mr. A.B.A. Deane, Class II Clerk, who was away on leave at the beginning of the year, resigned from the Public Service with effect from 15th March.

16. Messrs. A.I.M. Subryan, A.A. Khan and D.A. Robinson, Class II Clerks, left the colony on vacation leave on 6th October, 15th July, and 24th February, respectively prior to resignation from the Public Service.

17. Misses J.P. Misir and Y. Ho-A-Shu, Clerical Assistants, went on vacation leave on 6th and 1st October, respectively, prior to resignation from the Public Service.

18. Mr. R.C. Jacobs, Marshal, retired from the Public Service on 15th June.

#### DEEDS REGISTRY

\* 19. Mr. L.P. Kerry, Conveyancing Officer, continued to act for the whole year as Principal Officer, and as a result, /

result, Mr. M.R. Chase, Assistant Conveyancing Officer, continued to act as Conveyancing Officer.

20. Mr. M.F. Singh, Class II Clerk, left the colony on vacation leave on or about the 10th February. He was granted an extension of leave starting from 1st September. His resignation from the Public Service took effect from 1st December.

21. Mr. J.A. Patterson, Class II Clerk, who was on vacation leave when the year began, was granted an extension of leave from 30th April to 14th September. His resignation from the Public Service took effect from 15th September.

22. Miss N.A. Manget, Senior Clerical Assistant, who was on vacation leave when the year began, was granted an extension of leave of six months and accordingly did not resume until 24th August.

23. Miss C.D. Ganpatsingh, Clerical Assistant, was granted 140 days vacation leave with effect from 26th August and permission was also given her to resign from the Public Service at the expiration of her leave.

## PART II DEEDS REGISTRY

### CONVEYANCING

24. During the year under review, the establishment of a modern land registration system for the Colony reached its final stages. The new Land Registration Ordinance, 1959, was published as a Bill in the Official Gazette of 17th January, and again appeared in the Official Gazette of 5th September as Ordinance No. 18 of 1959. Its actual introduction will be by proclamation in the very near future.

25. By this ordinance, the Registrar of Deeds becomes also the Registrar of Lands, and the implications as regards staffing and the special equipment and the establishment of

a Land/

a Land Registry has been given much anxious thought. It is to be hoped that adequate provision will be made so that the objects and reasons behind the new ordinance will be properly realised and achieved.

26. The appointment under the new ordinance of one or more Commissioners of Title will perhaps shortly be made, and it is hoped that the staff of the Conveyancing Branch will be able to give the necessary assistance to the Commissioner or Commissioners appointed.

27. The new ordinance does not repeal the present Deeds Registry Ordinance, and it would appear that there will be two systems of conveyancing running side by side for many years to come.

28. A decrease in the number of transports and the number of mortgages passed during 1958 as compared with 1957 was noted in my last annual report, but I have to record this year that the upward trend has been resumed. 3,254 transports were passed as compared with 2,994 in 1958 while 1,733 mortgages were passed as compared with 1,519 in 1958. Cancelments of mortgages and long leases also show an increase over the previous year.

29. A return showing the business transacted in the Conveyancing section of the Deeds Registry appears at Appendix A.

#### COMPANIES

30. The Companies Ordinance presently in force was enacted 46 years ago. Several of its demands are archaic when compared with the present English Act, and with the industrial and economic development of the colony, it is desirable, and even urgent that our Company Law should be revised. This has been repeatedly urged in recent reports.

31. Several companies have committed and continue to commit breaches under the existing ordinance but it is debatable/

debatable whether under the present ordinance the Registrar has power to prosecute and even if there is power there is grave need for a person specially trained in companies work to supervise this section which continues to expand in this developing community of ours. Greater care is necessary to protect investors.

32. There were 352 companies incorporated in the colony on the register on 1st January, 1959. 26 new companies were incorporated in 1959, and 10 were struck off the register. At 31st December, 1959, accordingly, there were 368 companies on the register.

33. There were 125 companies incorporated outside of British Guiana on the register on 1st January, 1959. 8 companies were registered in 1959. At 31st December, 1959, there were accordingly 133 companies on the register.

34. The companies registered in 1959 are listed at Appendix B.

#### LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANIES

35. In accordance with Section 11 (3) of the Life Assurance Companies Ordinance, Chapter 329, I shall in due course forward to His Excellency the Governor my annual report on Life Assurance Companies in respect of documents filed during 1959. There were 10 companies on the register throughout the year, and no new companies were registered.

#### TRADE UNIONS

36. On 1st January, 1959, there were 52 Trade Unions on the register. During the year one Trade Union was registered, and the certificates of six were cancelled. No notice of dissolution was filed by any Trade Union in 1959. At 31st December, 1959, there were therefore 47 Trade Unions on the register.



37. The union registered in 1959 was the United Mineral and General Workers' Union.

38. The Certificates of Registration of the following unions were cancelled on the ground that the unions had wilfully and despite notice from the Registrar violated the provisions of section 35 of the Trades Unions Ordinance:-

- (1) British Guiana Domestic Helpers, Workers and General Workers Union.
- (2) Working Women's Perseverance Union.
- (3) British Guiana Sugar Workers' Union.
- (4) Coastal Maritime Association.
- (5) Quarries Marketing Organization.
- (6) British Guiana Truck Owners Association.

39. The Director of Audit has made unfavourable comments on annual accounts submitted by several unions. There appears to be need for stricter control over union funds and accounts. The Police have had to investigate in a few instances.

40. In compliance with Section 36 of the Trades Unions Ordinance, a report on matters transacted by the Registrar of Trade Unions for the year ending 31st December, 1959, will be forwarded separately to the Honourable the Attorney General.

#### TRADE MARKS

41. There is need for an officer specially trained in Trade Marks. Like Company Law this is a specialised branch and with the increase in the scope of Trade Marks in the colony, specialisation becomes necessary.

42. Traders are now much more jealous of their trade marks and each year brings a greater increase of registration. With the tremendous number of Trade Marks already on the register, greater care and skill are demanded in registration.

43. Information extracted from the register is given at Appendix D.

PATENTS AND DESIGNS

44. In any course of training in the law and practice relating to trade marks there should be included a course in the law and practice in respect of Patents and Designs.

45. Great difficulty is still being experienced in obtaining the services of persons qualified to examine patent specifications. At present only persons from within the government service are permitted to be used but in many cases there is none available as the only one in the service is on leave. The fee allowable is also an obstacle in negotiating for an examiner from outside, as a result applications have to be shelved until the government officer is available.

46. Appendix E gives the number of patents and designs registered during the year.

BUSINESS NAMES

47. During 1959, there were 30 prosecutions for non-compliance with the Business Names (Registration) Ordinance. All the defaulters were found guilty and reprimanded. It is hoped that regular prosecution would deter traders from committing breaches of the Ordinance and ultimately result in a reduction in the number of fraudulent traders. Various means have been tried by the available staff to obtain evidence of trading for use in defended prosecutions but this is usually difficult as there is not, in this department, officers similar to revenue runners or investigators to obtain the necessary evidence. Consequently, many prosecutions have had to be withdrawn or not instituted at all.

48. Please see Appendix F for statistics relating to Business Names.

INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETIES

49. Under the provisions of the Industrial and Provident Societies/

Societies Ordinance, the Registrar of Deeds continues to keep a register of those societies, but there have been no recent registrations.

50. Appendix G gives the number of societies on the register.

#### DEEDS

51. A return showing the various types of documents received in the Deeds Registry during the year appears at Appendix H.

#### PART III SUPREME COURT

52. The total number of suits presented to the Courts during 1959 shows a rise of 72 matters over the previous year and a comparison with previous years reveals that this is part of a steady and continuous increase in the volume of litigation which has been instituted in the Supreme Court of this colony with alarming continuity over the past 10 years.

53. In an effort to cope with this ever increasing flow of work in the Courts, the number of the Judges of the Supreme Court has been increased and the Courts have had to resort not only to sitting longer hours but also to continue working throughout that period of the year which is reserved as the statutory vacation. Notwithstanding these efforts however, the arrears remain formidable, and in fact, at the end of the year about 2 to 3 years arrears of cases remained for determination by the Courts.

54. Unfortunately, while the business of the Courts continues to swell, the staff of the Judicial branch remains inadequate. The usual problem of insufficiency of staff still exists, but there is also the greater menace of resignation of officers after they have gained some degree of experience. This involved this year, five officers - one Class I Clerk and four Class II Clerks, with service ranging from 5 to 9 years.

55. Whereas, in the previous years, the experience of the Class II Clerks in this section averaged around 4 years, last year the figure dwindled to a mere 15 months. Consequently, the duties of Clerk of Court which require a sound knowledge of the workings of this branch, which can only be acquired after years of experience, must now, perforce, be assigned to juniors whose experience can be measured in terms of months only, and who have but little knowledge of their functions.

56. The number of suits filed in the Supreme Court for the last six years is set out hereunder -

1954	1667
1955	1756
1956	1968
1957	2352
1958	2426
1959	2498

57. A return of suits, appeals and other causes filed in the Supreme Court in 1959 appears at Appendix J to this report.

A return of Criminal Cases instituted in 1959 appears at Appendix K.

59. A statement of miscellaneous judicial matters is at Appendix L.

60. A statement showing the matters dealt with in the Marshal's Branch of the Registry appears at Appendix M.

#### COURT REPORTERS

61. Court Reporters work under very strenuous conditions. A single reporter is expected to take an entire summing up which generally extends from one to three hours non-stop and in exceptional cases, much longer than that.

The better method would be to have this done by relays but

with/

with the approved number of reporters at four this will be impossible since the number of criminal cases necessitates the running of 3 criminal courts in the county of Demerara all the year round and one in either Berbice or Essequibo and sometimes both at the same time.

62. A Court Reporter died since December, 1958 and to date of this report the administration has been unable to find a person competent to fill this vacancy.

63. To be able to keep the courts supplied with Court Reporters recourse has had to be made to the daily press. Although this system has made it possible for the courts to carry on it does not guarantee expeditious dispatch of transcripts after the cases are finished as these reporters are usually engaged on several assignments nor does it afford adequate security for transcripts. The reporters make it quite clear that it will not be possible for them to attend the Registries to transcribe their notes but rather they will have to be permitted to do it in their spare time at home or wherever it is possible.

#### JURORS

64. There have been consistent and perhaps justifiable complaints by jurors of the inadequacy of the remuneration paid to them. Fees to jurors were fixed by Order in Council No. 2 of 1945. Travelling expenses have also been a source of much comment. Unless some immediate step is taken to remedy these complaints certain persons required to serve as jurors will face grave financial embarrassment whenever they perform those duties. Jury service to them will be one to be avoided at all costs.

#### APPLICATIONS BY POOR PERSONS

65. 42 applications for admission as poor persons were  
made/

made in 1959 of which 37 were applications to bring divorce proceedings. 15 applications were granted, 13 were refused, 2 withdrawn and 12 are still pending.

66. The unwillingness of legal practitioners to undertake matters on behalf of poor persons has often been commented upon. The position in 1959 showed little improvement in this regard, and as a result the few willing practitioners have had to carry the burden all the time. The need for some definite system of legal aid is manifest.

#### PROBATES AND ADMINISTRATION

67. There were 429 applications for probate filed in 1959 and 442 applications for letters of administration. Of these latter 375 were made to the Court and 67 to the Registrar.

#### LEGAL PRACTITIONERS COMMITTEE

68. The Legal Practitioners Committee held 39 meetings during the year, and dealt with 37 complaints made against legal practitioners. All the complaints were either dismissed or struck out.

69. The meetings of this committee continue to be held on Saturday mornings, but although the majority of the practitioners who constitute the committee considers this the most convenient day, the Registrar usually has the greatest difficulty in getting a quorum together, and has to waste much time in so doing. The chief reason for this state of affairs is because members frequently have to attend in court or chambers on Saturday mornings. Another reason seems to be the fact that although the committee consists of ten members, most meetings are attended by only three members, and usually the same three.

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEAL

70. In 1959 there were 22 appeals to the Court of Criminal Appeal. 4 of these appeals were based on grounds involving questions of law alone. Of these 3 were dismissed and 1 abandoned. Of the remaining 18 appeals, 17 were by way of applications for leave to appeal and 1 was an application for an enlargement of time within which to apply for leave to appeal. The application for an enlargement of time was refused, but of the other 17 applications, leave to appeal was granted in 12, 1 was refused and 4 were abandoned. All 12 of the appeals heard after leave was granted were dismissed.

71. The year under review marked the abolition of the Court of Criminal Appeal. The Criminal Appeals Ordinance, Chapter 8, was repealed on the coming into operation on the 21st November, of Part III of the Federal Supreme Court (Appeals) Ordinance, 1958, which conferred jurisdiction on the Federal Supreme Court to hear and determine appeals against convictions on indictment and appeals from certain orders of the Full Court in criminal matters.

FEDERAL SUPREME COURTCIVIL

72. There were 2 sessions of the Federal Supreme Court in the colony in 1959, one in July and the other in November.

73. The Court dealt with 29 appeals, and of these 6 were allowed, 14 were dismissed, 6 were withdrawn, decision was reserved in respect of 1, and 2 were pending at the end of the year.

CRIMINAL

74. There was no sitting of the Federal Supreme Court in its Criminal Jurisdiction during the year. 4 appeals  
were/

were pending at the end of the year. All of them were from convictions on indictment.

#### PART IV REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

75. The revenue collected for the year 1959 was \$437,956.13 of which \$15,676.04 was collected by the Sub-Registry, New Amsterdam, as Estate Duty. The difference between revenue collected in 1958 and that collected in 1959 shows an increase of \$52,130.97, which indicates a clear increase in the number of matters presented for filing.

76. Duty collected on transports, mortgages, etc., was \$160,175.13, showing an increase of \$10,728.14 on the amount collected in 1958.

77. The revenue collected under sub-head IV. Fees of Court - 7. Registrar, shows an increase of \$28,518.56 on the amount collected during 1958.

78. A considerable amount of duty was collected in stamps, but is not shown in this report as no record of that is kept. The constant use of stamps in the department for swearing affidavits and registering deeds makes it desirable, as has been pointed out in previous reports, to introduce in the department embossed stamping machines, which would save much time and expense.

79. A comparative statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the years 1958 and 1959 appears at Appendix N.

#### PART V GENERAL

80. In my report of 1953 it was pointed out that in the not too distant future it will be necessary to consider the separation of the Deeds and Supreme Court Registries. Because of the increased and increasing volume of work in this department this recommendation should be implemented in the shortest possible time.



81. The statistics of the work done in the registries will show the extent to which it has progressively increased. The entire machinery set up in this building some sixty years ago has outgrown its capacity and capability. There is considerable need for re-organisation by the introduction of modern filing and recording methods and better security methods, but it will be impossible to undertake any comprehensive re-organisation unless more space is made available.

82. Whenever re-organisation is attempted consideration will also have to be given with regard to the provision of greater opportunities for advancement of the officers within this department, so as to encourage them to remain on the staff for the longest possible time.

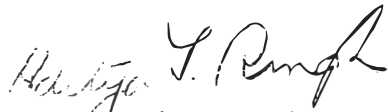
83. The staff in this department are not mere clerical officers but rather officers with specialised knowledge and trained in every aspect of the law and procedure pertaining to the matters dealt with in the registries, and who must be capable of meeting the ingenuity of a growing legal profession and the complexities of an advancing commercial community.

84. The number of resignations over the last year has gravely affected the efficiency of this department. This should not be permitted to recur, and especially if the reason is lack of opportunity for advancement of its officers.

I have the honour to be,

Sirs,

Your obedient servant,

  
Registrar (acting)

APPENDIX A

CONVEYANCING BRANCH

1. TRANSPORTS

Total number advertised	...	3,226
Passed		3,254
Total value of property transported	...	\$11,951,087.67
Duty on Transports	... ..	107,099.60
Highest value of single property		192,000.00
Applications for copies of lost Transports		156

2. MORTGAGES

Total number advertised	... ..	1,849
Passed	... ..	1,733
Total amount raised on mortgages	... ..	\$ 9,353,049.90
Highest single mortgage	... ..	\$ 195,000.00
Duty on mortgages	... ..	\$ 11,623.90
Applications for copies of lost mortgages		2

3. CANCELMENTS

Total passed	... ..	1,236
Total amount involved	... ..	\$ 4,221,153.75

4. LEASES AND TRANSFERS

Total number advertised	... ..	294
Passed	... ..	244

5. OPPOSITIONS

Entered	... ..	268
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APPENDIX B

COMPANIES

Incorporated in British Guiana

No. in Register	Name of Company Registered	Share Capital
637	E.C. Shim & Co. (British Guiana) Limited	₡ 100,000
638	Toolsie Persaud Limited	500,000
639	William Henry Kailan Limited	250,000
640	Industrial Resources Limited	50,000
641	Khoda Bacchus and Sons Limited	50,000
642	De Luxe Cinemas Limited	550,000
643	Berbice Education Trust of British Guiana	-
644	Kishundoyal and Sons Limited	120,000
645	Chung Wa Company Limited	10,000
646	Fazenda Limited	50,000
647	Berbice Turf Club Limited	-
648	Thompson and Company British Guiana Limited	50,000
649	Federal Trading Agencies Limited	100,000
650	Georgetown Seafoods and Trading Co. Limited	75,000
651	Carib Country Club Limited	250,000
652	Blygezight Gardens Limited	60,000
653	Yassin Shipping & Trading Company Limited	50,000
654	Psaila Brothers Limited	250,000
655	Gunraj Paper Works Limited	40,000
656	John Fernandes Limited	75,000
657	New Guiana Company Limited	10,000
658	Abdool Majeed & Sons (1959) Investments Limited	250,000
659	Lombank (British Guiana) Limited	50,000
660	Lombard Banking (British Guiana) Limited	50,000
661	Prakash Life Assurance Company Limited	500,000
662	Peter Taylor & Co. Limited	48,000

APPENDIX B (contd.)

COMPANIES

Incorporated outside British Guiana

No. in Register	Name of Company Registered	Country in which Incorporated	Share Capital
192	The British-American Life Insurance Company Limited	Bahama Islands	£ 50,000
193	Colonial Fire Insurance Company Limited	Trinidad	\$500,000
194	J. Arthur Rank Overseas Film Distributors Limited	England	£ 100
195	Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania	U.S.A.	Non profit corp.
196	Credit for Industry (East Caribbean) Limited	Trinidad	\$ 500
197	United Dominions Corporation (East Caribbean) Limited	Trinidad	\$ 500
198	Matthew Hall Overseas Limited	England	£ 1,000
199	American Guiana Development Corporation	Panama	£100,000

--- 0 ---

APPENDIX C

TRADE UNIONS

Number on register 1st January, 1959	-	52
Number registered in 1959	-	1
Number struck off register in 1959	-	6
Number on register 31st December, 1959	-	47

--- 0 ---

APPENDIX D

TRADE MARKS

Part A of the Register

Number on register 1st January, 1959	-	3,052
Number struck off register in 1959	-	38
Number of applications filed during 1959	-	185
Number on register 31st December, 1959	-	3,199

Part B of the Register

Number on Register 1st January, 1959	-	8
Number of applications filed in 1959	-	-
Number struck off register in 1959	-	-
Number on register 31st December, 1959	-	8

Part C of the Register

Number on register 1st January, 1959	-	620
Number of applications filed during 1959	-	47
Number struck off register in 1959	-	-
Number on register 31st December, 1959	-	667

--- 0 ---

APPENDIX E

PATENTS

Number on register 1st January, 1959	-	164
Number registered in 1959	-	15
Number on register 31st December, 1959	-	179

DESIGNS

Number on register 1st January, 1959	-	17
Number registered in 1959	-	2
Number on register 31st December, 1959	-	19

--- 0 ---

APPENDIX F

BUSINESS NAMES

Number on register 1st January, 1959	-	389
Number registered in 1959	-	135
Number lapsed for non-payment of renewal fees in 1959	-	98
Number on register 31st December, 1959	-	426

--- 0 ---

APPENDIX G

INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETIES

Number on register 1st January, 1959	-	6
Number registered in 1959	-	-
Number on register 31st December, 1959	-	6

--- 0 ---

APPENDIX H

ATTESTATION AND REGISTRATION OF DEEDS, etc.

DOCUMENTS	Attested	Attested and Registered in Deeds Registry	Attested outside and Registered in Deeds Registry	Deposited	Recorded	Filed	TOTAL
Articles of Clerkship	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Bills of Sale and Charges (including Renewals and Transfers of Bills of Sale)	-	-	-	-	-	312	312
Bonds	-	73	5	-	-	-	78
Certificates	-	104	-	-	-	-	104
Contracts and Leases	-	266	53	29	-	-	348
Deeds of Trust	-	5	2	1	-	-	8
Deeds of Gift	-	4	1	1	-	-	6
Deeds Poll	-	230	198	-	3	-	431
Discharges	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Friendly Societies' Rules	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Ships' Protests	-	5	-	-	-	-	5
Plans	-	-	-	229	-	-	229
Powers of Attorney	-	89	119	6	90	-	304
Revocations & Renunciations	-	9	3	-	1	-	13
Substitutions & Assumptions	-	8	3	-	3	-	14
Transfers	-	157	14	-	-	-	171
Miscellaneous	-	27	1	-	-	-	28
	-	979	399	268	98	312	2056

APPENDIX J

RETURN OF SUITS INSTITUTED BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT

CIVIL JURISDICTION

<u>ACTIONS</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
Assault and battery	19
Money due	301
Detinue	8
Breach of contract	59
Libel and slander	103
Possession and Mesne Profits	33
Declaration of ownership	79
Trespass to land	118
Specific Performance	86
Foreclosure of mortgage	150
Opposition to transports and mortgages	89
Bills of Exchange, Promissory notes	205
Declaration of partnership	5
Goods sold	235
House rent	6
 <u>OTHER MATTERS</u>	
Income Tax	2
Probate	3
Malicious Prosecution	3
Miscellaneous Actions	186
Miscellaneous Petitions	6
Complaints against Legal Practitioners	-
Matrimonial Causes	262
Vice Admiralty	8
Administration of estates	58
Other summonses	128
Applications:-	
(i) under the Companies Ordinance Cap. 328	5
(ii) under the Adoption of Children Ord., 1955	42
TOTAL	<u>2,188</u>



APPENDIX J (contd.)

RETURN OF SUITS INSTITUTED BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT

APPELLATE JURISDICTION

Appeals from Magistrates	...	...	178
Rent Assessment Appeals	...	...	11
Partition Appeals	...	...	55
Income Tax Appeals	...	...	4
Appeal Judges Supreme Court	...	...	12
Criminal Appeals	...	...	22
Rice Assessment Appeals	...	...	28
			<hr/>
		TOTAL	310
			<hr/> <hr/>

APPENDIX K

PERSONS DEALT WITH BY THE SUPREME COURT, 1959.

DEMERARA, ESSEQUEBO AND BERBICE.

OFFENCES	Total arrested or summoned to Court	Acquitted	Found insane before trial	Nolle Prosequi	Awaiting trial at 31.12.59.	CONVICTED
<u>AGAINST LAWFUL AUTHORITY</u>						
Against Public Order	1	-	-	-	1	-
Perjury	1	1	-	-	-	-
Escape and Rescue	2	-	-	-	-	2
<u>AGAINST PUBLIC MORALITY</u>						
Rape and Indecent Assault	15	5	-	4	1	5
Unnatural Offences	3	2	-	-	-	1
Other	19	5	-	9	-	5
<u>AGAINST THE PERSON</u>						
Murder and Manslaughter	42	13	-	6	1	18
Attempted murder and suicide	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grievous harm, wounding, etc.	32	4	-	1	3	24
Assaults	6	1	-	2	1	2
Other	16	1	-	6	5	4
<u>AGAINST PROPERTY</u>						
Thefts and other stealings	34	7	-	7	-	20
Robbery and extortion	34	9	-	3	-	22
Burglary, house & store-breaking	62	18	-	8	14	22
False pretences, cheating, fraud, etc.	18	-	-	1	6	11
Receiving stolen property	10	1	-	-	2	7
Arson	8	4	-	-	1	3
Praedial Larceny	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	13	1	-	-	2	10
<u>AGAINST PENAL CODE</u>						
Forgery and Coinage	15	3	-	2	-	10
Other	12	-	-	6	5	1
<u>AGAINST LOCAL LAWS</u>						
Against Traffic Ordinance	1	-	-	-	-	5
Against Township Ordinance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Against Liquor Ordinance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gambling	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
	344	75	-	55	42	172

MISCELLANEOUS JUDICIAL MATTERS

INSOLVENCY

I.	Petitions for Receiving Orders:-		
	(a) By creditors	...	10
	(b) By debtors	...	5
	Insolvency notices filed	...	12
	Petitions dismissed or withdrawn	...	4
	Receiving orders made:-		
	(a) Petitions filed in 1958	...	-
	(b) Petitions filed in 1959	...	10
	Receiving orders rescinded	...	-
	Public examinations held:-		
	(a) Petitions filed in 1957	...	-
	(b) Petitions filed in 1958	...	8
	(c) Petitions filed in 1959	...	5
	Orders of Adjudication:-		
	(a) Petitions filed in 1957	...	-
	(b) Petitions filed in 1958	...	8
	(c) Petitions filed in 1959	...	5
	Applications for discharge:-		
	(a) Applied for	...	-
	(b) Granted	...	-
	(c) Refused	...	-
	Applications by assignees for release	...	-
II.	Petitions or applications to administer estates in insolvency	...	6
III.	Administration Orders:-		
	Made	...	6
	Refused or application withdrawn	...	-
	Rescinded	...	-
IV.	Judgment Summons issued:-		
	(a) Demerara and Essequibo	...	57
	(b) Berbice	...	7

COMPANIES WINDING-UP

Petitions for	...		1
Order made	...		-
Application by liquidators for release	...		-

PARATE EXECUTION

Fiats granted for recovery of:-			
(a) Town Taxes	...		528
(b) Village Rates	...		609
(c) Rates and Taxes other than the foregoing granted	...		-
Applications for substituted service granted			532

PETITIONS (other than those filed in Matrimonial Causes)

Number filed:-			
(a) Demerara and Essequibo	83		
(b) Berbice	<u>15</u>	...	98

made up/

APPENDIX L (contd.)

MISCELLANEOUS JUDICIAL MATTERS

PETITIONS (contd.)

made up as follows:-

(i) For leave to levy on immovable property in pursuance of a judgment of Magistrates Court	10
(ii) For admission by Barristers to practise	9
(iii) For admission by Solicitors to practise	2
(iv) For leave to marry	10
(v) For declaration of title	21
(vi) Others	<u>46</u>
	<u>98</u>

PROBATE

Application for probate of wills:-		
(i) Demerara and Essequibo	...	328
(ii) Berbice	...	101
Application for Letters of Administration:-		
(a) To the Court -		
(i) Demerara and Essequibo	...	236
(ii) Berbice	...	89
(b) To the Registrar -		
(i) Demerara and Essequibo	...	48
(ii) Berbice	...	19

POOR PERSONS

Applications under Rules of Court 1955 (Poor Persons)	...	42
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DECEASED PERSONS - STATES ADMINISTRATION  
ORDINANCE CHAPTER 46

Accounts filed by executors and administrators (section 46):-		
(a) Demerara and Essequibo	...	25
(b) Berbice	...	-
Applications to Registrar:-		
(a) For leave to sell (section 42)-		
(i) Demerara and Essequibo	...	21
(ii) Berbice	...	1
(b) For leave to sub-divide (section 42(2))-		
(i) Demerara and Essequibo	...	3
(ii) Berbice	...	2
(c) For assessment of remuneration of executors and administrators (section 48) -		
(i) Demerara and Essequibo	...	8
(ii) Berbice	...	-

<u>COMPLAINTS AGAINST LEGAL PRACTITIONERS</u>	...	76
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<u>PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE CORONERS' ORDINANCE</u>	...	69
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APPENDIX L (contd.)

MISCELLANEOUS JUDICIAL MATTERS

DEPOSIT OF WILLS FOR SAFE CUSTODY (Chapter 46)

(a) Safe custody with Registrar (section 5) -		
(i) Demerara and Essequibo	...	238
(ii) Berbice	...	28
(b) Lodged (section 6) -		
(i) Demerara and Essequibo	...	46
(ii) Berbice	...	-

CAVEATS ENTERED

(i) Demerara and Essequibo	...	43
(ii) Berbice	...	14

WRITS OF EXECUTION

Issued against movable and immovable property -		
(i) Demerara and Essequibo	...	271
(ii) Berbice	...	49

PUBLIC TRUSTEES UNDERTAKING TO ADMINISTER ESTATES OF DECEASED PERSONS

...	41
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DIVORCE

Citations issued	...	307
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APPENDIX M

MARSHALS' BRANCH

Writs of Summonses

Served by:		
Marshals	...	1376
Bailiffs	...	755
Persons authorised by Registrar	...	97

Witnesses Subpoenas

Served by:		
Marshals	...	451
Bailiffs	...	163
Persons authorised by Registrar	...	59

Summations

Served by:		
Marshals	...	1340
Bailiffs	...	163
Persons authorised by Registrar	...	nil
Withdrawn	...	364

Judgment Summonses

Served by:		
Marshals	...	55
Bailiffs	...	25

Divorce Citations

Served by:		
Marshals	...	37
Bailiffs	...	9

Miscellaneous Processes

Served by Marshals	...	171
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Levies

Made by:		
Marshals	...	1263
Bailiffs	...	85
Persons authorised by Registrar	...	nil
Withdrawn	...	89

Days in Attendance at Court

Appellate Jurisdiction	...	109
Civil Jurisdiction	...	906
Criminal Jurisdiction	...	578
Transport Court	...	115

Days spent on Outdoor duty

Whole days	...	253
Part days	...	699

Execution Sales	...	791
Oppositions to Execution Sales	...	13

Amount received under Execution Sales	...	\$ 92,847.45
Unclaimed balance paid into Treasury	...	\$ 2,250.86

Witness Money lodged	...	\$ 1,941.74
Balance in Bank unpaid	...	\$ 41,860.94

APPENDIX N

REVENUE

Comparative statement of revenue  
collected for 1958 and 1959 under  
various heads.

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
Estate Duty	\$ 5,538.31	\$ 15,676.04
Duty on Transports, etc.	\$ 149,446.49	\$ 160,175.13
<u>Fees -</u>		
Notarial	\$ 19,112.59	\$ 21,155.82
Judicial	69,687.31	77,641.53
Conveyancing	97,222.69	113,384.28
Marshal	43,579.91	45,959.43
Affidavits	<u>1,237.86</u>	<u>1,108.90</u>
<u>Total Fees</u>	<u>\$ 230,840.36</u>	<u>\$ 259,229.96</u>

EXPENDITURE

Comparative statement of expenditure  
for 1958 and 1959.

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
Personal Emoluments	\$ 246,090.00	\$ 251,048.00
Other Charges	<u>105,182.00</u>	<u>94,457.00</u>
	<u>\$ 351,272.00</u>	<u>\$ 345,505.00</u>