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CEYLON.



SESSIONAL PAPER XXIV.—1927.

Administration Report of the Chairman of the Municipal Council of Colombo for the Year 1926.

SEPTEMBER, 1927.

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THE MUNICIPALITY OF COLOMBO.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 1926.

CHAPTER I.

COUNCIL, COMMITTEES, MEETINGS, &c.

THE COUNCIL.

Nominated Councillors.

Mr. H. E. Newnham, B.A., C.C.S., *Chairman*.
 Mr. W. Philps, till March 4, and
 Mr. T. R. Mitchell, from March 19.
 Mr. G. Adamjee Lukmanjee.
 Mr. W. E. V. de Rooy.
 Mr. A. H. F. Clarke, till May 27, and
 Mr. W. J. Thornhill, from June 9.
 The Hon. Mr. L. Macrae, M.L.C., till April
 21, and
 Lieut.-Col. N. Dunbar Walker, O.B.E., M.B.,
 till October 26, and
 Lieut.-Col. C. D. Myles, O.B.E., M.B., from
 October 26.
 Mr. G. W. Dodds.
 Dr. G. Thornton.

Nominated Councillors—contd.

Mr. J. S. Collett.
 Mr. A. H. G. Dawson, till August 15, and
 Mr. A. J. Wickwar, from August 15.

Elected Councillors.

Mr. C. P. Dias, M.B.E., J.P.
 The Hon. Mr. N. H. M. Abdul Cader, M.L.C.
 Mr. H. L. de Mel, C.B.E., J.P.
 Dr. E. V. Ratnam.
 Mr. A. E. de Silva.
 Mr. R. L. Pereira.
 The Hon. Mr. C. H. Z. Fernando, M.L.C.
 Dr. E. A. Coorey.
 Mr. T. G. Jayewardene, V.D., J.P.
 Mr. N. R. Blande.

Council Meetings.—Thirteen.

				Present.
1.	The Chairman	...	...	12
2.	Mr. C. P. Dias	..	...	13
3.	The Hon. Mr. N. H. M. Abdul Cader	...	...	13
4.	Mr. H. L. de Mel	...	...	9
5.	Dr. E. V. Ratnam	...	...	12
6.	Mr. W. Philps, till March 4	...	...	2
7.	Mr. A. E. de Silva	...	...	12
8.	Mr. R. L. Pereira	...	...	7
9.	*The Hon. Mr. C. H. Z. Fernando	...	...	9
10.	Mr. G. Adamjee Lukmanjee	...	...	6
11.	Mr. W. E. V. de Rooy	...	...	13
12.	Mr. A. H. F. Clarke, till May 27	...	...	2
13.	The Hon. Mr. L. Macrae, till April 21	...	...	1
14.	Dr. E. A. Coorey	...	...	11
15.	Mr. G. W. Dodds	...	...	13
16.	Dr. G. Thornton	...	...	8
17.	Mr. J. S. Collett	...	...	11
18.	Mr. T. G. Jayewardene	...	...	13
19.	Mr. N. R. Blande	...	...	12
20.	Mr. A. H. G. Dawson, till August 15	...	...	5
21.	Mr. A. J. Wickwar, from August 15	...	...	4
22.	Mr. T. R. Mitchell, from March 19	...	...	9
23.	Lieut.-Col. N. Dunbar Walker, till October 26	...	...	3
24.	Mr. W. J. Thornhill, from June 9	...	...	2
25.	Lieut.-Col. C. D. Myles, from October 26	...	...	2

* Absent from Ceylon during 4 meetings.

The 13 Council meetings occupied 19 hours and dealt with 884 items of Agenda. The average time of a meeting was therefore an hour and a half; and the average number of items dealt with at a meeting was 68. The shortest meeting was on March 3 (34 minutes and 72 items); the longest on August 4 (2 hours and 14 minutes and 60 items).

At the 37 Council meetings during the period August, 1924, to May, 1927, the Council divided on 12 occasions. The items thus voted on and the result of the voting are recorded below. The casting vote of the Chairman was only required twice.

October 1, 1924—To take strong action to enforce rules of road on pedestrians.

For { 5 Nominated ... } Against { 1 Nominated.
1 Elected ... } 5 Elected.

Casting vote of Chairman for.

December 3, 1924—To dispense with an officer's services at end of two years' service.

For { 7 Nominated ... } Against { 2 Nominated.
1 Elected ... } 8 Elected.

April 1, 1925—To authorize surprise visits by Councillors to Municipal institutions.

For 6 Elected ... Against { 8 Nominated.
1 Elected.

November 4, 1925—To cancel order prohibiting grazing of milch cows on Municipal lands.

For 8 Elected ... Against { 7 Nominated.
1 Elected.

Casting vote of Chairman against.

December 9, 1925—To reduce two salaries by amount of batta earned.

For { 1 Nominated ... } Against { 5 Nominated.
6 Elected ... } 3 Elected.

May 5, 1926—To allow Council's files relating to the property of a Councillor which is the subject of litigation between him and the Council to be sent to that Councillor for reference.

For { 4 Nominated ... } Against { 4 Nominated.
6 Elected ... } 1 Elected.

December 1, 1926—To appoint a Committee to inspect the boundary wall and land of the Kirillapone cemetery.

For 5 Elected ... Against { 7 Nominated.
1 Elected.

December 8, 1926—To increase the estimated revenue for 1927 from the tax on vehicles and animals.

For 7 Elected ... Against 6 Nominated.

March 9, 1927—To refuse an increase of pension to an officer.

For 3 Elected ... Against { 7 Nominated.
6 Elected.

March 9, 1927—To place post of Scavenging Inspector in the same group as Sanitary Inspectors.

For { 1 Nominated ... } Against { 5 Nominated.
6 Elected ... } 3 Elected.

April 6, 1927—To adopt the report of the Works and Finance Committees regarding the Assessor.

For { 6 Nominated ... } Against 4 Elected.
5 Elected ...

May 11, 1927—To adopt the report of the Finance Committee regarding the appointment of a Shroff.

For { 6 Nominated ... } Against 6 Elected.
2 Elected ...

The Council consists of 10 nominated members, including the Chairman, and 10 elected members. There were vacancies unfilled among the nominated members at the time that 8 out of the above 37 meetings were held. There was a majority of elected members present at 18 meetings and a majority of nominated members at 11 meetings. At 8 meetings the number of nominated and elected members present was equal.

COMMITTEES IN 1926.

The following statements show the names of members of the Standing Committees and Special Committees during 1926, the number of meetings held, and the number of meetings at which each member was present :—

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Law and General Subjects.—Eleven meetings, lasting eleven hours.

			Present.
1.	The Chairman	...	11
2.	The Hon. Mr. N. H. M. Abdul Cader	...	11
3.	Mr. R. L. Pereira	...	11
4.	Mr. W. E. V. de Rooy	...	10

Sanitation and Markets.—Eleven meetings, lasting thirteen and half hours.

			Present.
1.	The Chairman	...	11
2.	Dr. E. V. Ratnam	...	11
3.	Dr. E. A. Coorey	...	8
4.	Dr. G. Thornton	...	5

Works.—Fourteen meetings.

			Present.
1.	The Chairman	...	14
2.	Mr. C. P. Dias	...	11
3.	Mr. A. H. F. Clarke, till May 27	...	4
4.	Mr. W. J. Thornhill, from June 9	...	4
5.	Dr. E. A. Coorey	...	10

Finance.—Seventeen meetings.

			Present.
1.	The Chairman	...	17
2.	Mr. H. L. de Mel	...	13
3.	Mr. A. E. de Silva	...	10
4.	Mr. T. G. Jayewardene	...	14

The total time occupied by the Works and Finance Committees was thirty-five hours.

The Special Committee regarding the Building of the New Town Hall.—Eight meetings, lasting fourteen and a quarter hours.

			Present.
1.	The Chairman	...	8
2.	Mr. H. L. de Mel	...	4
3.	Mr. A. E. de Silva	...	1
4.	Mr. W. E. V. de Rooy	...	3
5.	Mr. A. H. F. Clarke, till May 27	...	1
6.	Mr. G. W. Dodds	...	7
7.	Mr. T. G. Jayewardene	...	6
8.	Mr. J. S. Collett	...	7
9.	The Hon. Mr. C. H. Z. Fernando, from June 2	...	3

A Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman, Mr. G. W. Dodds, and Mr. T. G. Jayewardene held three meetings, lasting ten hours, to inquire into the delay in the building.

The Special Committee regarding the Public Library.—Three meetings, lasting four and a half hours.

(1) MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.

			Present.
1.	The Chairman	...	3
2.	Mr. A. E. de Silva	...	1
3.	Mr. R. L. Pereira	...	—
4.	Mr. W. E. V. de Rooy	...	1
5.	Dr. E. A. Coorey	...	—

(2) MEMBERS OF PUBLIC.

The Colombo Library.

1.	Dr. David Rockwood	...	2
2.	Rev. M. J. Burrows	...	2

The Pettah Library.

3.	The Hon. Mr. G. A. Wille	...	3
4.	Mr. F. Dadabhoy	...	2

5.	The Hon. Sir H. M. Fernando, Kt.	...	—
6.	Dr. J. Pearson	...	—
7.	Prof. R. Marrs	...	1
8.	Prof. Leigh Smith	...	1
9.	Mr. P. de S. Kularatne	...	1
10.	Rev. Father Y. M. Le Jeune	...	1
11.	Mr. E. W. Jayewardene, K.C.	...	2
12.	Mr. L. M. Maartensz	...	—

The Special Building Committee.—Eleven meetings, lasting twelve hours.

			Present.
1.	The Chairman	...	11
2.	Mr. H. L. de Mel	...	8
3.	Mr. A. E. de Silva	...	1
4.	Mr. R. L. Pereira	...	—
5.	Mr. A. H. F. Clarke, till May 27	...	5
6.	Dr. E. A. Coorey	...	2
7.	Mr. T. G. Jayewardene	...	10
8.	The Hon. Mr. C. H. Z. Fernando, from June 2	...	3

The Special Committee regarding Milk Supply.—Two meetings, lasting one and half hours.

	Present.
1. The Chairman	2
2. Mr. C. P. Dias	2
3. Dr. E. V. Ratnam	2
4. Dr. E. A. Coorey	1
5. Dr. G. Thornton	1
6. Mr. T. G. Jayewardene	...

The Special Committee regarding the Purchase of Stores through Agents in London.—
One meeting, lasting one and a quarter hours.

	Present.
1. The Chairman	1
2. Mr. C. P. Dias	—
3. Mr. H. L. de Mel	—
4. Mr. A. E. de Silva	—
5. Mr. A. H. F. Clarke	—
6. Dr. E. A. Coorey	—
7. Mr. J. S. Collett	1
8. Mr. T. G. Jayewardene	1
9. Mr. N. R. Blande	...

The Special Committee regarding the Motor 'Bus and Lorry Traffic in the City.—
No Meeting was held.

1. The Chairman
2. The Hon. Mr. N. H. M. Abdul Cader
3. Mr. A. E. de Silva
4. The Hon. Mr. C. H. Z. Fernando
5. Mr. T. G. Jayewardene

The Special Committee of Inquiry regarding the Storekeeper.—Three meetings, lasting six hours.

	Present.
1. The Chairman	3
2. Dr. E. A. Coorey	3
3. Mr. G. W. Dodds	3
4. Mr. T. G. Jayewardene	3
5. Mr. N. R. Blande	3

The Four Standing Committees met together twice for three hours and ten minutes in all. In addition to the 13 Council meetings (except one when he was ill) and the 86 Council Committee meetings, the Chairman attended the following official or *ex-officio* meetings:—Port Commission, 6; Hydro-Electric Advisory Board, 11; Labour Advisory Committee, 8; Wet Dock, 4; Housing Ordinance, 4; Motor Ordinance, 1; Galle Face Athletic Ground, 2; Home for Incurables, 7; Vagrants' Home, 2; Friend-in-Need Society, 9; Lunatic Asylum, 6; a total of 158 meetings in a year.

MR. C. P. DIAS, M.B.E., J.P., M.M.C.

Mr. C. P. Dias, who had uninterruptedly represented the San Sebastian Ward in this Council since January, 1891, that is, for a period of 35 years, did not seek re-election at the triennial elections at the end of 1926. His services to the ratepayers and the city were marked by the conferment on him by His Majesty the King of the Membership of the Order of the British Empire. Mr. Dias was invested with this honour by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Hugh Clifford, who, by special arrangement and on his own suggestion, performed the investiture in the Municipal Council Chamber before the General Meeting of the Council on December 1, in the presence of all the members of Council and a large gathering of prominent citizens of Colombo.

TRIENNIAL ELECTIONS.

The triennial elections for the election of a member for each ward of the city for the three years 1927 to 1929 were held at the end of the year. The sitting members were returned unopposed in the following wards:—Wellawatta, Kollupitiya, Pettah, Fort, and New Bazaar. The seats for Maradana, St. Paul's, Kotahena, and Slave Island Wards were contested.

Mr. A. E. de Silva did not seek re-election for Maradana Ward after representing the ward for nearly 7 years. Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike and Mr. A. E. Goonesinghe went to the poll. The former was elected by 1,801 votes to 1,186.

In St. Paul's Ward, the sitting member, Dr. E. V. Ratnam, was contested by Dr. R. Saravanamuttu and Mr. J. H. Rasiah Joseph. Dr. Ratnam was re-elected by a majority of 114 votes.

For Kotahena Ward, the Hon. Mr. C. H. Z. Fernando secured re-election by a majority of 193 votes against his contestant, Mr. Geo. R. de Silva.

The sitting member, Mr. H. L. de Mel, C.B.E., J.P., who represented the Slave Island Ward for 18 years, was unseated by Dr. S. Muttiah, who secured a majority of 46 votes.

For San Sebastian Ward, Mr. C. P. Dias, M.B.E., J.P., did not seek re-election, and Mr. M. L. M. Reyal was returned unopposed.

STAFF.

In 1926 there were 35 pensionable posts in the higher staff, and 555 pensionable posts in the subordinate staff, while the number employed in non-pensionable posts or on daily pay was approximately 4,380.

LEAVE OF HIGHER STAFF.

Mr. Hallock Wijenathen, who was on eight months' leave, resumed duties on January 4, 1926.

Mr. G. H. N. Saunders, who was on seven months' leave, resumed duties on January 7, 1926.

Dr. E. R. Loos went on three months' leave preparatory to retirement, and retired as from August 1, 1926.

RECRUITMENT OF STAFF.

Dr. F. N. Jayawardene assumed duties on August 3, 1926, as Assistant Medical Officer of Health.

During the years 1924, 1925, 1926 there have been six new appointments to the permanent higher staff. Of these, only one, Mr. C. Stewart Orr, the Assessor, was recruited from outside the Colony. The remainder were recruited in Ceylon, viz.:—Dr. (Mrs.) Rowlands, Messrs. O. T. F. Senaratne, J. C. O. Ernst, G. A. Amerasinghe, and Dr. F. N. Jayawardene.

Reference was made in the 1925 Report to the large number of applicants for employment who merely hold the Elementary School-Leaving Certificate and nothing higher; and to the small number of applicants when the educational qualification is raised to the Cambridge Senior standard. It was noted also to what a low level even the latter attain when they are examined departmentally in arithmetic, essay, and general knowledge. Experience in 1926 was the same and is recorded as follows:—

Clerical Service, Division I.—Rs. 900 by Rs. 120 to Rs. 3,180—Cambridge Senior or London Matriculation; or Junior or Elementary School-Leaving Certificate with a Commercial Certificate: 24 applicants for 6 appointments; 14 failed to pass the qualifying test in arithmetic, handwriting, and spelling.

Clerical Service, Division II.—Rs. 540 by Rs. 60 to Rs. 1,320—Elementary School-Leaving Certificate: 327 applicants, of whom 166 were selected to compete for 36 appointments. The last appointed obtained only 40 per cent. of marks in the departmental examination in arithmetic, essay, and general knowledge.

Sanitary Sub-Inspector—Rs. 1,200 by Rs. 96 to Rs. 2,400—Senior Local: 29 applicants for 1 post.

Market-keeper, Grade II.—Rs. 540 by Rs. 48 to Rs. 1,200—Elementary School-Leaving Certificate: 54 applicants for 1 post.

Other recruitment was as follows:—

Assistant Medical Officer of Health—Rs. 7,200 by Rs. 360 to Rs. 12,000—D. P. H.: One applicant for 1 post advertised as for Ceylonese only.

Dispensary Medical Officer—Rs. 4,200 by 300 to Rs. 8,400—Qualified Medical Practitioner: 6 applicants for 1 post.

Apothecary—Rs. 1,200 by Rs. 96 to Rs. 2,400—Government Certificate: 14 applicants for 2 posts.

Health Visitors—Rs. 900 by Rs. 60 to Rs. 1,500—Certificates in Maternity and Nursing: 5 applicants for 2 posts.

DISCIPLINE.

During the period August, 1924, to May, 1927, one Draughtsman and one Division I. Clerk have been compulsorily retired by Council for inefficiency. The Committees recommended that an Inspector should be removed from the service on the ground of inefficiency, but the Council referred the matter back for re-consideration. The Finance Committee recommended that a Division II. Clerk's services should be discontinued, but Council resolved that he should be continued in service.

CHAPTER II.

LEGISLATION.

The Report for 1925 indicated that the wishes of the Council in the matter of new legislation had not been precipitately fulfilled. Lest they should be lost sight of owing to effluxion of time they are again placed on record.

The amendments to the Municipal Councils Ordinance, which reached the stage of a draft bill in 1923, were deferred pending a decision with regard to the alterations in the Municipal constitution. On this point a conference was held with His Excellency the Governor at the end of 1926.

In 1922 the Council forwarded to Government certain amendments it desired made to the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance. These are still under consideration by a Committee appointed by Government in March, 1925. The complexity of the subject has up to date precluded a decision.

The Food and Drugs Ordinance, which Government informed the Council in May, 1912, it proposed shortly to introduce, has not yet emerged.

The effort to deal with the importation of inferior milk, which in 1925 reached the stage of a draft proclamation, did not culminate in the publication of the proclamation by the end of 1926 nor, indeed, by May, 1927.

The new Motor Car Ordinance, with regard to which conferences were held beginning in January, 1925, is still under consideration.

The Midwives' Ordinance, which was passed in 1920 and which the Council in 1924 pointed out had still not been brought into operation, remained still-born at the end of 1926.

On a report from the Police on October 30, 1926, that a sheep was left lying for 24 hours with its back broken at the Quarantine Station, it was discovered that the existing law does not provide for dealing with persons who leave an animal to die in agony, except on a street. The Council, therefore, on December 1, 1926, passed a by-law to cover such cases in its Cattle Mart and requested Government to legislate for the Quarantine Station and elsewhere. Unfortunately the Council's by-law was found to be *ultra vires*. Government proposes to amend the law to deal with the matter.

The following by-laws passed were gazetted during the year :—

- Under the Municipal Councils Ordinance, No. 6 of 1910—
 - Amendments to rules 2, 4, 20, 21, 21A, and 29 (1) of Pension and Gratuity Rules.
 - Leave to daily paid employees.
 - Leave preparatory to retirement.
- Under the Housing Ordinance, No. 19 of 1915—
 - Amendments in zoning by-laws.
 - Treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis within 50 yards of human dwellings.
- Under the Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance of 1897—
 - Prohibiting bathing, &c., in a portion of the Kelani river.
- Under the Vehicles Ordinance, No. 4 of 1926—
 - Closure of First Division, Maradana, to motor bus and bullock cart traffic.
 - Closure of Campbell place, Second and Third Divisions, Maradana, to motor bus traffic.
 - One-way traffic in Bankshall street, Baillie street, Fourth Cross street, and Keyzer street.

CHAPTER III.

FINANCE.

The balance sheet of December 31, 1926, prepared by Mr. G. H. N. Saunders, the Municipal Treasurer, gives the following details of the Council's total indebtedness on that date :—

	Rs.	c.
Waterworks Loan	2,831,949	29
Drainage Loan	10,452,705	91
Part of cost of Victoria Bridge (capitalized) ...	97,394	41
Total ...	13,382,049	61

The total city debt was reduced to this sum by Rs. 176,625'49 during the year and now represents less than four times the annual revenue from rates and taxes. The Ordinance permits borrowing to the extent of ten times such revenue, but the policy has been to keep far below that limit. The careful expenditure of the annual revenue fully absorbs the energies of the Council's present staff and, indeed, in order to satisfy the requirements of the ratepayers, it was obvious that additional staff would be necessary to keep pace with the expansion of revenue and the higher standard of Municipal service now required.

The total revenue from all sources amounted to Rs. 6,297,436'07, an increase of six and half lakhs over 1925. This further record figure, however, was partly due to windfalls, which do not always recur, e.g., the receipt of nearly three lakhs from Government in respect of the widening of the Galle road from Turret road to Deal place. Attention is invited to the report of the Municipal Treasurer under the heading of the Consolidated Rate, which brought in 52'22 per cent. of the Council's revenue, as against nearly 57 per cent. in 1925. No less than 98'67 per cent. of the rates for the four quarters ending September 30, 1926, were collected during the year. This just beats the record collection of 98'66 per cent. in 1925. Ratepayers, however, take considerable advantage of the one month's grace allowed for the payment of rates after the end of each quarter, 72'39 per cent. of them having done so in the case of the first quarter. However, the percentages of rates which have to be forcibly collected is gradually falling, as is the amount of arrears outstanding at the end of the year. The efforts made by the Council's staff to ensure the prompt collection of the rates are being supported by the gradual acquisition of the habit of prompt payment by the ratepayers themselves.

The Council is doing its best to eliminate the practice of allowing properties to be seized and sold and vested in the Council for non-payment of rates, and in 1926 no such properties were vested, while forty properties previously vested were reconveyed to the owners. Unfortunately at the beginning of the year there were over 700 properties already thus vested in the Council, on most of which the owners were paying the equivalent of the rates although they were making no efforts to obtain the reconveyance. This position was eminently unsatisfactory and efforts are being made to induce owners to take the necessary steps to enter into possession of their own property. This, however, naturally entails their having to pay the lawyer's fees to investigate their title, in order to ensure that the property is reconveyed to the right original owner and to conserve the interests of minors and others. This fee is an inevitable obstacle to reconveyance in the case of the poorer classes and the Council has spent much time and thought in endeavouring to devise a cheaper method of retransfer without incurring the risk of endangering the rights of the more helpless claimants. Reference is requested to Mr. Saunders' report in Appendix A, which contains a large quantity of valuable information regarding the activities of the Council both financial and other.

CHAPTER IV.

ASSESSMENT.

Attention is invited to the report of Mr. Stewart Orr, the Assessor, in Appendix B. By the end of the year the annual value of property in Colombo, as shown in the assessment registers, had increased by over Rs. 550,000, the same increase as in 1925. The systematic revision of the Fort Ward undertaken in 1925 accounted for over Rs. 200,000 of the increase. To this revision only 44 objections were received and reductions were allowed in 28 cases.

Wellawatta Ward which had not been revised for eight years was dealt with during the year and the new valuations would have produced an increase of Rs. 146,000 a year in rates. On representations from a Ratepayers' Association, Council, early in 1927, resolved to cancel the revision, which is to be done again in 1927.

Attention is invited to the work thrown on this Department by the valuations for acquisition of lands which amounted to over Rs. 400,000 for 108 lots. This work is of a very complicated and responsible nature, wherein it would be only too easy to purchase popularity and avoid discomforts at the expense of the general ratepayer by generous valuations. I should like to record appreciation of the skill and tact with which Mr. Orr performed this work. The projected improvements to the Galle road and other thoroughfares will make this branch of work yet more onerous in future.

CHAPTER V.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

In Appendix C, Dr. W. Marshall Philip, the Medical Officer of Health, submits his twenty-first and last Administration Report before his retirement after 24 years and 8 months service with the Council. The conferment on him by His Majesty the King during 1927 of the honour of Commandership of the British Empire was greeted with universal appreciation.

Dr. E. R. Loos, the Assistant Medical Officer of Health, also retired after nearly 18 years service and the Council is the poorer for the loss of his experience and knowledge.

1926 was an unusually prosperous year as reflected, for example, in the records of the Post Office Savings Bank. It was also a year remarkable in other respects. The general death-rate, 23.4 per 1,000; the infant mortality, 204 per 1,000 births; the mortality from phthisis, 2.27 per 1,000, were the lowest rates ever recorded in Colombo, while the 13 cases of plague, with 12 deaths, were fewer than in any year since that disease appeared in Colombo in 1914. The birth-rate, 31.3 per 1,000, was the highest recorded with the exception of the abnormally high post-war year rate of 35.7 per 1,000 in 1921.

PLAGUE.

Dr. Philip states his reasons for believing that plague was eradicated from Colombo in May until it was re-introduced from abroad in September through the Port. The re-introduction was particularly unfortunate in that during the first six months of 1927 no less than 72 cases have been reported in this city.

Dr. Hirst's researches have shown that plague is introduced into Colombo through the harbour chiefly, if not entirely, by infected rat fleas and not by rats, and thence *via* the lighters to the Customs warehouses and the Government granaries whence it spreads to the town. It is singularly unfortunate that the rat-proof granaries are in fact far from being rat-proof and that plague infected rats have been found in them. Government has been urged from time to time to take the necessary measures to prevent these stores from being infested with a rat population. As Dr. Philip points out the only way to ensure exclusion of plague would appear to be the disinfection of all grain before it is landed in the harbour, and to this end experiments have been made with the use of cyanide gas. There are obvious difficulties connected with the use of so dangerous an expedient and the Port Commission is naturally reluctant to sanction a measure which will tend to delay the work of the Port. Until, however, this measure is adopted by the Port the Municipality will be faced with continual danger from re-introduced plague and continual inconvenience and expense in stamping it out. The report of Dr. Hirst with regard to his researches in the matter of parasitology in Appendix C are of very great public interest.

SMALLPOX.

Three cases of smallpox imported from India threatened the city with an outbreak, but the vigorous measures adopted limited the total number of cases to ten. Vaccination is in the hands of Government, but unfortunately the number of primary vaccinations carried out has decreased every year since 1922 in spite of the increase in the number of births and, therefore, of the number of primary vaccinations required.

ENTERIC FEVER.

The number of town cases of enteric fever fell from 473 in 1925 to 249 in 1926. This improvement is attributed to the very special measures described in the Report for 1925 to improve the standard of the milk supply, by endeavouring to eliminate the illicit milk dealers and also to the elimination of scavenging dumps so far as possible from the area of the city. The refuse from Colombo North was burnt so far as possible in the destructor and the remainder was buried in the Blomendahl swamps. That from Colombo South was conveyed outside the city, but it is a question how long the sanitary authorities outside the city will permit this to continue.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The special effort to cope with this problem which began in 1925 with the appointment of Dr. (Mrs.) Rowlands, L.M.S., was continued and the Health Visitors were increased from 11 to 13 and the Midwives from 7 to 8. In addition to the 4 milk depôts organized by the Ceylon Social Service League, the Council spent over Rs. 5,000 in the distribution of free milk. The training of the subordinate staff continued, and ante-natal clinics were held each week at each of the five Municipal Dispensaries. It is gratifying to record that the record infant mortality of 1925, viz., 220, was reduced in 1926, when a further record of 204 was established.

The building of the Child Welfare Centre at Gintupitiya with the money provided by the subscribers to the War Memorial Fund began in December. The provision of another Child Welfare Centre at Maligakanda still awaits the removal of the Public Health Department to the new Town Hall.

It is necessary again to record, as was stated in the Report for 1924, that the Midwives' Ordinance of 1920 has still not been brought into operation by Government. The private midwives continue to be unsupervised and uncontrolled, with deplorable results.

HOUSING PROBLEM.

The Kochchikade Slum Scheme still awaits an amendment of the Municipal Ordinance. Public attention, however, has been focused on the problem and Government has been actively co-operating in its solution by the consistent provision of quarters for its employees. Meanwhile the Inspector of Insanitary Dwellings, Mr. R. A. Horan, has been carrying out admirable work in enforcing improvements. In this manner 342 tenements, chiefly in the areas of Gintupitiya, Brassfounder, and Chekku streets, were completely improved and improvements were being carried out in the case of a further 1,319 tenements. It is interesting to record that in only two cases did the occupants give any trouble—a testimony to the tact and efficiency of Mr. Horan.

CHAPTER VI.

WATERWORKS.

The storage capacity of the Labugama reservoir, 1,776 million gallons, should suffice for some years to come. The steady rise of the consumption in the city, however, has caused some anxiety, both because the 13 filters are insufficient to deal with the maximum daily deliveries and because at times the maximum delivery is equalled by the consumption. Two additional filters are being installed during 1927 in order that the total supply may be dealt with. The daily average consumption is now $10\frac{3}{4}$ million gallons, including shipping, while the maximum delivery is 12 million gallons a day and in dry weather the consumption equals this. It is, therefore, necessary that the undoubted waste of water taking place should be prevented at an early date in order to lengthen the life of the existing water supply and also to prevent the resultant extra burden thrown by this wastage on the pumping plant of the drainage works. The eleven Deacon waste meters at present working have reduced the wastage by over a quarter of a million gallons a day. If this system were extended to the whole city, at a cost of about Rs. 106,000, it is estimated that a further million gallons a day would be saved. If this were done the water supply of the city should be put on a satisfactory basis for some years.

The report of Mr. W. M. Thyne, the Waterworks Engineer, in Appendix D recounts the other improvements effected to maintain an efficient, wholesome, and ample supply, and the large increase in the use made of it.

CHAPTER VII.

GENERAL ENGINEERING.

In Appendix E, Mr. N. M. Ingram, the Municipal Engineer, records how his Department spent nearly 38 lakhs of rupees in 1926, of which $15\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs represented wages of an average daily labour force of 4,366, with a staff originally designed for an expenditure of Rs. 20 lakhs only. He also points out that the overhead charges, salaries and allowances, stationery, &c., amounted to only $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the whole. The Council decided to engage an additional Grade I. and an additional Grade II. Engineer, both of whom should have had some years' practical experience of Municipal work, and the former of whom should have had practical experience of town planning. Unfortunately the terms offered did not attract officers of sufficient experience, the applicants for the Grade II. post having merely recently obtained their A.M.I.C.E. The additional Grade I. post was, therefore, abolished and two Grade III. officers were promoted to Grade II. and two recently qualified Engineers were also appointed to Grade II.

ROADS.

Another year of heavy rain increased the practical difficulties of maintaining water bound macadam roads subject to heavy traffic. Apart from the damage done to the road surfaces, the quarries were flooded, the labour suffered from fever, and the high level of the river interfered with the transport of metal. There was, therefore, a further vindication of the policy suggested by the Municipal Engineer and initiated in the previous year, of laying permanent surfaces. Rs. 206,200 was voted for laying stone setts and ancillary work on the Council's account, while on Government account Rs. 114,688 worth of similar work was finished off in Prince of Wales avenue and Rs. 20,000 was spent on carpeting in the Galle road. In addition Rs. 59,000 was recorded that for the second year in which this policy has been adopted, 1927, Rs. 189,750 has been voted for the same purpose. For the financial year 1926-1927 Government voted Rs. 123,368 and it is understood will vote Rs. 180,500 for 1927-1928 for stone setts on the trunk roads in the city.

The diagrams showing the traffic on trunk roads are noteworthy. Motor cars and cycles have again increased on every route, whereas motor 'buses and lorries show an appreciable increase only at Victoria bridge. Bullock carts at last are beginning to decrease on some routes. Up to 1926 they had been holding their own and even in that year there was an increase in the number licensed.

Much remains to be done if the existing roads, even when they are widened and improved, are to render an adequate economic return for the money spent on them. Unfortunately traffic is still largely undisciplined and as yet ignores the citizen's duty to avoid the selfish use of road space. Pedestrians will not use footpaths where these are provided, push cyclists by wandering about the road take up almost as much room as motor lorries, and motorists fail to keep as far to the left as they should. In consequence, for example, the widened portion of the Galle road is frequently inadequate to allow three cars to pass each other owing to the way in which the cars are driven. The only remedy is of course the gradual process of education stimulated by such mechanical and Police directions as are possible. The newly formed traffic section of the Police are giving the matter their serious attention.

The question of the parking of cars and the provision of rickshaw stands has been under consideration and the correct solution appears to be the provision of space for the purpose in the centre of widened roads. The objections to this are obvious, but any attempt to provide space at the side of the road interferes either with the foot-ways or with the bullock cart tracks and also with passengers from vehicles seeking access to the adjoining premises.

DRAINAGE.

The average quantity of crude sewage pumped in a day in 1926 was nearly 9 million gallons, as against $8\frac{1}{2}$ in 1925. 1,066 yards of new sewers and nearly $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles of new rainwater drains were laid. Five new public lavatories were opened, making a total of sixty-one in use, while two more were under construction.

The new procedure devised and the additional staff appointed to deal with house connections resulted in the record of 1925 being equalled. The present rate of progress appears to be about the limit beyond which the staff and the available contractors cannot go. Apart from the very considerable increase in the number of house connections since 1924 it is satisfactory to record that there has been a noticeable increase in the amount the Council has spent each year on what may be termed "capital" drainage works, sewers, rainwater drains, public lavatories, and pumping stations as the following figures show:—

		Rs.			Rs.
1922	...	68,403	1925	...	160,041
1923	...	67,464	1926	...	216,738
1924	...	65,855	1927 (voted)	...	210,000

PLAYGROUNDS.

The number of playgrounds at which the Council organizes games was increased to six by the opening of Alexander playground in Mutwal. Each is under an Instructor, two of whom were sent to Madras for training under the Young Men's Christian Association in this branch of work. Arrangements were begun with the girl guides to organize games for girls in certain of the parks and this innovation was definitely started in 1927.

WORKSHOP.

The importance of this branch is indicated by the fact that apart from the $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees worth of work which it carried out, it also transports approximately 100,000 tons of material in the year.

CHAPTER VIII.

VETERINARY.

Attention is invited to the report of Mr. C. W. Pate, the Veterinary Surgeon, in Appendix F, wherein the increase in the importations and slaughter of cattle and goats is described. 1926 was an even more fortunate year than 1925 in the matter of cattle disease. There was only one case of rinderpest and one of foot and mouth disease. Rabies among dogs, however, was nearly doubled and an intensive campaign against stray dogs was necessary to combat it.

The proposals of the Committee appointed by Government in 1924 that Government should provide a special landing place for cattle and motor lorries for their transport, build a new Quarantine Station, and take over its administration were still under consideration at the end of 1926 as they were at the end of 1924 and 1925.

CHAPTER IX.

FIRE BRIGADE AND AMBULANCES.

The report of Mr. P. H. Lanaway, the Superintendent of the Fire Brigade, in Appendix G, records the history of this Department during 1926. The Brigade cost Rs. 65,135'81 and received 54 calls. The estimated total loss in the city by fire was Rs. 180,497.

Arrangements were made whereby the ambulance services in the city were apportioned between the Council, the Medical Department, the Port Commission, and the Police, and detailed information on the subject is now included in the Telephone Directory.

CHAPTER X.

JUDICIAL.

In the Municipal Court 3,674 more cases were instituted and 4,587 more persons were charged in 1926 than in 1925, an indication of greater administrative activity rather than of a more pronounced tendency to commit statutory offences. The chief increase was in vehicle cases, 4,856 against 2,602. 381 fewer vagrants were charged and nearly Rs. 3,000 less in fines imposed remained unrecovered from accused who went to jail in default of payment. The Court credited over Rs. 90,000 to the Council's revenue.

CHAPTER XI.

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The Librarian, Mr. S. C. Blok, in Appendix I, gives an account of the Library during its first complete year. All the books have now been classified and rearranged and the catalogue should be issued during 1927. Rebinding of the many damaged books is progressing, and a start has been made in the methodical purchase of new books.

CHAPTER XII.

GENERAL.

Police.—The Police are controlled entirely by the Central Government, the Council contributing nothing to their cost. Under section 51 of the Police Ordinance it is part of their duty to prevent all offences and public nuisances and to detect and bring offenders to justice. They, therefore, enforce a large number of the by-laws of the Council, and this opportunity is taken of expressing great appreciation of their services and of their unfailing co-operation and assistance.

The following notes are taken from reports furnished by the Inspector-General of Police and the Superintendent of Police, Colombo :—

	1924.	1925.	1926.
Cases for Municipal and statutory offences instituted	9,752	9,917	14,507
by Police	9	8	20
Murder cases	87	99	292
True cases of burglary	32	22	46
Burglars convicted	169	267	382
Prosecutions for reckless and careless driving	273	351	566
Prosecutions for exceeding speed limit	490	747	996
Street accidents by motor vehicles	54	112	84
Street accidents by other vehicles	20	10	31
Street accidents fatal by motors	0	0	2
Street accidents fatal by other vehicles	5	2	3
Procurers convicted			
Prosecutions of wandering prostitutes and brothel keepers	105	144	91
Prosecutions for cruelty to animals	1,542	1,351	1,472
Vagrants from Colombo admitted to House of Detention	267	169	567
Vagrants found dead in streets	28	30	15
Vagrants removed to hospital	151	102	110

From February 15 the Police in Colombo were divided into Crime and Traffic Branches in order that each might have more concentrated attention. One result was a great increase in the number of crimes reported, which does not necessarily mean an increase in the crimes committed. There is reported to have been a steady increase in cases of drunkenness and disorderliness attributable to the consumption of cheap and bad imported spirits. The provision of Special Traffic Police, the gradual elimination by by-law of certain classes of traffic from unsuitable roads, and the establishment of a number of "one-way" streets has increased the safety and mobility of the ratepayers.

There was only one strike, when some 700 workers at the Wellawatta Spinning and Weaving Mills remained out for nearly a month. The Police inspect 70 industrial undertakings to ensure compliance with the law regarding the employment of women and young persons. They also on behalf of the Chairman exercise supervision over the exhibition of films. The Police Street Boys Club in the Pettah continues to do admirable work among homeless children and the enterprise has been extended by the Police to other parts of the city.

The large increase in the number of vagrants admitted to the House of Detention is reported to be due, not to any increase in begging, but partly to increased activity by the Police and partly to the large number of vagrants sent to the Police by the Controller of Indian Immigrant Labour.

Education.—The Education District Committee provided 45,621 meals to poor children at the Maligakanda, Dematagoda, and Green street schools at a cost of Rs. 143'63 for equipment and Rs. 6,050'71 for food. Towards this the Council contributed Rs. 5,050'71. The usual meal consisted of rice, meat and vegetable curry, and sambal, and the average cost was less than 13 cents a meal.

Public Works Department.—The more important buildings in course of erection were Customs-house at Passenger Jetty, Council Chamber and Secretariat on the Galle Face, and Dental Institute in Ward place, while additions were made to the Surveyor-General's Office, the General Hospital, Lady Havelock Hospital, and the Colombo Museum. The Borella Convict Hospital was converted into a Police station and barracks, and a portion of the old Lunatic Asylum into offices for the Public Works and Excise Departments. The Lake Development Department continued the improvement of the San Sebastian canal by deepening and straightening it to make it navigable for 40-ton barges. Lands reclaimed by this Department have been used for the erection of stores by commercial firms, for the landing of cargo by the Port Commission and for the erection of the new Legislative Council Chamber on the Galle Face.

Survey Department.—120 assessment sheets were revised, thus completing the revision of all the sheets revised prior to 1924. No contour surveys were carried out during the year.

Flood Schemes.—Mr. J. A. Wilson, Divisional Irrigation Engineer, has kindly supplied the following :—

Note on the Work of the Colombo Flood Schemes for the Year 1926.

Colombo South Scheme.—The additional strengthening work on the portion of the Kolonnawa gap bund, over the site of the old canal bed, which was put in hand after the major floods of October and November, 1925, was completed early in the year. During the latter part of the year the Public Works Department have raised this bund along its whole length in constructing a permanent metalled road along it as a portion of the new Angoda road.

On the whole, drainage has been satisfactory. Complete drainage is only possible when the river is low and drainage can be effected to it through the Colombo North area by opening the lock gates at Dematagoda. In May, when the whole of the Colombo area was subjected to the maximum recorded rainfall for Colombo (approximately 14 inches in 18 hours), the south area filled up to a height of 4 feet 5 inches over mean sea level at the Dematagoda gauge. This was reduced to 2 feet in three weeks by discharge through Dehiwala and Wellawatta sea outlets. When the drain to the Wellawatta sea outlet is improved the full benefits of the scheme can be realized.

Colombo North Scheme.—The railway bridge, quarter mile east of Nagalagam street, was closed by April, the north lock was completed in May and then the remaining railway bridge over the canal at Grandpass, adjacent to the north lock, was blocked and Colombo North protected from floods from the river.

Work has been carried on continuously day and night throughout the year in the cutting of the tunnel and a length of 908 feet has been constructed. The tunnel should be completed by August or earlier and then it will be possible to drain the Colombo North area when heavy local rainfall occurs during periods of high river.

The main drain, between the Kolonnawa railway line and Alutnawata road, was widened for a length of 600 feet to a bed width of 20 feet at a depth of 4 feet below mean sea level to act as a silt trap for the water before entering the tunnel. The remaining portion of this drain from Alutnawata road to the tunnel intake was completed and through Blomendhal swamp it was deepened to a level of 4 feet below mean sea level on a 10 feet bed width.

Only one major flood was experienced during the year with a level of 9 feet on May 25 at Nagalagam street gauge. There were four other minor floods with a level of 4 feet or over at the above gauge. Namely, 5 feet 9 inches on June 13, 4 feet 2 inches on June 26, 4 feet 7 inches on July 31, and 4 feet on September 14. From October 21 to the end of the year the river has never been higher than 1 foot 10 inches at this gauge—no such dry period at this time of the year has been previously recorded during the period covered by the readings in this office.

During the year the river was more than one and half feet above the sea level for 118 days compared with the average of 114 days.

Post Office.—An additional early morning delivery by postmen was arranged making four postmen's deliveries on week days. Eight more post boxes were erected and four street telephone kiosks. The broadcasting equipment functioned satisfactorily and during the year 968 separate programmes were broadcast.

	1925.	1926.
Number of telephone subscribers	... 2,639	... 2,836
Number of telephone stations	... 4,206	... 4,535
Mileage of underground wires	... 20,716	... 23,633

Port Commission.—A new warehouse in the Pettah area, six quarters for Port Commission officers at Mutwal, and nine blocks of quarters for workmen at Blomendahl road were in course of erection, while the laying of the main sewer of the Galle Buck drainage system was completed. The total number of lighters, launches, &c., passing through the Lake and the Harbour canal rose from 4,820 in 1925 to 5,056 in 1926.

Public Entertainments.—The Police continued to exercise a preliminary censorship of films on behalf of the Chairman. They held up one film on a perusal of the synopsis. After a private view the Chairman passed the film subject to the deletion of two phrases. At the request of the Manager, the Chairman viewed another film which had been eight years previously on the Indian prohibited list but had been since passed by the Indian Board of Censors, possibly after alteration. It was found to be fit for public exhibition.

Complaint was received regarding another film after it had been passed for exhibition on a perusal of the synopsis which was free from objection. The Managers of all picture theatres were thereon specifically warned to ensure—

- (a) That the synopses of films sent to the Police were accurate and complete in every detail especially in matters which might either reasonably, or unreasonably in their opinion, be open to question.
- (b) That the synopsis or description available to the public should be similarly accurate and not convey a misleading impression of the character of the film.

It was pointed out to them that the present simple system of censorship depended on the candid co-operation of the exhibitors with the Police and the Censor, and that if it gave ground for complaint public opinion would demand a more elaborate system with consequent increased expense and inconvenience. To the vigilance of the Police and the co-operation of the exhibitors the thanks of the Censor are tendered.

Printing.—New type and machinery for the Printing Office was bought at a cost of Rs. 22,780.36 with a view to its removal to the new quarters near the new Town Hall early in 1927. 3,653,965 forms were printed in 1926 compared with 3,622,483 in 1925.

The Town Hall,
Colombo, August 3, 1927.

H. E. NEWNHAM,
Chairman, Municipal Council, and
Mayor of Colombo.

APPENDIX A.

REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL TREASURER.

I HAVE the honour to submit my Report on the work of the Treasurer's Department for the year 1926.

STAFF.

No changes took place in the higher staff during the year.

The writer assumed duties on the January 7, 1926, on his return from seven months' leave.

The following statement shows the changes in the personnel of the subordinate staff:—

Mr. A. L. Melder was appointed a Clerk in Division II. of the Clerical Service on March 18, 1926. (New post).

Mr. K. N. Prins was appointed a Clerk in Division II. of the Clerical Service on March 22, 1926. (New post).

Mr. N. S. P. C. Wijeyeratne was appointed a Clerk in Division I. of the Clerical Service on July 26, 1926. (New post).

Mr. W. A. Perera, Clerk in Division I. of the Waterworks Department, was appointed First Clerk, Municipal Stores, on August 4, 1926. (New post).

Mr. T. Sabaratnam was appointed a Clerk in Division II. of the Clerical Service on August 2, 1926. (New post).

Mr. E. T. A. Fernando was appointed a Store Clerk on September 1, 1926. (New post).

Mr. S. Mailvaganam was appointed a Clerk in Division II. on January 4, 1926, in place of Mr. M. Nesadurai, who was promoted Sub-Inspector, Drainage Department.

Mr. S. F. R. Fernando was appointed a Clerk in Division II. on March 18, 1926, in place of Mr. S. Mailvaganam, who resigned to take up an appointment in the Colonial Stores.

Mr. F. Gunaratne, Clerk in Division II. of the Municipal Engineer's Department, was transferred to my Department on December 1, 1926, in place of Mr. S. F. R. Fernando, who resigned to take up an appointment in the Education Department.

Mr. C. S. P. Wickremasinghe was appointed a Clerk in Division II. on December 1, 1926, in place of Mr. L. M. de Zoysa, who was dismissed.

Mr. A. Sinnetamby was appointed a Clerk in Division II. on December 1, 1926, in place of Mr. D. M. Gunasekera, who joined the Ceylon Government Railway.

Mr. J. L. F. de Saram was appointed a Store Clerk on July 1, 1926, in place of Mr. H. B. Ekanayake, who was transferred to the Waterworks Department.

Mr. N. R. T. Allegakoon was appointed a Clerk in Division II. on October 18, 1926, in place of Mr. C. E. Van Cuylenberg, who joined the Government Telegraph and Telephone Department.

Mr. E. E. de Rosayro was appointed a Clerk in Division II. on November 1, 1926, in place of Mr. T. Sabaratnam, who joined the Government Public Works Department.

Mr. J. L. Louisapulle was appointed a Clerk in Division II. on December 1, 1926, in place of Mr. V. E. Jayasinghe, who joined the Colonial Stores.

Mr. T. Tilkinather was appointed a Clerk in Division II. on December 1, 1926, in place of Mr. V. S. R. Nathan, who joined the Government Forest Department.

Mr. A. W. de Alwis, Assistant Storekeeper, was transferred to the Waterworks Department with the handing over of the Waterworks Stores.

Mr. J. L. Perera, a Clerk in Division I. of my Department, was transferred to the Veterinary Surgeon's Department as a Stock Inspector on September 1, 1926. This vacancy has not yet been filled.

It will be noted that no less than seven newly appointed Division II. officers resigned their posts in order to take up appointment under the Government. It would seem that conditions of service under Government are more attractive, and this opportunity is taken of drawing attention to the administrative difficulties experienced in this connection. Considerable expense and work is necessary in recruiting the staff by examination. After being appointed, successful candidates are medically examined, and then in the course of being trained it is disappointing to see them leave the service so soon, presumably owing to better prospects elsewhere.

At the beginning of the year the permanent staff of the Department consisted of 111 pensionable and 2 non-pensionable posts.

During the year the following new posts were created:—

One First Clerk, Stores...	...	...	Division I.
Three Internal Audit Clerks	...	...	Division II.
One Rates Clerk	...	...	Division II.

The strength of the Department as at December 31, 1926, was as follows :—

	Number.
Higher staff, pensionable ...	4
Subordinate staff, pensionable ...	112
Subordinate staff, non-pensionable ...	2
Total ...	118

The total amount paid as salaries to the Council's administrative and executive staff was Rs. 1,115,513'55. and represents 17'09 per cent. of the total expenditure of Rs. 6,526,322'88. The percentages for 1924 and 1925 were 16'25 and 18'2 respectively.

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

(A) General.

The detailed statement of the receipts and disbursements on revenue account, together with the estimated figures, is submitted as Annexure A. It will be seen that the receipts for 1926 exceeded the disbursements by Rs. 164,168'11.

In addition to receipts on revenue account, Rs. 6,297,436'07, the following sums were also received :—

	Rs.	c.
Interest on unexpended balance of cash received on realization of Sinking Fund Investments ...	14,065	34
Interest on amount received from the Ceylon War Memorial Fund towards cost of a Child Welfare Centre ...	3,840	66
Pettah Library bequest and accrued interest thereon ...	4,834	8
Interest on amount placed to Insurance Fund ...	16	87
Total ...	22,756	95

The total receipts therefore amounted to Rs. 6,320,193'02, an increase of Rs. 547,997'82 on last year's total of Rs. 5,772,195'20.

The total of the disbursements amounted to Rs. 6,526,322'88, an increase of Rs. 526,559'58 over last year's figure of Rs. 5,989,763'30, and is composed of the following items :—

	Rs.	c.
Revenue account ...	6,133,267	96
Capital works from cash obtained from Sinking Fund Investments ...	261,351	44
Laying water mains in private lanes ...	12,705	54
Works executed for Government or private persons ...	53,417	25
House drains for ratepayers who are unable immediately to bear the cost ...	65,580	69
Total ...	6,526,322	88

Appended to this report are two diagrams, one showing the various sources of the Municipal revenue while the other indicates how the revenue is expended. It is hoped that the diagrams will be found instructive. The only comment it is necessary to make is in connection with the heading "Administration" in the diagram relating to expenditure. This heading includes the whole of the expenditure under the Budget heads of Chairman, Secretariat, Treasurer's Department, and Assessing Department only.

(B) Receipts on Revenue Account.

The following statement shows under the usual main heads the receipts for 1924, 1925, and 1926, the estimated receipts for 1926, and the percentages which the receipts of 1926 under such main heads bear to the total :—

Head.	Actual 1924. Rs.	c.	Actual 1925. Rs.	c.	Actual 1926. Rs.	c.	Percentage of Total.	Estimated 1926. Rs.
A.—Taxes ...	163,622	50	200,936	60	217,993	49	3'46	190,250
B.—Licenses ...	225,884	59	251,559	0	283,714	42	4'51	220,450
C.—Judicial Fines ...	66,825	99	75,896	63	89,726	52	1'42	70,000
D.—Tolls ...	142,392	10	142,275	31	142,563	78	2'26	141,000
E.—Markets ...	135,845	52	133,897	12	139,801	61	2'22	130,500
F.—Slaughter-house ...	56,466	84	60,631	91	71,424	10	1'13	56,000
G.—Conservancy ...	14,628	40	13,585	65	10,749	10	1'17	12,000
H.—Cattle Mart and Quarantine Station	56,970	60	59,640	33	71,255	44	1'13	57,500
I.—Consolidated Rate ...	2,964,327	31	3,215,737	28	3,288,584	92	52'22	3,260,000
K.—Water ...	728,761	50	816,909	59	907,496	2	14'42	711,000
L.—Rents ...	84,013	58	86,679	36	87,474	50	1'39	76,950
M.—Miscellaneous ...	592,623	21	589,984	45	986,652	17	15'67	534,069
	5,232,362	14	5,647,733	23	6,297,436	7	100	5,459,719

The receipts for 1926 are the highest recorded and exceed those of the previous year by Rs. 649,702'84. Every head save that of Conservancy shows an increase.

The estimated receipts were exceeded by Rs. 837,717'07.

The chief reason for this increase was the receipt of Rs. 298,470'38 from Government under the head "Miscellaneous" in respect of the widening of Kollupitiya road from Turret road to Deal place. This item was not allowed for in the original estimate of revenue.

The heading of "Water" is responsible for Rs. 196,496'02 of the excess of actual over estimated income.

(1) CONSOLIDATED RATE.

The Consolidated Rate continues to be the largest source from which the Council obtains its funds, and the income under this heading (including warrant costs) amounted to Rs. 3,288,584'92 in 1926, as against Rs. 3,215,737 in 1925, representing 52'22 per cent. and 56'94 per cent. of the total income for the two years respectively. The rate levied remained at 20 per cent. on the annual value of houses, buildings, lands, and tenements, for the sixth year in succession.

The amount paid per head of population as rates in 1926 was Rs. 12'49 compared with Rs. 11'44 and Rs. 12'33 for the years 1924 and 1925 respectively.

The following table sets out in detail the amounts collected under the main heading "Rates" for the past ten years:—

Year.	Rate levied. Per Cent.	Arrears. Rs.	Current. Rs.	Costs. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1917	18	636,154	1,241,180	56,825	1,934,159
1918	18	706,980	1,256,805	58,890	2,022,675
1919	18	730,056	1,216,126	44,733	1,990,915
1920	18	964,262	1,579,697	91,650	2,635,605
1921	20	768,370	2,080,891	79,685	2,928,946
1922	20	660,429	2,199,984	73,332	2,933,745
1923	20	650,610	2,224,354	60,517	2,935,481
1924	20	688,306	2,209,065	66,956	2,964,327
1925	20	77,211	3,079,824	58,702	3,215,737
1926	20	40,967	3,195,173	52,444	3,288,584

The collectable amount of rates for the year ended September 30, 1926, after deducting remissions on account of empty properties and "write-offs" on account of poverty and irrecoverability, was Rs. 3,238,129 as compared with Rs. 3,121,515 for the preceding year, an increase of Rs. 116,614. Rs. 3,195,173 was actually collected during 1926, and represents 98'67 per cent. compared with the percentages of 94'54, 97'5, and 98'66 for 1923, 1924, and 1925 respectively.

The following table indicates the advantage taken by ratepayers of the month of grace which is given before warrants are issued. A slight improvement is to be noticed in the four quarters ended third quarter, 1926, over the four ended third quarter, 1925:—

Quarter.	Rates collectable. Rs.	Rates paid within the Quarter. Rs.	Percentage paid within the Quarter.
Fourth quarter, 1922	708,337	204,542	28'87
First quarter, 1923	728,306	166,354	22'84
Second quarter, 1923	731,852	187,930	25'67
Third quarter, 1923	731,664	159,163	21'75
Fourth quarter, 1923	730,737	203,184	27'84
First quarter, 1924	754,949	149,137	19'56
Second quarter, 1924	764,078	214,088	28'01
Third quarter, 1924	762,055	153,307	20'11
Fourth quarter, 1924	767,330	174,568	22'75
First quarter, 1925	783,269	191,437	24'18
Second quarter, 1925	782,668	192,368	24'57
Third quarter, 1925	788,248	157,692	20
Fourth quarter, 1925	790,015	177,708	22'49
First quarter, 1926	806,012	222,561	27'61
Second quarter, 1926	818,159	224,489	27'43
Third quarter, 1926	823,941	186,813	22'66

It is satisfactory to be able to record that the amount of rates placed under warrant is decreasing although somewhat slowly. The following table, giving details of the percentages for the years 1924, 1925, and 1926, brings out this fact:—

Quarter	Year.	Percentage of Rates under Warrant.	Year.	Percentage of Rates under Warrant.	Year.	Percentage of Rates under Warrant.
Fourth	1923	21'46	1924	18'41	1925	18'59
First	1924	22'33	1925	20'22	1926	15'88
Second	1924	19'45	1925	16'97	1926	14'61
Third	1924	18'82	1925	15'66	1926	16'88

The percentage for third quarter, 1926, it is interesting to note, would have been much less than 16'88 per cent. had it not been for the fact that one large ratepayer, who usually paid on the last day of grace, failed to pay the rates due from him before the signing of the warrant. It may be noted in this connection that it is generally the same ratepayers each quarter who allow their rates to go under warrant.

The arrears outstanding at December 31, 1926, amounted to Rs. 43,053'35, as against Rs. 44,112'62 at December 31, 1925.

The following statement gives details of the arrears at the end of 1925 and 1926 respectively :—

Period.	Arrears at December 31, 1925.		Arrears at December 31, 1926.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1920	...	75 8	...	22 6
1921	...	342 2	...	19 40
1922	...	572 7	...	19 40
1923	...	670 93	...	4 73
1924	...	1,792 68	...	2 40
1925 First quarter	...	1,142 4	...	29 30
1925 Second quarter	...	2,059 40		
1925 Third quarter	...	37,458 40		
1925 Fourth quarter	...	—		
1926 First quarter	...	—	...	82 65
1926 Second quarter	...	—	...	98 15
1926 Third quarter	...	—	...	691 32
			...	42,083 94
Total	...	44,112 62		43,053 35

Of the arrears outstanding at December 31, 1925 (Rs. 44,112'62), the sum of Rs. 97'29 only remained unpaid at December 31, 1926. The percentage of arrears collected in 1926 was 99'76, as against 94'58 in 1925.

The arrears shown in the above statement in respect of 1920, 1921, 1922, and 1923 relate to properties which have been vested in the Council and these will be settled only when the properties concerned have been reconveyed to the quondam owners or sold outright on failure of quondam owners to obtain the necessary reconveyance.

The satisfactory position now prevailing with regard to arrears is borne out by the information given in the subjoined table of arrears. The figures do not include the fourth quarters :—

		Arrears. Rs.
December 31, 1919	...	851,157
December 31, 1920	...	564,733
December 31, 1921	...	459,355
December 31, 1922	...	253,098
December 31, 1923	...	186,030
December 31, 1924	...	81,363
December 31, 1925	...	44,112
December 31, 1926	...	43,053

There were over 700 properties vested in the Council owing to default in payment of rates, at the beginning of 1926. In 1924 it had been decided to ignore the vestings then in existence, as it was thought that they were irregular, and to proceed to enforce payment in cases of default by seizure of movable and immovable property in the order laid down in the Ordinance. In 1926, however, it was decided (on a Supreme Court decision) that the vestings could not be thus set aside, and that the only way in which the situation could be made regular was by reconveyance.

It was felt that the procedure of allowing quondam owners to continue indefinitely to act as the real owners of the properties was fraught with danger and inconvenience, and it was decided in 1926 to call upon the persons concerned to take steps to obtain reconveyances within six months, or the properties would be sold outright.

Up to December 31, 1926, notices to this effect were served on the quondam owners of 328 properties, out of whom 35 had applied for re-transfers.

During 1926, five properties were sold in the absence of movables and bought in by the Council for non-payment of rates, and these purchases were cancelled on the rates being subsequently paid.

No properties were vested in the Council during the year. Forty properties previously vested were reconveyed on all arrears and costs being paid. In 1925, fifteen properties were newly vested and twenty reconveyances took place.

The total of Rs. 899 was recovered as rents from vested properties, as against Rs. 1,683'50 in 1925. The decrease is due to some vested properties on which rent was received being reconveyed to the quondam owners.

Three recently vested properties were sold during the year on failure of quondam owners to pay arrears and obtain reconveyances, and the sum of Rs. 4,125 was realized.

Movables were seized in 36 cases, and in 23 cases they were released on payment of arrears and in the remaining 13 cases the movables were sold in accordance with the provisions of the Ordinance.

With sanction of the Council, the sums of Rs. 652'55 and Rs. 695'14 were written off on account of poverty and irrecoverability respectively. This is a great improvement over previous years as will be seen from the undermentioned figures :—

Year.		Written off. Rs. c.
1922	...	48,644 10
1923	...	16,932 34
1924	...	12,655 4
1925	...	3,771 58
1926	...	1,347 69

The sum of Rs. 72,112'23 was remitted during 1926 on account of properties untenanted, due to repairs, &c., or other causes. The corresponding amounts in 1923, 1924, and 1925 were Rs. 47,375'72, Rs. 52,597'13, and Rs. 69,372'08 respectively. The probable reason for the increase is that ratepayers are now more alive to the provisions of the Ordinance which permit the remission of rates under the circumstances referred to above.

The rates due from the lessees of the Manning Market and Chalmers Granaries from January 1, 1926, have been recovered direct by the Council, and the decision to change from collection by the Government on the Council's behalf has been fully justified on grounds of economy alone. It has also resulted in the rate collection being accelerated and chances of loss of revenue being reduced.

The total amount collected by Government during the year 1925 was Rs. 39,813'53, for which a commission of Rs. 2,004'16 was paid to Government, while this Department collected Rs. 42,376'37 at a total cost of Rs. 869'52 only.

Up to 1925, Kotahena was for purposes of rate collection divided into two districts. In 1926, however, it was decided to divide the ward into three districts in order to facilitate and expedite the collection of rates. The rearrangement has been justified, as there has been already a distinct improvement in the rate collection. The arrears which amounted to Rs. 10,459'82 at the end of 1925 are now only Rs. 8,125'91.

The Department has had the additional duty thrown upon it of sending copies of notices of assessment (Schedule E) to all owners who register their names, addresses, and properties. This was decided upon by the Committee in view of the complaint made that owners did not always receive the notices served on the assessed premises in terms of the Ordinance. A register was opened for the purpose and so far 257 owners have registered their properties.

(2) WATER.

The Council's second largest source of income is from the charges for water supplied to trades, shipping, Government, &c. Rs. 907,496'02 was received in 1926, representing 14'22 per cent. of the revenue of the Council, as against Rs. 816,909'59 and 14'47 per cent for 1925.

Rs. 41,029 of the increase of Rs. 90,586'43 was on account of shipping, in respect of which Rs. 527,926 was received. Increased revenue was also received on account of trade supplies and from Government.

The arrears at December 31, 1926, amounted to Rs. 7,967'85, as compared with Rs. 16,068'42 twelve months previously. Of the arrears of Rs. 7,967'85, Government owed Rs. 7,427'10 in respect of the water supplied during third quarter, 1926, and has since been paid.

The other arrears amounted to Rs. 540'75. These have since been collected or are in course of recovery.

(3) LICENSES.

The sum of Rs. 283,714'42 (4'51 per cent.) was received in 1926, an increase of Rs. 32,255'42 over the previous year's income of Rs. 251,559 (4'46 per cent.).

Receipts from motor 'bus stand licenses, Rs. 17,960, have been included under the main head "Licenses" for the first time. Last year the item was included under the main head "Taxes" when Rs. 19,570 was recovered. Except for this, the revenues under all the remaining sub-heads are higher than the corresponding items for the previous year save in two minor cases where the proceeds are the same.

The largest increase is in respect of licenses for foreign liquor shops—Rs. 72,666 being recovered, as against Rs. 63,575 in 1925. The proceeds from this source include licenses granted for hotels, restaurants, &c., but exclude arrack and toddy taverns.

The next largest item is under the sub-head Vehicles—Rs. 68,756 being collected, as against Rs. 62,881 in 1925. The various licenses issued for the six years under this sub-head are detailed in the following table:—

Classes of Vehicles licensed to ply for Hire.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Motor cars ...	248	269	300	349	318	368
Motor lorries ...	32	30	29	60	152	198
Motor omnibuses ...	4	6	20	44	112	91
Total (Motor Vehicles)	284	305	349	453	582	657
Rickshaws ...	3,741	3,976	4,183	4,045	3,891	4,169
Carriages ...	62	45	45	26	20	13
Hackeries ...	132	154	143	125	104	97
Carts ...	2,875	3,038	2,967	2,923	3,113	3,244
Bicycles ...	14	17	17	12	13	11
Total (Vehicles other than Motor Vehicles)	6,824	7,230	7,355	7,131	7,141	7,534
Grand Total of licenses issued	7,108	7,535	7,704	7,584	7,723	8,191

While the number of motor omnibuses licensed by this Council is smaller than the previous year, the number of licenses issued for motor cars and lorries has greatly increased.

During the year two more motor omnibus stands were established, one in Norris road opposite Fourth and Fifth Cross streets and another at the junction of Vuystwyke road and Ferguson's road.

With regard to vehicles other than motor vehicles, no less than 393 more licenses were issued in 1926 than in 1925.

Although mechanically-propelled passenger vehicles continue rapidly to increase in numbers, rickshaws still remain at the top of the table, and the number on the roads was larger in 1926 than in each of the two preceding years. On the other hand, carriages and hackeries are fewer, and if the decrease continues at the same ratio, they will, in a few years, disappear altogether from Colombo thoroughfares. The number of bullock carts licensed for 1926 is the highest recorded notwithstanding the large increases in motor lorries year by year.

The revenue from trade licenses was Rs. 56,290'50 as compared with Rs. 49,654'50 in 1925. The following table gives details of the licenses issued under this sub-head for the past ten years :—

Description of Trade.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Soap house ...	6	5	8	6	12	16	13	17	13	10
Oil boiling house ...	2	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Dyeing house ...	17	13	12	14	16	18	22	25	23	28
Tannery ...	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Brick, pottery, and lime kiln ...	12	11	11	11	11	10	9	9	9	9
Yard or dépôt for straw ...	31	34	27	26	19	25	28	27	23	19
Yard or dépôt for firewood ...	107	108	109	114	138	155	167	185	184	169
Yard or dépôt for coal ...	17	17	16	17	17	18	18	18	17	19
Yard or dépôt for cotton ...	8	6	11	10	10	18	22	16	13	13
Bone manure manufactory, manure store, and hide store ...	6	4	13	14	14	12	12	12	10	10
Storing of timber or wood ...	55	50	50	58	58	60	60	60	59	61
Sawing of timber or wood ...	21	15	14	12	10	11	10	9	9	11
Aerated water manufactory ...	16	15	16	12	12	14	15	14	12	12
Plumbago curing yard ...	90	57	48	41	26	19	19	19	20	25
Plumbago store ...	7	41	48	57	61	55	52	47	32	23
Maldivé fish store (containing over 5 cwt. at any time) ...	17	19	32	30	28	27	32	32	32	40
Poultry mart ...	13	9	12	10	13	8	9	9	7	9
Metal or cabook quarry ...	10	5	5	4	5	5	5	4	2	1
Copra store ...	116	121	157	115	97	74	61	53	61	61
Coconut oil manufactory ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4
Chekku or hand mill for extracting coconut oil ...	25	28	22	17	15	14	14	12	12	11
Manufacture and for storing of fibre ...	21	32	57	63	43	49	49	45	44	40
Bakery ...	45	40	42	47	49	50	51	57	57	58
Manufacture of matches ...	—	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Petroleum (storage) ...	60	46	32	48	40	43	41	57	70	70
Eating-house ...	421	424	401	483	499	528	562	537	550	573
Lodging house ...	35	44	40	36	29	25	26	21	19	18
Cattle shed ...	220	210	207	198	177	197	189	178	174	174
Calcium carbide ...	—	—	2	2	2	2	2	3	6	7
Kapok ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Coconut oil store (over 50 gallons) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	29
Total ...	1385	1364	1401	1453	1409	1460	1495	1473	1464	1512

Storing of kapok and storing of coconut oil (over 50 gallons) were declared dangerous trades, and by *Government Gazette* of November 27, 1925, the fees were fixed at Rs. 100 and Rs. 10 respectively. The fees came into operation on January 1, 1926, and 6 licenses to store kapok and 29 to store coconut oil were issued. This partly accounts for the increase in the total licenses issued. The number of licenses issued for eating-houses was 573, an increase of 23 over the previous year's figure. The various other changes do not call for comment.

There have been minor alterations under the Housing Ordinance, No. 19 of 1915, of the various trade areas during the year as follows :—

- (1) *Government Gazette*, March 19, 1926, extends the Dematagoda offensive trades area.
- (2) *Government Gazette*, November 7, 1926, permits the storing of copra in the Grandpass area.
- (3) *Government Gazette*, November 19, 1926, permits the storage of certain dangerous trades in the Grandpass area, viz., fibre, cotton, straw, wood and timber, kapok, and coconut oil (over 50 gallons).

Rubber curing was proclaimed an offensive trade by *Government Gazette* of November 19, 1926, and licenses will be necessary in 1927 in respect of premises in which curing is carried on.

During the year questions arose as to the necessity of taking out licenses in certain cases and legal opinion was sought. The most important point raised was that of those trades for which licenses were required but which necessitated the use of other commodities in themselves requiring licenses. For example, aerated water manufactories require licenses as such, but in order to produce aerated water coal is required to be stored in bulk on the same premises. It was decided in such cases that one license only was necessary and that the storing of other commodities ancillary to the main business could be allowed without a license.

The revenue from license fees in respect of auctioneers and brokers amounted to Rs. 29,625 compared with Rs. 27,775 for the preceding year. It will be seen from the subjoined statement that in the aggregate the licenses exceed those of 1925 by 17 :—

License.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Auctioneer ...	14 ...	15 ...	12 ...	12 ...	8 ...	11 ...	13 ...	13 ...	14 ...	19
Broker ...	112 ...	141 ...	183 ...	222 ...	195 ...	202 ...	213 ...	147 ...	146 ...	141
Auctioneer and Broker.	50 ...	61 ...	66 ...	71 ...	74 ...	71 ...	94 ...	99 ...	95 ...	112
Total ...	176	217	261	305	277	284	320	259	255	272

Other licenses issued by the Department in 1926 were as follows :—

License.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Guides ...	13 ...	15 ...	15 ...	18 ...	17 ...	19 ...	18 ...	19
Rickshaw pullers ...	4,614 ...	4,613 ...	4,933 ...	5,202 ...	5,182 ...	5,265 ...	4,596 ...	5,333
Carriage drivers ...	128 ...	43 ...	67 ...	87 ...	30 ...	24 ...	14 ...	8
Hackery drivers ...	200 ...	56 ...	79 ...	108 ...	52 ...	16 ...	17 ...	14
Taxi-cab drivers ...	27 ...	29 ...	13 ...	27 ...	12 ...	18 ...	40 ...	92

It will be observed that the decrease in the number of rickshaw pullers licensed in 1925 as compared with 1924 has not only been made up this year but is the highest recorded. Taxi-cab drivers' licenses also show a large increase over those issued in 1925.

The arrears under the head "Licenses" amounted to Rs. 2,623 at December 31, 1926. Of this sum, Rs. 2,620'50 represented the stamp duty on vehicle licenses and has since been refunded by Government.

(4) TAXES.

The income under this head was Rs. 217,993'49 and accounts for 3'46 per cent. of the total revenue. Last year's figure was Rs. 200,936'60, and the increase in 1926 was therefore Rs. 17,056'89.

The sources of this income are as follows :—

- (1) Taxes on vehicles and animals under section 127 of the Municipal Councils Ordinance, No. 6 of 1910.
- (2) Taxes on mechanically propelled vehicles under section 53 of the Vehicles Ordinance, No. 4 of 1916.
- (3) Costs on recovery of taxes under (1).

The following table gives details for the past six years of the numbers of the various vehicles and animals in respect of which taxes were levied :—

Vehicles Taxed under (1).	Tax Rs. c.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Carriages ...	5 0 ...	385 ...	333 ...	275 ...	210 ...	206 ...	140
Children's vehicles the wheels of which exceed 26 inches	5 0 ...	17 ...	7 ...	10 ...	3 ...	13 ...	4
Carts ...	4 0 ...	4,757 ...	5,219 ...	4,907 ...	5,108 ...	5,205 ...	5,725
Hand carts ...	4 0 ...	761 ...	1,014 ...	748 ...	1,048 ...	1,037 ...	1,164
Rickshaws ...	2 50 ...	4,884 ...	5,179 ...	5,469 ...	5,145 ...	5,143 ...	5,486
Bicycles ...	3 0 ...	1,293 ...	1,267 ...	1,251 ...	1,118 ...	1,724 ...	1,468
Horses ...	2 50 ...	384 ...	334 ...	368 ...	252 ...	297 ...	242
Bullocks ...	1 0 ...	6,880 ...	7,592 ...	7,116 ...	7,583 ...	7,453 ...	8,693
Total ...		19,361	20,945	20,144	20,467	21,078	22,922
Vehicles Taxed under (2).	Tax.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Motor cars for private use ...	According to weight.	998 ...	1,273 ...	1,558 ...	1,784 ...	1,987 ...	3,188
Motor cars for hire ...	According to weight.	248 ...	269 ...	300 ...	349 ...	318 ...	368
Motor lorries for private use ...	According to weight.	— ...	5 ...	51 ...	110 ...	221 ...	264
Motor lorries for hire ...	According to weight.	32 ...	30 ...	29 ...	60 ...	152 ...	198
Motor 'buses ...	According to weight.	4 ...	6 ...	20 ...	44 ...	112 ...	91
Motor cycles ...	Rs. 10 ...	377 ...	482 ...	605 ...	627 ...	697 ...	836
Total ...		1,659	2,065	2,563	2,974	3,487	4,945
Grand Total ...		21,020	23,010	22,707	23,441	24,565	27,867

Motor vehicles of all classes continue to increase in numbers and attention is directed to the extraordinary increase in the number of private motor cars over that of 1925, 3,188 as against 1,987.

A sum of Rs. 1,939'30 was in arrear at the end of the year, Rs. 151'80 being in respect of tax on vehicles and animals and Rs. 1,787'50 in respect of motor vehicles. The latter amount is mainly on account of half tax due for motor vehicles registered during December, 1926.

The major portion of the arrears has already been recovered and steps are being taken to recover the balance.

(5) MARKETS.

The receipts derived from the letting of stalls in the various Municipal markets amounts to Rs. 139,801'61, as against Rs. 133,897'12 in 1925, an increase of Rs. 5,904'49.

The increase is partly due to the opening of a new market at Slave Island on June 1, 1926. This market is provided with 14 meat stalls at Rs. 70 a month, 7 vegetable stalls at Rs. 4 a month, 7 vegetable stalls at Rs. 3 a month, and 18 fish stalls at Rs. 10 a month.

In October, 1926, the stalls in Kachcheri road, Edinburgh, Dean's road, and Borella markets, which had been originally let at daily rates, were let at rents on a monthly basis in order to avoid the numerous questions which continually arose as to rights of casual sellers to particular stalls.

The arrears at December 31, 1926, under the head "Markets" amounted to Rs. 193'50, and they have since been collected.

(6) GENERAL.

The remaining heads do not call for comment except those of "Rents" and "Miscellaneous."

The main head "Rents" accounted for Rs. 87,474'50, as against Rs. 86,679'36 in 1925.

Rs. 58,736'53 was on account of Lands and Buildings. Out of this sum, Rs. 4,786'20 was paid by officers and Rs. 5,327'27 was recovered from coolies occupying quarters provided by the Council.

At December 31, 1926, there were 112 monthly tenancy agreements and 13 yearly leases, as against 101 and 10, respectively, in 1925.

The total receipts under the head "Miscellaneous" amounted to Rs. 986,652'17, and this exceeded last year's figure by Rs. 396,667'72, which was Rs. 589,984'45.

There are several sub-heads under the main head "Miscellaneous" relating to the various refunds by Government. During 1926 the sum of Rs. 762,795'48 was received from Government chiefly in connection with work carried out by the Council on behalf of Government. Not only was the last instalment received in respect of the Kollupitiya road widening from Galle Face to Turret road, which was completed in 1923, but the Government also refunded the sum of Rs. 298,470'38 representing the cost incurred by the Council up to August 31, 1926, in acquiring the necessary land and widening Kollupitiya road between Turret road and Deal place, which was commenced in 1925 only.

The Government again refunded the Customs duties on articles imported by the Council, which amounted to Rs. 41,851'18 in respect of the Government's financial year ended September 30, 1926.

(C) Disbursements on Revenue Account.

The following statement shows under the usual main heads the disbursements in 1924, 1925, and 1926, the estimated disbursements for 1926, and the percentages which the disbursements of 1926 under such main heads bear to the total :—

Head of Expenditure.	Actual. 1924.		Actual. 1925.		Actual. 1926.		Percentage to Total.	Estimated 1926.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.
A.—Non-effective charges	921,641	62...	899,011	17...	836,015	53...	13'63...	848,990	0
B.—Chairman	27,525	80...	40,427	90...	27,813	33...	'45...	27,814	0
C.—Secretariat	91,749	34...	88,365	2...	120,540	62...	1'96...	129,982	0
D.—Treasurer's Department	252,268	8...	256,444	77...	262,234	23...	4'28...	283,726	0
E.—Veterinary Department	169,093	99...	146,632	92...	149,999	1...	2'44...	177,830	0
F.—Municipal Court	25,255	78...	27,203	46...	28,617	77...	'46...	29,362	0
G.—Fire Brigade and Ambulances	70,160	40...	66,035	87...	79,271	92...	1'29...	82,901	0
H.—Public Health Department...	407,714	9...	414,624	30...	431,799	88...	7'05...	493,350	0
I.—Engineer's Department (Works)	2,413,722	81...	2,785,532	99...	3,730,356	32...	60'84...	5,023,247	62
I.—Engineer's Department (Drainage)	599,290	19...	—	...	—	...	—	—	—
K.—Waterworks Department	554,546	30...	396,486	88...	362,795	54...	5'91...	395,245	44
L.—Assessing Department	79,026	15...	76,109	73...	93,950	60...	1'53...	107,496	93
M.—Public Library	—	...	7,059	19...	9,873	21...	'16...	15,046	0
Total	5,611,994	55	5,203,934	20	6,133,267	96	100	7,614,990	99

The total disbursements for 1926 are the highest recorded and exceed those of 1925 by Rs. 929,333'76.

The actual disbursements fell short of the estimated disbursements by Rs. 1,481,723'03. The estimated figure of Rs. 7,614,990'99 in the above table was made up as follows :—

	Rs.	Rs.	c.
Balances brought forward in respect of non-recurrent works uncompleted at December 31, 1925	...	955,065	99
Less votes cancelled by resolutions of Council :—			
I.-65E/1924. Asphalting road surfaces, Dematagoda road	13,000		
I.-103/1925. Apparatus to be fitted to lorry for cleaning gullies	4,500		
I.-104/1925. Diversion of sewer A-78, Fort	6,000		
		23,500	0
		931,565	99
Authorized expenditure in 1926 Budget	...	5,659,258	0
Supplemental expenditure authorized in 1926	...	1,024,167	0
Total	...	7,614,990	99

There were savings on the estimated expenditure to the extent of Rs. 463,870'14. This is made up of Rs. 296,666'34 on maintenance or recurring expenditure and Rs. 167,203'80 on extraordinary or new works which were actually completed during the year. The Council was able to sanction Rs. 1,024,167 by way of supplemental provision during 1926 owing to an available surplus of Rs. 177,018'33 being brought forward on January 1, 1926, savings on sanctioned votes and increased revenue. In addition Rs. 250,000 was taken from reserve for purchase of stores, &c.,

The sum of Rs. 1,462,640'30 was spent by the Council from revenue on non-recurrent works, *i.e.*, expenditure other than for maintaining the existing services, &c., and is included in the total of Rs. 6,133,267'96.

The ordinary maintenance expenditure was Rs. 4,670,627'66. The following table shows the distribution of expenditure from revenue for the past six years:—

Year.	Maintenance Expenditure.			Non-recurrent Expenditure.			Total Expenditure from Revenue.	
	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.
1921	3,867,089	9	...	397,063	2	...	4,264,152	11
1922	4,051,229	57	...	904,855	31	...	4,956,084	88
1923	4,309,117	79	...	1,105,331	34	...	5,414,449	13
1924	4,345,084	1	...	1,266,910	54	...	5,611,994	55
1925	4,475,259	83	...	728,674	37	...	5,203,934	20
1926	4,670,627	66	...	1,462,640	30	...	6,133,267	96

(D) Capital Account.

Annexure B is a statement showing receipts and payments in connection with works for the execution of which money was originally borrowed from Government and also in connection with works which have been and are being executed out of cash received by the Council from the Government as the proceeds of certain Sinking Fund Investments.

The cost of the Town Hall at Victoria Park to the end of 1926 is Rs. 1,141,423'81. The balance remaining in hand from the Sinking Funds is now Rs. 160,988'01. Rs. 14,065'34 was received as interest on the cash in hand during the year.

(E) Balance Sheet.

The Balance Sheet as at December 31, 1926, is shown as Annexure C.

The surplus has been increased by Rs. 164,168'11 to Rs. 1,995,791'43.

Of this amount, no less than Rs. 1,017,852'89 is already earmarked on account of works sanctioned by the Council which were either uncompleted at December 31 or had not yet been commenced.

During the year it was decided by the Council to reduce the reserve of Rs. 500,000 set aside for the purchase of stores, &c., to Rs. 250,000 as it was considered that this could be done with safety.

The surplus should therefore be reduced by the sums of Rs. 1,017,852'89 and Rs. 250,000, leaving the available surplus at December 31, 1926, at Rs. 727,938'54. This sum, however, was reduced by the Budget of 1927 which sanctioned expenditure exceeding the estimated income by Rs. 311,367, with the result that the unappropriated surplus at December 31, 1926, was Rs. 416,571'54.

A portion of this unappropriated surplus has already been utilized by the Council by sanctioning various supplemental votes.

The value of stores on hand at December 31, 1926, was Rs. 777,295'95, an increase of Rs. 75,161'46 over the previous year's figure.

During 1926, Rs. 12,705'54 was expended on laying water mains in private streets. The total expenditure in this connection is now Rs. 107,862'37. Rs. 7,032'71 was repaid by owners during the year, leaving Rs. 43,432'96 still to be recovered for the work executed by the Council, and this accordingly appears as an asset.

During the year the Council decided to establish an Insurance Fund for the purpose of meeting losses caused through damage by fire. The whole of the insurance policies have now been allowed to lapse with the exception of the one relating to the general store and office at Suduwella. The fund was commenced during the year and amounted to Rs. 1,671'50 at December 31. This item appears as a liability.

In 1925, the Committee of the Colombo-Pettah Library offered the sum of Rs. 4,719'73 to the Council for the purpose of providing a memorial section in the Municipal Public Library. This sum was provided out of funds which belonged to the late Colombo-Pettah Library.

The Committee desired that out of this sum Rs. 2,000 should be expended in the first instance in acquiring valuable works of reference and the balance of the fund with accrued interest retained as an endowment fund for the annual replenishing of the memorial section of the Colombo Public Library.

The Council accepted the generous offer and resolved that a section of the Reference Library be kept apart on shelves labelled "Colombo-Pettah Library Bequest."

The amount was duly received in 1926 and the fund accordingly appears on the Liability side in the Balance Sheet at Rs. 4,834'08, the difference between the amount received and the item shown in the Balance Sheet representing interest. The books have not yet been purchased.

The debt of the Council was reduced to Rs. 13,284,655'20 at the end of 1926, as compared with Rs. 13,458,264'10 a year earlier, the sum of Rs. 173,608'90, together with interest, having been repaid to Government during the year.

The Council is liable to pay the sum of Rs. 8,000 annually until 1945 in respect of the cost of erecting Victoria bridge. Capitalizing this annuity on a 5 per cent. basis makes the present value of the debt Rs. 97,394'41. The total debt of the Council is therefore Rs. 13,382,049'61, against Rs. 13,558,675'10 the year before.

(F) *Stores.*

During 1926, the total cost of stores received at Suduwella was Rs. 1,117,557'13, as compared with last year's figure of Rs. 1,105,199'41. The value of stores purchased and manufactured locally amounted to Rs. 579,746'85 and stores purchased through the Council's London Agents and direct from manufacturers, &c., in Europe cost Rs. 537,810'28, inclusive of Customs duties, clearing charges, and agent's commission.

The value of stores issued was Rs. 1,088,593'61, as against Rs. 1,040,523'06 in 1925.

During the year the work of the stores was divided into two portions. The responsibility of receiving and issuing of stores is with the Storekeeper and two Assistant Storekeepers, while the recording of such receipts and issues is now under the supervision of a Division I. Clerk (Mr. W. A. Perera) and performed by a staff of six Store Clerks.

(G) *Aided House Drainage.*

There has been a considerable increase during the year in the administrative work in connection with aided house connections. The numbers of premises connected each year are as follows:—

1923	...	...	...	5
1924	...	...	...	20
1925	...	...	...	33
1926	...	...	...	69
Total				127

During the year the amount advanced was Rs. 65,580'69 and the total advanced since 1923 (the year in which aided house drainage was instituted) is Rs. 126,163'76. Rs. 37,741'84 has been repaid under the agreements, leaving Rs. 88,421'92 outstanding.

Interest amounting to Rs. 2,984'19 was received compared with Rs. 457'21 and Rs. 1,611'88 in 1924 and 1925 respectively.

It was necessary in 66 cases to issue warrants as the instalments were not paid by the due date, and the sum of Rs. 524'39 was recovered as warrant costs of 10 per cent. Last year 30 cases went under warrant and Rs. 247'67 was recovered as costs.

The Department has a great deal of work thrown upon it in connection with aided house drainage, chiefly owing to the growing number of owners who fail to keep to the undertaking to pay the instalments on the specified dates.

In two cases the period of repayment was extended from four years to ten as the owners concerned were unable to adhere to the terms of the agreements owing to their poor circumstances.

(H) *Advances to Officers.*

Rs. 7,077 was advanced by the Council to officers requiring loans for the purpose of purchasing vehicles in terms of the conditions attached to payment of travelling allowances. 5 per cent. interest is charged on these loans. The amount outstanding at January 1, 1926, was Rs. 4,408'74, and during the year Rs. 9,201'82 was repaid, leaving the sum of Rs. 2,283'92, outstanding at December 31, which is accordingly shown as an asset in the Balance Sheet.

(I) *Prosecutions, &c., by Revenue Inspectors.*

The following summary gives details of the prosecutions entered by the Revenue Inspectors of the Department in 1926 and for purposes of comparison similar information is given for 1925:—

	1925.			1926.		
	No. of Cases.	Fines. Rs. c.		No. of Cases.	Fines. Rs. c.	
Weights and measures (unstamped and/or false)	23	...	377 50	96	...	1,727 50
Day cooly charges	7	...	8 0	9	...	10 0
Trade licenses	50	...	356 50	84	...	325 0
Motor vehicle taxes	131	...	—	354	...	—
Occupation of market stalls without payment	11	...	12 50	13	...	12 0
Unlicensed meat and fish stalls	4	...	42 50	14	...	94 0
Unregistered market servants	6	...	12 50	24	...	33 50
Keeping stalls closed	—	...	—	2	...	15 0
Non-return of badges by guides	—	...	—	3	...	20 0
Unregistered dogs	—	...	—	1	...	5 0
Counterfeiting cart plates	—	...	—	7	...	175 0

20,994 weights and measures were tested by the Revenue Inspectors. 856 or 4'1 per cent. of these were condemned as incorrect. Last year the percentage of condemned weights and measures was 2'3.

In four cases only had recourse to be made to seizure of movables. These were in connection with non-payment of the consolidated rate. Last year there were 26 such seizures.

Two persons were fined Rs. 15 each for obstructing officers who were proceeding to make a seizure.

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(J) *New or Extraordinary Works*—contd.

Heading.	Amount voted.		Amount expended up to Dec. 31, 1925.		Amount expended in 1926.		Total.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Brought forward ...	988,918	85	527,871	27	377,658	7	905,529	34
Water main in Pansala road, Kotahena ...	1,450	0	—	—	1,344	51	1,344	51
Water main in Vellon's passage, Slave Island ...	1,120	0	—	—	1,115	99	1,115	99
Water main in Prakrama road...	2,600	0	—	—	1,905	87	1,905	87
Water main in Darley road ...	1,862	0	—	—	1,753	78	1,753	78
Purchase of Deacon waste meters	20,000	0	—	—	19,906	77	19,906	77
Installing two water posts, Vuystryke and Ferguson's road ...	1,200	0	—	—	973	42	973	42
Renewing of water service connections in certain streets	4,840	0	—	—	4,119	99	4,119	99
Erection of standpipe in Joseph Fraser road, Bambalapitiya ...	1,322	0	—	—	1,321	77	1,321	77
Water main in McCallum road to Colombo Fort Station ...	7,300	0	—	—	5,123	78	5,123	78
Construction of 'bus stand, Destructor road ...	1,300	0	—	—	1,155	15	1,155	15
Adjustable steel rack for Assessor's Office ...	473	0	10	7	461	48	471	55
Total ...	1,032,385	85	527,881	34	416,840	58	944,721	92

(K) *Statistics.*

Various items of statistical interest are shown in Annexure D, and are compiled in tabular form for comparative purposes.

(L) *General.*

During the year information was received that counterfeit cart plates were being exhibited on carts kept for private purposes and on carts licensed by other local authorities which were used in Colombo. These classes of carts are liable for tax under the provisions contained in the Municipal Councils Ordinance and circular plates are issued on payment of the tax. It was thought that the counterfeit plates were being manufactured at a Paliyagoda gala. After inquiries had been made the matter was put in the hands of the Criminal Investigation Department, and it was decided to inspect all carts in Colombo on a given date in order to compare the numbers of the license plates with the office records. This inspection was carried out on August 2, 1926, and seven carts were discovered bearing counterfeit plates. Proceedings were taken against the owners and they were fined Rs. 25 each on pleading guilty. The manufacturer of the counterfeit plates could not be traced.

These types of cart plates have hitherto been painted locally under contract as there were but a few issued, but it has now been decided to have them made of enamelled iron as in the case of the ordinary cart plate, in order to make evasion of the tax more difficult.

On October 22, 1926, regulations giving power to this Council to collect revenue in money in cases of licenses, the fees on which had hitherto been collected by stamps, were published in the *Government Gazette* under the powers contained in "The Revenue Collection Ordinance, 1925." Colombo was the first authority to take advantage of the provisions of this Ordinance. The new procedure, which affects licenses issued under "The Butchers Ordinance, 1893," "The Boats Ordinance, 1900," and "The Vehicles Ordinance, 1916," has the following advantages:—

- (1) Revenue is collected more expeditiously, as the Council receives the money when the license is applied for.
- (2) Fraudulent misuse of stamps will not now arise.
- (3) It is more convenient to ratepayers as they now pay direct to the Council, instead of having to perform the two transactions of purchasing a stamp and sending it to the office.

The new procedure will come into operation on January 1, 1927.

The Correspondence Branch of the Department had a considerable quantity of work thrown upon it during the year and this is substantiated by the fact that no less than 29,366 "outward" letters were registered, as against 23,144 in 1925, an increase of 26·8 per cent. The "inward" letters registered increased by 11·4 per cent., from 37,492 in 1925 to 41,769 in 1926. It may be pointed out that letters which enclose cheques only are not registered and are therefore not recorded in the above figures. Papers passing from one Department of the Council to another are also not included in these figures.

It again affords me great pleasure to express my appreciation of the satisfactory manner in which the officers of the Department carried out their duties during the year.

April 7, 1927.

G. H. N. SAUNDERS,
Municipal Treasurer.

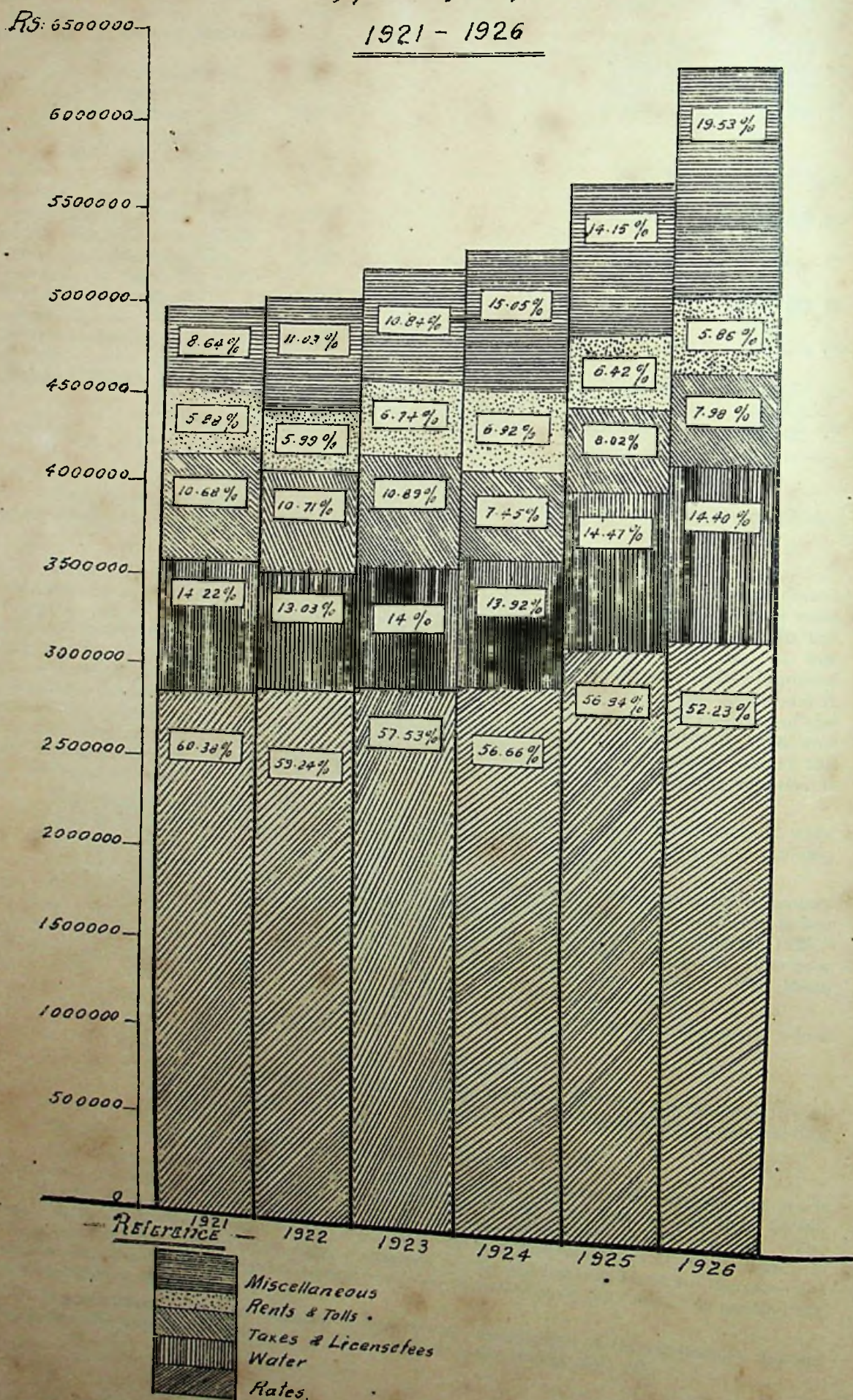
Colombo Municipal Council

TREASURERS' DEPARTMENT

Diagram No 1

Annual Income

1921 - 1926



Annexure A.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS ON ACCOUNT OF THE MUNICIPAL FUND,
JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1926.

RECEIPTS.

			Estimated Receipts, 1926.		Receipts, 1926.	
			Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
A.—TAXES.						
1	Tax on vehicles and animals	...	190,000	0	217,747	14
2	Costs on recovery of tax on vehicles and animals	...	250	0	246	35
			190,250	0	217,993	49
B.—LICENSES.						
3	Vehicles	...	60,000	0	68,756	0
4	Boat	...	6,000	0	6,215	50
5	Gun	...	10,000	0	11,489	0
6	Proceeds of licenses for foreign liquor shops	...	55,000	0	72,666	0
7	Slaughter of animals	...	100	0	140	0
8	Sale of meat and fish	...	2,000	0	1,925	0
9	Petroleum	...	2,000	0	3,480	42
10	Guides	...	400	0	450	0
11	Poison	...	200	0	240	0
12	Trade	...	45,000	0	56,290	50
13	Auctioneers' and brokers'	...	26,000	0	29,625	0
14	Advocates', proctors' and notaries' certificates	...	13,500	0	14,477	0
15	Old metal dealers	...	250	0	—	—
15a	Motor 'bus stands	...	—	—	17,960	0
			220,450	0	283,714	42
16	C.—JUDICIAL FINES.	...	70,000	0	89,726	52
D.—TOLLS.						
17	Contribution in lieu of abolition of road and bridge tolls	...	130,000	0	130,000	0
18	Rents of two toll ferries and one canal toll	...	11,000	0	12,563	78
			141,000	0	142,563	78
E.—MARKETS.						
19	Edinburgh market	...	24,000	0	24,378	35
20	Price park market	...	18,000	0	20,938	20
21	St. John's market	...	6,000	0	6,553	75
22	Dean's road market	...	34,000	0	32,784	80
23	Grandpass market	...	4,000	0	4,650	60
24	Kollupitiya market	...	13,000	0	9,173	25
25	Gintupitiya street market	...	2,750	0	4,105	0
26	Bambalapitiya market	...	6,000	0	5,712	0
27	Borella market	...	15,000	0	15,449	44
28	Kotahena market	...	7,000	0	7,056	8
28a	Slave Island market	...	—	—	7,645	55
29	Costs of recovery of arrears of market rents	...	750	0	1,354	59
			130,500	0	139,801	61
F.—SLAUGHTER-HOUSE.						
30	Slaughtering fees	...	21,000	0	26,542	5
31	Feeding fees	...	30,000	0	38,094	5
32	Miscellaneous receipts	...	1,500	0	1,947	20
33	Fees for inspection of frozen meat...	...	3,500	0	4,840	80
			56,000	0	71,424	10
G.—CONSERVANCY.						
34	Conservancy of Military and Government quarters	...	8,000	0	6,437	0
35	Day and special coolies	...	4,000	0	4,312	10
			12,000	0	10,749	10
H.—CATTLE MART AND QUARANTINE STATION.						
36	Fees	...	55,000	0	69,396	79
37	Lease of boutiques, &c.	...	2,500	0	1,858	65
			57,500	0	71,255	44
Carried forward			877,700	0	1,027,228	46

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RECEIPTS—*contd.*

				Estimated Receipts, 1926.		Receipts, 1926.	
				Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Brought forward ...				877,700	0	1,027,228	46
I.—CONSOLIDATED RATES.							
				55,000	0	40,967	50
38	Arrears	...	...	3,150,000	0	3,195,173	22
39	Current	...	...	55,000	0	52,444	20
40	Costs on recoveries	...	...		
				3,260,000	0	3,288,584	92
K.—WATER.							
				675,000	0	866,203	99
41	Sale of water	...	...	1,500	0	1,777	28
42	Costs on recoveries	...	...	12,500	0	16,119	32
43	Military contribution	...	...	22,000	0	23,395	43
44	Meter rents	...	...		
				711,000	0	907,496	2
L.—RENTS.							
				1,000	0	1,038	60
45	Cricket pitches, &c.	...	...	50,000	0	58,736	53
46	Roads and buildings	...	...	200	0	1,705	60
47	Vested properties	...	...	5,000	0	5,422	50
48	Sundries	...	...	20,000	0	20,044	50
49	Boutiques, Gasworks street and Fifth Cross street	...	...	750	0	526	77
50	Grazing fees	...	...		
				76,950	0	87,474	50
M.—MISCELLANEOUS.							
51	Fire Brigade fees	...	...	6,000	0	6,288	10
52	Fees for registration of dogs	...	...	9,000	0	10,444	45
53	Trunk roads (maintenance), Government refund	...	...	146,679	0	163,594	28
—	Trunk roads (improvements), Government refunds:—						
	Improvement, Kollupitiya Station approach road...	...	...	10,500	0	10,493	8
	Widening of Galle Face Centre road	...	...	4,988	39†	4,988	39
	Asphalting Galle Face Centre road	...	...	48,690	6†	48,690	6
	Asphalting Kollupitiya road from Galle Face to Turret road	...	...	16,428	14†	16,428	14
	Granite sett tracks, Prince of Wales avenue	...	...	108,240	0	108,074	85
54	Tramway mileage rent	...	...	5,600	0	5,566	32
55	Interest	...	...	25,000	0	72,021	17
56	Military contribution for lighting of Fort	...	...	1,700	0	1,702	76
57	Departmental fines	...	...	250	0	559	1
58	Cemetery fees, &c.	...	...	11,000	0	13,471	88
59	Plague prevention and rat destruction, refunds from Government	...	...	30,000	0	31,196	71
60	Refund from Government on account of widening of Kollupitiya road, Part I., Galle Face to Turret road (fourth instalment)	...	...	29,893	41	29,893	41
61	Recoveries on account of surveys	...	...	100	0	113	93
61a	Refund from Government on account of Kirillapone bridge over Dehiwala canal	...	...	—	
62	Sundries:—					9,115	0
	(a) Department charges on work done for Government and private parties	...	...			22,979	53
	(b) Fees for surveys and tracings for aided house drainage	...	...			730	55
	(c) Application and connection fees for house drainage	...	...	80,000	0	16,665	84
	(d) Fees for testing weights and measures	...	...			1,611	2
	(e) Fees for hoardings, &c.	...	...			37,396	92
	(f) Half fees for professional services of Council's officers	...	...			3,614	82
	(g) Miscellaneous	...	...			25,455	13
63	Sale of surplus lands	...	...	—		5,235	26
64	Refund from Government of Customs duty	...	...	—		41,851	18
65	Refund from Government widening of Kollupitiya road, Part II., from Turret road to Deal place	...	...	—		298,470	38
				534,069	0	986,652	17
TOTAL RECEIPTS ...				5,459,719	0	6,297,436	7

† Transferred from item No. 60.

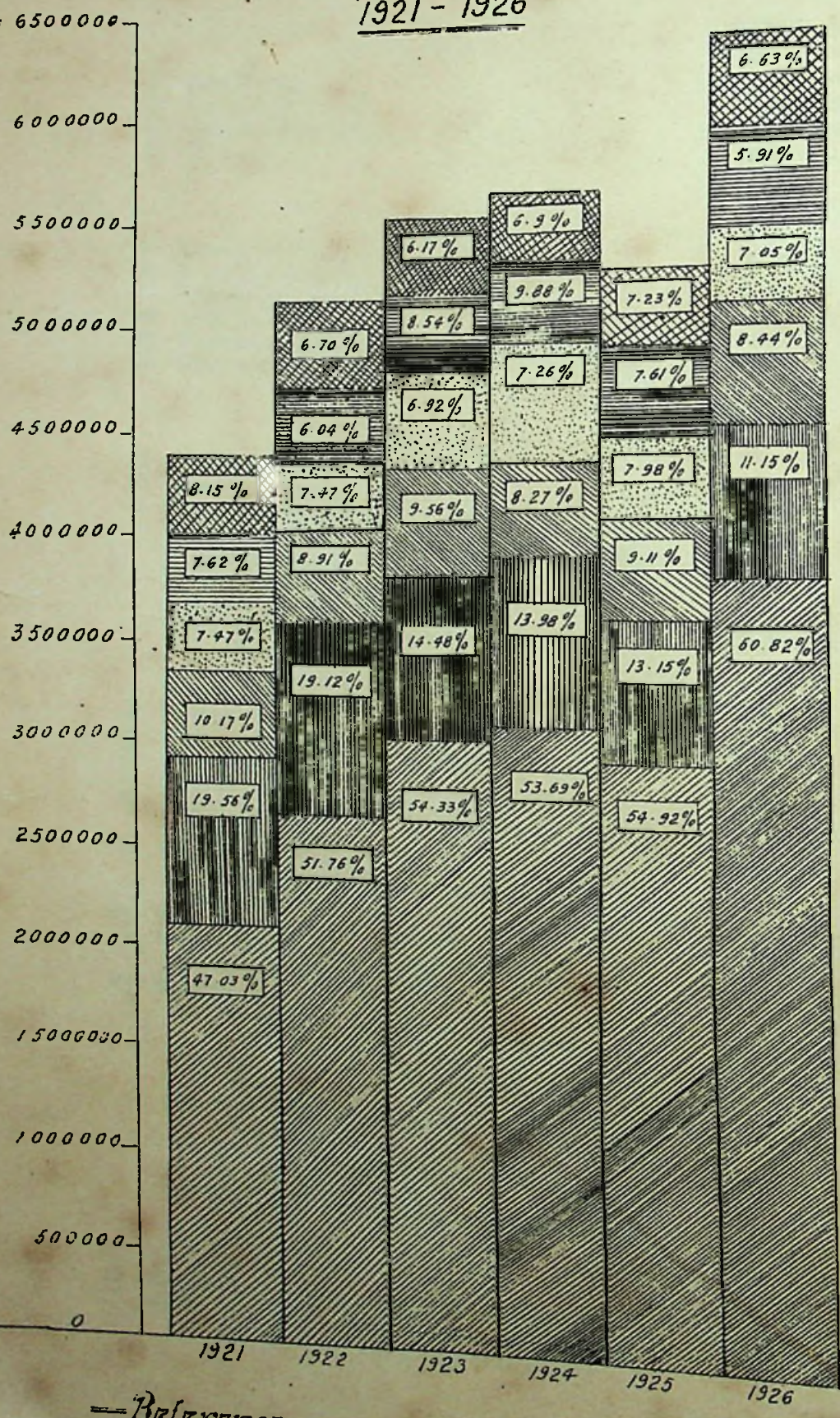
Colombo Municipal Council

TREASURERS DEPARTMENT

Diagram No 2

Annual Expenditure

1921 - 1926



REFERENCE.

- Miscellaneous
- Water supply
- Public Health
- Administration
- Loans
- Works & Drainage.

1
 3
 0
 53
 0 55
 65 84
 11 2
 396 92
 614 82
 5,455 13
 5,235 26
 1,851 18
 98,470 38
 586,652 17

DISBURSEMENTS.

	Estimated Disbursements, 1926.			Supplemental Provision, including Unspent Balances at Dec. 31, 1925, brought forward.			Disbursements, 1926.		
	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.	
A.—NON-EFFECTIVE CHARGES.									
*1 Annuity, Victoria bridge ...	8,000	0	...	—	...	...	8,000	0
2 Annuity, drainage loan ...	525,967	0	...	—	...	...	525,966	54
3 Annuity, water loan ...	150,000	0	...	—	...	...	150,000	0
4 Audit of accounts ...	18,000	0	...	—	...	...	18,230	62
5 Pensions ...	62,884	0	...	15,951	0	...	75,273	62	
6 Contribution to Friend-in-Need Society ...	5,000	0	...	—	...	...	5,000	0
7 Contribution to Law Library ...	500	0	...	—	...	...	500	0
8 Contribution to Victoria Home for Incurables ...	1,000	0	...	—	...	...	1,000	0
9 Contribution to Ceylon Light Infantry Band ...	10,100	0	...	—	...	...	10,100	0
10 Contribution towards maintenance of Anti-Tuberculosis Institute, Sanatorium, and Hospital ...	25,000	0	...	—	...	...	25,000	0
11 House of Detention and Vagrants' Home ...	18,000	0	...	—	...	...	14,244	9
12 Seizure of cattle straying on public roads ...	1,500	0	...	—	...	...	1,468	75
13 Feeding of poor children ...	5,000	0	...	—	...	...	5,143	63
14 Difference in exchange ...	1,000	0	...	—	...	...		81
15 Kirillapone quarry debit balance at December 31, 1925, written off ...	—	...	...	1,088	0	...	1,087	47
	831,951	0		17,039	0		836,015	53	
B.—CHAIRMAN.									
1 Salary and personal allowance ...	27,600	0	...	—	...	...	27,600	0
1a Passage ...	—	...	...	214	0	...	213	33
	27,600	0		214	0		27,813	33	
C.—SECRETARIAT.									
(a) Recurrent.									
1 Salaries ...	64,566	0	...	1,008	0	...	65,144	82	
2 Allowances ...	480	0	...	90	0	...	570	0	
3 Legal expenses ...	5,000	0	...	525	0	...	4,242	82	
4 Advertisements ...	1,750	0	...	700	0	...	2,389	25	
5 Furniture ...	100	0	...	—	...	...	75	0
6 Stationery ...	12,000	0	...	—	...	...	8,798	30
7 Library ...	325	0	...	—	...	...	189	15
8 Postage ...	125	0	...	—	...	...	62	9
9 Telephones ...	9,800	0	...	750	0	...	9,715	81	
10 General upkeep, &c., Printing Department ...	600	0	...	—	...	...	241	61
11 Binding materials ...	900	0	...	—	...	...	642	66
12 Medical boards ...	250	0	...	50	0	...	284	85	
13 Uniforms ...	250	0	...	—	...	...	220	50
14 Miscellaneous ...	2,250	0	...	—	...	...	1,831	63
15 Wages of coolies ...	1,745	0	...	50	0	...	1,777	98	
	100,141	0		3,173	0		96,186	47	
(b) Extraordinary.									
16 New type and plant for Printing Department ...	25,368	0	...	—	...	...	22,780	36
17 Remuneration to Dr. J. F. Peries for examining Council's officers ...	—	...	...	300	0	...	300	0
18 Municipal Council's elections ...	—	...	...	1,000	0	...	1,273	79
	25,368	0		1,300	0		24,354	15	
Carried forward ...	985,060	0		21,726	0		984,369	48	

* The annuity of Rs. 8,000 in respect of Victoria bridge is payable up to and including December 31, 1945.

CEYLON SESSIONAL PAPERS, 1927.
DISBURSEMENTS—*contd.*

	Estimated Disbursements, 1926.		Supplemental Provision, including Unspent Balances at Dec. 31, 1925, brought forward.		Disbursements, 1926.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Brought forward ...	985,060	0	21,726	0	984,369	48
D.—TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT.						
1 Salaries ...	184,296	0	—	...	183,286	96
2 Allowances ...	6,780	0	—	...	6,765	48
3 Commission ...	50,000	0	—	...	33,602	16
4 Uniforms ...	1,500	0	—	...	1,115	35
5 Extra clerks ...	4,000	0	—	...	2,879	53
6 Library ...	150	0	—	...	130	99
7 Stationery ...	2,500	0	—	...	2,602	99
8 Postage and receipt stamps ...	4,000	0	—	...	3,935	63
9 Furniture ...	250	0	—	...	306	87
10 Advertisements ...	3,500	0	—	...	2,308	69
11 Tin plates, badges, fare tables, painting numbers, branding of carts, and dog tickets ...	5,500	0	—	...	5,580	6
12 Store expenses ...	7,500	0	850	0	7,725	32
13 Miscellaneous ...	4,000	0	—	...	3,199	32
14 Insurance of buildings ...	7,500	0	—	...	7,649	51
15 Premiums on guarantee policies ...	1,000	0	400	0	1,145	37
	282,476	0	1,250	0	262,234	23

E.—VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

(a) Office

1 Salaries ...	30,216	0	—	...	30,215	0
2 Allowances ...	3,000	0	—	...	3,000	0
3 Prevention of diseases in animals ...	15,000	0	—	...	4,005	38
4 Uniforms ...	1,625	0	—	...	1,621	15
5 Postage ...	125	0	—	...	75	61
6 Furniture ...	150	0	—	...	134	13
7 Library ...	100	0	—	...	67	90
8 Stationery ...	500	0	—	...	427	18
9 Miscellaneous ...	150	0	—	...	106	80
10 Wages of coolies ...	330	0	50	0	379	56
	51,196	0	50	0	40,032	71

(b) Cattle Mart and Quarantine Station.

11 Salaries ...	14,892	0	800	0	15,642	66
12 Allowances ...	2,700	0	—	...	2,273	0
13 Tools and materials ...	1,000	0	330	0	1,139	99
14 Disinfectants ...	1,200	0	—	...	257	40
15 Treatment of sick cattle ...	200	0	—	...	—	—
16 Inoculation of cattle ...	6,000	0	—	...	4,440	16
17 Miscellaneous ...	1,100	0	—	...	840	59
18 Wages of coolies ...	8,800	0	1,140	0	9,643	75
	35,892	0	2,270	0	34,237	55

(c) Dog Pound and Animal Ambulances and Reception Carts.

19 Salaries ...	1,164	0	—	...	1,164	0
20 Capture of dogs ...	5,400	0	—	...	4,204	99
21 Upkeep of motor animal ambulances ...	5,000	0	—	...	2,615	29
	11,564	0	—	...	7,984	28
Carried forward ...	1,366,188	0	25,296	0	1,328,858	25

DISBURSEMENTS—*contd.*

				Estimated Disbursements, 1926.		Supplemental Provision, including Unspent Balances at Dec. 31, 1925, brought forward.		Disbursements, 1926.	
				Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Brought forward ...				1,366,188	0	25,296	0	1,328,858	25
E.—VETERINARY DEPARTMENT—<i>contd.</i>									
<i>(d) Rat Destruction.</i>									
22	Salaries	...	...	2,580	0	—	...	2,580	0
23	Wages of overseers and coolies	...	...	31,390	0	3,700	0	31,209	73
24	Allowances	...	...	1,980	0	—	...	1,950	0
25	Baits and poison	...	...	10,000	0	—	...	5,827	32
26	Disinfectants	...	...	500	0	—	...	453	10
27	Rat traps	...	...	2,000	0	—	...	1,174	88
28	Miscellaneous	...	...	2,500	0	—	...	1,185	49
				50,950	0	3,700	0	47,380	52
<i>(e) Slaughter-houses.</i>									
29	Salaries	...	...	4,788	0	—	...	4,788	0
30	Wages of coolies	...	...	4,000	0	250	0	4,384	88
31	Allowances	...	...	300	0	—	...	295	0
32	Feeding charges	...	...	8,400	0	2,770	0	9,488	41
33	Miscellaneous	...	...	1,700	0	—	...	1,407	66
				19,188	0	3,020	0	20,363	95
F.—MUNICIPAL COURT.									
1	Salaries	...	...	25,842	0	—	...	25,841	19
2	Allowances	...	...	1,600	0	—	...	1,560	0
3	Uniforms	...	...	300	0	—	...	147	0
4	Stationery	...	...	550	0	—	...	459	9
5	Library	...	...	50	0	—	...	15	75
6	Miscellaneous	...	...	750	0	270	0	594	74
				29,092	0	270	0	28,617	77
G.—FIRE BRIGADE AND AMBULANCES.									
1	Salaries	...	...	37,632	0	—	...	36,979	75
2	Allowances	...	...	1,710	0	—	...	1,620	0
3	Uniforms	...	...	5,500	0	500	0	5,653	4
4	Stores	...	...	5,000	0	—	...	4,370	40
5	Working expenses and lights	...	...	5,000	0	—	...	4,537	2
6	Stationery	...	...	125	0	—	...	59	38
7	Library	...	...	75	0	—	...	28	83
8	Upkeep of motor ambulances	...	...	11,000	0	—	...	9,671	25
9	Hose, couplings, &c.	...	...	8,750	0	347	0	9,096	32
10	Wages to daily paid staff	...	...	2,439	0	323	0	2,760	4
				77,231	0	1,170	0	74,776	3
<i>Extraordinary.</i>									
11	Construction of an additional ambulance	...	...	4,500	0	—	...	4,495	89
H.—PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.									
<i>(a) Sanitary Branch.</i>									
1	Salaries	...	...	159,168	0	—	...	152,094	51
2	Wages of coolies	...	...	12,411	0	2,266	0	12,980	1
3	Allowances	...	...	20,710	0	—	...	20,065	44
4	Prevention of infectious diseases	...	...	8,300	0	—	...	3,469	31
5	Postage	...	...	150	0	—	...	139	98
6	Uniforms	...	...	7,000	0	—	...	5,521	15
7	Plague prevention	...	...	60,000	0	4,567	0	40,416	43
8	Library	...	...	500	0	—	...	342	46
9	Furniture	...	...	100	0	—	...	91	82
10	Stationery	...	...	2,000	0	—	...	1,232	48
11	Miscellaneous	...	...	3,250	0	—	...	2,427	71
12	Removing sick and burying dead	...	...	1,200	0	—	...	538	0
13	Maintenance of motor disinfecting vans	...	...	2,500	0	—	...	2,322	88
				277,289	0	6,833	0	241,642	18
Carried forward ...				1,824,438	0	40,289	0	1,746,134	59

CEYLON SESSIONAL PAPERS, 1927.
DISBURSEMENTS—*contd.*

	Estimated Disbursements, 1926.	Supplemental Provision, includ- ing Unspent Balances at Dec. 31, 1925, brought forward.	Disbursements, 1926.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Brought forward ...	1,824,438 0	40,289 0	1,746,134 59

H.—PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT—*contd.*

(b) *Child Welfare.*

14 Salaries ...	27,540 0	—	27,431 9
15 Allowances ...	6,660 0	—	6,590 0
16 Fees to Municipal midwives ...	750 0	—	660 0
17 Equipment and maintenance ...	13,000 0	—	5,745 94
	<u>47,950 0</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>40,427 3</u>

(c) *Dispensaries.*

18 Salaries ...	38,544 0	416 0	38,763 94
19 Allowances ...	2,100 0	480 0	2,524 64
20 Rent of stations ...	4,680 0	—	3,915 0
21 Maintenance ...	22,000 0	—	16,470 94
22 Wages of punkah boy ...	150 0	20 0	146 56
	<u>67,474 0</u>	<u>916 0</u>	<u>61,821 8</u>

(d) *Markets.*

23 Salaries ...	15,480 0	—	14,828 51
24 Wages of coolies ...	14,243 0	2,203 0	16,242 10
25 Allowances ...	120 0	—	120 0
26 Maintenance ...	2,000 0	—	1,697 13
	<u>31,843 0</u>	<u>2,203 0</u>	<u>32,887 74</u>

(e) *General Cemeteries.*

27 Salaries ...	6,776 0	—	6,775 20
28 Wages of coolies ...	13,535 0	1,805 0	14,358 35
29 Upkeep of cemeteries ...	1,000 0	—	753 95
30 Miscellaneous ...	600 0	—	534 37
	<u>21,911 0</u>	<u>1,805 0</u>	<u>22,421 87</u>

(f) *Bacteriological Laboratory.*

31 Salaries ...	22,636 0	120 0	22,746 38
32 Wages of coolies ...	895 0	124 0	983 77
33 Allowances ...	720 0	—	720 0
34 Equipment ...	2,000 0	170 0	1,492 27
35 Maintenance ...	5,000 0	—	4,174 66
36 Library ...	750 0	—	419 44
	<u>32,001 0</u>	<u>414 0</u>	<u>30,536 52</u>

(g) *Municipal Laundries.*

37 Wages and maintenance ...	2,000 0	211 0	2,063 46
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(h) *Extraordinary.*

38 Purchase of 150 copies of the Plague Report ...	—	500 0	—
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I.—ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT.

(a) *Office.*

1 Salaries ...	285,456 0	—	284,187 92
2 Allowances ...	31,680 0	—	30,650 48
3 Surveying and drawing materials ...	5,000 0	—	5,751 17
4 Uniforms ...	2,050 0	950 0	1,129 16
5 Library ...	300 0	—	187 20
6 Stationery ...	4,500 0	—	3,982 23
7 Miscellaneous ...	1,800 0	—	1,572 18
	<u>330,786 0</u>	<u>950 0</u>	<u>327,460 34</u>
Carried forward ...	2,358,403 0	47,288 0	2,263,752 63

DISBURSEMENTS—*contd.*

		Estimated Disbursements, 1926.		Supplemental Provision, including Unspent Balances at Dec. 31, 1925, brought forward.		Disbursements, 1926.	
		Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Brought forward ...		2,358,403	0	47,288	0	2,263,752	63
I.—ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT— <i>contd.</i>							
(b) Buildings.							
8	Wages of overseers—buildings ...	2,555	0	248	0	2,538	66
9	Allowances to overseers—buildings ...	240	0	—	—	240	0
10	Maintenance—Town Hall ...	2,250	0	190	0	2,156	67
11	Maintenance—cemeteries and hospitals ...	3,000	0	1,050	0	3,539	74
12	Maintenance—Quarantine Station and Mart ...	2,250	0	1,772	0	3,910	55
13	Maintenance—markets ...	18,000	0	1,520	0	19,497	81
14	Maintenance—Suduwellla depôt ...	5,500	0	304	0	5,775	67
15	Maintenance—Fire Brigade buildings ...	1,400	0	175	0	1,337	56
16	Maintenance—Maligakanda offices ...	4,500	0	405	0	4,744	57
17	Working and maintenance of disinfectory ...	1,200	0	84	0	899	88
18	Maintenance—slaughter-house ...	2,800	0	308	0	3,001	34
19	Maintenance—miscellaneous buildings ...	7,500	0	1,754	0	8,267	98
20	Maintenance—Khan clock tower ...	750	0	80	0	633	1
21	Maintenance—laundries ...	1,500	0	1,855	0	2,476	38
22	Maintenance—Free Library ...	4,700	0	250	0	2,698	10
		58,145	0	9,995	0	61,737	92
(c) Roads, Bridges, Culverts, Drains, &c.							
23	Wages of overseers—roads ...	22,000	0	2,164	0	21,902	75
24	Allowances to overseers—roads ...	2,760	0	—	—	2,463	30
25	General upkeep of roads ...	27,500	0	3,230	0	30,110	71
26	Upkeep of metal roads ...	348,000	0	18,223	0	332,492	73
27	Upkeep of gravel roads ...	30,000	0	1,787	0	31,627	6
28	Watering and oiling streets ...	47,000	0	3,090	0	44,974	21
29	Asphalting and tarring streets ...	80,000	0	26,422	0	101,962	35
30	Repairs to bridges, culverts, drains, &c. ...	32,500	0	1,289	0	33,699	20
31	Conservancy of main drains ...	9,000	0	1,700	0	9,842	60
32	Repairs and upkeep of steam rollers and lorries ...	34,000	0	4,920	0	38,371	83
33	Repairs and purchase of tools ...	32,500	0	620	0	32,339	68
34	Maintenance and repairs to plant ...	15,000	0	874	0	15,833	64
35	Miscellaneous (repairs to footways and carriage and rickshaw stands) ...	15,000	0	654	0	14,977	27
		695,260	0	64,973	0	710,597	33
(d) Scavenging.							
36	Wages of overseers ...	13,275	0	2,500	0	12,842	29
37	Scavenging, dust sweeping, and removal of mud ...	260,000	0	28,379	0	273,885	37
		273,275	0	30,879	0	286,727	66
(e) Parks.							
38	Maintenance of parks, open spaces, &c. ...	30,750	0	4,210	0	32,875	91
39	Upkeep of playgrounds ...	6,280	0	800	0	7,076	82
		37,030	0	5,010	0	39,952	73
(f) Lighting.							
40	Lighting public streets with gas ...	126,500	0	—	—	116,799	69
41	Electric lighting of streets ...	23,000	0	—	—	21,859	33
42	Alterations to gas lamps ...	1,000	0	—	—	888	50
43	Gas lighting, Municipal buildings ...	25,000	0	—	—	20,287	57
44	Electric fans and lamps, Municipal Council's offices and buildings ...	18,400	0	—	—	14,729	28
		193,900	0	—	—	174,564	37
Carried forward ...		3,616,013	0	158,145	0	3,537,332	64

CEYLON SESSIONAL PAPERS, 1927.
DISBURSEMENTS—*contd.*

	Estimated Disbursements, 1926.		Supplemental Provision, including Unspent Balances at Dec. 31, 1925, brought forward.		Disbursements, 1926.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Brought forward ...	3,616,013	0	158,145	0	3,537,332	64
1.—ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT—<i>contd.</i>						
<i>(g) Conservancy.</i>						
45 Tools and materials ...	3,000	0	200	0	2,690	4
46 Disinfectants ...	20,000	0	—	—	18,433	14
47 Wages of coolies ...	90,000	0	10,500	0	98,806	87
48 Maintenance of conservancy carts and working expenses of conservancy lorries ...	5,000	0	383	0	5,104	60
49 Maintenance of lavatories and tipping depôts ...	70,000	0	5,134	0	63,636	54
	188,000	0	16,217	0	188,671	19
<i>(h) Drainage.</i>						
50 Testing house drains ...	15,500	0	2,600	0	17,772	33
51 Upkeep of sewers ...	95,000	0	26,900	0	112,407	79
52 Clearing gullies, &c. ...	42,500	0	2,750	0	41,860	91
53 Maintenance of pumping stations ...	195,000	0	11,200	0	203,634	20
54 Treatment works, Madampitiya ...	13,500	0	840	0	13,667	11
55 Treatment works, Wellawatta ...	4,500	0	490	0	4,948	16
56 Improvements to rainwater drains.	3,000	0	210	0	3,003	20
57 House connections ...	90,000	0	19,000	0	112,085	67
58 Compulsory drainage—inquiries and service of notices ...	7,500	0	770	0	7,862	41
	466,500	0	64,760	0	517,241	78
<i>(i) Miscellaneous.</i>						
59 Working and maintenance of destructor ...	35,000	0	3,011	0	37,760	9
60 Surveys, tracings, photographs, &c. ...	17,000	0	1,388	0	16,327	39
61 Furniture ...	1,000	0	41	0	893	11
62 Upkeep of Chairman's motor car ...	4,000	0	30	0	4,011	24
63 Sundries (postage) ...	1,200	0	—	—	802	73
64 Upkeep of Printing Department—machinery and gas ...	1,200	0	34	0	808	11
65 Repairs to drinking troughs ...	200	0	30	0	76	60
66 Fences and watching Municipal Council's lands ...	1,000	0	120	0	945	63
	60,600	0	4,654	0	61,624	90
<i>(k) Extraordinary (New Works.)</i>						
67 One roller and one lorry and trailer and subsidiary plant ...	45,000	0	—	—	33,455	50
68 Purchase of four new lorries, hand carts, and for shelter for lorries ...	52,500	0	9,300	0	3,205	73
69 Stone setts, Armour street (tracks) ...	28,000	0	—	—	27,972	96
70 Stone setts, Front street ...	42,500	0	—	—	41,124	99
71 Stone setts, Panchikawatta (tracks) ...	45,000	0	900	0	38,265	90
72 Seabeach road improvements ...	69,000	0	1,737	0	62,961	26
73 Stone setts, Quarry road and Old Moor street extension ...	11,700	0	—	—	11,650	72
74 Stone setts, Butcher street ...	10,000	0	—	—	5,837	21
75 Bitumen carpet, Alexandra place (sides) ...	39,000	0	2,000	0	30,383	88
76 Bitumen carpet, Third cross street, Pettah ...	20,000	0	—	—	2,513	38
77 Acquisition of site for public market at Wellawatta ...	16,000	0	5,028	0	21,027	19
78 Polwatta laundry ...	50,000	0	—	—	12,525	0
Carried forward ...	428,700	0	18,965	0	290,923	72
Carried forward ...	4,331,113	0	243,776	0	4,304,870	51

DISBURSEMENTS—*contd.*

	Estimated Disbursements, 1926.		Supplemental Provision, including Unspent Balances at Dec. 31, 1925, brought forward.		Disbursements, 1926.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Brought forward ...	4,331,113	0	243,776	0	4,304,870	51
I.—ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT— <i>contd.</i>						
(k) <i>Extraordinary (New Works)</i> — <i>contd.</i>						
Brought forward ...	428,700	0	18,965	0	290,923	72
79 Rajamalwatta road scheme (construction) ...	32,220	0	—	...	—	...
80 Improvement of Arab lane ...	25,000	0	—	...	8,821	69
81 Construction of mosquito-proof gullies ...	20,000	0	—	...	10,616	15
82 Improvement of surface drains ...	25,000	0	—	...	14,386	54
83 Construction of sheds at Suduwella ...	5,000	0	—	...	4,994	56
84 Construction of 'bus stand, Destructor road ...	1,300	0	—	...	1,155	15
85 Improving entrance to stores, Suduwella ...	7,600	0	400	0	6,574	64
86 Minor improvements to markets, laundries, and cemeteries ...	5,000	0	—	...	3,270	76
87 Rounding off corners ...	16,000	0	2,067	0	1,473	26
88 Construction of new sewers (reduced Rs. 50,000) ...	100,000	0	2,050	0	38,553	74
89 Construction of new rainwater drains (increased Rs. 50,000) ...	150,000	0	6,700	0	126,359	11
90 Lighting of Maligakanda, 2nd lane..	1,019	0	—	...	993	25
91 Lighting of Paranawadiya extension.	1,714	0	—	...	1,613	25
92 Lighting of Maligawatta lane ...	4,419	0	—	...	4,023	50
93 Lighting of Kelani-ganga Mills road	1,481	0	—	...	1,305	62
94 Lighting of Franciwatta road ...	1,883	0	—	...	1,663	25
95 Lighting of Castle street ...	3,730	0	—	...	3,500	57
96 Lighting of Fife road ...	2,218	0	—	...	2,063	12
97 Construction and improvement of footpaths, San Sebastian Hill and Bridge street ...	19,250	0	—	...	17,223	67
98 Improvements to Quarantine Station and Borella Veterinary Hospital...	5,000	0	—	...	4,393	76
99 Construction of public lavatory at Vincent street ...	—	...	5,450	0	4,702	76
100 Improvement of Java lane ...	—	...	20,180	0	9,322	75
101 Acquisition on account widening Maradana road ...	—	...	82,500	0	60,000	0
102 Improvement of west side, Alexandra place ...	—	...	7,250	0	7,025	30
103 Havelock road street scheme (acquiring land Police park south to Timbirigasyaya road) ...	—	...	36,000	0	25,218	88
104 Kollupitiya duplication road (acquisition of premises No. 678A, Dickman's lane) ...	—	...	11,100	0	1,835	63
105 Trapping rainwater drain outlets to San Sebastian canal ...	—	...	6,000	0	2,039	40
106 Improvement of cooly lines, blocks A and B, Slaughter-house ...	—	...	2,634	0	1,849	21
107 Extension to plantain market, Kachcheri road ...	—	...	10,650	0	5,666	72
108 Alteration to Printing Department, new Town Hall ...	—	...	7,930	0	5,801	90
109 Staircase to base of dome, new Town Hall ...	—	...	3,250	0	3,250	0
110 Sett paving of Sea street at its junction with Wolfendahl ...	—	...	5,000	0	—	...
111 Signboards, motor traffic ...	—	...	5,000	0	4,334	65
112 Goat sheds at Cattle Mart and Quarantine Station ...	—	...	23,150	0	414	18
Carried forward ...	836,534	0	256,276	0	675,370	69
Carried forward ...	4,331,113	0	243,776	0	4,304,870	51

DISBURSEMENTS—*contd.*

	Estimated Disbursements, 1926.		Supplemental Provision, including Unspent Balances at Dec. 31, 1925, brought forward.		Disbursements, 1926.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Brought forward ...	4,331,113	0	243,776	0	4,304,870	51
I.—ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT—<i>contd.</i>						
(k) Extraordinary (New Works)—<i>contd.</i>						
Brought forward ...	856,534	0	256,276	0	675,370	69
113 Repairs to sewer J 12, Kotahena ...	—	...	25,000	0	19,004	15
114 Plastering dome, new Town Hall...	—	...	2,230	0	2,222	30
115 Repairs to No. 210, Dematagoda ...	—	...	550	0	—	
116 Extensions to the Bacteriological Laboratory and store at Maligakanda ...	—	...	12,200	0	—	
117 New gas engine at the new Town Hall Printing office ...	—	...	2,750	0	—	
118 Purchase of one Super Sentinel steam waggon and trailer (Biya-gama quarry) ...	—	...	17,000	0	—	
119 Acquisition and re-erection of boundary wall—Campbell place and Temple lane junction ...	—	...	6,000	0	—	
120 Lavatories for subordinate staff, new Town Hall ...	—	...	8,796	0	—	
121 Renewal of granite sett cart tracks Norris road (Factory to Railway road north side) ...	—	...	23,370	0	—	
122 Sett paving Wolfendahl street (Main street to Andival street) ...	—	...	70,000	0	800	0
123 Sett paving Prince of Wales avenue (Madampitiya road to Victoria bridge) ...	—	...	30,000	0	6,613	66
125 Lighting of Greenlands road ...	—	...	1,697	0	—	
126 Lighting of Yakbadda road ...	—	...	535	0	—	
127 Lighting of Kuruppu road ...	—	...	1,507	0	—	
128 Lighting of Rodney street ...	—	...	971	0	—	
129 Child Welfare Centre construction .	—	...	600	0	—	
89/1922 Widening Bagatelle road—Thurstan road junction ...	—	...	2,716	2*	1,560	0
89/1923 Public market at Slave Island...	—	...	58,599	96*	44,759	90
65a/1924 Asphalting road surfaces, Main street from Front street to Fourth Cross street ...	—	...	11,000	0*	—	
65d/1924 Asphalting road surfaces, Symonds road to Dean's road ...	—	...	11,000	0*	—	
68/1924 Connecting side drains, New Chetty street and rainwater drain Van Rooyen street ...	—	...	278	46*	216	74
69/1924 Erecting Sinhalese and Tamil road name plates ...	—	...	1,849	35*	1,323	1
71/1924 Construction of two sheds at Cattle Mart, Dematagoda ...	—	...	4,424	15*	533	21
74/1924 Purchase of plant ...	—	...	7,038	32*	4,176	0
79/1924 Biyagama quarry plant ...	—	...	134,717	79*	88,838	13
81/1924 Land acquisition, Nilwatta mills.	—	...	13,870	83*	—	
Carried forward ...	856,534	0	704,976	88	845,417	79
Carried forward ...	4,331,113	0	243,776	0	4,304,870	51

* Unspent balances at December 31, 1925, brought forward.

DISBURSEMENTS—*contd.*

	Estimated Disbursements, 1926.		Supplemental Provision, including Unspent Balances at Dec. 31, 1925, brought forward.		Disbursements, 1926.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Brought forward ...	4,331,113	0	243,776	0	4,304,870	51
I.—ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT— <i>contd.</i>						
(k) <i>Extraordinary (New Works)</i> — <i>contd.</i>						
Brought forward ...	856,534	0	704,976	88	845,417	79
65/1925 Acquisition of land, construction, lighting, water, and drainage to Maligawatta ...	—	..	62,992	10 ²	3,296	53
66/1925 Rajamalwatta road improvement scheme ...	—	...	75,000	0 ²	23,414	64
68/1925 Conversion of grain boutiques to meat stalls, Borella market ...	—	...	1,460	51 ²	120	0
69/1925 Extension of Kachcheri road market ...	—	...	88	22 ²	1	76
71/1925 Cooly lines, Kanatta cemetery ...	—	...	1,066	21 ²	558	36
77/1925 Van Rooyen street improvement.	—	...	776	41 ²	724	86
78/1925 Elie House road corner improvements ...	—	...	{ 851 0 } 1,399	61 ²	2,129	47
79/1925 Footway improvements, Korte-boam street ...	—	...	4,517	23 ²	298	68
80/1925 Widening Symonds road from Forbes road working northwards..	—	...	100,000	0 ²	—	
81/1925 Kochchikade slum improvement scheme ...	—	...	67,580	0 ²	—	
85/1925 Rainwater drain, Bambalapitiya Station road to Kirillapone canal .	—	...	6,911	69 ²	126	35
86/1925 Public lavatories ...	—	...	{ 4,250 0 } 44,600	0 ²	16,811	23
88/1925 Sewers ...	—	...	7,949	19 ²	6,656	45
89/1925 Rainwater drain, Alfred place to Laurie's road ...	—	...	17,882	19 ²	8,354	20
91/1925 Acquisition, Child Welfare Centre, Gintupitiya and Hill streets ...	—	...	48,551	39 ²	48,551	39
92/1925 Construction of approach road to Hendala ferry ...	—	...	2,360	0 ²	1,953	85
93/1925 Granite sett cart tracks, Prince of Wales avenue ...	—	...	21,738	22 ²	21,573	7
94/1925 Drainage of Old and New Moor streets (acquisition) ...	—	...	11,000	0 ²	—	
95/1925 Widening of Kollupitiya road } from Turret road to Bagatelle road }	—	...	{ 289,850 0 } 100,000	0 ²	330,280	66
101/1925 Playground at Watersmeet, Mutwal ...	—	...	762	19 ²	671	39
102/1925 Layout of roads in the vicinity of new Town Hall at Victoria } park ... }	—	...	{ 3,000 0 } 45,099	7 ²	33,545	72
104/1925 Diversion of sewer A 78, Fort, (reduced Rs. 6,000). ...	—	...	27,521	86 ²	10,036	73
105/1925 Erecting a 'bus stand at Mutwal	—	...	318	81 ²	301	47
106/1925 Compensation for bare land falling within street lines, Laurie's road ...	—	...	350	0 ²	—	
107/1925 Erection of dairy shed at the Cattle Mart ...	—	...	1,725	0 ²	1,337	36
108/1925 Silt pit at Baggage Office, Fort M. 27/1924 Rainwater drain in Temple road area, Maradana ...	—	...	900	0 ²	478	48
28/1924 Public lavatory at Jefferson street, Slave Island ...	—	...	8,069	69 ²	4,366	24
	—	...	2,232	15 ²	771	42
	856,534	0	1,665,779	62	1,361,778	10
Carried forward ...	5,187,647	0	1,909,555	62	5,666,648	61

* Unspent balances at December, 31, 1925, brought forward.

CEYLON SESSIONAL PAPERS, 1927.

DISBURSEMENTS—*contd.*

	Estimated Disbursements, 1926.	Supplemental Provision, includ- ing Unspent Balances at Dec. 31, 1925. brought forward.	Disbursements, 1926.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Brought forward ...	5,187,647 0	1,909,555 62	5,666,648 61

K.—WATERWORKS DEPARTMENT.

(a) *Recurrent.*

	99,510 0 ...	2,730 0 ...	100,402 27
1 Salaries ...	8,580 0 ...	— ...	6,917 72
2 Allowances ...	68,200 0 ...	800 0 ...	66,154 2
3 Maintenance of Colombo Waterworks	300 0 ...	— ...	284 93
4 Surveys and tracings ...	1,700 0 ...	— ...	1,455 74
5 Maintenance of Waterworks Engi- neer's Office ...	5,000 0 ...	— ...	4,486 3
6 Maintenance of Waterworks motor car ...	15,000 0 ...	— ...	14,963 70
7 Purchase and upkeep of meters ...	8,550 0 ...	— ...	7,806 67
8 Purchase and repairs to tools ...	200 0 ...	— ...	113 72
9 Library ...	400 0 ...	— ...	377 86
10 Postage ...	1,000 0 ...	— ...	731 22
11 Stationery ...	200 0 ...	— ...	180 66
12 Furniture ...	5,000 0 ...	— ...	4,879 32
13 Extension and improvement of water service ...	250 0 ...	— ...	234 14
14 Surveying and drawing instruments.	2,000 0 ...	— ...	1,388 90
15 Uniforms ...	200 0 ...	— ...	193 83
16 Miscellaneous ...	2,450 0 ...	— ...	2,320 39
17 Maintenance of Waterworks motor lorry ...	39,000 0 ...	— ...	37,430 74
18 Maintenance of filtration works, Labugama ...	257,540 0	3,530 0	250,321 86

(b) *Extraordinary.*

19 Valve and spindle hydrants ...	25,000 0 ...	— ...	24,944 97
20 Water main in Prince of Wales avenue ...	17,000 0 ...	— ...	15,130 25
21 Water main in Modera lane ...	1,450 0 ...	— ...	1,449 79
22 Water main in Mosque lane, Mutwal.	1,050 0 ...	— ...	930 25
23 Water main in Nell's lane, Mattak- kuliya ...	3,650 0 ...	— ...	3,515 10
24 Water main in St. Mary's lane, Mattakkuliya ...	1,400 0 ...	— ...	1,021 5
25 Water main in Pansala road, Kotahena.	1,450 0 ...	— ...	1,344 51
26 Water main in Vellon's passage, Slave Island ...	1,120 0 ...	— ...	1,115 99
27 Water main in Prakrama road ...	2,600 0 ...	— ...	1,905 87
28 Water main in Darley road ...	1,862 0 ...	— ...	1,753 78
29 Purchase of Deacon waste meters ...	20,000 0 ...	— ...	19,906 77
30 Installing two watering posts, Vuyst- wyke and Ferguson's roads ...	1,200 0 ...	— ...	973 42
31 Tenements at Maligakanda for housing labour force ...	15,000 0 ..	4,200 0 ...	7,284 91
Carried forward ...	92,782 0	4,200 0	81,276 66
Carried forward ...	5,445,187 0	1,913,085 62	5,916,970 47

DISBURSEMENTS—*contd.*

	Estimated Disbursements, 1926.		Supplemental Provision, including Unspent Balances at Dec. 31, 1925, brought forward.		Disbursements, 1926.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Brought forward ...	5,445,187	0	1,913,085	62	5,916,970	47
K.—WATERWORKS DEPARTMENT— <i>contd.</i>						
(b) <i>Extraordinary</i> — <i>contd.</i>						
Brought forward ...	92,782	0	4,200	0	81,276	67
32 Renewing of water service connections in certain streets ...	—	...	4,840	0	4,119	99
33 Erection of standpipe in Joseph Fraser road, Bambalapitiya ...	—	...	1,322	0	1,321	77
34 Water main in McCallum road to Colombo Fort station ...	—	...	7,300	0	5,123	78
35 Store expenses ...	—	...	850	0	682	16
22/1924 Extension of Labugama filtration works ...	—	...	17,250	31 ^a	16,483	41
20/1925 Sluice hydrants ...	—	...	1,159	15 ^a	949	85
23/1925 Cleaning main in Parsons road ...	—	...	137	73 ^a	65	41
23/1925 Extending 4-inch. main from Armstrong's garage to York street.	—	...	1,882	52 ^a	890	43
25/1925 Steel joists at stream crossings.	—	...	2,451	73 ^a	1,560	22
	92,782	0	41,393	44	112,473	68

L.—ASSESSING DEPARTMENT.

1 Salaries ...	66,094	0	—	...	65,594	47
2 Allowances ...	6,900	0	—	...	6,900	0
3 Extra clerks ...	1,000	0	—	...	150	75
4 Furniture ...	500	0	—	...	282	85
5 Uniforms ...	1,250	0	100	0	1,168	67
6 Stationery ...	1,200	0	—	...	1,021	40
7 Miscellaneous ...	1,500	0	250	0	1,601	45
8 Street number plates ...	10,000	0	—	...	13	56
9 Library ...	200	0	—	...	98	26
10 Fees for land certificates ...	2,500	0	—	...	2,421	15
11 Salaries and allowances of temporary staff ...	15,540	0	—	...	14,236	56
11/1925 Purchase of one adjustable steel rack ...	—	...	{ 125 0 } { 337 93 ^a }	...	461	48
	106,684	0	812	93	93,950	60

M.—PUBLIC LIBRARY.

1 Salaries ...	7,680	0	—	...	7,673	55
2 Stationery ...	100	0	408	0	471	88
3 Uniforms ...	75	0	33	0	107	54
4 Miscellaneous ...	250	0	—	...	50	66
5 Insurance of books ...	50	0	—	...	43	13
6 Furniture ...	250	0	—	...	64	17
7 Newspapers and periodicals ...	1,200	0	—	...	838	53
8 { Binding old books ... } { Purchase of new books ... }	5,000	0	—	...	168 455	75 0
	14,605	0	441	0	9,873	21
Excess of Receipts over Disbursements	—	...	—	...	6,133,267	96
					164,168	11
TOTAL ...	5,659,258	0	1,955,732	99	6,297,436	7

^a Unspent balances at December 31, 1925, brought forward.

Annexure B.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ON CURRENT CAPITAL WORKS, DECEMBER 31, 1926.

RECEIPTS.	Receipts to December 31, 1925.		Receipts during 1926.		Total.		PAYMENTS.	Estimate.		Payments to December 31, 1925.		Payments during 1926.		Total.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1 DUPLICATION OF 30-INCH WATER MAIN AND FILTRATION WORKS :—							1 DUPLICATION OF 30-INCH WATER MAIN AND FILTRATION WORKS ...	3,473,509	53	3,457,026	12	16,483	41	3,473,509	53
(a) Loan funds ...	3,000,000	0	—		3,000,000	0	2 COLOMBO DRAINAGE WORKS :—								
(b) Revenue contributions ...	457,026	12	16,483	41	473,509	53	(a) Works carried out by Resident Engineer as per modified scheme ...	17,830,564	12	17,830,564	12	—		17,830,564	12
2 COLOMBO DRAINAGE WORKS :—							(b) Extensions of sewers and under- ground drains and other improvements carried out by Council since March 4, 1922... ..	735,220	31	540,742	99	194,477	32	735,220	31
(a) Loan funds ...	11,072,980	0	—		11,072,980	0	(c) Public lavatories and house con- nections ...	678,695	82	657,375	34	21,320	48	678,695	82
(b) Grant in aid ...	7,100,000	0	—		7,100,000	0	3 Raising of Labugama Reservoir dam	319,293	76	319,293	76	—		319,293	76
(c) Revenue contributions ...	361,765	88	216,738	23	578,504	11	4 Town Hall at Victoria park ...	1,365,760	72	867,857	74	273,566	7	1,141,423	81
3 Amount received on realization of Sinking Funds and interest thereon ...	2,089,362	18	14,065	34	2,103,427	52	Balance in hand ...	—		—		—		24,178,707	35
4 TOWN HALL AT VICTORIA PARK:														160,988	1
Revenue contributions ...	—		11,274	20	11,274	20	TOTAL ...	24,403,044	26	23,672,860	7	505,847	28	24,339,695	36
TOTAL ...	24,081,134	18	258,561	18	24,339,695	36									

* From this amount will be met :—(1) Cost of Drainage Works and Public Lavatories, &c., over and above the loan, grant in aid, and revenue contributions.
(2) Raising of Labugama Reservoir dam.
(3) Construction of Town Hall at Victoria park.

MUNICIPALITY OF COLOMBO.

Annexure C.

BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 1926.

LIABILITIES.	Amount.		Total.		ASSETS.	Amount.		Total.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1 LOANS OUTSTANDING :—					1 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE :—				
(a) Government of Ceylon : Duplication of 30-inch water main, &c. ...	3,000,000	0			(a) Duplication of 30-inch water main and filtration works ...	3,473,509	53		
Less redemption of Loan ...	168,050	71			(b) Colombo Drainage Works:—				
			2,831,949	29	(1) Works carried out by Resident Engineer as per modified scheme ...	17,830,564	12		
(b) Government of Ceylon : Colombo Drainage Works ...	11,072,980	0			(2) Extensions of sewers and underground drains and other improvements carried out by Municipality since 1922 ...	735,220	31		
Less redemption of Loan ...	620,274	9	10,452,705	91	(3) Public lavatories and house connections ...	678,695	82		
2 GRANT IN AID :—					(c) Raising of Labugama Reservoir dam ...	319,293	76		
Government of Ceylon : Colombo Drainage Works ...	—		7,100,000	0	(d) Town Hall at Victoria park ...	1,141,423	81		
3 SINKING FUND SUSPENSE ACCOUNTS :—					(e) Child Welfare Centre ...	52,500	0	24,231,207	3
(a) Waterworks Loan ...	168,050	71			2 AMOUNT ADVANCED TO COUNCIL OFFICIALS FOR PURCHASE OF VEHICLES.	—		2,283	9
(b) Colombo Drainage Works Loan ...	620,274	9	788,324	80	3 ADVANCE ACCOUNTS :—				
4 PERMANENT WORKS EXE- CUTED OUT OF REVENUE :—					(a) Miscellaneous ...	29,389	17		
(a) Waterworks ...	473,509	53			(b) Municipal quarries ...	1,099	15		
(b) Colombo Drainage Works (extensions to scheme) ...	578,504	11							
(c) Town Hall at Victoria park ...	11,274	20	1,063,287	84	Less credit balance on :—	30,488	32		
5 AMOUNT RECEIVED ON REALIZATION OF SINKING FUNDS AND INTEREST THEREON ...	—		2,103,427	52	(a) Works pending recovery ...	462	45		
6 INSURANCE FUND ...	—		1,671	50	(b) Making articles for stock ...	6,914	54	23,111	3
7 CHILD WELFARE CENTRE :—					4 EXPENDITURE ON LAYING WATER MAINS IN PRI- VATE STREETS ...	107,862	37		
(a) Contribution from War Memorial Fund & interest ...	91,965	3			Less recoveries from owners ...	64,429	41	43,432	9
(b) Revenue contribution ...	52,500	0	144,465	3	5 EXPENDITURE ON AIDED HOUSE DRAINAGE ...	126,163	76		
8 PETTAH LIBRARY BEQUEST	—		4,834	8	Less recoveries from owners ...	37,741	84	88,421	9
9 DEPOSITS :—					6 STORES ON HAND :—				
(a) Pending execution of works ...	46,747	19			(a) General ...	497,532	19		
(b) Miscellaneous ...	155,086	33	201,833	52	(b) Waterworks ...	279,763	76	777,295	9
10 SECURITIES :—					7 INVESTMENTS :—				
(a) Tenders ...	350	0			(a) Ceylon Government 4 per cent. inscribed stock ...	930	0		
(b) Contractors ...	62,951	0			(b) Indian Government five year 6 per cent. Bonds ...	40,000	0		
(c) Water supply to shipping ...	35,000	0			(c) Ceylon Savings Bank ...	7,838	39		
(d) Council officials ...	31,319	42			Fixed deposit at :—				
(e) Lands ...	20,411	41			(1) Mercantile Bank of India ...	500	0		
(f) Miscellaneous ...	58,891	86			(2) National Bank of India ...	10,000	0		
(g) Upkeep of graves ...	2,565	0			(3) Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China ...	9,000	0		
(h) Public library ...	1,058	90	212,547	59	(4) Imperial Bank of India ...	1,894,427	98	1,962,696	3
11 GRATUITIES TO MINORS HELD IN TRUST ...	—		3,906	64	8 CASH :—				
12 SUSPENSE ACCOUNT ...	—		1,390	54	(a) At Imperial Bank of India on current account ...	47,340	23		
13 RECEIPTS IN ADVANCE ...	—		229,350	61	(b) In hand :—				
14 SUNDRY CREDITORS ...	—		41,102	68	(1) With officials ...	775	0		
15 EXCESS OF ASSETS OVER LIABILITIES :—					(2) With Medical Officer, Infectious Diseases Hospital ...	23	95	48,139	9
(a) Brought forward from 1925 ...	1,831,623	32							
(b) Excess of Receipts over Disbursements up to December 31, 1926, as per Statement of Receipts and Disbursements ...	164,168	11	1,995,791	43					
TOTAL ...			27,176,588	98	TOTAL ...			27,176,588	9

STATISTICAL AND GENERAL INFORMATION RELATING TO COLOMBO.

	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
<i>General.</i>						
Area of Municipality (acres) ...	8,617	8,617	8,617	8,617	8,617	8,617
Miles of public roads (including trunk roads) ...	116	116	118	118	118	118
Miles of trunk roads maintained at cost of Government ...	15.8	15.8	17	17	17	17
Population (including military and shipping, 1921 Census 248,826) ...	244,163 (Census)	247,670 (estimate)	250,433 (estimate)	253,226 (estimate)	256,051 (estimate)	258,907 (estimate)
<i>Rates and Assessments.</i>	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Annual value ...	13,702,391 0	14,408,268 0	14,839,432 0	15,677,104 0	16,229,753 0	16,782,982 0
Annual value per head of population ...	56 12	58 18	59 25	61 91	63 3	64 82
Produce of a 1 per cent. rate ...	104.044 0	109,999 0	111,217 0	110,454 0	153,991 0	159,758 0
Amount collected as rates per head of population ...	11 66	11 55	11 47	11 44	12 33	12 49
Percentage of rates collected (within the current year) ...	90.5 per cent.	94.27 per cent.	94.54 per cent.	97.54 per cent.	98.66 per cent.	98.67 per cent.
<i>Loans.</i>	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Total raised ...	14,072,980 0	14,072,980 0	14,072,980 0	14,072,980 0	14,072,980 0	14,072,980 0
Repaid ...	—	142,488 92	292,191 34	449,472 0	614,716 0	788,325 0
Total debt (including annuities capitalized on a 5 per cent. basis) ...	14,459,478 0	14,227,205 8	13,983,174 66	13,726,791 56	13,558,675 0	13,382,050 0
Debt per head of population ...	59 22	57 44	55 83	53 90	52 95	51 69
<i>Revenue Account.</i>						
Receipts ...	4,851,833 41	4,952,630 65	5,101,848 58	5,232,362 14	5,647,733 0	6,297,436 0
Payments ...	4,264,152 11	4,956,084 88	5,414,449 13	5,611,994 55	5,203,934 0	6,133,268 0
Surplus at December 31 ...	2,083,511 48	2,080,057 25	1,767,456 70	1,387,824 29	1,831,623 32	1,995,791 0
Percentage of salaries to total expenditure ...	19.15 per cent.	18.5 per cent.	16.24 per cent.	16.25 per cent.	18.2 per cent.	17.09 per cent.
<i>Capital Account.</i>			Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Receipts ...	—	—	118,896 20	270,571 50	261,183 0	258,561 0
Payments ...	—	—	367,685 56	677,530 90	919,431 0	505,847 0

APPENDIX B.

REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL ASSESSOR FOR 1926.

I HAVE the honour to submit my report for the year 1926.

Part I.—General.

1. The total annual value of property in Colombo assessed for Municipal rates was Rs. 15,748,383 as at December 31, 1926. This shows a nett increase of Rs. 553,229 over the figure at December 31, 1925. These figures include Crown properties leased to private parties but do not include properties actually occupied by Government Departments.

I submit a tabular statement showing the total annual value in each ward and the total annual value of Crown properties leased out. The statement also shows the number of objections dealt with during the year:—

Ward.	Nett Value at December 31, 1925.	Nett Increase.	Nett Decrease.	Rateable Value at December 31, 1926.	Number of Objections		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Received.	Reductions given.	Referred to Court
Crown lands (leased)	1,036,353	33,805	—	1,070,158	10	4	—
Fort ...	1,920,836	202,344	—	2,123,180	44	28	1
Pettah East ...	875,373	16,196	—	891,569	18	3	1
Pettah West ...	682,371	8,417	—	690,788	17	7	—
San Sebastian ...	469,955	5,722	—	475,677	8	4	1
St. Paul's ...	972,729	1,222	—	973,951	30	4	—
Kotahena A ...	549,492	10,198	—	559,690	38	13	—
Kotahena B ...	643,183	7,372	—	650,555	26	4	—
New Bazaar ...	838,918	8,923	—	847,841	25	7	—
Maradana ...	2,183,937	58,608	—	2,242,545	127	16	—
Slave Island ...	1,294,000	8,840	—	1,302,840	156	37	—
Kollupitiya ...	2,282,415	127,969	—	2,410,384	36	16	—
Wellawatta A ...	869,488	38,737	—	908,225	26	14	—
Wellawatta B ...	576,104	24,876	—	600,980	42	9	1
Total ...	15,195,154	553,229	—	15,748,383	603	166	4

OBJECTIONS TO ASSESSMENT.

2. 603 objections were dealt with during the year, as against 1,190 in 1925 and 2,051 in 1924. Of this number, 44 were received from the Fort Ward which was revised. Reductions amounting to Rs. 128,476 were made in 166 cases. Four cases were referred to Court during the year. One of these cases was settled out of Court, in two cases judgment was given in favour of the Council, whilst the fourth case is still pending.

NEW BUILDINGS AND DEMOLITIONS.

3. 475 new buildings were brought on the assessment registers during the year. Maradana shows the greatest expansion with 153 new buildings. 182 buildings were withdrawn from the registers through demolitions. The assessment of 942 buildings were revised during the year because of reconstruction, &c.

ACQUISITION.

4. The following statement shows the number of properties actually acquired during the year. In addition to properties actually acquired during the year, preliminary estimates were made for 31 properties involving a sum of Rs. 117,852, and also for three different road traces for widening of the Galle road :—

Name of Acquisition.	Purpose.	No. of Lots.	Price Paid. Rs. c.
Gintupitiya and Hill street	... { (1) Street improvement ... (2) Site for dispensary and child welfare centre }	2 ...	52,500 0
Forbes lane...	... Public lavatory	2 ...	2,649 0
Vauxhall street	... Public lavatory	1 ...	66 0
Regent street and Kynsey road	... Street improvement	3 ...	437 25
Castle street and Kanatta road	... Street improvement	4 ...	654 50
No. 687a, Dickman's lane	... Street improvement	1 ...	1,835 63
Java lane	... Improvement	5 ...	13,502 75
No. 1,018, Galle road	... Street improvement	1 ...	4,500 0
Dickman's road—Bambalapitiya road	... Street improvement	1 ...	240 63
Princess gate	... Public lavatory	1 ...	533 25
Havelock road scheme	... Street improvement	6 ...	31,706 82
Kollupitiya road widening scheme.			
Part II. (Turret road to Deal place)	Street improvement	... 35 ...	270,333 43
Rajamalwatta improvement scheme ..	Street improvement	... 47 ...	25,933 96
Total		... 109	404,893 22

There were 25 cases referred to Court during the year. Eleven of these were referred under section 11 of Ordinance No. 3 of 1876 on questions of title and the remainder on the question of compensation or other causes. Of the number referred to Court, 23 are in the Rajamalwatta improvement area. Great difficulty was experienced in this area owing to (1) the illiteracy of the owners, (2) the absence of relevant data, and (3) the number of false statements and claims put forward.

The most important acquisition undertaken during the year was the widening of Kollupitiya road between Turret road and Deal place. Out of 35 lots acquired one was referred to Court on the question of compensation.

GOVERNMENT PROPERTY.

5. During the year the Government decided to adopt the recommendations of the Financial Relations Commission, viz., to have all their properties rated on the same basis as private properties. The Government Assessor has been instructed to proceed at once with the valuation of Colombo properties on this basis and until this work is completed the valuation of properties in Government occupation for which they paid a contribution in lieu of rates remains at Rs. 1,034,599.

Part II.—Improvements.

6. During the year all properties in Wellawatta Ward were identified, measured, new numbers allotted, and the valuations were revised. In addition to this, properties in Pettah, San Sebastian, and Kollupitiya were identified and new numbers allotted and parts of Pettah and San Sebastian were measured.

RECORD OF TRANSACTIONS REGISTERED WITH REGISTRAR OF LANDS.

7. Under the arrangement with Government 4,396 notices of transactions were received during the year and proved of great assistance in arriving at the capital values of properties.

FUTURE POLICY.

8. The work undertaken by this Department is ever increasing and it will be impossible to have the city revised by the end of this year. With the aid of the increased staff granted to me, however, I hope to complete the work more expeditiously than should have been possible with the limited staff at my disposal formerly.

Much work remains to be done. Placing the whole city on a proper basis of assessment has taken priority, but there are many legal problems affecting an assessing department which must be tackled soon. It is impossible for any Assessor to deal with all problems affecting his duties at once and when the systematic assessment of the city is complete those and other problems must be faced.

STAFF.

9. From January 1, 1926, a temporary staff of four Assessing Inspectors, four Clerks, four peons, and one Draughtsman was engaged for a period of two years. Otherwise the staff remains as formerly.

C. STEWART ORR,
Municipal Assessor.

March 25, 1927.

APPENDIX C.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1926.

I HAVE the honour to forward the annual report of the Public Health Department for the year 1926.

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Part I.

VITAL STATISTICS.

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INTRODUCTORY REVIEW.

Health of the Population in 1926.—Although the year 1926, as a whole, was an abnormally wet one, with an excess of no less than 18'70 inches of rain, it was an unusually satisfactory one as regards the state of the public health. Thus the death-rate from all causes amongst town residents (*i.e.*, omitting the deaths of persons who actually came sick to the town and died in the hospitals) was only 23'4 per 1,000, which is the lowest hitherto recorded. As regards the mortality in the hospitals amongst non-residents of the town, it may be mentioned that, as the records kept in this office for the last 16 years show, this has for many years past been a steadily increasing factor in fallaciously keeping up the Colombo crude death-rate. Thus, during the five years 1911-1915 there were, on the average, 546 deaths per annum in the hospitals of non-residents of the town, the exclusion of which reduced the crude death-rate during that period by an average of 2'4 per 1,000 per annum: whereas, in 1926, there were no fewer than 1,399 deaths in the town hospitals of non-residents of the town, the exclusion of which reduces the death-rate by 5'4 per 1,000. In some countries not only those who come sick to the towns, but all who have had less than three months residence in the towns prior to death are excluded when calculating the death-rate. This is, however, not regarded as a justifiable or practicable correction here and is not adopted in the Colombo report. The steady increase in the number of deaths in the hospitals of non-residents of the town is a clear indication of the increasing use which is made of the hospitals by the general population of the Island, and accounts for the frequent reports of overcrowding in the hospitals.

Not only the general death-rate, but also the infant mortality, of 204 per 1,000 births during 1926, is the lowest ever recorded in Colombo. So also the mortality from phthisis, of 2'27 per 1,000, is the lowest on record, even after making due allowance for the deaths from this cause of town residents which occurred during the year in the Lunatic Asylum after its removal to Angoda.

Plague, with only 13 cases and 12 deaths during the year, is much the lowest recorded since that disease appeared in Ceylon in 1914. As explained later in this Report there is reason to believe that plague was eradicated from Colombo during the year, but was re-introduced from abroad by infected fleas conveyed on board grain ships, thence to grain barges, and from there to the granaries and thence into the town.

Although smallpox was imported from India on two occasions during the year, only ten cases, including three imported cases, occurred in the town.

No case of cholera occurred during the year.

The Diarrhoeal group of diseases, including diarrhoea, enteritis, and dysentery, showed a slightly decreased mortality.

Enteric fever, with the exception of one year, *viz.*, 1914, showed the lowest prevalence amongst town residents recorded in any year since notification of this disease was first enforced in 1903.

Chickenpox was markedly less prevalent, and measles also showed a decline compared with the previous year.

Influenza continued to be fairly prevalent, and although, in the main, of a comparatively mild type it was still a considerable factor in keeping up the death-rate, especially the mortality from pneumonia.

There was a recrudescence of dengue in 1926, after an interval of about 20 years since the last and much more severe outbreak of 1906. This agrees with Sir Patrick Manson's observation that dengue tends to recur in epidemic or pandemic form once in 20 years.

The remarkably low general death-rate of 8.8 per 1,000 in the Cinnamon Gardens Ward give some indication of what might theoretically be achieved in the town as a whole, provided that the whole population was equally highly educated and lived under similarly hygienic conditions to those who reside in the Cinnamon Gardens. This is of course a quite Utopian prospect, but it holds out encouragement for future sanitary endeavour.

As regards administration during the year 1926, it may be remarked briefly that the records of work done show increased activity in all the principal branches of the Department, especially in respect of enteric and plague prevention, inspection of dairies, bakeries, and eating-houses, improvement of insanitary dwellings, and the prosecution of child welfare work.

Special attention is invited to the very interesting and valuable report by Dr. I. F. Hirst, the Municipal Microbiologist.

As the writer retires within a few days, after 24 years and 8 months service as Medical Officer of Health of Colombo, this is the last of a series of 21 Administration Reports that he will be privileged to submit.

Part I.—Vital Statistics.

I.—METEOROLOGY.

The year 1926, as a whole, was an abnormally wet one, with a total rainfall of 104.98 inches, as against the average for 19 years of 86.28 inches. This excess of 18.70 inches fell almost entirely during May, June, and July, *i.e.*, the south-west monsoon, 25.95 inches having fallen during May alone, as compared with the average for that month of 13.38 inches. Not only was the total rainfall excessive, but its chronological distribution was such that it greatly favoured the breeding of mosquitoes, which were in consequence unusually prevalent during the year.

(1) Statistics.

(Supplied by the Superintendent of the Colombo Observatory.)

(a) Average Monthly Mean Temperature at Colombo Observatory (Cinnamon Gardens) 19 Years to 1926 inclusive.			(b) Monthly Mean Temperature at Colombo Observatory during 1926.			(c) Average Monthly Mean Pressure at Colombo Observatory (Cinnamon Gardens) reduced to Standard Gravity and Mean Sea Level. 15 Years to 1926 inclusive.		
		° F.			° F.			Inches.
January	...	79.1	January	...	79.4	January	...	29.862
February	...	79.8	February	...	80.6	February	...	29.853
March	...	81.4	March	...	82.4	March	...	29.836
April	...	82.6	April	...	83.4	April	...	29.800
May	...	82.6	May	...	82.4	May	...	29.780
June	...	81.6	June	...	82.0	June	...	29.782
July	...	81.0	July	...	81.2	July	...	29.796
August	...	81.1	August	...	81.8	August	...	29.810
September	...	81.0	September	...	81.6	September	...	29.818
October	...	80.4	October	...	81.2	October	...	29.827
November	...	79.6	November	...	79.8	November	...	29.822
December	...	79.2	December	...	79.8	December	...	29.842
Year	...	80.8	Year	...	81.3	Year	...	29.819
(d) Monthly Mean Pressure at Colombo Observatory during 1926 (reduced to Standard Gravity and Mean Sea Level).			(e) Average Monthly Rainfall at Colombo Observatory (Cinnamon Gardens). 19 Years to 1926 inclusive.			(f) Monthly Rainfall at Colombo Observatory (Cinnamon Gardens) and Colombo Fort during 1926. (Observatory Gauge 25 Feet and Fort 70 Feet above Mean Sea Level.)		
		Inches.			Inches.		Colombo Observatory. Inches.	Colombo Fort. Inches.
January	...	29.870	January	...	3.45	January	2.51	2.41
February	...	29.860	February	...	1.97	February	0.14	0.11
March	...	29.851	March	...	4.72	March	5.74	6.14
April	...	29.819	April	...	7.99	April	2.53	6.07
May	...	29.776	May	...	13.38	May	25.95	19.27
June	...	29.787	June	...	8.25	June	13.25	11.34
July	...	29.770	July	...	6.71	July	11.86	12.66
August	...	29.804	August	...	3.25	August	5.31	4.60
September	...	29.790	September	...	6.38	September	9.43	6.91
October	...	29.788	October	...	13.09	October	12.42	5.43
November	...	29.812	November	...	11.71	November	10.23	7.51
December	...	29.802	December	...	5.38	December	5.61	2.98
Year	...	29.811	Year	...	86.28	Year	104.98	85.43
(g) Average Monthly Mean Humidity at Colombo Observatory (Cinnamon Gardens). 18 Years to 1926 inclusive			(h) Monthly Mean Humidity at Colombo Observatory during 1926.					
		Per Cent.			Per Cent.			
January	...	77	January	...	76			
February	...	76	February	...	76			
March	...	78	March	...	79			
April	...	80	April	...	80			
May	...	81	May	...	82			
June	...	81	June	...	84			
July	...	81	July	...	84			
August	...	80	August	...	82			
September	...	80	September	...	82			
October	...	82	October	...	82			
November	...	82	November	...	82			
December	...	79	December	...	78			
Year	...	80	Year	...	81			

With reference to the rainfall at Fort, it should be noted that this gauge is not only higher above sea level, but higher above adjacent ground level, and for this its readings might be expected to be less than those of a gauge at or near ground level. The difference between it and the readings at the Observatory is thus not purely a climatic one, but largely a matter of an exposure of two gauges.

The Observatory gauge should be taken as the standard.

The humidity in tables (g) and (h) is the mean of the humidities derived from the maximum both dry and wet, and the minimum dry and wet.

II.—POPULATION.

The estimate of the population at the middle of the year 1926 was 258,907, but this is believed to be a considerable underestimate as it is based on the Census population of 1921, which is known to have been an abnormally small one, as explained in the Report for the year 1924.

(2) Population by Race.		Population according to the Census of March, 1921.	Population estimated to middle of 1926.
Race.			258,907
All Races	...	244,163	3,007
Europeans	...	2,836	15,761
Burghers	...	14,863	121,520
Sinhalese	...	114,600	57,423
Tamils	...	54,153	42,089
Moors	...	39,692	6,205
Malays	...	5,852	12,902
Others	...	12,167	

(3) Area and Estimated Population, 1926.

(Estimate based on Census of 1921.)		Total Area in Acres.	Estimated Population.	Density per Acre.
Ward.				
Fort	...	237	2,852	12'0
Pettah	...	129	8,060	62'5
San Sebastian	...	121	12,186	100'7
St. Paul's	...	157	24,808	158'0
Kotahena and Mutwal	...	1,716	48,959	28'5
New Bazaar	...	289	24,751	85'6
Maradana North, South, and Dematagoda	...	1,773	61,002	34'4
Slave Island	...	322	22,866	71'0
Kollupitiya and Cinnamon Gardens	...	1,465	25,186	17'2
Bambalapitiya, Timbirigasyaya, and Wellawatta	...	2,061	28,237	13'7
The Lake	...	317	—	—
Total	...	8,587	258,907	30'2

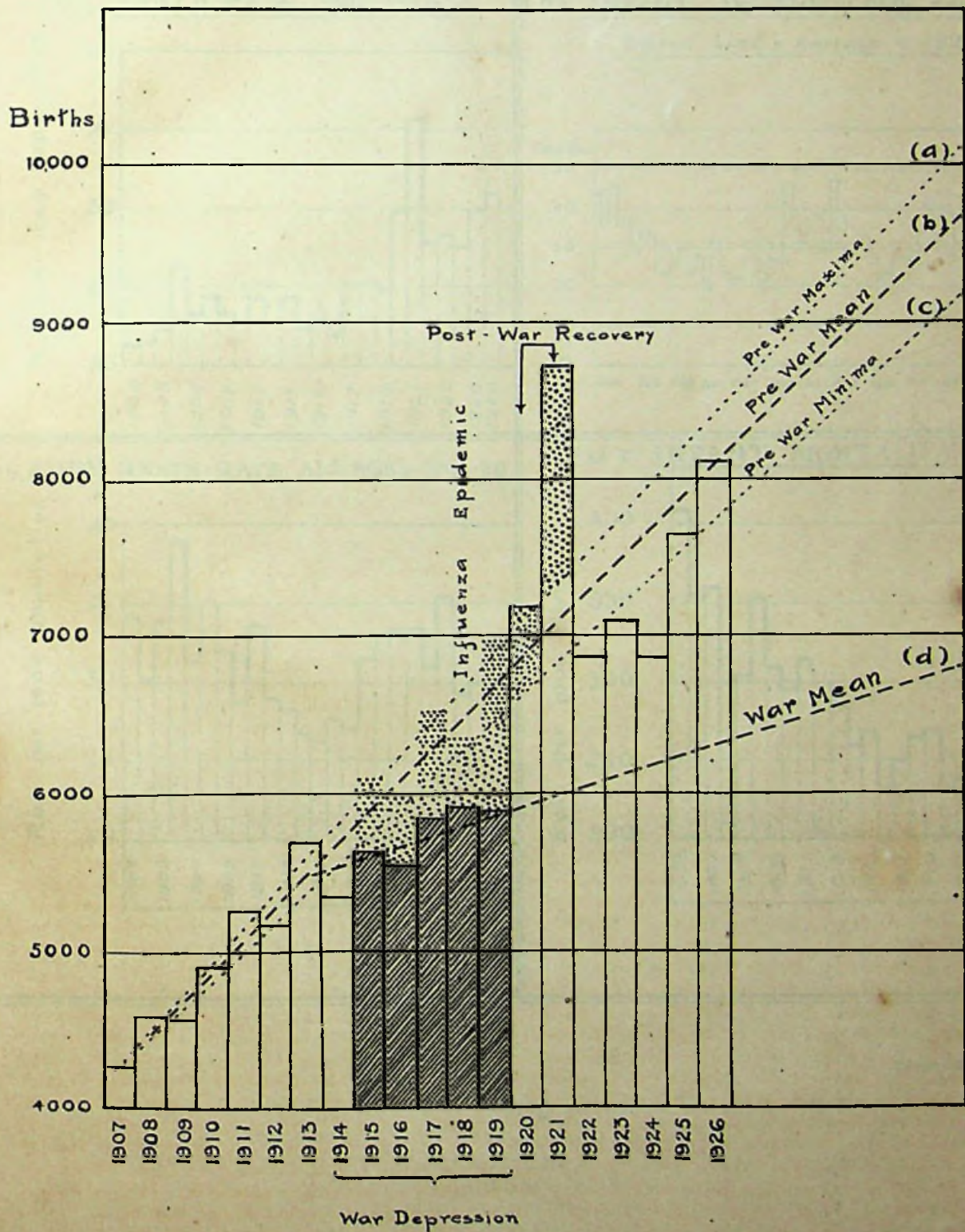
III.—BIRTHS.

8,114 births were registered in Colombo during the year 1926, representing a birth-rate of 31'3 per 1,000 of estimated population, as against a rate of 29'9 per 1,000 in 1925 and the decennial average of 27'8 per 1,000. With the exception of the abnormally high post-war rate of 35'7 per 1,000 in 1921, the 1926 birth-rate is the highest recorded in Colombo.

As an indicator of national prosperity, the birth-rate is more reliable in Colombo than the marriage-rate, because legal registration of marital unions is very far from complete here, whereas birth registration is fairly complete. During the period of great social and economical disturbance caused by the war the number of births recorded is probably even more reliable than the birth-rate, because the birth-rate is calculated on what was at that time an abnormally fluctuating population. For these reasons *Diagram I.*, which shows the number of births registered during each of the 20 years 1907–1926, is of special interest. This diagram shows that prior to the war the number of births recorded each year tended more or less regularly to be alternately high and low, the resultant curves being roughly represented by the pre-war maxima and minima curves (a) and (c). Following the outbreak of war there was a very marked reduction in the number of births recorded in Colombo, the loss of infant population thereby sustained being indicated by the dotted columns during the years 1915–1919. Following the cessation of war, however, there was a remarkable recovery during the two years 1920–1921, when a considerable part of the loss of births sustained during the war was regained, as indicated by the dotted portions of the columns representing the births recorded during these two years.

A certain proportion of the loss of births recorded in Colombo during the war period was without doubt due, not to cessation of marital unions, but to migration of prospective mothers from the town to the country districts. This appears to have occurred especially in 1917, for during that year there was, as the Registrar-General's records show, a very marked increase of births compared with the previous two and the subsequent two years in the Colombo District and in the Western Province generally, whereas in Colombo town the number of births recorded was markedly low. This was, however, a temporary phase, for in the years 1918 and 1919 the births recorded were low, not only in the town, but also in the Colombo District and Province. As regards the sudden increase of births in 1917 in the adjacent country districts, Mr. L. J. B. Turner, C.C.S., the Director of Statistics, suggests that the plumbago boom in 1916 may, by increasing prosperity, have had some influence. From the above data it may be inferred that the reduction in the number of births during the war period is, in the main, an indication of the social disturbance and economic depression which resulted from the war, and that on the other hand the remarkable recovery in 1920 and 1921, although to some extent due to return of the Colombo population, is an indication of renewed national prosperity "as the result of peace after war, abundance after dearth, high wages after want of employment, speculation after languid enterprise, and confidence after distrust."

DIAGRAM N°I BIRTHS REGISTERED 1907 to 1926



The experience of Colombo thus bears out in a very striking manner the truth of Dr. Farr's dictum that the marriage-rate (assuming that all marital unions are registered) is the "barometer of national prosperity."

Such remarkable reproduction as was experienced in 1921 could not be expected to continue, and it is, therefore, not surprising to find that the births recorded during the succeeding three years, 1922-1924, failed to come up even to the pre-war standard. The records for the years 1925 and 1926 show, however, that matters have in this respect now practically returned to the pre-war normal. One may, therefore, conclude that Colombo during the year under review had regained the prosperous position which it held prior to the war. This conclusion is indeed strikingly confirmed by inquiries in other directions, *e.g.*, the records of the Post Office Savings Bank, which, according to the figures kindly supplied by Mr. Lovett, the Controller of the Bank, surpassed in 1926 all previous records in the matter of the number of accounts opened, the amount of deposits, and the amount to credit of depositors.

(4) *Racial Birth-rates, 1926.*

Race.	Average Rate per 1,000 Population. 1916 to 1925.	Births. 1926.	Birth-rate per 1,000 Popu- lation, 1926.
All Races ...	27.8	8,114	31.3
Europeans ...	27.0	87	28.9
Burghers ...	35.0	566	35.9
Sinhalese ...	34.7	4,838	39.8
Tamils ...	16.5	1,060	18.5
Moors ...	23.3	1,127	26.8
Malays ...	43.4	285	45.9
Others ...	10.6	151	11.7

(5) *Ward Birth-rates, 1926.*

Ward.	Average Rate per 1,000 Population, 1916 to 1925.	Births, 1926.	Birth-rate per 1,000 Population, 1926.
Colombo Town ...	27.8	8,114	31.3
Fort ...	2.0	2	0.7
Pettah ...	3.7	24	3.0
San Sebastian ...	19.9	278	22.8
St. Paul's ...	18.5	487	19.6
Kotahena ...	24.1	584	20.0
Mutwal ...		567	28.6
New Bazaar ...	23.0	649	26.2
Maradana North ...	20.6	577	25.3
Maradana South ...		291	14.8
Dematagoda ...	24.9	476	25.7
Slave Island ...		558	24.4
Kollupitiya ...	17.7	243	16.0
Cinnamon Gardens ...		70	7.0
Bambalapitiya ...	19.3	180	17.8
Timbirigasyaya ...		266	39.9
Wellawatta ...	—	291	25.4
Hospitals ...	—	2,571	—

(6) *Stillbirths in Colombo during the Year 1926, by Race.*

Race.	No. of Stillbirths.	Rate per 1,000 Births (Live and Still.)
All Races ...	610	69.9
Europeans ...	2	22.5
Burghers ...	20	34.1
Sinhalese ...	392	75.0
Tamils ...	85	74.2
Moors ...	81	67.1
Malays ...	20	65.6
Others ...	10	62.1

(7) *Stillbirths during the Year 1926, by Ward.*

Statement Showing the Number of Stillbirths, by Ward, and the Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still).

Ward.	No. of Stillbirths.	Rate per 1,000 of Total Births (Live and Still).	Ward.	No. of Stillbirths.	Rate per 1,000 of Total Births (Live and Still.)
Colombo Town ...	610	69.9	Maradana South ...	14	45.9
Fort ...	—	—	Dematagoda ...	17	34.5
Pettah ...	—	—	Slave Island ...	34	57.4
San Sebastian ...	17	57.6	Kollupitiya ...	12	47.1
St. Paul's ...	45	84.6	Cinnamon Gardens ...	3	41.1
Kotahena ...	26	42.6	Bambalapitiya ...	6	32.3
Mutwal ...	28	47.1	Timbirigasyaya ...	9	32.7
New Bazaar ...	54	76.8	Wellawatta ...	9	30.0
Maradana North ...	9	15.4	Hospitals ...	327	112.8

IV.—DEATHS.

The classification of causes of deaths given in this and previous reports is the second revision of the international list as amended to suit local conditions, and adopted by the Registrar-General of Ceylon.

It was hoped that it might be possible, as suggested by the Colonial Advisory Medical and Sanitary Committee, to introduce the third revision in the 1926 Report, but the Registrar-General who supplies the crude death statistics, and whose forms of classification are used in the Public Health Department with a view of preserving uniformity, has intimated that it will not be possible to introduce the third revision until the 1927 Report is prepared, for the reason that the tabulation for 1926 are already completed.

General Death-rate.

7,466 deaths (including 1,399 deaths of non-residents who came sick to the town and died in the hospitals) were registered during the year. There were thus 510 fewer deaths of town residents in 1926 than in the previous year. The crude death-rate, reckoned on the estimated population, was 28·8 per 1,000 living compared with 30·2 in 1925, while the rate exclusive of non-residents was 23·4 per 1,000 compared with 25·7 in 1925. This is the lowest corrected death-rate so far recorded in Colombo. As Diagram II. (c) indicates, the rise in general mortality caused by the pandemic of influenza in 1918 was subsequently maintained for six years, but has shown signs of abating during the last three years. As Diagram III. shows, however, influenza is still fairly prevalent amongst the population, and exercises a considerable influence in keeping up the general death-rate, especially as regards the mortality from pneumonia, which is still far above the level at which it stood before influenza appeared. (See Diagram VIII. (b).)

V.—WARD DEATH-RATES.

When the deaths of 1,165 town residents, which occurred in and were registered against the hospitals, are allotted to their respective wards of residence, it is found (*vide* Statement 8) that the sanitary divisions with the highest death-rates from all causes and at all ages were Mutwal (30·8), Dematagoda (30·2), Slave Island (26·6), Maradana North (26·0), Timbirigasyaya (25·6), New Bazaar and St. Paul's (each 24·5). Exclusive of the non-residential wards of Pettah and Fort, the wards with the lowest death-rates were Cinnamon Gardens (8·8), Bambalapitiya (13·8), Kollupitiya (15·2), Maradana South (17·3), Kotahena (18·3), San Sebastian and Wellawatta (each 19·4).

(8) Colombo Town Ward Death-rates for the Year 1926.

WARD.	Average Crude Death-rate, 1916 to 1925.	No. of Deaths, 1926.	Crude Death-rate, 1926.	Death-rate corrected for Deaths in Colombo Hospitals, 1926.	Death-rate corrected for Deaths in Colombo Hospitals, previous Year.	Increase or Decrease in 1926, as com- pared with previous Year (corrected Death-rates.)
Colombo Town	31·4	7,466	28·8	23·4	25·7	-2·3
Fort	11·6	33	11·6	13·7	8·5	+5·2
Pettah	9·2	43	5·3	10·5	15·3	-4·8
San Sebastian	22·4	195	16·0	19·4	21·7	-2·3
St. Paul's	25·4	499	20·1	24·5	29·0	-4·5
Kotahena	23·5	436	15·0	18·3	20·3	-2·0
Mutwal	26·3	544	27·5	30·8	32·5	-1·7
New Bazaar	20·2	497	20·1	24·5	33·2	-8·7
Maradana North	20·2	478	20·9	26·0	24·6	+1·4
Maradana South	25·7	268	13·6	17·3	19·3	-2·0
Dematagoda	25·7	421	22·7	30·2	26·9	+3·3
Slave Island	18·5	498	21·8	26·6	24·5	+2·1
Kollupitiya	18·5	173	11·4	15·2	17·9	-2·7
Cinnamon Gardens	12·2	77	7·7	8·8	10·4	-1·6
Bambalapitiya	12·2	100	9·9	13·8	14·7	-0·9
Timbirigasyaya	12·2	128	19·2	25·6	27·0	-1·4
Wellawatta	—	161	14·0	19·4	21·0	-1·6
Hospitals	—	2,915	—	—	—	—

NOTE.—(1) The Colombo crude death-rate includes 1,399 deaths of non-residents in Colombo hospitals and the Ward crude death-rates exclude 1,165 deaths of town residents in hospital.

(2) The corrected death-rate for Mutwal Ward is obtained by (a) allocating to Mutwal Ward the deaths of Mutwal residents in hospital and (b) deduction of deaths of vagrants in the Home for Vagrants and House of Detention, which institutions are in Mutwal Ward.

VI.—RACIAL DEATH-RATES.

The following statements show the births and deaths registered and the death-rates for each race:—

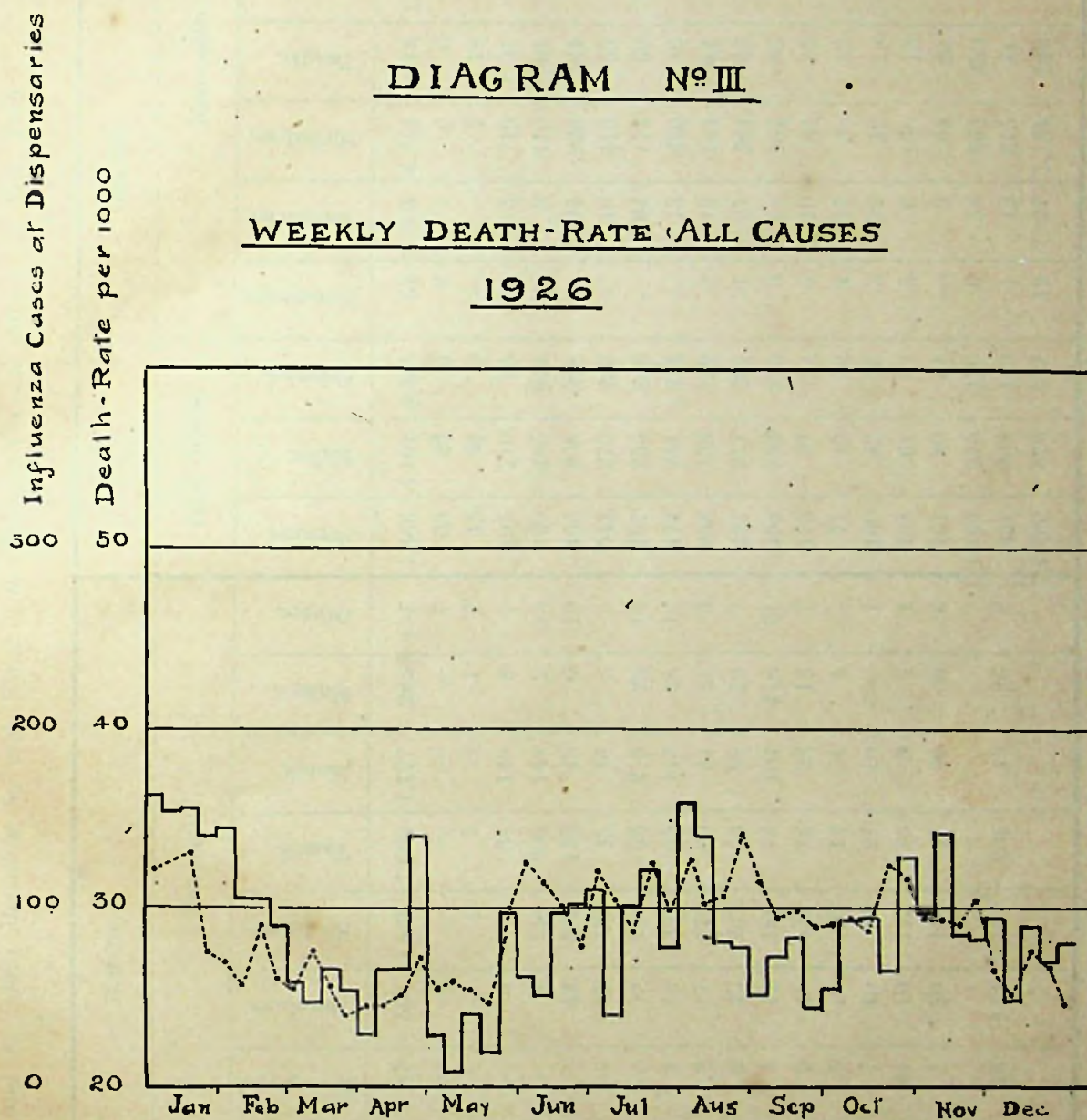
(9) Racial Death-rates.

Race.	Average Crude Death-rate, 1916 to 1925.	No. of Deaths, 1926.	Crude Death-rate, 1926.	Death-rate corrected for Deaths of Non-residents in Colombo Hospitals.	Increase or Decrease of Crude Death- rate, 1926, when com- pared with Average Crude Death-rate.	Decrease due to correction for Deaths of Non-residents in Colombo Hospitals.	Death-rate corrected for Deaths of Colombo Residents in Hospitals outside Colombo.	Death-rate further corrected for Age and Sex Distribution.
All Races	31·4	7,466	28·8	23·4	-2·6	5·4	23·7	27·7
Europeans	18·4	61	20·3	14·0	+1·9	6·3	...	...
Burghers	23·7	304	19·3	17·6	-4·4	1·7	...	...
Sinhalese	35·3	4,214	34·7	25·9	-0·6	8·8	...	...
Tamils	28·0	1,318	23·0	20·8	-5·0	2·2	...	...
Moors	30·2	1,084	25·8	25·6	-4·4	0·2	...	...
Malays	37·8	221	35·6	35·5	-2·2	0·1	...	...
Others	23·4	264	20·5	18·3	-2·9	2·2	...	...

DIAGRAM No III

WEEKLY DEATH-RATE (ALL CAUSES)

1926



Full Line = Death-Rate All Causes

Dotted Line = Influenza Cases at Dispensaries

Births and Deaths, and the Infant Mortality, for each Ward of the Town of Colombo during the Year 1926.

WARD.	BIRTHS.							DEATHS.												
	Total Births.			Nationality.				Total Deaths.			Nationality.									
	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Europeans.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.	
Colombo Town	8,114	4,141	3,973	87	4,838	1,060	1,127	285	151	7,466	4,101	3,365	61	304	4,214	1,318	1,084	221	264	1,658
Fort	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	33	28	5	8	2	6	6	5	—	6	3
Pettah	24	16	8	—	9	5	2	1	7	43	34	9	—	—	7	18	11	1	6	4
San Sebastian	278	134	144	—	75	34	149	8	7	195	110	85	—	5	49	37	95	6	3	72
St. Paul's	487	251	236	—	114	208	144	2	15	499	285	214	—	3	110	201	163	4	18	130
Kotahena	584	304	280	—	330	145	49	6	12	436	208	228	—	24	238	124	40	2	8	131
Mutwal	567	296	271	—	433	49	46	6	8	544	275	269	—	19	413	53	48	3	8	146
New Bazaar	649	323	326	—	268	63	218	26	15	497	255	242	—	24	171	60	214	15	13	159
Maradana North	577	295	282	1	282	65	143	28	16	478	244	234	—	13	220	86	110	25	24	144
Maradana South	291	157	134	2	177	30	41	21	3	268	136	132	2	12	144	44	47	13	6	72
Dematagoda	476	235	241	2	267	40	96	19	7	421	217	204	1	27	264	43	67	14	5	121
Slave Island	558	301	257	1	186	76	104	118	31	498	283	215	3	19	154	83	107	104	28	146
Kollupitiya	243	123	120	9	133	28	28	13	7	173	92	81	9	10	85	35	21	10	3	48
Cinnamon Gardens	70	38	32	5	35	12	4	4	—	77	45	32	4	12	38	12	9	2	—	16
Bambalapitiya	180	81	99	7	89	27	10	—	7	100	43	57	3	22	49	16	7	2	1	22
Timbiriagasyaya	266	142	123	44	175	25	9	2	1	128	61	67	5	6	100	13	3	—	1	41
Wellawatta	291	151	140	1	155	45	39	5	6	161	80	81	—	9	94	24	27	3	4	41
Hospital (Town)	2,571	1,292	1,279	15	2,110	208	45	26	8	1,165	675	490	6	58	663	260	84	14	22	362
Hospital (Untraced)																				
Hospital (Beyond limits)																				
										1,399	822	577	19	27	1,194	122	8	1	28	

VII.—PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATHS.

Pneumonia, as usual, heads the list of causes of deaths with a total of 926 deaths, followed by pulmonary tuberculosis with 588 deaths, and diarrhoea (including enteritis) with 575 deaths. Enteric fever shows a marked improvement with 162 deaths, as against 269 in 1925, while plague was responsible for only 8 deaths, as against 62 in the previous year. Influenza shows an increased mortality with 307 deaths, as against 269 in 1925. The malarial deaths occurred, so far as could be ascertained, entirely in persons infected outside the town. The increase in the number of deaths from rabies is noteworthy.

(10) Principal Causes of Deaths during the Year 1926.

Cause of Death.	No. of Deaths	
*Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	588	} 627 Tuberculous Diseases.
Acute Miliary Tuberculosis..	2	
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	3	
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...	11	
Tuberculosis of the Spine ...	3	
Tuberculous Glands ...	9	
Tubercular Sinus ...	2	
Tuberculosis of other Organs	7	
Disseminated Tuberculosis...	2	
Pneumonia (and Broncho-Pneumonia)	926	
Bronchitis ...	226	
Diarrhoea ...	212	} 788 Total Diarrhoeal.
Enteritis ...	363	
Dysentery ...	213	
*Enteric Fever ...	162	
Pyrexia ...	65	
Malaria ...	98	} 113 Total Malaria
Malarial Cachexia ...	15	
*Plague ...	8	
Debility ...	406	
Influenza ...	307	
Convulsions (under one year)	420	} 567 Total Convulsions.
Convulsions (one year and over)	147	

* Those marked with an asterisk are notifiable infectious diseases.

(11) Certain Minor Causes of Deaths, 1926.

Cause of Death.	No. of Deaths.	Cause of Death.	No. of Deaths.
Anchylostomiasis ...	147	*Measles ...	4
Intestinal Parasites ...	157	*Diphtheria ...	8
Paralysis ...	139	Whooping Cough ...	6
Rickets ...	67	Rabies ...	10
Cancer ...	100	*Smallpox ...	1
Tetanus ...	91	*Cholera ...	—

* Those marked with an asterisk are notifiable infectious diseases.

(12) Causes of Deaths registered in Colombo during the Year 1926.

Causes of Deaths.	Colombo Town.	Nationality.						
		Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.
All Causes.	7,466	61	304	4,214	1,318	1,084	221	264
I.—General Diseases:—								
1.—Epidemic Diseases ...	832	4	29	435	186	127	14	37
2.—Septic Diseases ...	59	2	5	32	12	6	—	2
3.—Tuberculous Diseases	626	2	22	382	106	80	17	17
4.—Venereal Diseases ...	46	—	1	29	6	5	3	2
5.—Cancer or Malignant Diseases	100	2	7	67	17	5	—	2
6.—Other General Diseases	278	2	15	144	59	35	15	8
II.—Diseases of the Nervous System and Organs of Special Sense	842	3	40	421	129	186	35	28
III.—Diseases of the Circulatory System	233	7	18	125	42	24	12	5
IV.—Diseases of the Respiratory System	1,211	9	47	680	209	156	34	76
V.—Diseases of the Digestive System	1,114	9	39	663	219	129	21	34
VI.—Non-venereal Diseases of the Genito-Urinary system and Annexa	271	9	13	145	42	43	8	11
VII.—The Puerperal State	201	1	13	135	19	28	4	1
VIII.—Diseases of the Skin and of the Cellular Tissue	97	—	4	67	15	7	1	3
IX.—Diseases of the Bones and of the Organs of Locomotion	5	—	—	3	2	—	—	—
X.—Malformations	8	1	1	4	1	—	—	—
XI.—Diseases of Early Infancy	532	—	20	307	109	70	14	12
XII.—Old Age	512	2	16	277	64	120	26	7
XIII.—Affections produced by External Causes:—								
1.—Suicide ...	13	1	4	3	2	1	—	2
2.—Homicide ...	18	—	—	15	—	2	—	—
3.—Judicial Hanging or Execution	21	—	—	20	—	—	—	—
4.—Accident and other External Violence	148	3	4	83	33	15	1	9
XIV.—Ill-defined Diseases	299	4	7	176	16	44	15	7

(12) Causes of Deaths, &c.—contd.

		Nationality								
Causes of Deaths.		Colombo Town.	Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.	
I.—GENERAL DISEASES										
Epidemic Diseases.	1.—Enteric Fever	162	2	8	123	13	5	1	10	
	2.—Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	3.—Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	4.—(a) Malaria	98	...	5	50	27	12	2	2	
	(b) Malarial Cachexia	15	...	2	5	3	2	1	2	
	5.—Smallpox (a) Vaccinated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	(b) Not Vaccinated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	(c) Doubtful	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
	6.—Measles	4	...	...	4	...	...	...	...
	7.—Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	8.—Whooping Cough	6	...	1	3	...	...	1	1
	9.—(a) Diphtheria	8	...	...	7	1	...	...	...
	(b) Membranous Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	(c) Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	10.—Influenza	307	1	8	109	87	82	7	13	
	11.—Miliary Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	12.—Asiatic Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Septic Diseases.	13.—Cholera Nostras
14.—(a) Amoebic Dysentery		16	...	1	10	2	2	...	1	
(b) Bacillary Dysentery		15	1	...	11	1	...	...	2
(c) Dysentery (type not distinguished)		182	...	2	104	49	21	1	5	
15.—Plague		8	...	...	3	2	2	...	1
16.—Yellow Fever		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17.—Leprosy		1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
18.—Erysipelas		9	...	2	5	1	...	1	...	
19.—(a) Mumps		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Varicella (Chickenpox)		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(c) Other Epidemic Diseases		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20.—(a) Pyæmia		6	...	...	4	...	1	...	1
(b) Septicæmia		53	2	5	28	12	5	...	1	
(c) Vaccinia		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21.—Glanders		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22.—Anthrax		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Diseases.		23.—Rabies. Hydrophobia	10	...	1	9
		24.—Tetanus	91	...	4	40	32	11	2	2
	25.—Mycoses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	26.—Pellagra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	27.—Beri-Beri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	28.—(a) Acute Pulmonary Tuberculosis	7	...	...	5	2	...	...	...
	(b) Chronic Pulmonary Tuberculosis	580	2	18	353	96	79	17	15	
	29.—Acute Miliary Tuberculosis	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
	30.—Tuberculous Meningitis	3	...	2	1	...	...	...	...
	31.—Abdominal Tuberculosis	11	...	1	7	2	...	...	1
	32.—Tuberculosis of the Spine	3	...	...	1	2	...	...	...
	33.—Tuberculosis of Joints	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	34.—Tuberculosis of other Organs (Lymphatism excepted)	18	...	...	15	1	1	...	1
	35.—Disseminated Tuberculosis	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
	36.—Rickets	67	...	2	29	10	10	12	4	
	37.—Syphilis	46	...	1	29	6	5	3	2	
	Cancer or Malignant Diseases.	37a.—Parangi (Framboesia Tropicum, Yaws)
		38.—Gonococcus Infection
39.—Cancer and other malignant Tumours of the Buccal Cavity		32	...	2	23	4	2	...	1	
40.—Cancer and other malignant Tumours of the Stomach, Liver		20	1	3	10	4	2	...	...
41.—Cancer and other malignant Tumours of the Peritoneum, Intestines, Rectum		4	1	...	2	...	1	...	...
42.—Cancer and other malignant Tumours of the Female Genital Organs		13	...	...	10	3	...	...	...
43.—Cancer and other malignant Tumours of the Breast		6	...	...	5	1	...	...	...
44.—Cancer and other malignant Tumours of the Skin		1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
45.—Cancer and other malignant Tumours of other Organs or of Organs not specified		24	...	2	16	5	...	...	1
46.—Other Tumours (Tumours of the Female Genital Organs excepted)		16	...	...	12	2	1	...	1
47.—Acute Rheumatic Fever		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
48.—(a) Rheumatoid Arthritis		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Osteo-Arthritis		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(c) Chronic Rheumatism		8	...	...	5	1	2	...	...
(d) Gout		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
49.—Scurvy		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
50.—Diabetes (Mellitus)		60	...	4	37	12	5	1	1	
51.—Exophthalmic Goitre		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
52.—Addison's Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	53.—(a) Leucocythæmia	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
	(b) Lymphadenoma	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	54.—(a) Anæmia	25	2	4	11	2	6	...	...
	(b) Chlorosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	(a) Diabetes Insipidus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	(b) Purpura	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	(c) Haemophildia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(d) Other General Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

(12) Causes of Deaths, &c.—contd.

Causes of Deaths.	Colombo Town.	Nationality.						
		Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.
56.—Alcoholism (acute or chronic) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
57.—Chronic Lead Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
58.—Other Chronic Poisonings (occupational) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
59.—Other Chronic Poisonings (non-occupational) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
II.—DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AND OF ORGANS OF SPECIAL SENSE.								
60.—Encephalitis ...	5	—	—	2	1	1	—	1
(a) Simple Meningitis ...	29	—	2	23	—	1	1	2
61.—(b) Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
(c) Septic Meningitis from various causes ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
62.—Locomotor Ataxia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
63.—Other Diseases of the Spinal Cord ...	8	—	—	6	—	—	—	2
64.—Cerebral Hæmorrhage, Apoplexy ...	75	2	9	37	7	13	4	3
65.—Softening of the Brain ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
66.—Paralysis without specified cause ...	139	—	6	71	22	32	3	5
67.—General Paralysis of the Insane ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
68.—Other forms of mental alienation ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
69.—Epilepsy ...	8	1	—	5	—	1	—	1
70.—Convulsions (non-puerperal) ...	147	—	7	78	24	27	5	6
71.—Convulsions of Infants ...	420	—	14	195	73	109	22	7
72.—Chorea ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
73.—Neuralgia and Neuritis ...	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
74.—Other Diseases of the Nervous System ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
75.—Diseases of the Eyes and their Annexa ...	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
76.—(a) Mastoid Disease ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Other Diseases of the Ears ...	3	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
III.—DISEASES OF THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM.								
77.—Pericarditis ...	7	1	—	5	—	1	—	—
78.—(a) Simple Acute Endocarditis ...	3	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
(b) Infective Endocarditis ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
79.—(a) Myocarditis ...	16	1	1	9	2	2	1	—
(b) Valvular Disease ...	37	2	5	14	8	3	3	2
(c) Other Organic Diseases of the Heart ...	87	1	3	41	19	12	5	3
80.—Angina Pectoris ...	7	1	—	2	2	2	—	—
81.—(a) Aneurism ...	5	1	—	3	1	—	—	—
(b) Atheroma, Arteriosclerosis ...	6	—	2	2	1	—	1	—
(c) Other Diseases of the Arteries ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
82.—(a) Cerebral Embolism and Thrombosis ...	10	—	—	7	2	—	1	—
(b) Embolism and Thrombosis other than Cerebral ...	23	—	1	20	1	1	—	—
83.—(a) Phlebitis ...	4	—	1	2	—	1	—	—
(b) Varicose Veins ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Hæmorrhoids ...	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
(d) Other Diseases of the Veins ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
84.—(a) Lymphatism, Status Lymphaticus ...	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
(b) Elephantiasis Arabum (Filariasis) ...	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
(c) Other Diseases of the Lymphatic System ...	3	—	—	2	—	1	—	—
85.—(a) Hæmorrhage from any part ...	11	—	1	6	3	—	1	—
(b) Other Diseases of the Circulatory System ...	6	—	1	2	3	—	—	—
IV.—DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM.								
86.—Diseases of the Nose ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
87.—(a) Laryngismus Stridulus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
(b) All forms of Laryngitis (Diphtheritic excepted) ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Other Diseases of the Larynx ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
88.—Diseases of the Thyroid Body ...	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
89.—Acute Bronchitis ...	126	2	10	3	—	—	—	—
90.—(a) Chronic Bronchitis ...	100	—	3	66	15	18	11	4
(b) Bronchiectasis ...	3	—	—	56	24	15	1	1
91.—Broncho-Pneumonia ...	418	—	11	3	—	—	—	—
92.—Pneumonia ...	508	6	21	260	64	62	12	9
93.—(a) Empyema ...	5	—	—	263	96	55	7	60
(b) Other Pleurisy ...	9	—	—	3	1	—	—	1
94.—Pulmonary Congestion, Pulmonary Apoplexy ...	1	—	—	5	—	2	—	—
95.—Gangrene of the Lungs ...	5	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
96.—Asthma ...	17	—	—	5	—	1	—	—
97.—Pulmonary Emphysema ...	—	—	2	8	4	2	—	1
98.—Other Diseases of the Respiratory System (Tuberculosis excepted) ...	13	—	—	7	4	1	1	—
V.—DISEASES OF THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM.								
99.—(a) Diseases of the Teeth and Gums (Oral Sepsis) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Thrush, Stomatitis ...	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Parotitis (Septic) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Other Diseases of the Mouth and Annexa ...	—	—	—	7	2	1	1	—
100.—(a) Tonsillitis (other than Diphtheritic) ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Quinsy ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Other Diseases of the Pharynx ...	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
101.—Diseases of the Oesophagus ...	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
102.—Gastric Ulcer ...	3	—	—	2	—	1	—	—

(12) Causes of Deaths, &c.—contd.

Causes of Deaths.	Nationality.							
	Colombo Town.	Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.
103. { (a) Gastritis, Gastric Catarrh ...	16 ...	—	—	7 ...	1 ...	4 ...	1 ...	3
{ (b) Other Diseases of the Stomach (Cancer excepted) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ (a) Epidemic Diarrhoea ...	2 ...	—	—	1 ...	—	1 ...	—	—
{ (b) Diarrhoea Infantile, Diarrhoea due to food ...	37 ...	—	2 ...	24 ...	5 ...	5 ...	—	1
104. { (c) Diarrhoea undefined ...	173 ...	—	9 ...	95 ...	50 ...	14 ...	2 ...	3
& { (d) Enteritis ...	310 ...	1 ...	9 ...	194 ...	47 ...	41 ...	8 ...	10
105. { (e) Gastro-enteritis ...	53 ...	1 ...	2 ...	29 ...	10 ...	8 ...	2 ...	1
{ (f) Colic ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ (g) Intestinal Ulceration, Colitis ...	15 ...	—	—	11 ...	3 ...	—	—	1
{ (h) Duodenal Ulcer ...	2 ...	—	—	1 ...	—	1 ...	—	—
106.—Anchylostomiasis ...	147 ...	—	1 ...	96 ...	36 ...	9 ...	1 ...	4
107.—Intestinal Parasites ...	157 ...	—	2 ...	99 ...	25 ...	25 ...	3 ...	3
108.—Appendicitis and Typhlitis ...	13 ...	1 ...	—	5 ...	2 ...	2 ...	1 ...	2
109. { (a) Hernia ...	12 ...	—	—	4 ...	2 ...	6 ...	—	—
{ (b) Intestinal Obstruction ...	12 ...	—	1 ...	7 ...	1 ...	2 ...	—	1
110. { (a) Psilosis (Sprue or Ceylon Sore-mouth) ...	8 ...	3 ...	2 ...	—	1 ...	2 ...	—	—
{ (b) Other Diseases of the Intestine ...	13 ...	1 ...	—	4 ...	8 ...	—	—	—
111.—Acute Yellow Atrophy of the Liver ...	2 ...	—	1 ...	1 ...	—	—	—	—
112.—Hydatid Tumour of the Liver ...	1 ...	—	—	—	1 ...	—	—	—
113. { (a) Cirrhosis of the Liver (Alcoholic) ...	2 ...	—	1 ...	1 ...	—	—	—	—
{ (b) Cirrhosis of the Liver (Toxic) ...	33 ...	1 ...	3 ...	23 ...	5 ...	—	1 ...	—
114.—Gallstones ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
115.—Other Diseases of the Liver ...	36 ...	—	2 ...	22 ...	9 ...	1 ...	1 ...	1
116.—Diseases of the Spleen ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
117.—Peritonitis (cause unknown) ...	39 ...	—	1 ...	22 ...	7 ...	5 ...	—	4
118.—Other Diseases of the Digestive System (Cancer and Tuberculosis excepted) ...	13 ...	1 ...	3 ...	5 ...	3 ...	1 ...	—	—
VI.—NON-VENEREAL DISEASES OF THE GENITO-URINARY SYSTEM AND ANNEXA								
119.—Acute Nephritis ...	158 ...	4 ...	6 ...	79 ...	22 ...	32 ...	7 ...	8
120.—Bright's Disease ...	25 ...	1 ...	2 ...	10 ...	6 ...	4 ...	1 ...	1
121.—Chyluria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
122.—Other Diseases of the Kidneys and Annexa ...	44 ...	4 ...	3 ...	24 ...	7 ...	5 ...	—	1
123.—Urinary Calculi ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
124.—Diseases of the Bladder ...	13 ...	—	1 ...	9 ...	1 ...	1 ...	—	1
125.—Diseases of the Urethra, Urinary Abscess, &c. ...	8 ...	—	—	5 ...	3 ...	—	—	—
126.—Diseases of the Prostate ...	4 ...	—	—	4 ...	—	—	—	—
127.—Diseases of the Male Genital Organs (non-veneral) ...	7 ...	—	1 ...	3 ...	2 ...	1 ...	—	—
128.—Uterine Hæmorrhage (non-puerperal) ...	1 ...	—	—	1 ...	—	—	—	—
129.—Uterine Tumour (non-cancerous) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
130.—Other Diseases of the Uterus ...	3 ...	—	—	3 ...	—	—	—	—
131.—Cysts and other Tumours of the Ovary ...	4 ...	—	—	4 ...	—	—	—	—
132.—Salpingitis and other Diseases of the Female Genital Organs ...	4 ...	—	—	3 ...	1 ...	—	—	—
133.—Non-puerperal Diseases of the Breast (Cancer excepted) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
VII.—THE PUERPERAL STATE.								
134. { (a) Abortion, Miscarriage ...	3 ...	—	—	1 ...	1 ...	1 ...	—	—
{ (b) Ante-partum Hæmorrhage ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ (c) Ectopic Gestation ...	1 ...	—	—	1 ...	—	—	—	—
{ (d) Other Accidents of Pregnancy ...	11 ...	—	1 ...	9 ...	—	1 ...	—	—
135.—Puerperal Hæmorrhage ...	15 ...	—	5 ...	8 ...	—	1 ...	—	1
136.—Other Accidents of Childbirth ...	3 ...	—	—	3 ...	—	—	—	—
137.—Puerperal Septicæmia ...	98 ...	1 ...	—	70 ...	11 ...	13 ...	3 ...	—
138. { (a) Puerperal Albuminuria, Nephritis, &c. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ (b) Puerperal Eclampsia ...	6 ...	—	1 ...	3 ...	1 ...	1 ...	—	—
139. { (a) Puerperal Phlegmasia, Alba Dolens ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ (b) Puerperal Embolism, Sudden Death, &c. ...	2 ...	—	1 ...	—	—	1 ...	—	—
140. { (a) Puerperal Insanity ...	3 ...	—	1 ...	2 ...	—	—	—	—
{ (b) Consequences of Childbirth (not otherwise defined) ...	59 ...	—	4 ...	38 ...	6 ...	10 ...	1 ...	—
141.—Puerperal Diseases of the Breast ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
VIII.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN AND OF THE CELLULAR TISSUE.								
142.—Gangrene ...	36 ...	—	—	26 ...	6 ...	3 ...	1 ...	—
143. { (a) Carbuncle ...	7 ...	—	—	5 ...	1 ...	—	—	1
{ (b) Furuncle (Boil) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
144. { (a) Phlegmon ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ (b) Acute Abscess, Abscess unqualified ...	11 ...	—	1 ...	6 ...	1 ...	3 ...	—	—
{ (a) Ulcer, Bedsore ...	15 ...	—	1 ...	12 ...	2 ...	—	—	—
{ (b) Eczema ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
145. { (c) Pemphigus ...	2 ...	—	—	1 ...	1 ...	—	—	—
{ (d) Other Diseases of the Integumentary System (Elephantiasis Arabum excepted.) ...	26 ...	—	2 ...	17 ...	4 ...	1 ...	—	2
IX.—DISEASES OF THE BONES AND OF THE ORGANS OF LOCOMOTION.								
146.—Diseases of the Bones (Tuberculosis and Mastoid Disease excepted) ...	2 ...	—	—	2 ...	—	—	—	—
147.—Diseases of the Joints (Tuberculosis and Rheumatism excepted) ...	3 ...	—	—	1 ...	2 ...	—	—	—
148.—Amputations ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
149.—Other Diseases of the Organs of Locomotion ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(16) *Infant Mortality by Race, 1926. Number of Infant Deaths and Rate per 1,000 Births.*

	No. of Infant Deaths. 1926.	Rate per 1,000 Births. 1926.	Rate per 1,000 Births previous Year.	Increase or Decrease of 1926 when compared with Previous Year.
All Races ...	1,658	204	220	- 16
Europeans ...	4	46	30	+ 16
Burghers ...	70	124	132	- 8
Sinhalese ...	913	189	201	- 12
Tamils ...	282	266	309	- 43
Moors ...	283	251	302	- 51
Malays ...	68	239	130	+ 109
Others ...	38	252	186	+ 66

(17) *Infant Mortality, 1926, by Wards. Rate per 1,000 Births.*

Infant Mortality Rates.

Ward.	Average, 1916 to 1925.	1925.	1926.	Increase or Decrease of 1926 rate when compared with 1925.
Colombo Town...	246	220	204	- 16
Fort ...	220	—	—	—
Pettah ...	338	316	167	- 149
San Sebastian ...	331	272	259	- 13
St. Paul's ...	404	353	267	- 86
Kotahena ...	263	305	224	- 81
Mutwal ...		252	257	+ 5
New Bazaar ...	356	313	245	- 68
Maradana North ...	284	274	250	- 24
Maradana South ...		225	247	+ 22
Dematagoda ...	276	231	254	+ 23
Slave Island ...		217	262	+ 45
Kollupitiya ...	201	244	198	- 46
Cinnamon Gardens ...		197	229	+ 32
Bambalapitiya ...	192	176	122	- 54
Timbirigasyaya ...		209	154	- 55
Wellawatta ...	145	209	141	- 68
Hospitals ...		132	141	+ 9

(18) *Infant Mortality, by Race, during the Year 1926. Rate per 1,000 Births.*

	All Races.	Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.
All Causes ...	204	46	124	189	266	251	239	252
Premature Birth ...	19'0	—	12'4	21'9	22'6	7'1	17'5	26'5
Atrophy and Debility ...	43	—	21'2	37'8	76'4	53'2	28'1	53'0
Bronchitis ...	5'7	—	7'1	3'9	4'7	8'0	28'1	6'6
Pneumonia ...	22'4	—	15'9	24'2	13'2	24'0	24'6	53'0
Diarrhoeal Diseases ...	23'7	23	15'9	25'8	21'7	22'2	14'0	26'5
Convulsions ...	52	—	24'7	40'3	69	96'7	77'2	46'4
Tetanus ...	2'2	—	3'5	1'0	6'6	1'8	7'0	—
All Other causes ...	36	23	23	33'9	51	38'2	42'1	39'7

(19) (a) *Causes of Infant Mortality, 1908 to 1926—Number of Deaths.*

CAUSE OF INFANT DEATH.	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	Average, 1908-1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	Average, 1913-1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	Average, 1918-1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
Developmental Diseases	410	320	324	379	378	362	402	361	434	446	573	443	570	598	498	706	603	595	685	617	602	609
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	247	250	221	267	269	251	302	198	189	157	180	205	301	220	228	311	251	262	263	213	241	228
Digestive Diseases	254	148	230	231	196	222	264	207	227	169	215	216	190	201	220	279	225	223	262	235	220	226
Convulsions	502	382	396	483	472	447	472	451	482	388	404	439	365	418	590	602	411	477	480	409	426	420
Tetanus Neonatorum	133	173	150	141	77	135	51	27	29	16	25	30	29	17	17	16	17	19	7	22	13	18
Tuberculosis	18	18	20	3	3	12	—	1	2	3	3	2	5	5	6	19	9	9	10	4	2	—
Infectious Diseases	8	4	1	4	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis	7	14	13	22	20	15	23	28	17	19	16	21	28	37	33	33	44	35	59	36	37	34

(20) (b) Causes of Infant Mortality, 1908 to 1926—Rates per 1,000 Births.

CAUSE OF INFANT DEATH.	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	Average, 1908-1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	Average, 1913-1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	Average, 1918-1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
Developmental Diseases ...	89	70	67	72	73	74	71	67	77	80	98	78	96	100	69	81	88	86	96	90	78	75
Pneumonia and Bronchitis ...	54	55	46	51	52	51	53	37	33	28	31	36	51	37	32	36	36	38	37	31	31	28
Digestive Diseases ...	55	43	48	44	38	45	46	39	40	30	37	38	32	34	31	32	33	32	37	34	29	28
Convulsions ...	109	83	82	91	91	91	83	84	85	70	69	78	62	71	82	69	60	69	68	59	56	52
Tetanus Neonatorum ...	29	38	31	27	18	28	9	5	5	3	4	5	5	3	2	2	2	3	1	3	2	2.2
Tuberculosis ...	4	4	4	1	1	3	—	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	0.6	0.3	—
Infectious Diseases ...	2	1	0.2	1	1	1	—	1	2	0.5	0.7	1	0.3	0.5	1	1	0.6	0.6	1	0.1	0.4	0.37
Syphilis ...	2	3	3	4	4	3	4	5	3	3	3	4	5	6	5	4	6	5	8	5	6	4.2

(21) Infant Mortality, 1926. Deaths at different Age Periods and from Several Causes.

Cause of Death.	Age.												Race.								
	Age in Weeks.					Age in Months.							Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.	All Races	
	1	2	3	4	Total.	2	3	4	5	6	7-9	10-12									Total.
I.—Developmental Diseases:—																					
1. Premature birth ...	135	7	3	3	148	1	—	1	—	2	1	1	6	—	7	106	24	8	5	4	154
2. Atelectasis ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
3. Atrophy and Debility ...	163	36	19	12	230	35	14	20	11	11	22	9	122	—	12	183	81	60	8	8	352
4. Others ...	7	3	5	1	16	12	10	16	7	5	19	16	85	1	3	60	14	14	7	2	101
II.—Diseases of Respiratory System:—																					
1. Laryngitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Croup ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Bronchitis ...	—	2	2	1	5	2	3	7	7	5	10	7	41	—	4	19	5	9	8	1	46
4. Pneumonia ...	2	2	1	4	9	14	11	16	17	13	49	53	173	—	9	117	14	27	7	8	182
5. Others ...	2	3	—	1	6	2	5	4	1	5	18	15	60	—	1	24	18	9	1	3	56
III.—Diseases of Digestive System:—																					
1. Diarrhoeal ...	—	3	7	3	13	17	33	20	19	16	37	37	179	2	9	125	23	25	4	4	192
2. Dentition ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Others ...	2	—	4	—	6	8	1	1	2	1	10	5	28	—	—	16	10	6	2	—	34
IV.—Diseases of Nervous System:—																					
1. Convulsions ...	58	43	17	18	136	43	39	45	28	30	42	57	284	—	14	195	73	109	22	7	420
2. Laryngismus stridulus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Tetanus ...	6	12	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	7	2	2	—	—	18
4. Others ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	4
V.—Tuberculous Diseases:—																					
1. Tabes mesenterica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Tubercular meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Others ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
VI.—Accidents:—																					
1. Injury ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
2. Umbilical hæmorrhage ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
3. Suffocation ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
4. Other violence ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
VII.—Infectious Diseases:—																					
1. Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Chickenpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
4. Whooping cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2
5. Mumps ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Cerebro-spinal fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Scarlet fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
VIII.—Syphilis ...	1	—	—	2	3	4	5	5	4	2	6	5	31	—	2	20	7	3	1	1	34
IX.—All Other causes ...	17	4	1	—	22	5	3	3	2	6	8	7	34	1	4	35	5	10	1	—	56
Total ...	401	115	59	45	620	143	124	138	98	96	223	216	1038	4	70	913	282	283	68	38	1658
Percentage on Total Infant Deaths ...	24.2	6.9	3.6	2.7	37.4	8.6	7.5	8.3	5.9	5.8	13.4	13.0	62.8	0.24	4.2	55.1	17.0	17.1	4.1	2.3	—

IX.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES. (GENERAL.)

Comparing the year 1926 with the previous year (*vide* columns (b) and (f) in Statement 23) the most noteworthy points as regards town cases of infectious diseases are the reduction of plague cases from 64 in 1925 to 13 in 1926, and of enteric cases from 473 in 1925 to 249 in 1926, and continued fever from 243 cases in 1925 to 169 cases in 1926. The apparent reduction in the number of phthisis cases is to a slight extent explained by the removal of the Lunatic Asylum from the town to the country. Chickenpox showed a marked decline during 1926.

(22) *Infectious Diseases Recorded. (Town Cases.) 1903-1926.*

Diseases.	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
Plague ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	413	138	291	207	70	87	235	184	136	230	148	64	13
Cholera ...	1	1	—	1	29	30	—	1	19	—	80	3	1	2	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—
Smallpox ...	7	1	45	40	49	438	78	69	36	—	—	240	287	1	1	36	3	75	12	34	3	4	1	10
Chickenpox ...	230	274	398	231	259	543	828	901	934	427	491	560	627	3,204	1,295	788	495	639	711	699	1,235	790	1,703	1,045
Measles ...	119	278	397	354	74	666	436	149	330	643	524	52	20	1,353	1,127	88	399	1,062	190	226	761	650	627	518
Diphtheria ...	—	6	2	10	13	7	8	18	12	10	10	8	9	7	14	7	13	7	20	* 16	19	11	14	17
Enteric fever ...	262	303	451	709	741	1,131	683	786	1,063	566	415	229	393	437	393	357	512	677	398	341	535	415	473	249
Continued fever ^o	—	—	28	87	177	275	147	122	71	111	92	81	75	67	66	132	141	162	187	115	105	231	243	168
and "suspected enteric"	—	+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phthisis* ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	585	755	759	771	892	806	713	1,071	1,285	1,361	1,367	1,181	1,313	1,204	1,146	977

• Continued fever was made notifiable, and notification of enteric began to be enforced late in 1903; but comparatively little progress was made until 1906, hence the apparent sudden increase of these diseases. Phthisis was made notifiable in 1910, but this did not take effect until 1911. Lunatic Asylum removed from Town in 1925.

+ Includes Port, outside, and untraced cases. Thereafter these are excluded.

(23) *Notifiable Infectious Diseases, 1926.*

Diseases.	(a)												(b) Total for Colombo, ex- clusive of Port and Outside Cases.	(c) Port Cases.	(d) Cases brought to Colombo Hos- pitals from beyond Limits.	(e) Grand Total of Cases, 1925, 1926.	(f) Total for Colombo in 1925, exclu- sive of Port and Outside Cases.
	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.					
Plague	1	4	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	13	—	—	13	64
Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3
Smallpox	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	2	—	—	10	—	—	20	1
Chickenpox	134	170	208	139	82	53	38	35	39	52	43	52	1,045	5	47	1,097	1,703
Measles	84	78	83	61	37	50	25	19	33	17	23	8	518	5	13	536	627
Diphtheria	2	4	—	—	—	2	—	6	2	1	—	—	17	—	1	18	14
Acute diarrhoea	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Enteric fever	34	25	14	23	13	17	23	25	28	20	19	8	249	5	223	477	473
Continued fever	20	12	13	13	13	10	17	16	18	9	17	10	168	2	20	190	243
Phthisis	122	77	73	79	77	74	92	88	75	82	80	58	977	14	364	1,355	1,146
Scarlet fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	397	372	393	316	222	208	195	189	202	183	184	140	2,999	41	668	3,708	4,275

PLAGUE IN 1926
IN THE
CITY
OF
COLOMBO

— Scale 50 Chains to an Inch —

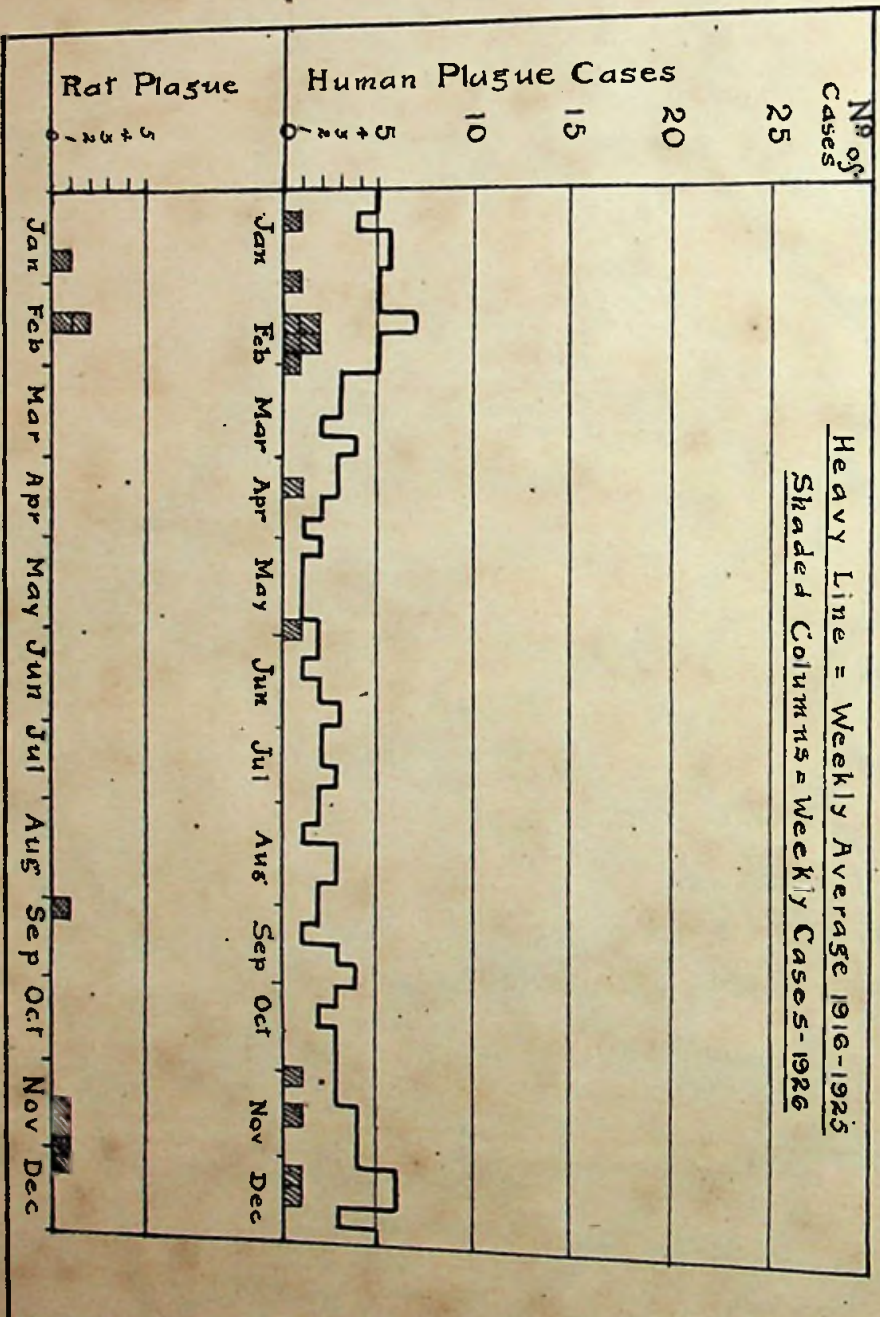
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○ Human Cases

● *Rat*



DIAGRAM N^o IV PLAGUE CASES



X.—PLAGUE.

Human Plague.—Thirteen cases, with 12 deaths, occurred during the year, the case mortality being thus 92·3 per cent. The single case which recovered was bubonic in type with cutaneous manifestations.

The year shows by far the lowest number of cases of plague recorded since the disease first appeared in 1914. Nine of the cases occurred during the first five months of the year, after which there was an interval of freedom from both human and rat plague until September 3, *i.e.*, 13 weeks, when an infected rat was found. (See Diagram IV.)

In the writer's opinion there are strong grounds for concluding that plague was eradicated from Colombo in May, *i.e.*, during the off season, and that a very active strain of infection was re-introduced from abroad, in September, *via* the Port and the Granaries and thence to the town. In support of this conclusion is the fact that no rat plague was found, although specially searched for by Dr. Hirst, between February 19 and September 3, and that of the total of 5 rat cases which were found during the last four months of the year, 1 was caught on a grain barge in the harbour, another in the Customs warehouse, and the other 3 in the area adjacent to the harbour. The chain of evidence of infection from grain ships in the harbour, *via* grain barges, to the Customs warehouses, thence to the granaries, and from there to the town, is thus complete. This evidence is strengthened by the experience during the first two months of the current year (1927), when no fewer than 19 infected rats have been found, of which 1 was in a grain barge in the harbour, 1 was in the Customs warehouse, and 4 were in the Chalmers Granaries, while of the remaining 13 which were found in the town, 5 occurred in private grain stores supplied from the Granaries, 3 were in premises adjoining grain, or grain-bag stores, and 5 were in premises within the same area as these stores.

Seasonal Incidence of Plague.—Diagram IV. shows the seasonal incidence during 1926 and the average incidence during the previous ten years.

Further details are given in the accompanying statements and on Spot Map I.

(24) Annual Incidence of Human Plague Cases.

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	Average, 1916-1925.	1926.
Total cases ...	413	139	291	207	70	87	235	184	136	230	148	64	165	13
Total deaths ...	381	128	273	196	69	82	223	170	131	209	140	58	155	12
Septicæmic cases ...	247*	81*	159	124	41	50	93	70	57	66	47	18	73	2
Septicæmic deaths ...	246	80	159	124	41	50	93	70	57	66	47	18	73	2
Bubonic cases ...	166	58	132	83	29	37	142	114	79	164	94	45	92	11
Bubonic deaths ...	135	48	114	72	28	32	130	100	74	143	86	40	82	10
Pneumonic cases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—
Pneumonic deaths ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—
Cutaneous cases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Cutaneous deaths ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total case mortality per cent. ...	92·2	92·8	93·8	94·7	98·6	94·3	94·9	92·4	96·3	90·9	94·5	90·6	93·9	92·3
Septicæmic case mortality per cent. ...	99·6	98·7	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Bubonic case mortality per cent. ...	81·3	82·7	86·4	86·7	96·6	86·5	91·5	87·7	93·8	87·2	91·5	88·9	89·1	90·9
Pneumonic case mortality per cent. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	—	100	—

* The cases for 1914 and 1915 each includes one septicæmic recovery, but the diagnosis in either case was not confirmed bacteriologically and may have been erroneous.

(25) Monthly Incidence of Human Plague Cases.

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	Average, 1916-1925.	1926.
January ...	4	19	17	25	13	—	25	65	13	28	46	5	24	1
February ...	67	6	18	40	18	1	20	53	10	32	22	6	22	4
March ...	58	3	18	61	10	3	3	27	6	11	7	8	15	2
April ...	28	3	14	34	11	—	3	7	2	17	24	6	12	1
May ...	29	3	11	11	2	—	4	2	7	9	9	1	6	—
June ...	49	1	36	3	9	—	3	1	8	10	6	10	9	1
July ...	47	5	43	6	2	—	12	3	10	21	11	8	12	—
August ...	40	20	35	1	1	2	7	2	7	23	5	8	9	—
September ...	18	21	25	3	—	5	18	2	7	26	3	5	9	—
October ...	23	24	24	7	—	18	28	9	14	12	3	1	12	—
November ...	24	10	25	10	2	34	34	4	19	13	8	5	15	2
December ...	26	24	25	6	2	24	78	9	33	28	4	1	21	2
Total for the year ...	413	139	291	207	70	87	235	184	136	230	148	64	165	13
Monthly mean ...	34·4	11·6	24·3	17·3	5·8	7·3	19·6	15·3	11·3	19·2	12·3	5·3	13·8	1·1

(26) *Plague during the Year 1926, by Wards.*

Ward.	Cases.	Deaths.	Ward.	Cases.	Deaths.
Fort	...	...	Slave Island	1	1
Pettah	4	4	Kollupitiya	...	...
San Sebastian	...	...	Cinnamon Gardens	...	...
St. Paul's	1	1	Bambalapitiya	...	...
Kotahena	...	...	Timbirigasyaya	...	...
Mutwal	...	...	Wellawatta	...	...
New Bazaar	2	2	No fixed residence	2	2
Maradana North	1	...	Total	13	12
Maradana South	1	1			
Dematagoda	1	1			

(27) *Human Plague in Colombo during the Year 1926.—Distribution by Race, Sex, and Age.*

Race.	Sex.	0 to 5 Years.	5 to 10 Years.	10 to 15 Years.	15 to 20 Years.	20 to 25 Years.	25 to 30 Years.	30 to 35 Years.	35 to 40 Years.	40 to 50 Years.	50 to 60 Years.	60 Years and Over.	Total.	Total of each Race.	Case-rate per 1,000 Population.	No. of deaths (inclusive of deaths of Colombo cases at I.D.H.)	Case Mortality per Cent.	Death-rate per 1,000 Population.
All Races	Males	—	1	4	4	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	13	13	0.050	12	92.3	0.046
	Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Europeans	Males	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Burghers	Males	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sinhalese	Males	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	4	0.033	4	100	0.033
	Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamils	Males	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	0.052	3	100	0.052
	Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Moors	Males	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	3	0.071	3	100	0.071
	Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malays	Males	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Others	Males	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	3	3	0.233	2	66.7	0.155
	Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Rat Plague.—A total of 129,361 rodents was accounted for during the year, of which 22,701 were examined at the Bacteriological Laboratory with the result that only 8 were found to be plague infected, the infection rate being thus 0.04 per cent., as compared with 0.06 per cent. in 1925.

(28) *Statement showing Rats examined at the Laboratory, Number found infected, and Percentage Infection.*

Month.	No. of Rats examined.	Number infected.	Percentage Infection.	Month.	No. of Rats examined.	Number infected.	Percentage Infection.
January	2,021	1	0.05	September	1,975	1	0.05
February	1,950	2	0.1	October	1,796	—	—
March	2,142	—	—	November	2,062	3	0.15
April	1,350	—	—	December	2,831	1	0.04
May	1,447	—	—				
June	1,571	—	—	Total	22,701	8	0.04
July	1,721	—	—				
August	1,835	—	—				

(29) *Distribution of Rodents examined for Plague in 1926.*

	Species.	Number examined.	Number infected.	Percentage infected.
Trapped rats	R. Rattus	16,702	3	0.02
	R. Norvegicus	3,065	0	—
	M. Musculus	816	0	—
	Bandicoots	2	0	—
Rats found dead	R. Rattus	29	0	—
	R. Norvegicus	40	4	10.0
	M. Musculus	4	1	25.0
	Bandicoots	1	0	—
Rats killed by Claytons	R. Rattus	514	0	—
	R. Norvegicus	935	0	—
	M. Musculus	591	0	—
	Bandicoots	2	0	—
Total		22,701	8	0.04

Preventive Measures.—The same preventive measures as described in the 1925 Report were adopted, an intensive campaign against rats and rat fleas being carried on throughout the year, including the plague "off season."

From what has already been said it seems clear that if Colombo is to be freed and kept free of plague, re-introduction of infection from abroad must be prevented. It is not possible to "build out" the rat here.

The only way to ensure exclusion of plague would appear to be the disinfection of all grain prior to its being landed at the Port. Dr. Hirst has pointed out that although, according to Otten, the plague rat of Rangoon appears to be *ratus concolor*, this species very rarely occurs in Colombo, only one specimen having, in fact, being found so far. This would appear to bear out the conclusion long since arrived at here, that plague is introduced into Colombo chiefly, if not entirely, by infected rat fleas and not by rats, hence the paramount necessity for disinfecting consignments of imported grain and grain sacks. The question of introducing such a measure at the Port of Colombo, *e.g.*, by the use of cyanide gas, has been under consideration for some time, but has not, so far, been regarded favourably by the Port Commission, owing, it is understood, partly to the risk to life and partly to the disturbance of commerce which would be entailed in carrying out such a measure.

(30) *Rats trapped, killed by Claytons, and found Dead during 1926.*

Month.	Number of Rats trapped.				Number of Rats killed by Claytons.	Mummified Rats (Plague Inspector).	Number of Dead Rats found.				Total.
	Veterinary Surgeon.	Chalmers* Granaries.	Manning* Market.				Veterinary Surgeon.	Plague Inspector.	Chalmers* Granaries.	Manning* Market.	
January	12,158	268	130	126	1	—	2	2	—	—	12,687
February	10,839	273	90	105	—	1	3	—	—	—	11,311
March	11,639	190	84	157	1	—	1	—	—	—	12,072
April	10,469	144	65	123	—	4	—	—	—	—	10,805
May	11,473	121	66	40	—	—	—	—	1	—	11,701
June	10,258	164	73	96	—	—	3	—	—	—	10,594
July	9,390	166	68	103	—	—	4	—	—	1	9,732
August	10,763	226	76	125	—	3	2	1	—	—	11,196
September	10,711	221	73	121	3	9	7	—	—	—	11,145
October	9,355	219	74	81	1	2	2	3	—	—	9,737
November	8,569	223	74	276	4	1	7	2	—	—	9,156
December	8,584	369	75	185	4	—	4	4	—	—	9,225
Total	124,208	2,584	948	1,538	14	20	35	13	1	—	129,361

* Figures supplied by the Chairman, Board of Immigration and Quarantine, Colombo.

During the year 1926 there were placed 1,693,945 poisoned baits. Of these, 66,085 were removed or eaten by rats.

(31) *Work done by the Plague Staff during the Year 1926.*

Ward.	No. of Dwellings Claytonized.	No. of Dwellings Unroofed.	No. of Rat Holes Claytonized.	No. of Rats killed by Claytons.	No. of Recently Dead Rats found.	No. of Mummified Rats found.	No. of Dwellings Pesterized.	No. of Dwellings Disinfected.	No. of Rat Nests found.	No. of Cart Loads of Rubbish removed.
Fort	13	13	104	3	—	—	1	4	—	4
Pettah	1,495	1,495	2,164	402	14	5	237	1,219	—	139½
San Sebastian	496	496	879	67	—	—	292	196	—	47½
St. Paul's	3,581	3,581	3,816	309	10	4	1,758	2,730	—	184½
Kotahena	491	491	791	88	2	—	311	176	—	40
Mutwal	704	704	1,111	71	—	—	429	279	—	36¾
New Bazaar	1,904	1,904	2,564	160	2	1	1,164	651	—	111½
Maradana North	52	52	78	32	—	1	37	15	—	17½
Maradana South	1,422	1,422	2,849	180	—	1	842	505	—	152½
Dematagoda	92	92	284	45	—	—	45	40	—	6¾
Slave Island	950	950	1,681	123	4	—	535	394	—	80¾
Kollupitiya	730	730	1,748	21	1	2	100	583	—	129
Cinnamon Gardens	2	2	25	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bambalapitiya	65	65	189	3	—	—	36	22	—	10½
Timbirigasyaya	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wellawatta	43	43	139	32	2	—	22	9	—	6
Total	12,040	12,040	18,422	1,538	35	14	5,809	6,823	—	966½

XI.—CHOLERA.

No case of cholera occurred during the year.

XII.—SMALLPOX AND VACCINATION.

Ten cases of smallpox occurred in the town, and ten were landed from ships in the harbour.

As regards the town cases, an isolated case occurred in February, the patient having been infected at Nagoor in India, and arrived in Colombo during the incubation period, importation being the invariable history of first cases in Colombo. As regards the other nine town cases a full report (No. 245 of November 2, 1926) has already been submitted. They originated from two simultaneous cases which have apparently been infected at Ajmir in India, and arrived in Colombo, *via* Mandapam Camp, while in the incubation stage. These two cases developed the disease on September 4, in one of the most densely crowded tenement areas in the town, and were not discovered until September 13, but fortunately by the adoption of vigorous measures, including mass vaccination and daily surveillance, only seven further cases occurred, of which one developed the disease in the Segregation Camp and the other six in two widely separated parts of the town. In connection with this outbreak 2,046 vaccinations, including 1,949 re-vaccinations, were carried out by the Public Health Department staff in the three infected areas. Only sixty-six persons who had been specially exposed to infection were sent to the Segregation Camp, but several thousands were kept under a daily surveillance at their homes, with permission to carry on their work. Two officers of the Department were specially commended in connection with this outbreak, viz., Sanitary Inspectress Mrs. Balmond and Health Visitor Miss Schokman.

Vaccination.

The following statement shows the state of vaccination during 1926 :—

(32) *Details of Vaccinations performed during the Year 1926.*

(a) By Government Vaccinators.

Ward.	Number of Primary Vaccinations.	Number of Re-vaccinations.	Total.
Fort, Pettah, and San			
Sebastian ...	561	6	567
St. Paul's ...	807	1	808
Kotahena ...	590	1	591
New Bazaar ...	437	—	437
Maradana ...	626	208	834
Slave Island ...	571	65	636
Bambalapitiya and Kollu-			
pitiya ...	844	275	1,119
Timbirigasyaya ...	595	21	616
Itinerating (Colombo) ...	469	—	469
Total ...	5,500	577	6,077

(b) By Public Health Department Staff

Ward.	Number of Primary Vaccinations.	Number of Re-vaccinations.	Total.
Fort	—	9	9
Pettah ...	—	27	27
San Sebastian...	39	1,372	1,411
New Bazaar ...	72	766	838
Maradana North	12	311	323
Kollupitiya ...	—	3	3
Total ...	123	2,488	2,611

Births and Primary Vaccinations in 1926.

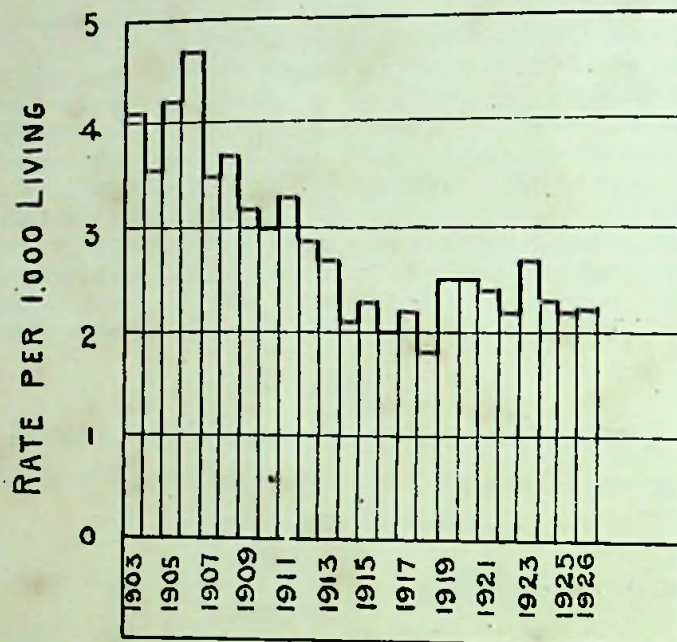
The following statement shows the relation between the number of births recorded and the number of primary vaccinations performed. It discloses an even greater deficit of primary vaccinations than during the previous year :—

(33) *Vaccinations, 1920 to 1926.*

Year.	No. of Births.	Number of Primary Vaccinations.	Deficit of Primary Vaccinations.	Excess of Primary Vaccinations.
1920	7,197	7,159	38	—
1921	8,724	6,162	2,562	—
1922	6,881	7,240	—	359
1923	7,107	6,192	915	—
1924	6,887	5,784	1,103	—
1925	7,663	5,704	1,959	—
1926	8,114	5,623	2,491	—

DIAGRAM N° V

(a) DIARRHOEA & ENTERITIS. 1903 - 1926
DEATH RATE PER 1,000 LIVING



(b) DYSENTERY. 1903 - 1926
DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 LIVING

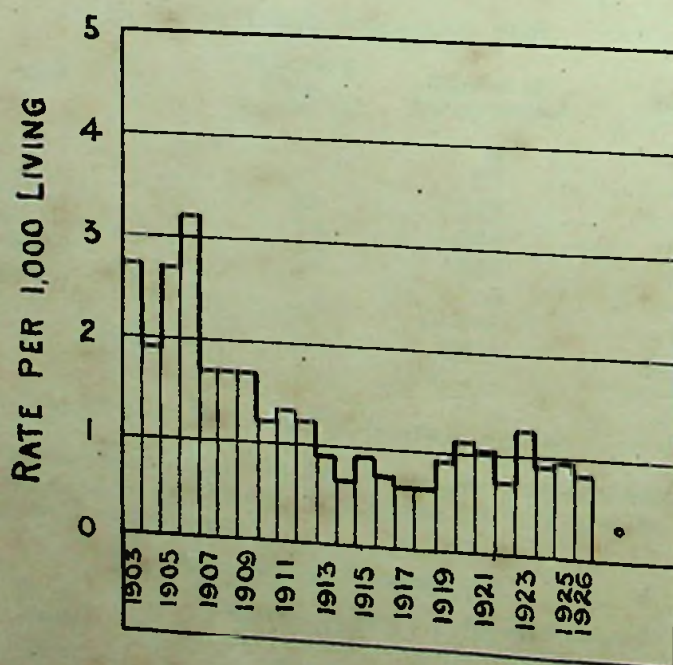
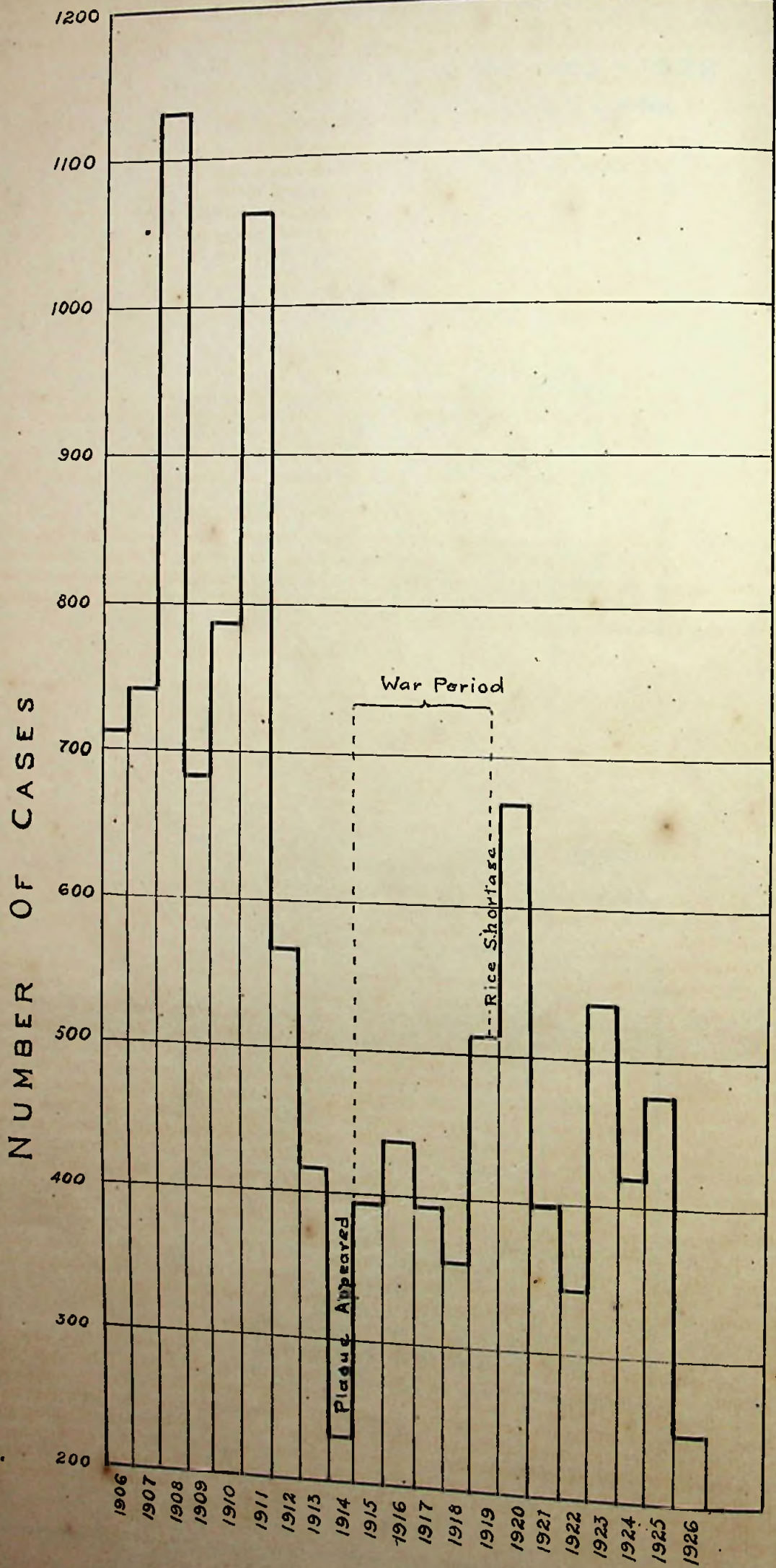


DIAGRAM N°VI
 ENTERIC FEVER (TOWN CASES ONLY)
 1906 to 1926



XIII.—CHICKENPOX.

There was a marked reduction in the incidence of chickenpox, with 1,045 town cases during 1926 as compared with 1,703 cases during the previous year. No death was ascribed to this cause. The peculiarity of the age distribution of chickenpox cases here, as compared with Europe, to which attention was drawn in the 1925 Report, is again demonstrated by the following statement which shows that the incidence falls chiefly at ages over ten years and under thirty-five years, with however a considerable number over fifty years of age.

(34) *Chickenpox in Colombo Town during the Year 1926. (Town Cases.)*

Distribution according to Age.

Under 1 year	...	3	25 years and under 30	...	188
1 year and under 2	...	5	30 years and under 35	...	121
2 years and under 3	...	7	35 years and under 40	...	72
3 years and under 4	...	8	40 years and under 50	...	72
4 years and under 5	...	5	50 years and under 60	...	23
5 years and under 10	...	35	60 years and under 70	...	7
10 years and under 15	...	93	70 years and over	...	5
15 years and under 20	...	166			
20 years and under 25	...	235	Total	...	1,045

XIV.—MEASLES.

This disease also showed some improvement compared with the previous year, there being 518 town cases recorded, as against 627 in 1925. Four deaths were ascribed to this cause.

XV.—DIPHTHERIA.

Diphtheria with 17 town cases shows a slight increase compared with 14 cases in 1925.

XVI.—DIARRHŒA AND DYSENTERY.

These diseases are not notifiable, but the death returns quoted below and Diagram V. show a slight increase of mortality from diarrhœa, and a slight decrease of dysentery mortality. The diagram shows the progressively downward trend of the mortality from these causes which occurred from 1907 until 1919, when there was a set back, associated apparently with influenza, from which the town has not yet quite recovered.

(35) *Diarrhœal Diseases, 1926, by Race. Death-rate per 1,000 Population.*

		All Races.	Euro-peans.	Bur-ghers.	Sin-halese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	Deaths	... 575	... 2	... 22	... 343	... 112	... 69	... 12	... 15
	Death-rate	... 2'22	... 0'665	... 1'40	... 2'82	... 1'95	... 1'64	... 1'93	... 1'16
Dysentery	Deaths	... 213	... 1	... 3	... 125	... 52	... 23	... 1	... 8
	Death-rate	... 0'82	... 0'33	... 0'19	... 1'03	... 0'91	... 0'55	... 0'16	... 0'62
All Diarrhœal...	Deaths	... 788	... 3	... 25	... 468	... 164	... 92	... 13	... 23
	Death-rate	... 3'04	... 1'00	... 1'59	... 3'85	... 2'86	... 2'19	... 2'09	... 1'78

XVII.—ENTERIC FEVER.

477 cases of enteric fever (including paratyphoid) were recorded in 1926, but of these only 249 or 52'2 per cent. were town cases, 223 having been admitted to the hospitals from districts outside the town, and 5 from ships in the harbour, *i.e.*, a total of 228 or 47'8 per cent. were of extra-urban origin.

There was thus a great improvement as regards the town incidence compared with the previous year, when there were 473 town cases, 266 outside cases, and 16 port cases. As Diagram VI. and Statement 22 show only once since notification of enteric was enforced in 1903 has such a small number of town cases been recorded, *viz.*, in 1914, when the number was 229. The sudden reduction in 1914, was, without doubt, in a large measure, due to the panic created by the appearance of plague that year, fear of which disease put a stop, to a great extent, to the custom which prevails here of visiting sick friends and relatives and partaking of refreshments in their houses, a custom which, as pointed out in previous reports, is responsible for the spread of much infection amongst the poorer classes. In striking contrast to the 1914 experience was the great increase of enteric which occurred during the latter half of 1919 and throughout 1920, as the result of the unprecedented mixing up of all classes of the population at the food depôts during the rice famine in 1919. The improvement in 1926, on the other hand, is believed to have been to a large extent due to the special measures which were initiated in the middle of 1925 and were continued in 1926, to prevent the dumping of domestic refuse within the town, especially in proximity to dwellings. This action undoubtedly had a great effect in reducing the fly nuisance, and the consequent spread of infection by these pests. This unauthorized dumping of refuse is a source of considerable danger which is constantly liable to recur and requires rigorous prohibition and careful watching.

Local Incidence of Enteric in 1926.

As Spot Map II. shows the distribution of enteric cases in 1926, was, for the most part, very sporadic, only two small localized series of cases having occurred, *viz.*, one within the Welikada prison and the other at Piachaud's lane, shown on map near the Tower Hall. The prison series is interesting for the reason that investigation by this department led to the discovery of a very active carrier, in the person of an apothecary employed in the prison who had suffered from an attack of enteric fever about four years previously. Upon this man being proved to be a carrier, he was granted six months' leave by his department to enable him to undergo treatment with a view of eliminating the infection. The last case in this series occurred on July 16, prior to the removal of this carrier.

The other small series of cases, shown on the Spot Map near the Tower Hall, was an example of family infection from case to case. The Spot Map also shows the complete freedom from enteric of the greater part of the Cinnamon Gardens, which is the best residential quarter of the town. This, as in the case of phthisis, referred to later, is a striking illustration of the benefits of living under modern sanitary conditions.

(36) Enteric Fever, 1916 to 1926 (inclusive of Port and Outside.) Cases, Deaths, and Case Mortality.

Year.	All Races.			Europeans.		
	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.
1916	515	231	44.9	12	2	16.7
1917	424	174	41.0	7	1	14.3
1918	430	181	42.1	14	3	21.4
1919	682	268	39.3	35	9	25.7
1920	879	338	38.5	32	5	15.6
1921	572	219	38.3	17	3	17.6
1922	498	179	36.0	18	5	27.8
1923	741	269	36.2	19	3	15.8
1924	702	263	37.4	12	5	41.7
1925	755	269	35.6	22	5	22.7
Total	6,198	2,391	38.6	188	41	21.8
1926	477	162	34.0	10	2	20.0

(37) Enteric Fever and Continued Fever by Wards, 1926. Number of Cases and Case-rate per 1,000 Population.

	Enteric Fever		Continued Fever		Total	
	No. of Cases.	Case-rate.	No. of Cases.	Case-rate.	No. of Cases.	Case-rate.
Colombo (inclusive of Port and Outside)	477	1.84	190	0.74	667	2.58
Colombo (exclusive of Port and Outside)	249	0.96	168	0.65	417	1.61
Fort	2	0.70	1	0.35	3	1.05
Pettah	4	0.496	4	0.496	8	0.99
San Sebastian	4	0.33	2	0.16	6	0.49
St. Paul's	7	0.28	18	0.73	25	1.01
Kotahena	24	0.823	29	0.995	53	1.82
Mutwal	34	1.716	16	0.808	50	2.52
New Bazaar	13	0.525	10	0.404	23	0.93
Maradana North	28	1.225	21	0.919	49	2.14
Maradana South	12	0.61	14	0.71	26	1.32
Dematagoda	32	1.73	15	0.81	47	2.54
Slave Island	13	0.57	4	0.17	17	0.74
Kollupitiya	10	0.658	6	0.395	16	1.05
Cinnamon Gardens	9	0.90	1	0.10	10	1.00
Bambalapitiya	2	0.20	3	0.30	5	0.50
Timbirigasyaya	2	0.30	1	0.15	3	0.45
Wellawatta	13	1.133	3	0.262	16	1.40
Port	5	—	2	—	7	—
Outside Municipal limits	223	—	20	—	243	—
Untraced	40	—	20	—	60	—

Racial Incidence of Enteric in 1926.

The following statements show the actual and relative incidence of enteric fever as reported in each race. The relative incidence, as represented by the "case-rates," is, however, far from trustworthy for purposes of comparison between the various races for the reasons given later:—

(38) Enteric Fever and Continued Fever during the Year 1926, by Race. (Inclusive of Port and Outside Cases and Deaths.)

		Cases, Deaths, and Case-rates and Death-rates per 1,000 Population.							
		All Races.	Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.
		Cases	Case-rate	Deaths	Death-rate	Cases	Case-rate	Deaths	Death-rate
Enteric fever	Cases	477	1.84	162	0.62	190	0.74	56	0.22
	Case-rate	1.84	3.33	1.90	0.51	1.01	0.23	0.12	0.063
	Deaths	162	2	8	1.23	13	0.16	18	0.28
Continued fever	Cases	190	0.67	13	0.051	124	0.48	16	0.064
	Case-rate	0.67	0.66	0.82	1.02	0.28	0.43	0.64	1.01
	Deaths	56	1	1	32	6	11	4	1
Total	Cases	667	2.58	218	0.84	314	1.22	72	0.28
	Case-rate	2.58	3.99	2.73	4.06	0.66	0.64	1.61	0.78
	Deaths	218	3	9	1.55	19	0.33	27	0.44
	Death-rate	0.84	1.00	0.57	1.28	0.33	0.38	0.80	0.85

ENTERIC FEVER 1926
IN THE
CITY
OF
COLOMBO

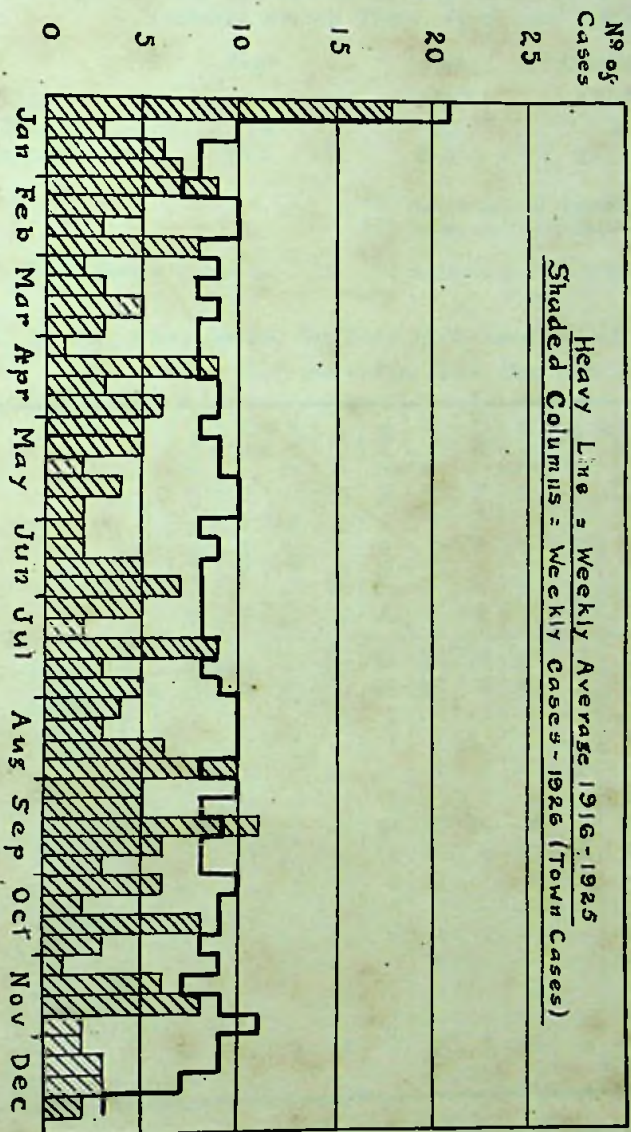
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Continued Fever



DIAGRAM No VII

ENTERIC FEVER CASES



Europeans than in the case of other races, and that it is chiefly the mild non-fatal types of cases amongst non-Europeans which escape recognition and notification. If diagnosis and notification were as correct and complete amongst non-Europeans as it is amongst Europeans there can be no doubt, as indicated later, that non-Europeans would show a higher instead of a lower rate of infection than the Europeans. It should not be inferred from this, however, that the Europeans here enjoy any greater *natural* immunity to enteric than do the non-Europeans. On the contrary experience shows that Europeans, especially new comers, and those recently returned from long leave in Europe, *i.e.*, during the re-acclimatization period, are very susceptible to enteric. They owe their relative freedom from this disease partly to the fact that they take greater advantage of the protection afforded by preventive inoculation, and partly to the fact that they live under more sanitary conditions than any other race here.

It will be seen (Statement 40) that the fatality amongst European *town cases* during the 10 years 1916-1925 averaged only 15.5 per cent., whereas amongst cases brought from outside districts it was 26.3 per cent., and amongst cases landed from ships in the harbour it was 27.1 per cent. The higher fatality amongst extra-urban and ship cases is a striking indication of the disturbance and consequent harm involved in transporting persons in ship's boats, trains, and other *unsuitable* conveyances, while the Colombo hospitals because they are of a severe type and are not doing well in their homes.

It will be observed (Statement 36) that the fatality amongst all races as well as amongst Europeans during 1926 closely corresponds to the average during the previous 10 years.

To revert briefly to the fatality amongst "all races" (Statement 36) there can be no doubt that a fatality averaging 38.6 per cent. is a clear indication of defective diagnosis and the consequent omission from the returns of many mild non-fatal cases. The actual fatality, were all cases reported, would it is believed be found to be less than half of the recorded fatality, *i.e.*, instead of averaging 38.6 per cent. it would probably be not more than 15 or 16 per cent., and certainly not more than 18 per cent. That being so it follows that at least half of the actual total number of cases escape recognition and notification. The inclusion of these missed cases in the returns would, therefore, raise the case-rate of "all races" (Statement 38) from the recorded 1.84 per 1,000 to at least 3.68 per 1,000 and probably higher.

From this one may conclude that the indigenous races, as a whole, suffer quite as much, indeed more than do Europeans from enteric fever, which is what one would expect in view of their customs and the conditions under which they live.

There are many other interesting points in connection with enteric fever in Colombo, but time, unfortunately, does not permit of further investigation and discussion of the statistics in this Report.

XVIII.—CONTINUED FEVER.

Under this heading are included cases of "simple continued fever of not less than seven days duration," such cases having been made compulsorily notifiable in Colombo in 1903, owing to the discovery that many of them were in reality cases of enteric fever, and were responsible for dissemination of that infection.

During the year 1926, 190 cases, including 168 town cases, were recorded, as against 282 cases, including 243 town cases, in 1925. There has thus, as in the case of enteric, been a marked improvement in 1926.

XIX.—TUBERCULOSIS.

(See Items 28 to 35 in Statement 12.)

The writer is indebted to the Colonial Advisory Medical and Sanitary Committee for pointing out that in the 1925 Report the majority of deaths due to pulmonary tuberculosis have been erroneously tabulated under the heading of "Acute Pulmonary Tuberculosis." This is an unfortunate clerical error which has appeared in several previous reports, but which has been rectified in the present report.

"Acute pulmonary tuberculosis" is comparatively rarely reported here, and does not, as a matter of fact, appear to be at all common. Deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis are generally certified merely as "phthisis" or "consumption," the great majority of which are without doubt cases of "chronic pulmonary tuberculosis".

Pulmonary Tuberculosis. (Phthisis, Consumption.)

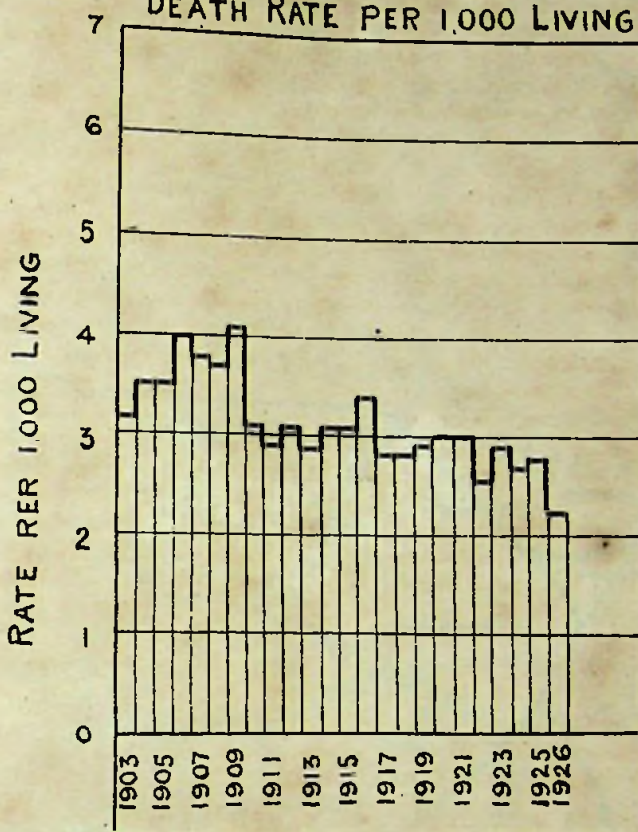
During the year 1926, 1,355 cases of "phthisis" were reported, of which, however, only 977 were town cases, while 364 were admissions to hospitals from extra-urban districts, and 14 were from ships in the harbour. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 1,146 town cases, 273 extra-urban cases, and 10 cases from ships. In contrasting the 1926 with the 1925 figures it is necessary to mention that the Lunatic Asylum, in which 29 cases occurred in 1925, was transferred early in 1926 from the town to Angoda, an extra-urban district. Even so, however, after making due allowance for Asylum cases, there was a marked improvement in 1926. As Spot Map III. shows, phthisis occurs chiefly in the densely crowded "slum areas" which are occupied for the most part by the poorest and most ignorant of the labouring classes, *e.g.*, Wekanda, Java lane, Maligakanda, Piachaud's lane, Kehelwatta, New Bazaar, Jampettah, and Rajamalwatta.

The almost entire absence of this disease from the high-class residential quarter of Cinnamon Gardens is a very striking illustration of the benefits of living under modern sanitary conditions. The following statements show the details in regard to the incidence of phthisis in Colombo:—

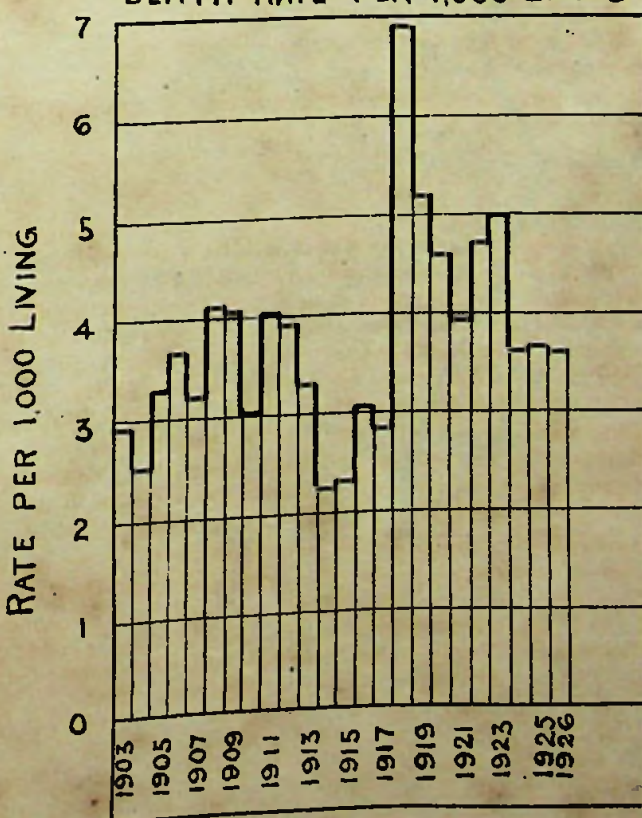
(42) <i>Phthisis Mortality per 1,000 Living, 1903 to 1926.</i>					
Year.	Death-rate.	Year.	Death-rate.	Year.	Death-rate.
1903 ...	3.18	1910 ...	3.13	1917 ...	2.84
1904 ...	3.51	1911 ...	2.96	1918 ...	2.86
1905 ...	3.56	1912 ...	3.14	1919 ...	2.95
1906 ...	4.06	1913 ...	2.88	1920 ...	3.02
1907 ...	3.79	1914 ...	3.12	1921 ...	3.02
1908 ...	3.70	1915 ...	3.16	1922 ...	2.58
1909 ...	4.13	1916 ...	3.42	1923 ...	2.90
				1924 ...	2.69
				1925 ...	2.81
				Average,	
				1903-1925 ...	3.19
				1926 ...	2.27

DIAGRAM NºVIII

(a) PHTHISIS. 1903 - 1926
DEATH RATE PER 1,000 LIVING



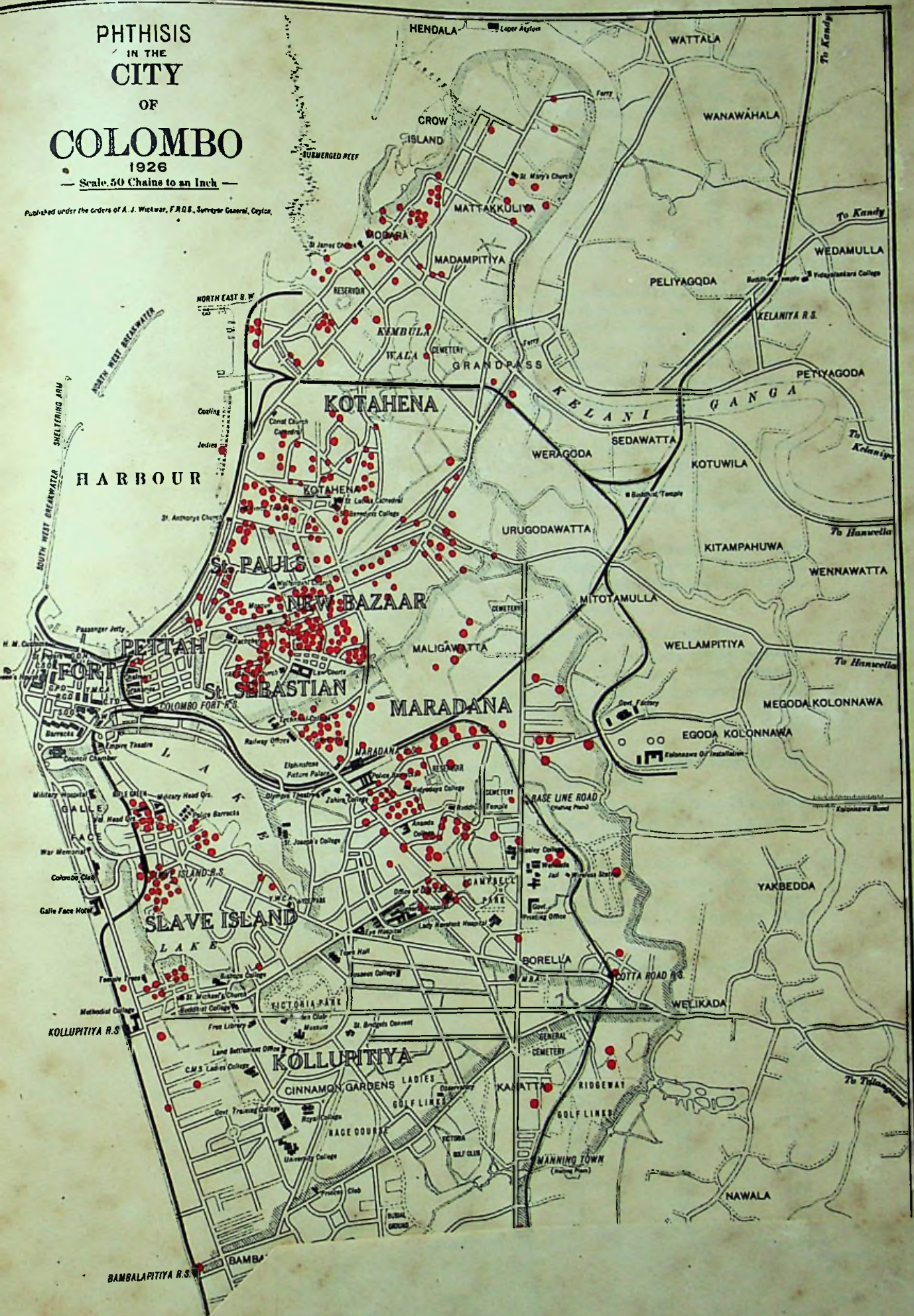
(b) PNEUMONIA - 1903 - 1926
DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 LIVING



PHTHISIS IN THE CITY OF COLOMBO 1926

Scale 50 Chains to an Inch

Published under the orders of A. J. Wickwar, F.R.S., Surgeon General, Ceylon.



(43) *Phthisis Death-rates per 1,000 Population of the Indigenous Races, 1921 to 1926.*

Race.	Males.						Females.						Both Sexes.	
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	No. of Deaths, 1926.	Death-rate, 1926.
Europeans ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	0'665
Northerners ...	2'35	2'49	2'01	1'66	2'36	1'17	1'31	2'09	1'83	1'83	2'75	1'11	18	1'14
Malayalese ...	3'35	2'61	2'93	2'88	3'06	2'88	4'08	3'53	3'74	3'55	3'55	3'02	358	2'95
Malis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	98	1'71
Moors ...	1'80	1'64	1'68	2'00	2'28	1'51	4'02	3'41	5'45	4'50	4'91	2'51	79	1'88
Malays ...	2'54	2'90	4'20	3'23	2'26	2'13	6'55	5'44	5'09	5'45	2'91	3'43	17	2'74
Others ...	2'53	2'00	2'37	2'28	2'52	0'93	3'79	3'60	3'94	3'60	3'62	3'56	15	1'16
All Races ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	587	2'27

The history of the mortality from phthisis during the last 25 years is depicted in Diagram II., from which it will be seen that after steadily increasing to a maximum in 1909, it then dropped suddenly and has since then shown a slight but progressive tendency to decline, the lowest mortality recorded during the period being in the year under review. For a full account of the measures adopted with a view of preventing the spread of this disease, reference is requested to Section IX. of the Report for the year 1917, but the following may be briefly mentioned here:—

1907.—Work of improving ventilation and lighting of insanitary tenements commenced in July and since continued.

1909.—Systematic disinfection of all phthisis infected houses begun in July. A marked drop in mortality was observed during the last quarter of the year.

1910.—Phthisis made compulsorily notifiable in August, following which domiciliary visitation, &c., of all cases reported was initiated. Spitting in public conveyances was prohibited by by-law in November.

1914.—Evacuation and closure pending improvement of houses condemned as unfit for human habitation. This action was rendered possible by the advent, in January, 1914, of plague, which automatically brought the plague regulations into force.

1916.—Establishment of Anti-Tuberculosis Institute in October.

1917.—Establishment of the hospital at Ragama for advanced cases of phthisis.

1926.—The removal of the Lunatic Asylum from the town to Angoda which relieved the Colombo statistics of a probable 25 to 30 cases per annum. Even including such of these as may have proved fatal during the year, the mortality in 1926 would still be the lowest on record during the last 25 years.

XX.—INFLUENZA.

This is not a notifiable disease, and one can, therefore, judge of its prevalence only by the death returns and by the returns of cases treated at the Municipal Dispensaries.

As regards deaths, there were 307 recorded in 1926, as against 269 in 1925, thus indicating a slight increase, but the number of cases treated at the dispensaries showed on the contrary a decrease of 1,527 cases, viz., from 6,384 cases in 1925 to 4,857 cases in 1926.

The charts kept in this office show that the very abrupt wave of this disease which occurred in May-June of 1925 was not repeated in 1926, but that there was nevertheless a clearly marked and sustained although not very great increase of prevalence from May till November, which without doubt affected the general death-rate and helped to maintain it at an unduly high level during that period (see Diagram III.).

(44) *Influenza Cases reported from Municipal Dispensaries during each Month of the Year 1926.*

Month.	Slave Island.	St. Paul's.	Maradana.	Mutwal.	New Bazaar.	Total.
January ...	154	120	150	49	—	473
February ...	64	91	93	30	—	278
March ...	19	100	95	40	—	254
April ...	13	95	84	41	7	240
May ...	35	124	108	39	23	329
June ...	100	145	142	60	22	469
July ...	229	173	29	46	62	539
August ...	259	129	85	51	51	575
September ...	175	85	120	45	46	471
October ...	191	101	94	52	41	479
November ...	127	107	109	65	50	458
December ...	19	159	66	39	9	292
Total ...	1,385	1,429	1,175	557	311	4,857

XXI.—PNEUMONIA.

This, which is one of the least susceptible of all diseases to present day sanitary measures, continued during 1926, as previously, to exact a heavy toll (*vide* Diagram VIII. and the statement below). Until an effective preventive vaccine or curative serum is discovered and generally adopted there appears to be little hope of achieving any material improvement as regards the mortality from this disease, which is chiefly responsible for maintaining the Colombo death-rate at the present level. The enormous damage done by this disease in Colombo during and since the outbreak of influenza in 1918 is well shown in the diagram.

(45) Deaths from Pneumonia and the Death-rates, 1926, by Race.

Race.	No. of Deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000 Population.
All Races	926	3.58
Europeans	6	2.00
Burghers	32	2.03
Sinhalese	523	4.30
Tamils	160	2.79
Moors	117	2.78
Malays	19	3.06
Others	69	5.35

XXII.—DENGUE.

Manson has pointed out that a study of epidemics of dengue seems to indicate that this disease has a tendency to break out in pandemic form about once in 20 years.

There was a very severe outbreak in Colombo in 1906, and again in 1926; but whether other countries suffered simultaneously is not known here.

The Medical Department Research Board of the United States Army claim that the work recently carried out by them definitely excludes the culex mosquito as a carrier of dengue, and with equal conclusiveness convicts the *Aedes ægypti* (*Stegomyia facia*) as the spreader of this disease. In view of this finding it may be of interest to mention the following:—The *Aedes ægypti*, or as it commonly called the *Stegomyia facia*, is extremely prevalent in Colombo. It is a day biter, but may occasionally bite at night in well lighted rooms. The popular idea that it is risky to visit during the day persons suffering from dengue is therefore correct, for a mosquito may live six weeks or even longer, and probably remains infective for the whole of its life. The blood of a person infected with dengue is infective to the mosquito for a few hours before the appearance of symptoms and during the first three days of the disease, hence the difficulty of controlling the spread of this disease so long as the proper kind of mosquito is about. A mosquito cannot transmit the infection until the eleventh day after it has itself been infected by feeding upon an infected person.

Dengue in Colombo in 1926.

Although sporadic cases of dengue occurred at intervals throughout the year it was not, as the statement below shows, until the end of October that, according to the Municipal Dispensary returns, it began to increase, the maximum prevalence being experienced in December. The outbreak in 1926 did not, according to the writer's recollection, approach in the matter of prevalence the outbreak in 1906, which at one time threatened to become a serious embarrassment in the carrying on of commerce.

(46) Dengue Fever treated at the Municipal Free Dispensaries during the Year 1926.

Statement showing Incidence by Months.						
Month.	Slave Island.	St. Paul's.	Maradana.	Mutwal.	New Bazaar.	Total.
January	—	1	—	—	—	1
February	—	—	—	—	—	—
March	—	—	—	—	—	—
April	—	1	—	—	—	1
May	—	5	—	—	—	5
June	—	1	—	—	—	1
July	—	—	—	—	—	—
August	—	4	—	—	—	4
September	—	—	—	—	—	—
October	10	3	2	—	—	16
November	135	16	65	10	14	240
December	124	62	80	101	68	435
Total	269	93	147	111	83	703

Part II.—Administration.

XXIII.—EXPENDITURE.

Expenditure in 1926.

Head of Expenditure.	Estimated Expenditure.	Actual Expenditure.	Saving.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Higher Staff	61,320 0	59,537 40	1,782 60
Clerical Staff	19,608 0	17,787 40	1,820 60
Sanitary Branch	203,194 0	164,317 38	38,876 62*
Child Welfare	47,950 0	40,427 3	7,522 97
Dispensaries	68,390 0	61,821 8	6,568 92†
Markets	34,046 0	32,887 74	1,158 26
Cemeteries	23,716 0	22,421 87	1,294 13
Laboratory	32,415 0	30,536 52	1,878 48
Laundries	2,211 0	2,063 46	147 54
Total	492,850 0	431,799 88	61,050 12

* The saving on the Sanitary Branch estimate was due chiefly to reduced expenditure on (a) Plague, reduction Rs. 24,150.57; (b) Prevention of Infectious Diseases, reduction Rs. 4,830.69; (c) Uniforms, reduction Rs. 1,478.85.
 † The saving on Dispensaries estimate was due chiefly to reduced cost of drugs, as the result of importing drugs from England instead of purchasing locally, which effected a saving of Rs. 5,529.06.

XXIV.—NEW WORKS, IMPROVEMENTS, &C.

(a) *Laundries.*

- Blomendahl*—(1) Twenty-five large and twelve small concrete posts were erected for the drying up of clothes.
 (2) The usual cementwashing, painting, and minor repairs were done.
- Wekanda*—(1) Twenty-nine tanks smooth plastered with cement and one tank lined experimentally with white glazed tiles.
 (2) Boundary extended at Lake side.
 (3) Clean linen single rooms Nos. 9 to 12 converted into two double rooms.
 (4) Soiled linen single rooms Nos. 8 and 9 converted into two double rooms.
 (5) All the 30 soiled linen rooms rat-proofed with wire netting.
 (6) All the 30 soiled linen rooms plastered with cement.
 (7) Half of the ground opposite the clean linen rooms levelled and gravelled.
 (8) All the leaking rooms repaired.
 (9) All 30 rooms, lavatory, and drying linen rooms cementwashed, and caretaker's quarters whitewashed.
 (10) Woodwork of all rooms and caretaker's quarters painted.

(b) *Cemeteries.*

- Kanatta*—(1) The flooring of the old cooly lines, compound, and kitchen was cemented.
 (2) A set of new type water hydrants was fixed along the main road of the cemetery.
 (3) Minor repairs and improvements to the roof of the assistant cemetery-keeper's bungalow.
 (4) A new and up-to-date plan of the cemetery was made.
 (5) 125 hoop iron flower pot stands were placed inside the main gate.
- Iveramentu*—(1) One new store room built.
 (2) One additional cooly lines constructed.
 (3) One bath room for coolies built.
 (4) Earth steps were replaced by 18 blocks of concrete steps leading to the terraces.
 (5) Sixty feet of broken wall rebuilt.
 (6) Seven acres of jungle cleared.
 (7) 300 yards of hedge planted.
 (8) 200 yards of path made.
 (9) 200 yards borders made and planted with ornamental plants.
- Udampitiya*—(1) Iron bars fixed to windows and ventilation of cooly lines improved.
 (2) Bathing place for coolies constructed.

(c) *Markets.*

- Edinburgh*—A new water tap was fixed.
- St. John's*—Repairs, painting, and whitewashing done.
- Kotahena*—(1) Three new cane tats were fitted at the three main gates.
 (2) Broken glass fixed on top of the gala wall.
- Borella*—Recess facing Kanatta road fenced off.
- Slave Island*—(1) Movable shutters fixed in the fish section in place of fixed ventilators.
 (2) Market whitewashed.
- Can's Road*—(1) Ceiling of the ice room repaired.
 (2) Tats fixed at the three vegetable markets.
- Intupitiya*—(1) Five new gas lamps provided in place of four old lamps.
 (2) Broken floor and walls of stalls repaired and cemented.
 (3) A large skylight provided in store room.
 (4) Six cement block supports to planking in front of stalls.

(d) *Equipment.*

- (1) "Eclair" knapsack spraying and limewashing machine was purchased at a cost of Rs. 90'55.
 (2) "Four Oaks" dust sprayer was imported at a cost of Rs. 82'32.
 (3) Three motion pictures (health series) were purchased from America for Rs. 835'62.

XXV.—(a) GENERAL SANITATION.

Statement 47 gives a summary of the work done by the Outdoor Staff, exclusive of the work by the Inspector of Insanitary Dwellings.

The number of sanitary inspections which rose from 74,336 in 1924 to 83,764 in 1925 showed a still further increase to 91,385 in 1926.

These frequent inspections are of value not only as a means of detecting and rectifying sanitary conditions, but also because they keep the staff in close touch with the people and have highly educative value, every Inspector being trained to explain to the people the dangers associated with infectious diseases, lack of light and ventilation in the home, &c.

Owing to the greatly lessened prevalence of enteric and plague, and other infectious diseases, there was a marked reduction in the number of premises which required disinfection and infestation. Nevertheless, in the course of the intensive campaign carried on against rats and as throughout the year, 5,809 dwellings were pesterined and 12,040 were claytonized and partially unroofed, while 18,422 rat holes were located, fumigated, and sealed up.

A pleasing feature in the statement below is the reduction in the number of prosecutions which it was found necessary to enter, from 2,784 in 1925 to 2,569 in 1926.

(47) Work done by Sanitary Staff during the Year 1926. (Exclusive of Work done by the Inspector of Insanitary Buildings.)

Nature of Work.	Fort.	Pettah.	San Sebas-tian.	St. Paul's.	Kota-hena.	Mut-wal.	New Baznar.	Mara-dana North.	Mara-dana South.	Dena-tagoda.	Slave Island.	Kolla-pitiya.	Uinna-mon Gardens.	Bamba-lapitiya.	Timbirigas-yaya.	Wella-watta.	Total.
1. Number of inspections	5,392	4,357	5,635	5,936	5,276	8,700	7,128	6,015	5,765	4,539	6,577	4,735	4,164	4,167	5,758	6,661	91,385
2. Number of premises where sanitary defects were found:	69	193	299	310	253	195	208	596	400	226	366	161	111	116	86	164	3,753
(a) non-structural																	
3. Number of premises where sanitary defects were found:	17	90	65	130	124	106	115	86	204	205	122	68	34	32	13	25	1,431
(b) structural																	
4. Number of premises where non-structural defects were rectified	73	99	149	215	149	138	135	509	430	206	216	79	110	87	51	65	2,711
5. Number of premises where minor structural defects were rectified	13	50	69	99	128	58	84	43	64	158	31	24	26	27	13	16	905
6. Number of buildings, other than dwellings, structurally improved	6	40	31	45	13	3	29	53	59	16	52					11	358
7. Number of insanitary dwellings closed under Plague Regulations																	
8. Number of insanitary dwellings remaining closed under Plague Regulations at end of year (total)																	
9. Number of insanitary dwellings demolished under Plague Regulations																	
10. Number of insanitary premises scavenged by Public Health Department Cleansing Gang	6	9	104	217	238	1,770	109	400	301	1,261	86	50	19	23	56	81	4,730
11. Number of dwellings pesterized	1	237	292	1,758	311	429	1,164	37	842	45	535	100		35		22	5,809
12. Number of dwellings claytonized	13	1,495	496	3,581	491	704	1,904	52	1,422	92	950	730	2	65		43	12,040
13. Number of dwellings unroofed	104	2,164	879	3,816	791	1,111	2,564	78	2,849	284	1,681	1,748	25	189		43	12,010
14. Number of rat-holes found, claytonized, and filled up	10	1,249	307	2,401	376	475	884	180	630	131	263	656	29	105	52	139	18,422
15. Number of dwellings disinfected	37	262	1,754	1,805	954	148	1,035	1,322	600	419	1,163	359	234	210	173	149	7,967
16. Number of dwellings lime-washed																	
17. Number of wells filled up																	
18. Number of cesspits filled up																	
19. Number of notices served under section 1, sub-section (1), of Ordinance No. 15 of 1862. (Filthy premises)		41	66	100	90	89	90	137	115	117	124	68	14	36	25	12	1,154
20. Number of notices served under section 190 of Ordinance No. 6 of 1910. (Privy accommodation)					3	8		1	1			1					14
21. Number of notices served under section 180 of Ordinance No. 6 of 1910. (Filling up stagnant pools, &c.)						5			1			3		3			12
22. Number of notices served under section 178 of Ordinance No. 6 of 1910. (Cleansing and lime-washing)	8	95	138	156	75	53	96	146	66	71	131	52	26	50	24	70	1,257
23. Number of notices served under section 49, Part I., of Plague Regulations. (Closure of buildings unfit for human habitation)																	
24. Number of notices served under by-law 8 (1), chapter 22, Plague Regulations. (Improvement to buildings unfit for human habitation)																	
25. Number of notices served under section 38, Part I., of Plague Regulations. (Filling up wells)		6		1	2			9	9	3	1	1					32
26. Number of notices served under section 39, Part I., of Plague Regulations. (Overcrowding)								7									9
27. Number of milk samples taken under Rule 5, chapter 14, By-laws	72	74	74	75	72	72	72	72	71	73	72	73	73	73	72	72	71
28. Number of prosecutions	38	165	289	212	142	157	134	323	427	152	132	114	87	70	58	69	2,569
29. Number of convictions	37	148	274	203	140	138	125	311	387	143	125	102	80	70	55	69	2,107
30. Number of cases acquitted, withdrawn, or otherwise dealt with		16	13	6	3	9	6	14	21	8	11	11	9	9	3	2	132
31. Number of cases pending at end of year	1	1	4	3	3	11	3	2	17	1		1	1	1	2	2	52
32. Amount of fines	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
	874-00	1,746-50	1,986-00	2,140-00	1,116-00	734-50	1,164-00	3,856-00	4,775-00	1,594-00	1,411-00	1,086-00	980-00	410-00	603-00	911-00	25,387-00

* Includes convictions obtained during 1926 on cases pending from previous year.

(48) *Statement of Prosecutions and Convictions during the Year 1926.*

Ordinance or By-law.	Offence.	No. of Prosecutions during 1926.	*No. of Convictions obtained during 1926.
Section 1, sub-section (1), of Ordinance No. 15 of 1862: Filthy premises	...	813	782
Section 1, sub-section (1), of Ordinance No. 15 of 1862: Filthy cattle shed	...	3	3
Section 1, sub-section (1), of Ordinance No. 15 of 1862: Filthy dairy	...	50	48
Section 1, sub-section (1), of Ordinance No. 15 of 1862: Filthy laundry	...	4	3
Section 1, sub-section (4), of Ordinance No. 15 of 1862: Nuisance by cattle, swine, &c.	...	91	88
Section 1, sub-section (9), of Ordinance No. 15 of 1862: Selling unwholesome food..	...	14	14
Section 39 of Ordinance No. 1 of 1896: Unlicensed dairy	...	1	1
Section 43 of Ordinance No. 1 of 1898: Storing milk in unauthorized places	...	2	2
Section 53 of Ordinance No. 1 of 1898: Unregistered laundry	...	23	19
By-law made under Section 4 of Ordinance No. 3 of 1897: Storing rice in unauthorized place	...	37	26
Section 38 of Ordinance No. 3 of 1897: Failure to close well after notice	...	1	—
By-law made under Sections 109 (1) and 110 (5) of Ordinance No. 6 of 1910: Growing vegetables under insanitary conditions	...	12	11
By-law made under Sections 109 (1) and 110 (5) of Ordinance No. 6 of 1910: Spitting in public building	...	12	12
Section 178 of Ordinance No. 6 of 1910: Failure to limewash	...	104	93
Section 180 of Ordinance No. 6 of 1910: Failure to fill swampy land	...	1	2
Section 190 of Ordinance No. 6 of 1910: Failure to provide privy accommodation	...	7	6
Section 184 of Ordinance No. 6 of 1910: Committing nuisance	...	11	13
Section 205 of Ordinance No. 6 of 1910: Failure to report infectious disease	...	23	22
Section 212 of Ordinance No. 6 of 1910: Unlicensed offensive trades	...	4	3
By-law 29, chapter VIII., by-laws: Digging pits and wells without permission	...	12	10
By-law 31, chapter VIII., by-laws: Failure to properly dispose of rubbish	...	2	1
By-law 32, chapter VIII., by-laws: Dumping rubbish without permission	...	1	1
By-law 33, chapter VIII., by-laws: Removing rubbish without permission	...	2	2
By-law 4, chapter IX., by-laws: Filthy bathing place	...	6	6
By-law 1, chapter XI., by-laws: Unlicensed eating-house	...	96	81
By-law 1, chapter XI., by-laws: Unlicensed bakery	...	2	2
By-law 7, chapter XI., by-laws: Filthy eating-house	...	113	107
By-law 7, chapter XI., by-laws: Filthy bakery	...	29	27
By-law 8, chapter XI., by-laws: Unclean workmen in bakery	...	17	18
By-law 2, chapter XIII., by-laws: Obstructing the market-keeper in his duties	...	1	1
By-law 3, chapter XIII., by-laws: Disorderly conduct in public market	...	67	57
By-law 9, chapter XIII., by-laws: Selling fish or meat without license	...	4	4
By-law 10, chapter XIII., by-laws: Filthy private stall	...	18	14
By-law 20, chapter XIII., by-laws: Unregistered servant in stall	...	1	—
By-law 28, chapter XIII., by-laws: Throwing rubbish in market	...	9	8
By-law 29, chapter XIII., by-laws: Filthy market stall	...	49	49
By-law 31, chapter XIII., by-laws: Failure to serve public in stall...	...	5	5
By-law 34, chapter XIII., by-laws: Obstruction of passages in public markets	...	208	197
By-law 39, chapter XIII., by-laws: Keeping cattle in excess of number allowed	...	29	29
By-law 2A, chapter XIV., by-laws: Exposing food to dust and flies	...	393	367
By-law 3, chapter XIV., by-laws: Sale of adulterated milk	...	132	124
By-law 5, chapter XIV., by-laws: Refusing Sanitary Inspector sample of milk	...	3	2
By-law 7, chapter XIV., by-laws: Unlicensed milk vendor	...	157	147
Total	...	2,569	2,407

* Includes convictions obtained during the year 1926 on prosecutions instituted during the previous year.

(49) *Registered Trades during the Year 1926.*

	Number on Register at end of the previous Year.	Number discontinued during the Year under review.	New Registrations during the Year.	Total on Register end of the Year.
Dairies	56 [*]	8	8†	56
Bakeries	54	3	4	55
Laundries	267	16	33	284
Eating-houses	512	148	155	519
Aerated water factories	12	—	—	12
Opium divans	—	—	—	—

* The total given as 55 in the 1925 Report was an error.

† Includes re-registration under new names of two of the old dairies recorded as discontinued.

Thus only six new dairy premises were established.

(50) *Cesspits in Colombo.*

	At end of previous Year.	Number filled up during 1926.	Number remaining at end of 1926.
San Sebastian	105	2	103
St. Paul's	32	—	32
Kotahena	1	—	1
New Bazaar	1	1	—
Total	139	3	136

Food Inspection.

Much to the writer's regret, it is still necessary to have to record that no special staff for the carrying out of the important work of food inspection in Colombo has been sanctioned by the Council; consequently food inspection has had to be carried out spasmodically, as hitherto, by the Sanitary Inspectors in addition to their other multifarious duties.

Special attention was, as usual, directed to the inspection of bakeries, dairies, eating-houses, and public markets, a record of which is given in Statement 51.

(51) *Food Trades Inspections during the Year 1926. Number of Inspections made.*

Ward.	Bakeries.	Dairies.	Eating-houses.	Public Markets.
Fort ...	46	—	693	—
Pettah ...	221	—	784	76
San Sebastian ...	86	—	551	378
St. Paul's ...	187	673	626	95
Kotahena ...	188	195	222	94
Mutwal ...	155	166	122	100
New Bazaar ...	192	270	181	—
Maradana North ...	85	191	196	—
Maradana South ...	91	47	433	114
Dematagoda ...	133	56	536	—
Slave Island ...	198	124	540	181
Kollupitiya ...	131	264	176	112
Cinnamon Gardens ...	55	340	249	213
Bambalapitiya ...	203	358	194	166
Timbirigasyaya ...	—	221	243	—
Wellawatta ...	114	237	315	—
Total ...	2,085	3,142	6,061	1,529

Compared with the previous year it will be seen that there has been a very great increase of activity in the matter of inspection of these important food trades. Thus bakeries inspections increased from 1,597 to 2,085, dairies from 1,971 to 3,142, eating-houses from 3,637 to 6,061, and public markets from 985 to 1,529. In the case of bakeries and dairies, in order to facilitate supervision by the higher staff, an inspection record sheet is kept on each premises, in a glazed frame hung up upon the wall, and every visit paid by a Sanitary Inspector has to be entered thereon, with date and initials of the Inspector. These sheets are examined and verified from time to time by the higher staff, and once a quarter are brought to the head office for purposes of record, new sheets being then issued.

(52) *Foodstuffs condemned during the Year 1926.*(a) *In the Town.*

Rice ...	...	1,212 bushels and 3 measures.
Flour ...	...	6½ bags and 410 lb.
Potatoes ...	...	73 bags and 23,057 lb.
Apples ...	...	15 cases.
Grapes ...	...	435 barrels.
Dhall ...	...	1 bushel and 1,898 lb.
Onions ...	...	1,750 lb.
Meat ...	...	305¾ lb.
Fish ...	...	10 oz.

(b) *At the Customs.*

Sardines ...	...	14 cases.
Dry fish	2 bundles.

(c) *At Chalmers Granaries.*

Rice	907 bushels and 18 measures.
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(d) *At Kochchikade Warehouse.*

Potatoes	197 bags.
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XXVI.—DAIRIES AND MILK SUPPLY.

During the year 1926 the registration of 8 dairies was cancelled and 8 new registrations were granted. These figures include 2 registered dairies which changed ownership during the year, so that only 6 new dairies were established including 1 where the dried constituents of milk are imported from New Zealand and "reassembled" at a factory in Colombo.

The cattle shed licenses issued during 1926 in respect of dairies, provided for the keeping of 1,752 milch cattle, including buffaloes, representing an increase of 159 milch cattle compared with the previous year. This is a welcome increase, for the milk supply of the town is far short of what is required for the population, and it is essential that any augmentation of the supply should be derived from dairies which are under sanitary supervision and not from itinerant unregistered dairymen who, as a class, have been proved to resort to the most gross and dangerous adulteration.

As mentioned earlier in this Report, no fewer than 3,142 inspections of the 56 registered dairies were carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year, as compared with 1,971 inspections during the previous year. This is in accordance with a standing departmental order that every dairy must be visited at least once a week throughout the year. The result of these frequent inspections was that 33 of the 56 dairies were involved in prosecutions ending in 132 convictions for various offences as detailed in the statement below. One dairyman was convicted no less than 15 times, viz., 9 times for adulteration, 5 times for filthy premises, and once for storing milk improperly. The next worst record was 11 convictions, 6 of which were for adulteration, 4 for filthy premises, and 1 for overcrowding of cattle.

(53) *Town Dairies. Number of Convictions in 1926.*

	No. of Convictions.
Adulteration of Milk	53
Excess Cattle	29
Filthy Dairy	48
Storing Milk in unauthorized place	2
Total number of convictions	132

Quality of the Milk Supply.

Prior to 1904 no systematic investigation of the quality of the milk produced by the dairy cattle in Colombo had been carried out, and consequently there was no standard whereby samples exposed for sale could be judged and action taken. It was, therefore, decided to carry out a series of tests, a special Inspector being appointed for the purpose. Over 1,000 samples were thus taken in 1904-1905, including about 500 samples of cows milk and 500 of buffalo milk. Each sample was drawn in the presence of the Inspector, due precautions being taken to ensure cleanliness and complete stripping of the udder. Both morning and evening milkings were taken, and the samples thus obtained were conveyed direct to the City Analyst by the Inspector. As the result of this investigation the City Analyst (the late Mr. Kelway Bamber) recommended the adoption of the following standard, viz. :—

	Cow.	Buffalo.
Total Solids	12'0	16'0
Fat	3'5	7'0
Solids not Fat	8'5	9'0

The Municipal Council in due course approved of this standard, which was accordingly adopted by the Public Health Department pending confirmation by legislation. The question of legislation was, however, postponed year after year pending the adoption of a comprehensive Food and Drugs Act which, although drafted by a special committee with the Attorney-General as Chairman and approved, has not up to date received the sanction of Government. The position, therefore, is that for over 20 years the Public Health Department has been working to the provisional standard referred to above.

In view of the fact that the standard has not been made law, coupled with the fact that a certain small proportion of the milch cattle here undoubtedly do at times produce milk which falls slightly below the standard as the result of underfeeding, poor condition, &c, it has long been the practice not to enter prosecution as a rule for degrees of adulteration below 10 per cent. as judged by the provisional standard. This is undoubtedly unsatisfactory, but until a standard has been fixed by law it is inadvisable to depart from this practice.

Purity of the Milk Supply.

The City Microbiologist has recorded, as the result of his experience, that the bacteriological purity of the milk supplied by the registered dairies in Colombo compares not unfavourably with the milk supplied by good class dairies in England. He has pointed out, on the other hand, that the climatic conditions here are very much in favour of rapid multiplication of bacteria, and it is not, therefore, surprising that very high bacterial counts are liable to be obtained when milk has been kept for some time at ordinary atmospheric temperatures. For this reason it is essential here that milk, if kept, should be artificially cooled, and that it should be consumed as soon as possible after it is drawn. Not only so but, in view of the widespread prevalence of enteric and other infections amongst the indigenous population and the notorious carelessness of servants, the precaution of boiling or pasteurising milk immediately before consumption should never be omitted.

As regards adulteration of milk during 1926, reference is requested to the annexed report by the City Analyst. It will be seen that of 1,163 samples examined, 755 or 65 per cent. passed the provisional standard, 274 or 23'6 per cent. of the samples showed excess of between 1 and 10 per cent. of water, 83 or 7'1 per cent. showed excess of between 11 and 30 per cent. of water, and 1 or 4'4 per cent. showed excess of over 30 per cent. of water.

The following classification of milk samples according to the source of the sample shows the usual significant contrast between milk derived from registered dairies and that from unregistered dairymen. Omitting the low degrees of adulteration amounting to not more than 10 per cent. added water, it will be seen that whereas only 6'5 per cent. of the samples from registered dairies in the town were adulterated, no less than 45'3 per cent. of the samples taken from unregistered milkmen were adulterated.

(54) *Milk Sampling during the Year 1926.*

Statement showing the number of samples adulterated with water up to 10 per cent. and above 10 per cent.

Source of Sample.	Number of Samples taken.	10 Per Cent. and under.		Above 10 Per Cent.		All Adulterations.	
		Number adulterated.	Per Cent. adulterated.	Number adulterated.	Per Cent. adulterated.	Number adulterated.	Per Cent. adulterated.
Town dairies	923	222	24.1	60	6.5	282	30.6
Unregistered vendors	150	26	17.3	68	45.3	94	62.7
Dairies outside Colombo	87	19	21.8	4	4.6	23	26.4
Total	1,160	267	23.0	132	11.4	399	34.4

NOTE.—The City Analyst shows a total of 1,163 samples, of which 408 failed to pass the "provisional standard." His figures, however, include some samples not submitted by the Public Health Department.

The "Provisional Milk Standard," to which the Public Health Department has worked for 20 years is as follows:—

	Cow.	Buffalo.
Total solids	12.0	16.0
Fat	3.5	7.0
Solids not fat	8.5	9.0

The Public Health Department was, as hitherto, much indebted to the Colombo Ladies' League for their valuable assistance in regard to the improvement of the sanitation of dairies and the purity of the milk supply. They provide annually medals, cups, and certificates, for competition amongst the dairymen, and systematically inspect and judge the dairies entered for the competition. The writer has had ample evidence that these competitions have engendered an entirely new and much to be desired keenness amongst the dairymen to keep the sanitary state of their dairies up to as high a standard as possible, and to avoid adulteration of their milk supply, a conviction for which automatically renders them ineligible for awards.

In their reports on dairies for the year 1926, the Ladies' League expressed their pleasure at finding an all round improvement in the condition of the dairies visited.

The following are their chief awards for the year 1926:—

Challenge Cup ... Won by Mrs. R. Koch, Glenrose Dairy, Havelock road.

A DIVISION.

Silver Medal ... Won by Mr. C. B. Fernando, Maycliff, Blomendahl road.

B DIVISION.

Silver Medal ... Won by Mr. Clarence de Vos, Clarendon Dairy, Wellawatta road.

The awards for this and the bakeries competition were presented by Lady Clifford, C.B.E., at a meeting presided over by His Excellency the Governor.

XXVII.—BAKERIES.

During the year 1926 the registration of 3 bakeries was cancelled and 4 new registrations were granted, leaving a total of 55 bakeries on the register at the end of the year, as against 54 at the end of the previous year. 2,085 inspections were paid to bakeries during the year by the Sanitary Inspectors, as a result of which 46 convictions, as detailed below, were obtained. Twenty-eight bakeries were involved in these convictions.

As in the case of dairies, the Colombo Ladies' League gave us great assistance by offering prizes, and by inspecting and judging such of the bakeries as were entered for the competition. Some idea of the keen interest which these competitions arouse may be gathered from the fact that no fewer than 48 of the total of 55 registered bakeries were entered, with the result that 17 were awarded prizes and certificates, while 10 others, which had earned 75 per cent. and upwards in marks assigned by the League's visitors, had to be disqualified owing to convictions obtained at the instance of the Sanitary Inspectors. While it is regretted that bakeries, which were found by the League's visitors to attain such a high standard as 75 per cent. and upwards, should have been disqualified on account of actions instituted by the officers of the Public Health Department, it is inevitable that this should occur owing to the far more frequent inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors, who are thus in a better position than the League's visitors to detect occasional lapses from the sanitary rules, such as neglect to keep the bakery clean, or to ensure cleanliness of the workmen's persons and clothing.

The general conclusion of the Ladies' League was that the bakeries appeared to have deteriorated during the year, which is borne out by the increase in the number of convictions for filthy bakery premises during the year as compared with the previous year.

MUNICIPALITY OF COLOMBO.

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The following are the details of the convictions during 1926.

(55) Registered Bakeries in Colombo. Number of Convictions, 1926.

Offence.	No. of Convictions.
Filthy bakery	27
Unclean workmen	18
Failure to obtain license	1
Total number of convictions	46

N.B.—28 bakeries were involved in these convictions.

The following are the chief awards by the Ladies' League during 1926 :—

Challenge Cup ... Won by P. N. Kapadia of 36, Rifle street.

A DIVISION.

Silver Medal ... Won by D. M. Silva of 182, Mutwal street.

B DIVISION.

Gold Medal ... Won by W. D. John Singho of 63, Blomendahl road.

BEST BREAD COMPETITION.

A DIVISION.

Silver Medal ... Won by P. N. Kapadia of 24, First Cross street.

B DIVISION.

Silver Medal ... Won by M. W. D. F. Appuhany of 47, Barber street.

XXVIII.—EATING-HOUSES.

There were 512 eating-houses on the register at the end of 1925; during 1926, 148 were discontinued and 155 new registrations were granted, leaving 519 on the register at the end of the year.

These frequent changes add to the difficulty of supervising these establishments. Special difficulty was experienced during the year in the matter of sanitary control, owing to the very defective powers conferred by the existing by-laws. It was, therefore, decided to amend them, and a revision by the Chairman on the lines of the Local Government Board rules was accordingly adopted by the Council, and has been submitted to Government for sanction.

The questions of the quality of food supplied, and the adequacy of latrine accommodation and drainage of eating-houses were also raised during the year.

It was pointed out in reply that the public who frequent these eating-houses are very critical of the quality of the food supplied to them and would not tolerate the use of decomposed ingredients in their curries, with the result that it is very rare to find food unfit for consumption on such premises. As regards latrine accommodation and drainage, a special report (No. 178 of August 17, 1926,) was submitted in which it was recorded that out of a total of 469 eating-houses then on the register 141 had latrines attached, of which 100 were connected to the sewer and 41 were on the bucket system, while 328 had no latrines, these latter premises being merely roadside establishments the occupants of which resort either to public lavatories or latrines in adjacent premises. It was decided to enforce connection to the sewer of the 41 latrines mentioned as not being so connected, and that, in future, no new eating-house with an attached latrine which could be connected to the sewer should be registered, unless and until connection had been effected. The existing by-laws do not, as a matter of fact, provide for the enforcement of such a condition, but this will be rectified when the revised by-laws come into force.

XXIX.—AERATED WATER FACTORIES.

No change in the matter of registration occurred during the year, the total number of these factories remaining, as in the previous year, at twelve.

XXX.—LAUNDRIES.

There were 267 registered dhobies on the list at the end of 1925; during 1926, 16 of these were cancelled and 33 new registrations were granted, leaving a total of 284 on the register at the end of the year.

In addition to these there are two Municipal manual laundries on up-to-date lines, viz., one at Wekanda and the other at Blomendahl, the former of which has thirty washing stones and the latter has thirty-two stones.

A scheme for the provision, as funds permit, of a series of additional Municipal laundries to serve the whole town, and replace the existing very insanitary private laundries, was submitted in Special Report No. 161 of April 19, 1922. At the time of writing the question of the erection of two such additional laundries, viz., one at Polwatta and the other at Skinner's road south is under consideration.

A great deal still remains to be done in the matter of providing suitable accommodation for dhobies in Colombo, and in the writer's opinion this should be regarded as a matter of first class importance when the annual allocation of funds for Municipal purposes is under consideration.

XXXI.—MOSQUITO PREVENTION.

The small mosquito prevention staff of twelve coolies and six overseers, employed by the Public Health Department, still works under the handicap of having no legal support for their efforts to prevent mosquito breeding within the town. Their work has, however, a considerable educative value as all breeding places found and mosquito larvæ captured on private premises are invariably shown to the householders, who are instructed in measures required to prevent a recurrence.

The educated classes for the most part take a keen interest in this work and many of them now, when troubled with mosquitoes, make a mosquito survey of their premises before requisitioning the services of the Public Health Department. Others, it must be admitted, still rely upon their immunity from legal action, and make no personal effort to keep their premises free from mosquito breeding places.

It is hoped that, as the result of the propaganda and demonstrations carried on by the Municipal staff, public opinion will, at no distant date, regard mosquito breeding as a preventable nuisance and source of danger to health, and demand that it be made a punishable offence under the public health laws.

(56) Anti-Mosquito Work, 1926.

(1) Complaints from Householders.

Number of complaints received	...	...	222
Number of premises visited	...	...	1,113
Number of potential breeding places found	...	...	39,053
Number of actual breeding places found	...	...	2,979

(2) General Inspection Work.

Number of premises visited	...	...	1,453
Number of tenements visited	...	...	323
Number of potential breeding places found	...	...	62,043
Number of actual breeding places found	...	...	3,929

(3) Summary.

Number of complaints received	...	...	222
Number of premises inspected	...	...	2,566
Number of tenements inspected	...	...	323
Number of potential breeding places found	...	...	101,096
Number of actual breeding places found	...	...	6,908

XXXII.—DISINFECTING AND CLEANSING.

Disinfection.—7,967 premises were disinfected during the year, and 147 van loads, comprising 3,448 articles of clothing, &c., were disinfected in the equifex steam disinfector.

Cleansing.—4,730 private premises were scavenged by the Public Health Department Cleansing Gang; 1,257 cleansing and limewashing notices were served and 10,624 dwellings were, as a result, cleansed and limewashed by the owners or occupants.

XXXIII.—HOUSING.

The creation of the post of Inspector of Insanitary Dwellings has, in the writer's opinion, been fully justified by the work carried out during the year by Mr. R. A. Horan.

The following is Mr. Horan's Report :—

REPORT FOR 1926 OF THE INSPECTOR OF INSANITARY BUILDINGS.

A good deal of solid work has been done during 1926, chiefly in the insanitary areas of Gintupitiya, Brassfounder, and Chekku streets, 31 premises comprising 342 tenements being completely improved, and certificates cancelling the closing order issued.

In addition to these 31 premises, there were, at the end of the year, 70 premises comprising 1,319 tenements in which improvements were being carried out, or, temporarily in abeyance, owing to lack of funds, or some such reason.

In 24 premises, including 392 tenements, the improvements have not been satisfactorily completed although work has been going on since 1925. In all these premises the improvements have been carried out without any unnecessary unhousing.

It has been necessary to enter 45 prosecutions against owners for failing to cause their premises to be vacated. This was only done where the improvements were much delayed, or not done at all, as it is our policy to have the improvements effected with the least possible hardship to the tenants. There is no law empowering prosecution of the owner for failing to carry out the improvements.

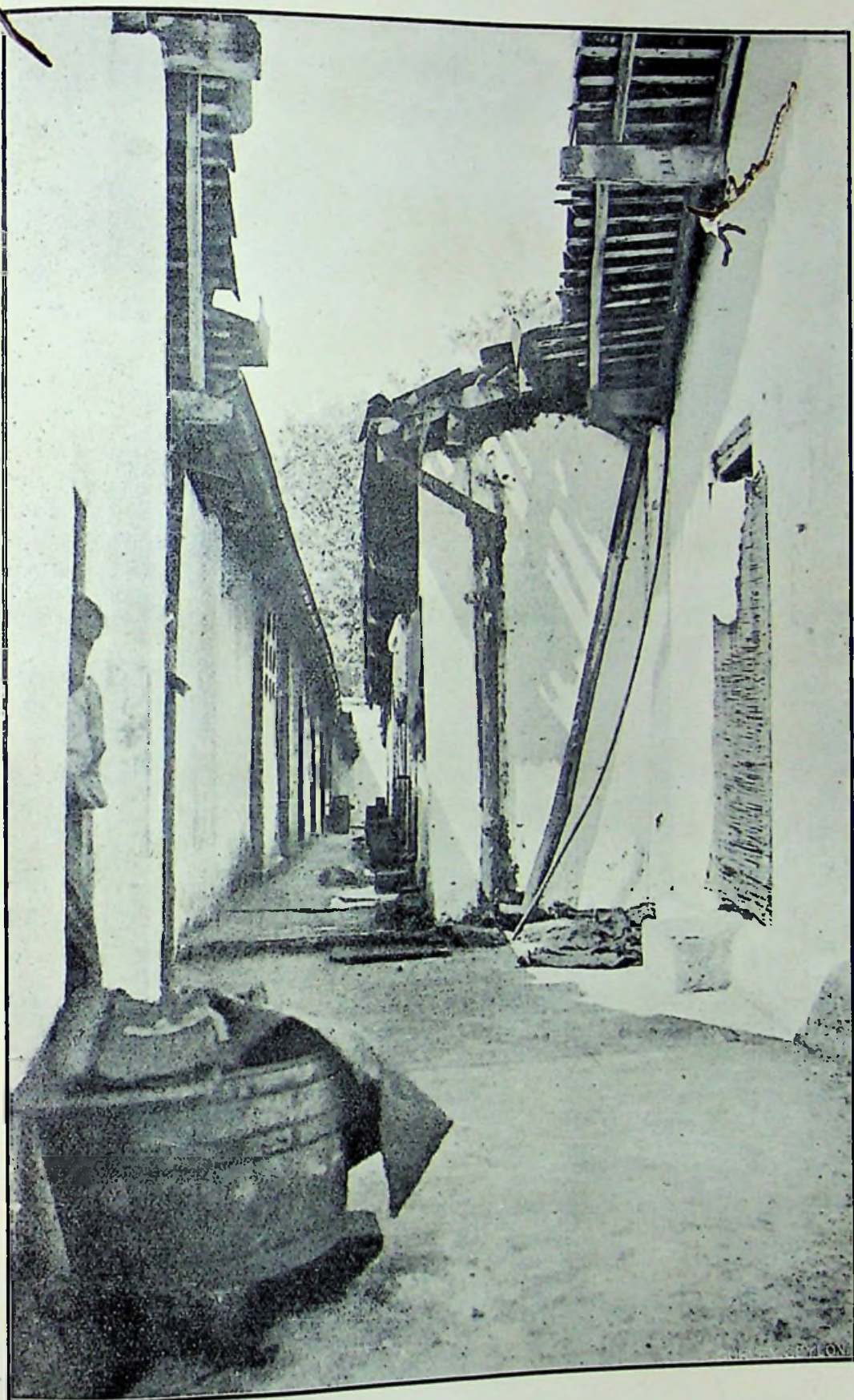
In all the 1,641 tenements dealt with during the year in only two cases did the occupants give trouble.

Of the three premises remaining closed at the end of the year, in two there are many co-owners who, as usual, cannot agree. In the other case the owner has died in India leaving no agent in Ceylon.

Two cases of the greatest importance to this work, *i.e.*, the open space of fifteen feet between two rows of tenements being essential, were decided by the Municipal Magistrate in favour of the Council some months ago. Appeals have been lodged against these decisions but have not yet been heard.

February 14, 1927.

R. A. HORAN,
Inspector of Insanitary Buildings.



18-19, GINTUPITIYA STREET. BEFORE IMPROVEMENT.



18/19, GINTUPITIYA STREET. AFTER IMPROVEMENT.

(57) *Statement of Work done by the Inspector of Insanitary Buildings during the Year 1926.*

1.	Number of plans called from Municipal Engineer	...	...	103
2.	Number of plans received	...	...	100
3.	Number of applications for "closing order"	...	...	65
4.	Number of "closing orders" issued	...	...	58
5.	Number of applications for "closing order" struck off	...	...	1
6.	Number of applications for "closing order" pending	...	...	17
7.	Number of closing notices affixed on buildings	...	...	830
8.	Number of premises vacated after "closing order"	...	...	3
9.	Number of tenements vacated under (8) above	...	...	10
10.	Number of persons dishoused	...	...	258
11.	Number of premises improved	...	...	31
	(a) Number of tenements in (11)	...	...	42
	(b) Number of tenements demolished in (11)	...	...	103
	(c) Number of persons dishoused in (11)	...	...	257
	(d) Number of new doors provided in (11)	...	...	47
	(e) Number of new windows provided in (11)	...	...	170
	(f) Number of doors enlarged in (11)	...	...	202
	(g) Number of windows enlarged in (11)	...	...	48
	(h) Number of rooms cemented in (11)	...	...	433
	(i) Number of masonry partitions removed in (11)	...	...	13
	(j) Number of plank partitions removed in (11)	...	...	29
	(k) Number of gunny partitions removed in (11)	...	...	—
	(l) Number of rooms in which masonry wall have been replaced by trellis in (11)	...	...	79
	(m) Space unroofed square feet in (11)	...	...	2,395
	(n) Length of roof raised in feet	...	...	1,416

(58) *List of Premises improved during 1926.*

Ward.	Premises.	Ward.	Premises.
Paul's	No. 5, Brassfounder street.	St. Paul's	No. 63, Gintupitiya street.
Paul's	No. 14, Brassfounder street.	St. Paul's	No. 8, Andival street.
Paul's	No. 20, Brassfounder street.	St. Paul's	No. 9/10, Andival street.
Paul's	No. 24, Brassfounder street.	Slave Island	No. 22/1-22/10, Station passage.
Paul's	No. 26, Brassfounder street.	Slave Island	No. 22/23-22/40, Station passage.
Paul's	No. 27, Brassfounder street.	Slave Island	No. 22/65-22/70, Station passage.
Paul's	No. 35, Brassfounder street.	Slave Island	No. 13-21, Ferry lane.
Paul's	No. 50, Brassfounder street.	Slave Island	49-52, The Mews.
Paul's	No. 52, Brassfounder street.	Slave Island	No. 64-74, Ferry lane.
Paul's	No. 48, Chekku street.	Slave Island	2-6, Shorts road.
Paul's	No. 53, Chekku street.	Slave Island	No. 50-56, Malay street.
Paul's	No. 54, Chekku street.	Kollupitiya	No. 5, Muhandiram's road.
Paul's	No. 60, Chekku street.	Kollupitiya	No. 19, Muhandiram's road.
Paul's	No. 94, Chekku street.	Kollupitiya	No. 39, Muhandiram's road.
Paul's	No. 96, Chekku street.	Kollupitiya	No. 7, Kollupitiya lane.
Paul's	No. 106, Chekku street.	Kollupitiya	No. 14, Kollupitiya lane.
Paul's	No. 18/19, Gintupitiya street.		

XXXIV.—DISPENSARIES.

The opening of a Free Municipal Dispensary at Silversmith Street, to serve New Bazaar San Sebastian Wards, brought the number of these establishments up to five as under:—

Slave Island	...	Established February 1, 1910.
St. Paul's	...	Established July 1, 1914.
Maradana	...	Established November 1, 1919.
Modera	...	Established April 1, 1922.
New Bazaar and San Sebastian	...	Established March 1, 1926.

It was further decided during the year to establish a sixth dispensary at Wellawatta, which resolution has since been given effect to.

Upon completion of the new Child Welfare Centre and Dispensary at Gintupitiya street, present St. Paul's Dispensary at Barber street will be closed.

The following is a summary of the work done at the various dispensaries during the year:—

(59) *Work done at the Municipal Dispensaries in 1926.*
(a) *Slave Island Dispensary.*

Number of patients treated	...	18,446
Number of visits by patients	...	34,434
Daily average attendance	...	110
Number of outdoor visits paid by the Medical Officer	...	140
Number of cases sent in by Health Visitors' tickets	...	161
Number of cases sent in by Health Visitors' tickets	...	2
Number of labour cases in which medical or surgical aid rendered	...	181
Number of Municipal employees treated	...	6
Number of subjects inoculated against Typhoid	...	6

(b) *St. Paul's Dispensary.*

Number of patients treated	...	13,114
Number of visits by patients	...	18,603
Daily average attendance	...	60
Number of outdoor visits paid by the Medical Officer	...	43
Number of cases sent in by Health Visitors' tickets	...	48
Number of labour cases where medical or surgical aid rendered	...	11
Number of Municipal employees treated	...	72
Number of subjects inoculated against Typhoid	...	23

(c) *Maradana Dispensary.*

Number of patients treated	...	22,795
Number of visits by patients	...	13,298
Daily average attendance	...	74
Number of outdoor visits paid by the Medical Officer	...	125
Number of cases sent in by Health Visitors' tickets	...	137
Number of labour cases where medical or surgical aid rendered	...	—
Number of Municipal employees treated	...	7
Number of subjects inoculated against Typhoid	...	26

(d) *Modera Dispensary.*

Number of patients treated	...	12,073
Number of visits by patients	...	19,423
Daily average attendance	...	63
Number of outdoor visits paid by the Medical Officer	...	291
Number of cases sent in by Health Visitors' tickets	...	14
Number of labour cases where medical or surgical aid rendered	...	18
Number of Municipal employees treated	...	181
Number of subjects inoculated against Typhoid	...	12

(e) *New Bazaar Dispensary.*

(Opened in March, 1926).

Number of patients treated	...	6,445
Number of visits by patients	...	12,460
Daily average attendance	...	52
Number of outdoor visits paid by the Medical Officer	...	22
Number of cases sent in by Health Visitors' tickets	...	64
Number of labour cases where medical or surgical aid rendered	...	2
Number of Municipal employees treated	...	49
Number of subjects inoculated against Typhoid	...	1

XXXV.—CHILD WELFARE.

The staff employed upon this important and rapidly growing branch of Public Health work was increased during the year by the appointment of two, making a total of thirteen Health Visitors, one of whom was posted to Kotahena and the other to San Sebastian Ward. One additional Midwife was also appointed and posted to St. Paul's bringing the total up to eight.

Dr. (Mrs.) Rowlands' report upon the work of this branch during the year is reproduced hereafter. As she points out, the marked improvement in the infant mortality rate during the last two years is a most gratifying feature, and is a great encouragement for the future. It reflects great credit upon Dr. Rowlands and her Health Visitors and Midwives, and it is with much regret that I have to record Dr. Rowlands' decision to resign her appointment on account of ill health.

As regards the supply, by this branch, of free milk to infants, a total of 2,162 gallons 5 pints and 8 ounces was issued at a cost of Rs. 5,190'90. As Dr. Rowlands points out there are many more poor children and, I may add, mothers, to whom the issue of good clean milk, either free or at cost price, would be a great boon; but no material extension of this form of relief should, in my opinion, be embarked upon, unless due regard is had to the selection of suitable recipients, supervision in regard to the purchase and issue of milk, and the adoption of a proper system of keeping the accounts by the branch concerned. As a preliminary to this it is advisable that there should be established a system of milk depôts for the receipt, storage, manipulation, and distribution of the milk.

DR. (MRS.) ROWLANDS' REPORT.

The Medical Officer of Health, Colombo.

I HAVE the honour to submit my report on the Maternity and Child Welfare Branch of your Department for the year ending December 31, 1926.

During the year under review, which was my second year of service, the system of work has had no very material changes, and we continued to work without a centre, which I hoped would have been established before the end of the year, without which nevertheless the results were satisfactory. There has, however, been a slight increase in the staff, the number of Health Visitors increasing from 11 in 1925 to 13 in 1926 and the Midwives from 7 in 1925 to 8 in 1926.

A very noteworthy feature of our campaign and gratifying too, is that the poor now seek our assistance and advice very readily and take advantage of the Ante-Natal Clinics, thus affording us a much greater scope for the achievement of the object of Maternity and Child Welfare work.

Health Visitors.

A few transfers were effected, as found necessary, during the year. The thirteen Health Visitors were posted for duty as follows:—

Two in St. Paul's.	Three in Maradana.
Two in Slave Island.	One in Kotahena.
Two in New Bazaar.	One in San Sebastian.
Two in Mutwal.	

The posting of two new Health Visitors, viz., one in Kotahena and one in San Sebastian was found necessary for the supervision of the work of the Midwives in those areas who previously had none. Although the nett result of our campaign has been satisfactory, it may not be out of place to emphasise the fact that had there been more co-operation and discipline amongst some members of my staff the results might have been far more satisfactory. There have been 9,254 visits paid by the Health Visitors to the homes of the poor in 1926, which is an increase of 785 over the same period in 1925.

Midwifery.

This section of the scheme has continued to work very satisfactorily and a marked increase in the number of cases attended to by our Midwives is noticed in the figures shown under this same heading.

There were seven Midwives in 1925 and eight in 1926, being posted as follows:—

One in San Sebastian	One in Mutwal
Two in St. Paul's	One in Slave Island
One in New Bazaar	One in Maradana
One in Kotahena	

The number of confinements attended by these Midwives was 1,009 in 1926, as compared with 872 in 1925 and 529 in 1924. This represents the birth of 1,024 children. It might be as well to state that this increase was not borne proportionately by all the Midwives, but was more confined to those in St. Paul's, San Sebastian, and Slave Island Wards.

During 1926 two cases of operative midwifery were undertaken by me, in which one was successfully conducted with forceps, although under very adverse conditions, and the other a case where a morbidly adherent placenta was digitally removed, this one also being successful. Both these cases were in Wolfendahl.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

As in 1925 these clinics were conducted by me weekly at each of the five Municipal Dispensaries during the year under review, where the attendance was larger than the previous year.

435 ante-natal cases were treated by me at these clinics, as compared with 336 in 1925. 6 other patients were also treated, as compared with 417 in 1925, these being chiefly post-natal cases and infants.

Free Milk.

126 infants were supplied with free milk during 1926, as compared with 70 in 1925. All of these without an exception were very deserving cases and there are still many more who could do with free milk, provided the vote under this heading could be increased.

As the supply of milk is on the increase it is much to be regretted that the establishment of distributing depôts, where both quality and method will be carefully regulated, is delayed.

Results.

The results of our work for the year under review is satisfactory as reckoned from comparative figures hereunder:—

Infant mortality rate per thousand for 1924 was 239.
Infant mortality rate per thousand for 1925 was 220.
Infant mortality rate per thousand for 1926 was 204.

The above rate is very gratifying, and I hope that this will decrease more as time goes on.

I regret, however, that particularly at this juncture I was obliged to tender my resignation due to ill-health, and in so doing must extend to you my sincerest wishes for continued success in the undertaking.

In conclusion I must thank you for the very kind and courteous manner in which you have at all times received me on matters requiring your assistance and advice.

RACHEL S. ROWLANDS,
Assistant Medical Officer of Health (Child Welfare.)

Name.	Ward.	Number of Cases.												Total.
		January.	February.	March	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September	October.	November.	December.	
Angelina Fernando	San Sebastian	19	11	13	12	9	13	17	18	14	16	32	15	189
P. Medlin Serera.	New Bazaar.	5	9	4	4	7	4	7	6	4	15	14	8	87
Emily Direckze ...	Kotahena ...	11	9	6	7	7	9	10	2	2	9	8	9	89
D. B. Dias	Maradana ...	7	8	7	5	8	4	8	9	12	10	12	6	96
Rosaline Perera	Slave Island.	22	15	13	7	17	15	13	14	16	15	22	16	191
N. Dharmaratna ...	St. Paul's ...	8	20	11	20	14	14	23	16	14	20	21	37	218
M. Sathasivam ...	St. Paul's ...	2	5	6	10	2	11	5	5	9	11	11	5	82
D. M. Pallewela ...	Mutwal ...	—	—	2	4	3	4	3	4	8	7	15	6	56
Nona Hamy ...	Mutwal ...	9	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16
Total ...														1,024

(61) Statement of Expenditure on Milk Supplied to Infants by the Child Welfare Branch during 1926.

Month.	Amount. Rs. c.	Month	Amount. Rs. c.
January ...	347 90	August ...	442 60
February ...	311 90	September ...	402 40
March ...	433 50	October ...	517 20
April ...	438 20	November ...	424 0
May ...	502 40	December ...	440 50
June ...	467 90	Total ...	5,190 90
July ...	462 40		

Non-Municipal Child Welfare Work.

Ante-natal Clinic.—At the Government Ante-natal Clinic, with 948 first visits during the year, as against 658 during the previous year, there is evidence of a steadily growing popularity.

The Child Welfare Association's Crèche.

The Honorary Secretary of the Crèche has kindly furnished the following figures for the year 1926.

Average daily attendance = 42'137 children ranging from one week to ten years of age.

The crèche, in addition to being a great boon to poor working mothers, has a great educative value.

Ceylon Social Service League.

The activities of the Ceylon Social Service League cover a wide field of philanthropic endeavour, including four free milk depôts, a clinic for poor women and children, slum visitation, and a number of free night schools.

The following information regarding the work at the milk depôts during the year 1926 has been kindly furnished by the Honorary Secretary of the Women's Branch:—

At Dean's road depôt about 34 babies, on an average, are fed, and 3,780 bottles of milk were distributed during the year. At Slave Island depôt an average of 35 babies are fed, and 4,511 bottles of milk were distributed.

At Kotahena depôt an average of 30 babies are fed, and 9 to 10 bottles of milk were distributed daily.

At Bambalapitiya depôt, which was recently opened, 16 babies are fed, and about 350 bottles of milk have so far been distributed.

XXXVI.—BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY.

Attention is invited to Dr. Hirst's most interesting and instructive report annexed. His investigations in regard to fevers in Colombo confirm the conclusion, so often recorded in the Public Health Department reports, that most of the fatal cases reported in Colombo as "continued fever" are in reality cases of enteric fever, and justify the action taken so long ago as 1903 to include such cases in the list of notifiable infectious diseases.

The occurrence in Colombo of a case of melioidosis in a European is interesting. This very fatal fever is said to be not uncommon in Rangoon, but the case referred to is the only one so far that has been recorded in Colombo.

Dr. Hirst remarks on the need for further investigation regarding the various types of dysentery and diarrhoea here, and emphasises the difficulty of obtaining the requisite material for examination in the Municipal Laboratory.

Special attention is invited to Dr. Hirst's illuminating disquisition on the parasitology of plague, a subject in regard to which he is a recognized authority.

XXXVII.—ANALYTICAL WORK.

Chemical analyses are carried out on behalf of the Council in the laboratory of Mr. A. Bruce, the City Analyst. His report for the year 1926 is annexed.

XXXVIII.—STAFF CHANGES.

The following changes in the personnel of the staff occurred during the year :—

Assistant Medical Officer of Health.—Dr. F. N. Jayawardana appointed Third Assistant Medical Officer of Health on August 3, 1926, in place of Dr. E. R. Loos, retired.

Medical Officers.—Dr. James F. Peiris appointed Medical Officer, New Bazaar Dispensary, on March 12, 1926. (New post.)

Inspectors.—Mr. M. M. Molligoda, Relief Sanitary Inspector, appointed Sanitary Inspector on January 1, 1926, in place of Mr. T. E. Karunatileke, deceased.

Mr. J. P. J. Mendis, Relief Sanitary Inspector, appointed Sanitary Inspector on April 10, 1926, in place of Mr. C. B. Brohier, retired.

Relief Inspector.—Mr. J. P. J. Mendis, Sub-Inspector, appointed Relief Sanitary Inspector on January 1, 1926, in place of Mr. M. M. Molligoda, promoted.

Mr. R. C. Mackellar, Supervisor, Conservancy Branch, appointed Relief Sanitary Inspector on July 5, 1926, in place of Mr. J. P. J. Mendis, promoted.

Sub-Inspector.—Mr. H. B. Karunatileke appointed Sanitary Sub-Inspector on March 1, 1926, in place of Mr. J. P. J. Mendis, promoted.

Clerks.—Mr. E. B. Fernando appointed Clerk on March 3, 1926, in place of Mr. M. Ramapulle, resigned.

Mr. J. R. G. Vaz appointed Clerk on June 30, 1926. (New post.)

Mr. F. A. de Silva appointed Clerk on September 1, 1926, as a result of Mr. M. H. C. Mooray's promotion as Head Clerk, Municipal Assessor's Department.

Apothecaries.—Mr. A. N. P. Gunatilleke appointed Clerk-Apothecary, Slave Island Dispensary on January 2, 1926. (New post.)

Mr. A. Canagasunderam appointed Relieving Apothecary on March 9, 1926. (New post.)

Mr. H. S. A. Fernando appointed Apothecary, Slave Island Dispensary, on May 7, 1926, in place of Mr. A. N. P. Gunatilleke, transferred to New Bazaar Dispensary.

Mr. G. P. Jayawardana appointed Apothecary on December 24, 1926, in place of Mr. A. Canagasunderam, discontinued.

Market-keepers.—Mr. D. L. Perera, Market-keeper, St. John's market, appointed Market-keeper, Slave Island market, on May 15, 1926. (New post.)

Mr. L. I. V. de Alwis appointed Assistant Market-keeper, Kotahena market, on January 5, 1926, in place of Mr. D. C. Kottachi, promoted.

Mr. P. D. Martin appointed Assistant Market-keeper, Dean's road market, on January 5, 1926, in place of Mr. B. de Andrado, appointed Assistant Superintendent, Slaughter-house.

Mr. M. A. Perera appointed Assistant Market-keeper, Edinburgh market, on May 17, 1926, as a result of Mr. D. L. Perera's promotion.

Mr. Leo Fernandes appointed Assistant Market-keeper, Slave Island, on May 15, 1926. (New post.)

Mr. J. A. M. Samarasinghe appointed Assistant Market-keeper, Kollupitiya market, on April 23, 1926, in place of Mr. T. H. Dole, resigned.

Mr. S. A. Mariampulle, appointed Assistant Market-keeper, Kollupitiya market, on July 5, 1926, in place of Mr. J. A. M. Samarasinghe, resigned.

Health Visitors.—Mrs. I. Marsden appointed Health Visitor, New Bazaar Dispensary, on January 27, 1926. (New post.)

Miss A. Schokman appointed Health Visitor, New Bazaar Dispensary, on January 27, 1926. (New post.)

Midwives.—Mrs. Mary Sathasivam appointed Midwife, St. Paul's Division, on January 4, 1926. (New post.)

Mrs. D. M. Pallewela appointed Midwife, Mutwal Division, on March 1, 1926, in place of Midwife Nonno Hamy, retired.

Telephone Operator.—Mr. Albert de Alwis appointed Telephone Operator, on July 20, 1926, in place of Mr. L. A. Nanayakkara, resigned.

THE END.

As I go on leave at the end of the current month, prior to retirement after 24 years and months service as Medical Officer of Health of Colombo, this is the last Administration Report which I shall be privileged to submit. I, therefore, take this opportunity of gratefully acknowledging the very loyal and wholehearted assistance which I have always received from all ranks of the Department, without which it would have been impossible to carry on successfully the work of the Department.

The best that I can wish my successor, and this I most sincerely do, is that the staff will continue to afford him the same measure of loyalty and assistance that they have always given myself.

W. MARSHALL PHILIP,

Medical Officer of Health.

Maligakanda, March 18, 1927.

REPORT OF THE CITY MICROBIOLOGIST FOR 1926.

THE medical activities of this laboratory may be divided into two main categories, the epidemiological and the diagnostic.

The results of comprehensive inquiries into the spread of plague and hookworm, and into the bacteriology of water and food borne diseases, such as enteric and cholera, have been summarized in this series of annual reports. They serve to illustrate the epidemiological side of the work. We now know how plague is spread in Colombo and where it is liable to occur, while the position as regards infection through water and food and hookworm infected soil is fairly clear. Our knowledge of the spread of such infective organisms outside the human body is, on the whole, fairly satisfactory from a practical point of view.

The great advantage of this class of investigation is that suitable material is readily obtainable for examination. Thus bubonic plague is a disease of rats spread by fleas. We have ample means of examining rats and collecting fleas in all parts of the city. The infestation of the soil with hookworm larvæ can be determined from specimens collected by the laboratory staff, the same is true of work on the water supply, wells, polluted streams and rivers. The opportunities on the epidemiological side are, therefore, satisfactory. Hence the progress achieved.

The weak spot in our defences against the man-killing bowel infections, such as enteric and dysentery, is on the side of the personal infection from the individual patient; not only must there be many unrecognized cases of these diseases spreading the infection by personal contact in the acute infective stage, but the number of apparently healthy carriers of both enteric and dysentery is indubitably very large in such a city as Colombo.

From the preventive point of view the aim of the diagnostic side of the laboratory work is to enable these personal foci of infection to be localized and to give scientific accuracy to our vital statistics, which are vitiated by diagnoses such as "continued fever," the equivalent of a much abused expression "pyrexia of unknown origin," which was the bane of the army epidemiologists in prebacteriological days. This class of work is also important in its personal aspects since the bacteriological diagnosis of communicable disease is becoming ever more necessary for treatment as well as for prevention. Formerly diseases such as pneumonia, dysentery, and enteric were treated as if they were definite clinical entities attributable to a single cause. We now know that they express the reaction of the human body to three separate groups of micro-organisms, some of which differ very markedly from others of the group.

Pneumonia is the principal cause of mortality in Colombo; 942 deaths in 1925 and 926 in 1926. Our knowledge of the bacteriology of this dangerous disease is rapidly increasing. The principal types have been differentiated in America, Europe, South Africa, and India, but so far no systematic work on these lines has been done in Ceylon. The types of pneumonia, like those of enteric and dysentery, vary considerably in their geographical distribution so that the problem must be investigated anew for each region of the world. Some types respond much more readily to treatment than others.

The increasing aggregation of masses of the population in large towns seems to be associated with a tendency to a relative increase in the prevalence of air borne diseases such as influenza, pneumonia, and cerebro-spinal meningitis. As the difficulty in providing adequate air space and isolating individual sufferers increases it becomes correspondingly difficult to control the spread of these viruses outside the body.

Eventually, no doubt, the problem will solve itself by a process of natural selection, those racial strains which cannot acquire the necessary immunity to air borne respiratory infections being gradually eliminated. But there are good grounds for hope that bacteriological research will provide a means of acquiring an artificial immunity against this group of diseases corresponding to that already available for smallpox, enteric, and other diseases. There also appears to be a promising field for the use of autogenous vaccines in treatment.

As regards enteric and the continued fevers generally which were responsible for 333 deaths in 1925 and 218 deaths in 1926, all three of the better known pathogenic bacteria *B. typhosus*, *B. paratyphosus* A. and *B.* have been isolated in Colombo. It is clear that the majority of the clinically typical cases are caused by *B. typhosus*, but the exact proportion attributable to the genuine paratyphoid bacilli is still unknown. There is, therefore, an element of considerable uncertainty regarding the proper constitution of an anti-enteric vaccine. It is clear that *B. typhosus* is the most deadly. So far as my information extends at present the incidence of both the common paratyphoids is so low as to be almost negligible from a general prophylactic point of view, the great majority of enteric-like fevers not due to *B. typhosus* being the result of invasion of the body by a miscellaneous group of widely distributed bacilli of low pathogenicity and epidemicity which have not yet been adequately studied.

One example of this type isolated during the year under review from a case of long continued enteric-like fever in a child may turn out to be new.

Since malaria is not indigenous to Colombo it is probable that most of the cases diagnosed as continued fever of any duration are some kind of parenteric or enteric fever, and since the mortality from the typical paratyphoid bacilli and the atypical "parenteric" group of miscellaneous organisms is low, we may, perhaps, justifiably presume that most of the mortality attributed to "continued fever" is occasioned by infection with the classical *B. typhosus* of Eberth.

Knowledge of the tropical fevers of obscure origin is advancing fast. A new tropical variety of typhus fever has been recently discovered in the Malay States by the use of agglutination tests with certain strains of proteus bacilli, i.e., by an application of the Weil-Felix reaction used by myself and others for the diagnosis of the typhus in the Near East in 1918.

The Government Bacteriologist informs me that *B. whitnori*, the causative organism of typhoidosis, a very fatal fever not uncommon in Rangoon, has recently been isolated from a fatal case of obscure fever in Colombo showing characteristic pulmonary lesions at post-mortem. I am making a lookout for the disease in rats which have been found to be infected with the organism in the Malay Peninsula.

Exact information regarding the relative prevalence of the various types of dysentery and shigellosis in Colombo is also lacking, but it is clear that bacillary dysentery is far commoner than amoebic and that the *Flexner* group of dysentery bacilli are more frequently isolated than the *Shigella* type.

Laboratory diagnosis is particularly important in the case of the dysenteries as a guide to treatment. The bacillary type requires to be treated on quite different lines to the amoebic. In the case of prompt diagnosis is usually possible by the use of the microscope as shown by Willmore, Simpson, myself, and others in Egypt during the war. The experience of the great war added immeasurably to our knowledge of this disease and resulted in great advances in its treatment and a correspondingly great reduction in sickness and mortality. But in spite of the number of publications on the subject which have appeared of late years in the medical press, practice in Colombo still lags far behind the possibilities of improved results.

In these days 243 deaths from dysentery in 1925 and 213 in 1926 seem excessive.

It will be realized from the foregoing that there are great opportunities for investigation in the field of clinical bacteriology. The great difficulty, however, is to get into touch with the requisite material.

Only a portion of the sufferers from grave communicable diseases are ever seen by a practitioner of modern medicine. Many of the latter who fully realize the importance of bacteriological diagnosis and do their best to provide suitable laboratory specimens from their patients are often unable to devote sufficient time to supervise their proper collection and transmission to the laboratory. The difficulties are much greater in the tropics than in temperate regions. Fresh materials are essential for the correct diagnosis of dysentery at Colombo temperatures. A specimen more than two hours old is often useless.

Unfortunately some of the less reputable practitioners are not merely unmindful of the advantages of free laboratory diagnosis but actually place obstacles in the way of specimens being sent by officers of the Public Health Department.

To my mind it is clear that our chief source of information must be the hospitals, dispensaries, jails, and civil and military institutions generally.

The merging of the Municipal Enteric Hospital with the Government Hospital at Angoda in 1926 has deprived this laboratory of the one of the few avenues of direct access to the right kind of clinical material. It would seem necessary to take greater advantage of the material available in the Government hospitals situated in Colombo.

In this connection it may be well to reiterate the need, emphasised in my Annual Report for 1924, for greater co-ordination between the clinical and laboratory side of medical research in the Colony. The discovery of a particular germ in a particular disease is no proof of their causal connection. A number of interesting organisms have been isolated in Ceylon, whose relation to disease will remain obscure till exact clinical observations of the state of the patient harbouring the suspected pathogenic germ are correlated with the bacteriological findings.

We seem to have arrived at a critical juncture in the development of medicine in Ceylon. Advances in scientific knowledge seem to be increasingly outstripping their application in civil medical practice, while a well supported movement is on foot for a return to old empirical traditions in the shape of the Oriental cults of Ayurveda.

I spent much time in 1926 as a member of the Committee on the Indigenous Systems of Medicine. The majority of the Committee reported in favour of the establishment of an official College of Ayurvedic medicine supported out of public funds.

The minority report signed by Dr. S. T. Gunasekara, Mr. C. T. Symons, and myself emphasised the difficulties that the official encouragement of any such so-called systems would involve in the way of the betterment of the public health.

Distribution of Clinical Specimens.

<i>Distribution of Clinical Specimens.</i>					
	Examined for	Number Received.		Number Positive.	
Diagnostic service for practitioners	...	104	...	28	
	Enteric	...	58	...	14
	Tuberculosis	...	112	...	19
	Dysentery	...	27	...	12
	Diphtheria	...	95	...	51
	Hookworm	...	19	...	1
	Malaria	...	139	...	81
	Various	...	533	...	19
Public Health Department	...	11	...	3	
	Enteric	...	11	...	3
	Human plague	...	35	...	24
	Dysentery	...	26	...	4
	Hookworm	...	16	...	6
	Tuberculosis	...	20	...	0
	Malaria	...	1	...	0
	Diphtheria	...	19	...	15
Cholera	...				
Various					
		1,226		280	

Of the 637 enteric specimens, 606 comprise finger blood for Widal's reaction, 1 blood culture, 27 faeces, and 3 urines. *B. typhosus* was isolated from 3 specimens.

(b) General Distribution of Specimens examined during 1926.

Clinical specimens	...	...	1,226
Town water	...	...	184
Rat fleas for species distribution	...	...	13,782
Rodents for plague :—			
Port Commission	...	...	5,448
Veterinary Department	...	...	15,718
Public Health Department	...	...	1,535
Veterinary Department :—			
Rats for flea index	...	...	5,533
Goats blood for anthrax	...	...	1,342
Miscellaneous	...	...	272
			<hr/> 45,040

(c) Distribution of Rodents examined for Plague in 1926.

(1) By mode of Capture.

Species.	Number examined.	Number infected.	Percentage infected.
Trapped rats	...	3	0'02
{ R. rattus	16,702	...	...
{ R. norvegicus	3,065	...	...
{ M. musculus	816	...	...
{ Bandicoots	2	...	...
Rats found dead.	...	...	...
{ R. rattus	29	...	...
{ R. norvegicus	40	4	10'0
{ M. musculus	4	1	25'0
{ Bandicoots	1	...	...
Rats killed by Clayton machines.	...	...	...
{ R. rattus	514	...	...
{ R. norvegicus	935	...	...
{ M. musculus	591	...	...
{ Bandicoots	2	...	...
	<hr/> 22,701	<hr/> 8	<hr/> 0'04

(2) By Species and Source.

		Trapped Alive.			Found Dead.			Killed by Fumigation.		
		Number examined.	Number infected.	Percentage infected.	Number examined.	Number infected.	Percentage infected.	Number examined.	Number infected.	Percentage infected.
R. rattus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Veterinary Department	12,988	1	0'008	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
{ Public Health Department	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	329	...	...
{ Port Commission	3,714	2	0'06	...	16	...	...	185	...	...
R. norvegicus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Veterinary Department	2,435	...	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...
{ Public Health Department	...	...	...	...	16	4	25'0	679	...	...
{ Port Commission	630	...	...	...	8	...	...	256	...	...
M. musculus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Veterinary Department	273	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Public Health Department	...	...	...	...	1	1	100'00	498	...	...
{ Port Commission	543	...	...	...	3	...	...	93	...	...

Two bandicoots trapped alive by the Veterinary Department and one dead bandicoot forwarded by the Public Health Department and two bandicoots killed by Clayton machines by the Public Health Department were examined and found to be negative.

(d) Monthly Flea Index.

Month.	Number of Rats examined.	Flea Index.	Month.	Number of Rats examined.	Flea Index.
January	397	1'56	July	611	3'36
February	360	1'55	August	132	2'79
March	325	2'09	September	227	2'07
April	945	2'03	October	167	2'89
May	1,038	2'12	November	390	3'53
June	705	3'32	December	236	3'01

PARASITOLOGY OF PLAGUE.

The Memoir on the Parasitology of Plague referred to in my last Annual Report is now complete. Part I. has already been published. The observations recorded therein on the experimental transmission of plague by the Colombo rat fleas *X. astia* and *X. cheopis*, and their habituating powers have already been briefly summarized in my Report for 1924.

Part II. will be issued shortly. It deals with the epidemiological side of the subject.

In the First Section the salient facts regarding the geographical distribution of rat fleas are reviewed. The important point emerging is that the natural distribution of these insect parasites has been artificially altered by human agency, and that dangerously efficient plague-carrying species such as *X. cheopis* have been widely dispersed from their ancestral homes by maritime commercial intercourse between the nations. *X. cheopis*, originally an African flea, has established itself at many points on the shores of Australia, America, Japan, and Europe.

Outbreaks of plague have occurred at a large number of stations where this flea has been introduced. The disease among the rats has been practically restricted to the *cheopis* infested ports, though plague has spread enzootically among a variety of wild rodents by a variety of modes of contagion in some of the colder regions of the earth. Moreover, there is a close correspondence between the season of *cheopis* multiplication and that of plague in all such localities in which data are available, especially as regards human plague. Other species of rat flea seem to continue an outbreak of rat plague initiated by *X. cheopis* for some time after the human epidemic has subsided.

Colombo itself is the most striking example of an outbreak of plague following the introduction of *X. cheopis*, since in this instance the results of a pre-plague rat flea survey are available. *X. cheopis* was not found till after plague broke out, the indigenous rat flea being *tia*.

Part I., Section II., of the Memoir deals with flea species as a factor governing the spread of plague.

Epidemiologists the world over are now taking a much more active interest in this important and long neglected subject, but there seem to be many misconceptions as to the method of flea survey which should be adopted and the interpretation of the results.

As regards method: clearly the rat flea collections should be representative of the flea fauna of the district surveyed, but unless due attention is paid to the nature of the premises where traps are laid, to the season of the year, and the species of rodent trapped the results obtained are most misleading.

Thus if all the traps were laid in the Chalmers Granaries in Colombo, or in the docks of a city as Liverpool, the proportion of *X. cheopis* found on the rats would be far larger than if they were laid in ordinary domestic premises in the outskirts of the town. The results of such surveys would be more representative of the rat fleas of the port of origin than of the port of destination.

Similarly, if we wish to know the maximum proportion of plague fleas liable to be caught in a district, it is no use searching them at a season of the year unfavourable to the reproduction of the plague-carrying species. Thus *X. cheopis* multiplies best between the range of temperature from 68°F. to about 78°F. in a humid atmosphere. In practice when climate is cooler or hotter than this or very dry there will be comparatively few *X. cheopis* on the rats and little or no plague. Again the fleas found on the species of rodents which seldom enter houses must be distinguished from those occurring on domestic rats.

It is not sufficient to state the percentage proportion of the various species of fleas found on the rats of a district. The researches of the Plague Commission in India show clearly that the incidence of plague in a district largely depends on the size of its rat flea population, which they estimated by counting the average number of fleas per rat.

It is clear that 100 per cent. *X. cheopis* with one flea per rat is less significant of danger of plague than, say, 10 per cent. *X. cheopis* with twenty fleas per rat, even if we leave out of consideration the possibility of a certain amount of spread of plague by the 90 per cent. belonging to other species.

I have attempted to give more precision to the subject by laying down a provisional list of parasitological principles which are reproduced below:—

- (1) The incidence of bubonic rat plague is primarily governed by the magnitude of the respective populations of plague-carrying flea species infesting the rats of any given district.
- (2) The population of any species of rat flea in any given locality varies according to the rat population, the nesting conditions, the suitability of the climatic conditions prevailing in the locality for breeding the particular species, and according to the number of fleas introduced in all stages of development from elsewhere.
- (3) The flea population requisite for the continuous propagation of the epizootic varies in magnitude according to the species of flea.
- (4) The vector efficiency of each individual flea of each sex and of each species and therefore the population effective for transmission varies according to the climatic conditions.
- (5) The degree of dependence of the human epidemic on the rat epizootic varies directly with the power of the species of rat fleas concerned in the spread of the epizootic to parasitize man, and indirectly with the intimacy of association between man and the flea-bearing rats inhabiting the locality under consideration. The term nesting conditions includes natural enemies of the flea larva and larval food supply.

With the aid of the Director of Statistics I have carried out a further analysis of the results of the 1922-1924 rat flea survey of Colombo. The results indicate a correlation between *cheopis* prevalence and plague incidence which is almost linear for the greater portion of the curve, but reasons are given for concluding that such a marked correlation is only to be expected under certain conditions, and that the anticipations raised by some workers that similar results will be obtained in Northern India are not likely to be fulfilled.

Part II., Section III., comprises an analysis of the operation of the flea species factor in Europe, Australia and the Far East, Ceylon, and India.

The general results of the flea survey of Colombo have already been discussed in previous Annual Reports. Subsequent observations have shown that the zones of *X. cheopis* prevalence are remarkably stable, and additional confirmation of the well known fact that *R. rattus* is an extremely home loving rodent showing little or no tendency to migrate from its accustomed haunts. But for this fortunate circumstance *X. cheopis* would by now have spread uniformly through Colombo District and the incidence of human and rat plague would have been about equal in all the more populous and insanitary districts.

Each year that passes affords yet more evidence of the threefold association between imported grain, *X. cheopis*, and plague.

At the suggestion of Dr. Norman White, I have examined 1,000 rats from the docks, lighters, granaries, and plague area generally for presence of the Rangoon rat *R. concolor*, a slenderer species than *R. rattus kandianus*, the Colombo variety of *R. rattus*.

The females are easily distinguished by the arrangement of the mammae.

Only one *R. concolor* was detected, it was caught in the Chalmers Granaries where Rangoon imported rice is stored. I think there can be very little doubt that grain infested with plague infected fleas is the principal vehicle of the plague infection in Colombo. If it was mainly a question of the importation of infected rats one would expect to find a much greater proportion of *R. concolor* in the vicinity of the import godowns.

It may be pointed out that *R. concolor* is not nearly so domesticated as *R. rattus*. If *R. concolor* ever established itself in Colombo, as *X. cheopis* has done, the plague infected area would probably rapidly extend till it was out of control.

The situation as regards the flea species factor is becoming clearer in India and Burma. A definite relationship seems to exist between great *astia* predominance and relative immunity to plague in the maritime stations along the coast, such as Bombay, Rangoon, and Madras. In this type of station the flea species factor must be of considerable importance. The *cheopis* flea index, i.e., average number of *cheopis* per rat, in the different districts of this region should be an effective guide to plague preventive measures.

The distribution of rat fleas in India as a whole seems to accord with well known zoo-geographical principles.

From a practical point of view the flea species factor seems of greatest importance in those Indian areas where *X. cheopis* is not indigenous, but where it is liable to be introduced.

Thus *X. cheopis* and *X. brasiliensis* have probably been indigenous to Peninsular India from time immemorial. *X. cheopis* is now well established in heavily plague infected northern plains of India, but there are large tracts of territory near the coast of the Bay of Bengal which are still comparatively free from this dangerous parasite and also from plague.

The Fifth Section of Part II. of the Memoir deals briefly with other factors governing the spread of plague, such as climate, rat population, communications with infected regions, and of housing conditions. Climate operates principally by its effect on flea numbers and on the length of survival and general activity of the plague infected flea when separated from its host. This factor is, therefore, essentially parasitological.

The same is true to a large extent, even of the factor of communications. Thus grain is a most important vehicle for the transference of plague infection from regions where the rats are infested with large numbers of *X. cheopis*, but the traffic in grain from areas where *C. fasciatus* greatly predominates, such as the interior of Europe or North America, is innocuous *qua* plague, despite the high rat population of the granaries. Similarly, the distribution of rice from Rangoon, where large numbers of *X. cheopis* are now found, is associated with outbreaks of plague, but the rice growing districts with a pure *astia* flea population, such as the lowlands of Madras, are not a source of plague infection.

The final section of the Memoir deals with the application of the results of recent research to plague preventive work.

Here again Colombo affords the best example of the successful application of the new ideas.

Thus, the completion of the rat flea survey of Colombo in 1924 made it possible to demarcate the potentially plague infected zones. During the off-plague seasons of 1924 and 1925 and 1926 all available methods for rat and flea destruction were concentrated on the zones. The number of human cases of plague during 1925 fell to 62, the lowest figure recorded since plague broke out. In 1926 there was a further fall to 13 cases, while for five months no case of human plague was detected in the town and for seven months no case of rat plague, in spite of an intensive search during July and August.

MUNICIPALITY OF COLOMBO.

Seasonal Prevalence of Rat Fleas in Endemic Plague Area.

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Month.	Rats.	Fleas.	1925.						
			Astia.	Cheopis.	Per Cent. Cheopis.	Flea Index.	Cheopis Index.		
January	212	497	438	59	11.9	2.34	.28		
February	132	436	405	31	7.1	3.30	.23		
March	178	593	488	86	14.5	3.33	.48		
April	119	278	238	37	13.4	2.31	.31		
May	92	304	255	49	16.1	3.30	.53		
June	101	279	201	78	27.9	2.76	.77		
July	118	326	253	72	22.1	2.75	.61		
August	146	434	296	138	31.8	2.97	.94		
September	128	361	283	78	21.6	2.82	.61		
October	152	433	380	53	12.2	2.85	.35		
November	109	282	232	50	17.7	2.59	.46		
December	79	132	83	49	37.1	1.66	.62		

Month.	Rats.	Fleas.	1926.						
			Astia.	Cheopis.	Per Cent. Cheopis.	Flea Index.	Cheopis Index.		
January	170	354	316	38	10.73	2.08	.22		
February	122	273	230	43	15.75	2.24	.35		
March	141	340	306	34	10.00	2.41	.24		
April	102	239	204	35	10.46	2.34	.34		
May	159	402	370	32	7.96	2.53	.20		
June	254	1,092	990	102	9.3	4.29	.40		
July	302	1,113	939	174	15.6	3.69	.59		
August	114	390	333	57	14.62	3.42	.50		
September	224	408	325	83	20.34	1.82	.37		
October	161	476	403	73	15.34	2.95	.45		
November	148	485	439	46	9.48	3.28	.31		
December	91	247	208	39	15.79	2.71	.43		

Recent Observations on Rat Flea Prevalence Outside the Plague Area.

Slave Island District, 1926.

Month.	Rats.	Fleas.	Astia.	Cheopis.	Per Cent. Cheopis.	Flea Index.	Cheopis Index.
April	207	533	520	13	2.49	2.57	0.06
May	240	369	361	8	2.21	1.54	0.03
June	271	783	773	10	1.3	2.89	0.04
July	198	645	597	48	7.48	3.26	0.04
November	272	891	842	49	5.5	3.27	0.18
December	112	387	358	29	7.5	3.45	0.26

Mutwal and Kotahena, 1926.

Month.	Rats.	Fleas.	Astia.	Cheopis.	Per Cent. Cheopis.	Flea Index.	Cheopis Index.
January	209	236	233	3	1.27	1.13	0.01
February	239	281	277	4	1.42	1.18	0.02
March	210	396	389	7	1.76	1.89	0.03
April	375	666	661	5	0.75	1.78	0.02
May	424	968	966	2	0.20	2.29	0.005

The above figures apply to fleas caught on *Rattus rattus kandiannus*.

EFFECT OF THE EFFLUENT FROM THE MADAMPITIYA TREATMENT WORKS ON THE KELANI RIVER.

After a lapse of several years a favourable opportunity presented itself for investigating bacteriological state of the Kelani river under conditions of maximum upstream pollution from the outfall of the sewage works, i.e., when a strong tide flowing up a low river reverses current so that the effluent is carried upwards and outwards towards the opposite side of the river below Victoria bridge.

Fortunately, well marked conditions of this kind occur comparatively rarely.

During the short time that they prevail the effluent becomes a possible source of enteric dysenteric infection to inhabitants of the opposite bank, some of whom are in the habit of drawing water direct from the river.

The effect of the effluent was discernible to the naked eye as far as the banks just below Victoria bridge opposite the outfall. Bacteriologically there was evidence of added pollution of the river water some 50 yards above the bridge. Under these conditions the sewage effluent accumulates in front of the outfall for several hours before the turn of the tide when it is swept away towards the sea.

No further outbreaks of enteric traceable to the sewage works have been reported below the outfall. Another and more complete set of observations have been taken under conditions for maximum downstream pollution. The results confirmed the previous finding, viz., that when the river is flowing strongly downstream the effluent flows along the Colombo banks of the river in a well defined stream, effective dilution of sewage with river water only taking place some 600 yards below the outfall.

A full report of the various findings, illustrated with maps, was issued during the year. Warnings have been issued and notices posted prohibiting the use of the dangerously polluted river water.

HOOKWORM DISEASE.

Further observations have been made on hookworm infestation of the sewage works in Colombo and of the new sewage disposal plant at Angoda Asylum, with the kind co-operation of the Director of Anchylostomiasis Campaigns in the former instance and of the officers of the Public Works Department in charge of the Asylum plant in the latter. I hope to publish a detailed report of the results of some of these investigations in due course.

Nine additional samples of sludge from the sumps of sewage pumping stations have been examined this year, making twenty-two in all. It is now clear that the presence of hookworm or other penetrative nematode larvæ in such sludge is quite exceptional.

There have been no further outbreaks of hookworm dermatitis among the coolies engaged in clearing out these sumps, such as that described in the Report for 1923. A few similar cases have occurred among the underground sewer labour force. As far as I know these are the first instances of hookworm disease attributable to occupation in a tropical water carriage sewage works.

The question arises as to how these penetrative larvæ gain access to such situations as the sumps of pumping stations and the interior of sewers. Hookworm ova may retain their viability for a period of several weeks in sewage, but they will not develop in a fluid medium so deficient in dissolved oxygen. A free supply of oxygen is essential for the development of hookworm ova to the larval stage.

A few of the larvæ found may develop outside the sewage disposal works on such situations as the sides of latrine buckets, but I think the majority are probably derived from eggs deposited on the sides of imperfectly flushed sewers subject to a variable flow.

I have examined large amounts of scrapings taken from the walls of main sewers above the customary level of the sewage but with negative results so far.

Numerous nematode larvæ have been found but none of them were morphologically similar to *Necator americanus*, or if they did bear a superficial resemblance, they failed to pass the physiological tests I am accustomed to use as a criterion for larvæ of the penetrative type.

Here again the comparative infrequency of hookworm dermatitis among the large staff of underground sewer coolies indicates that the presence of infective larvæ is exceptional.

Hookworm stool egg counts by the Stoll technique have been done on 295 of the Council's employees in the various divisions of the sewage works.

The results may be summarized as follows :—

	Number examined.	Per Cent. infected.	Average Number of Hookworm Eggs per Gramme of soft formed stool.
Pumping station coolies	144	93	702
Underground sewer coolies	83	88	854
Trench coolies	68	93	486

These figures represent a low degree of hookworm infestation. On a very rough average each egg-laying *Necator americanus* in the human intestine lays about twenty-five eggs per gramme of soft formed stool. The above figure corresponds, therefore, to between 20 to 35 worms per man, a number which is insufficient to produce definite symptoms of hookworm disease in an average individual. The highest individual count showed less than 10,000 eggs per gramme. There were only four counts of over 3,000 per gramme.

The observations on the Angoda sewage disposal plant are particularly interesting. It consists of a series of three circular sedimentation tanks of the Emscher pattern arranged in series, the final effluent being passed on to a coarse rubble bed before discharge into a stream.

These tanks are fitted with inclined baffle plates which divert the gases evolved from the decomposing sludge deposited in the conical sump in such a manner that particles such as hookworm eggs can sediment properly from the fluid at the periphery of the tanks without being exposed to the disturbing effect of the violent ebullition which goes on throughout a plain septic tank working under tropical conditions and which greatly interferes with the effective sedimentation of all kinds of suspended matter. The following are the results of a preliminary series of test on the unripened tanks as regards hookworm ova present in the effluents :—

Crude sewage passing into No. 1 Tank	127	Hookworm eggs over 100 per C.C.
Effluent from First Tank	20	
Effluent from Second Tank	5	
Effluent from Third Tank	5	
Final Effluent	1	

Observations on the fully ripened tanks and on the viability of the numerous hookworm ova trapped in the sludge of the tanks are now in progress.

A group of 122 human faeces from the Kotahena district yielded 61 infected specimens by the Clayton Lane direct centrifugal floatation method, approximate egg count per gramme of soft random showed 63 infected and an egg count of 171 per gramme of soft formed stool. These figures represent a very low rate of infestation. Among 755 specimens collected from houses in miasis Campaigns 567 were infected, i.e., 75.1 per cent. and the average egg count was 505.

THE COLOMBO WATER SUPPLY.

Experiments have been made this year on screens filled with broken coral submerged in the straining shaft of the Labugama reservoir. Such screens require frequent washing. The bottom of the straining shaft proved to be too considerable for practical routine work.

It would seem that it is impracticable to aerate or prefilter the Labugama water without reconstruction of the present treatment works at prohibitive expense. It will be necessary to back on the direct addition of the active substances to the water in the settling tanks. The excessive acidity which the water develops at low levels of the reservoir can be utilized by adding an appropriate dose of whiting. The chemical action will be equivalent to that obtained by the use of the coral screens which have given successful results experimentally. Filters could be operated much more efficiently with slightly alkaline water and the excess of acid could be more easily eliminated.

Some additional observations have been made on the nature of the incrustation with a view to determine what part, if any, was played by the iron of the pipes.

Colombo water will produce a definite incrustation on the walls of a smooth glass pipe through which it is caused to flow continuously. But there is reason to believe that the crust formed on the anticorrosive varnish of mains manufactured of iron and steel is both harder and thicker than that deposited on non-ferruginous materials such as wood or concrete.

The results of recent laboratory experiments with Colombo water indicate that blistering of a protective coat and slight corrosion of the iron beneath may sometimes take place, in which part of the iron in the oxides of the crust may be derived from the pipe itself rather than the water. The blistering is probably due to water gaining access to the pipes through minute faults in the protective coating.

This question of the precise source of the iron entering into the incrustation is the subject of much investigation at the present time at other waterworks.

Recent observations open up a fresh field of inquiry regarding the utility of such corrosive substances as sodium silicate for preventing iron incrustation. I hope to get into touch with recent developments when on leave this year.

An unusually complete series of bacteriological tests were carried out under dry weather conditions in 1926. Chemical tests of duplicate samples were performed by the City Analyst.

The details of the great variety of observations which have been carried out from time to time in recent years on the microbiology of the water supply will be reported when a final set of observations have been made after the completion of the filtration plant.

The results of the bacteriological survey carried out in 1913 were reported in an address at the Third All-India Sanitary Conference at Lucknow and published in the Indian Journal of Medical Research. In 1915, I made the preliminary observations on the nature of the incrustation. In 1920 to 1921 the organisms producing the incrustation of the pipes and the suspended matter in the free filtered water were identified, with the help of experts at the British Museum, and Dr. David Ellis.

I also worked out a laboratory method of preventing the incrustation and carried out a series of tests on the operation of the Jewell filters (see annual Reports for 1920 and 1921).

The work was interrupted during the raising of the dam.

The City Analyst, the Waterworks Engineer, and myself are now trying to evolve the most practicable and economical means of applying the results of the bacteriological and chemical observations and experiments to the treatment of the whole supply.

L. F. HIRST,
City Microbiologist.

March 11, 1927.

Annexure B.

REPORT OF THE CITY ANALYST FOR 1926.

In answer to your letter No. 80 of the 10th instant, I have the honour to send my annual Report for the year 1926.

January.			May.			September.		
Milks	...	96	Milks	...	93	Milks	...	102
Town water	...	16	Town water	...	18	Town water	...	16
Well water	...	9	Well water	...	1	Well water	...	2
Concrete blocks	...	5	Vinegar	...	1	October.		
Water from Wharf	...	5	June.			Milks	...	99
February.			Milks	...	100	Town water	...	16
Milks	...	98	Town water	...	16	November.		
Town water	...	16	Well water	...	1	Milks	...	91
Well water	...	1	July.			Town water	...	16
March.			Milks	...	99	Well water	...	3
Milks	...	93	Town water	...	16	December.		
Town water	...	16	August.			Milks	...	103
Well water	...	1	Milks	...	93	Town water	...	16
Labugama water	...	4	Town water	...	16	Well water	...	2
April.			Well water	...	4	Total		
Milks	...	96				...	...	1,391
Town water	...	16						

A total number of 1,391 samples were examined during the year.

Total number of milks	...	1,163
Total number of well water	...	15
Total number of town water	...	194
Total number of water from Labugama reservoir	...	4
Total number of water from distributing pipes at the Wharf	...	5
Total number of concrete blocks	...	9
Total number of vinegar	...	1
Total	...	1,391

Milk supply.—Of a total of 1,163 samples taken, 755 were passed as being up to standard and 408 considered adulterated by the addition of water. Of these, 274 samples or 23·6 per cent. were found to have 1-10 per cent. added water, 83 samples or 7·1 per cent. from 11-30 per cent. added water, and 51 or 4·4 per cent. had over 30 per cent. added water. The maximum adulteration found was 69 per cent. from Maradana North Ward.

The first quarter of 1926 shows a decided improvement on last year's figures and the second quarter's figures show a greater number of adulterated samples but the adulteration above 11 per cent. has been less extensive.

The third and fourth quarters are decidedly worse than the same periods in 1925, especially in the third quarter where adulteration over 31 per cent. amounts to 6·4 per cent. of the total.

Table 1.

Adulteration of Milk.												
Month	Total No.		0 Per Cent.		1-10 Per Cent.		11-30 Per Cent.		+ 31 Per Cent.		Maximum.	
January	...	96	...	70·8	...	18·8	...	8·3	...	2·1	...	53
February	...	98	...	69·4	...	16·3	...	8·2	...	6·1	...	49
March	...	93	...	74·2	...	20·4	...	3·2	...	2·2	...	53
April	...	96	...	63·5	...	25·0	...	7·3	...	4·2	...	49
May	...	93	...	61·3	...	29·0	...	7·5	...	2·2	...	69
June	...	100	...	55·0	...	33·0	...	9·0	...	3·0	...	59
July	...	99	...	59·6	...	22·2	...	10·1	...	8·1	...	55
August	...	93	...	66·7	...	24·7	...	5·4	...	3·2	...	49
September	...	102	...	65·7	...	20·6	...	5·9	...	7·8	...	60
October	...	99	...	67·7	...	19·2	...	9·1	...	4·0	...	67
November	...	91	...	67·0	...	25·3	...	3·3	...	4·4	...	49
December	...	103	...	59·2	...	28·2	...	7·8	...	4·8	...	57

Table 2.

1925.										
	0 Per Cent.	1-10 Per Cent.	11-30 Per Cent.	+ 31 Per Cent.						
First quarter	...	56·3	...	22·5	...	12·6	...	8·4		
Second quarter	...	64·3	...	19·8	...	8·9	...	6·7		
Third quarter	...	67·5	...	21·2	...	6·5	...	4·8		
Fourth quarter	...	76·8	...	18·1	...	4·5	...	0·7		

1926.										
	0 Per Cent.	1-10 Per Cent.	11-30 Per Cent.	+ 31 Per Cent.						
First quarter	...	71·5	...	18·5	...	6·6	...	3·5		
Second quarter	...	59·9	...	29·0	...	7·9	...	3·1		
Third quarter	...	64·0	...	22·5	...	7·1	...	6·4		
Fourth quarter	...	64·6	...	24·2	...	6·7	...	4·4		

The city water supply shows the same high standard of purity. 194 samples were examined from different stand pipes in the city, 4 from Labugama reservoir, and 5 from the distributing pipes at the Wharf.

Fifteen samples of well water were tested, of which 10 were returned as suspicious and 5 were condemned. During January, 9 sample concrete blocks were examined and found satisfactory.

One sample of vinegar was tested and returned as fit for human consumption although a little low in acetic acid.

The Laboratory, Hyde park corner,
Colombo, February 11, 1927.

A. E. PURVES,
for City Analyst.

APPENDIX D.

REPORT OF THE WATERWORKS ENGINEER, 1926.

I HAVE the honour to submit my Administration Report for the year 1926.

LABUGAMA RESERVOIR.

The total rainfall on the catchment area for the year under review was 171·19 inches; this is 8·89 inches over the average rainfall for the past 30 years. Rain fell on 245 days. The highest rainfall for any one day was recorded on September 11, when 6·49 inches fell. The wettest month of the year was May, 26·91 inches being recorded, while the driest month was August, the rainfall being only 2·24 inches.

The lowest level to which water reached in the reservoir was 18 feet 1½ inches below spill level, that was on April 27, on which date there remained in the reservoir 864 million gallons. From the end of May to the middle of November the water in the reservoir was practically at spill level although the scour sluices were opened on twenty-eight occasions during this period.

The boundary with the adjoining catchment area has been regularly inspected and no encroachment has been discovered. The vegetation round the banks of the reservoir for a width of about two chains from top water level has been removed with the view of arresting the wash of fallen leaves into the reservoir.

Filtration Works.—Consist of thirteen 21-foot diameter Jewell gravity filters, five of which were completely overhauled during the year. Provision has been made for installing two additional filters during 1927. The 100 horse power Petter engine was also overhauled and continues to give satisfactory service.

An Armstrong-Whitworth hydro-electric installation was installed to provide lighting to the filter house and outside lighting, water power being obtained direct from the reservoir.

Labour.—The health of the labour has been satisfactory. Unfortunately all labour employed is not housed on the works owing to inadequate accommodation. It is advisable that labour should reside on the premises.

Labugama-Colombo Pipe Line.—Consisting of two 20-inch diameter cast iron mains and a 30-inch diameter steel main, each main being slightly over 2½ miles in length, has been satisfactorily maintained. There was no accident due to burst mains. At stream crossings where mains are exposed the pipes were coated with a bitumastic paint.

Owing to the deepening of San Sebastian canal it was necessary to divert the 20-inch diameter main to Elie House reservoir at Urugodawatta road; the main is now supported on the abutments and centre pier of the road bridge.

The two 20-inch diameter cast iron mains throughout their whole length were scraped, all internal incrustation being removed. The actual time taken to scrape the fifty miles of main was seven weeks. The scraping of these mains restored them to their maximum delivering capacity.

In my Report of last year reference was made to the danger of damage to the pipe line from shade trees on the Colombo-Avisawella road; the trees were growing at an angle and if rooted might possibly cause damage to the pipe line. I am glad to say the Public Works Department are removing the trees in question.

MALIGAKANDA AND ELIE HOUSE SERVICE RESERVOIRS.

Maligakanda reservoir has been maintained in good repair.

A thorough examination was made of the steel beams in the roof of Elie House reservoir and it was found necessary to submit proposals for protecting the joists. A sum of Rs. 30,000 was provided in the current budget for the work.

Housing of Labour at Maligakanda.—A scheme for the better housing of labour at Maligakanda was sanctioned. This consists of four quarters for overseers, &c., and a coolie line of 100 rooms. The work is in progress.

Distribution System.—Complaints were only received during the year from the Wolfenbuttel area, the highest district in the city. The Council have sanctioned the laying of a special main to improve the supply to this area at a cost of Rs. 23,000.

The following extensions to the system were made:—

3-inch diameter main	...	6,046 lineal yards.
4-inch diameter main	...	911 lineal yards.
6-inch diameter main	...	1,273 lineal yards.

Fire Hydrants.—The programme of substituting hydrants of the valve type for those of the ball pattern was continued. 370 new hydrants were fixed.

Service Connections.—657 new service connections were made, an increase of 171 over the previous year. 2,928 applications were dealt with for extensions and alterations to existing services.

Consumption of Water.—The daily consumption averages 10½ million gallons, or 41 gallons per head of population. Trade supplies which are metered number 628, an increase of 10 over the previous year, the consumption under this heading is 165 million gallons.

106 million gallons were supplied to shipping against 98 million last year.

The consumption on Government premises was 468 million gallons.

Petty Trade Supplies.—There are 824 unmetered services to premises where nominal charges are made for water supplied for other than domestic use. The consumption on these premises does not warrant meters being fixed.

Waste Detection.—4,860 notices were served on householders to repair defective fittings. It is necessary that the whole distribution system should be divided into districts and Deacon waste meters fixed on each. Unfortunately there are only 14 metered districts, 11 of which have been brought under complete control, and the average saving is 6·8 gallons per head per day on a population of 33,560, making a total daily saving of 229,000 gallons.

Testing and Stamping of Water Fittings.—9,117 water fittings, such as taps, ball cocks, &c., were examined and stamped.

Mechanical Power:—

(a) Stationary	...	100 horse power Petter oil engine at Labugama for filter washing purposes.
	...	5 horse power "B B" Type Petter oil engine for air compressor coagulant feed purposes at Labugama.
	...	4 horse power "Armstrong-Whitworth" water turbine for the electric lighting installation at Labugama.
(b) Movable	...	21 horse power "Chevrolet" motor lorry.
	...	18 horse power "Buick" motor car.

Finance.—The total revenue derived for the year was Rs. 916,788'58, and the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 512,888'64, *vide* statement attached.

Staff.—Mr. T. B. Stewart, Chief Assistant Waterworks Engineer, returned from ten months' furlough on February 23.

Mr. H. C. Raffel, Assistant Engineer, went on ten months' leave on February 19.

I have pleasure in recording my appreciation of the assistance rendered by the staff during the year.

Statements showing the rainfall at Labugama from 1917 to 1926, the percentage run-off from catchment area, and the monthly consumption are appended.

W. M. THYNE,
Waterworks Engineer.

Maligakanda, March 17, 1927.

Rainfall, Labugama Reservoir, for Ten Years, 1917–1926.

Month.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	Average for Ten Years.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
January ...	6'20	4'02	10'65	1'41	8'56	5'44	11'63	10'16	8'78	7'86	7'47
February ...	5'56	2'48	3'11	3'31	2'40	5'46	3'22	9'50	9'31	2'24	4'66
March ...	13'97	5'30	9'80	10'38	6'58	4'63	7'79	20'71	21'47	10'46	11'10
April ...	10'43	8'07	9'04	28'54	12'48	11'08	12'08	8'05	11'71	14'19	12'57
May ...	7'92	23'22	26'45	13'62	16'52	18'26	10'90	25'46	19'84	26'91	18'91
June ...	11'92	16'98	11'32	31'49	6'72	24'92	25'30	16'66	16'14	20'74	18'22
July ...	6'06	10'29	10'77	9'44	9'54	7'52	17'59	18'41	7'71	21'03	11'84
August ...	13'38	7'72	8'61	3'78	15'53	7'09	20'39	14'71	6'11	9'55	10'69
September ...	27'31	4'43	30'63	7'88	3'68	7'86	40'21	35'63	15'31	18'63	19'15
October ...	14'13	16'37	19'85	16'18	22'27	10'19	33'24	16'13	19'87	16'37	18'46
November ...	14'93	11'45	23'58	22'35	12'57	23'31	21'89	15'29	26'17	10'42	18'20
December ...	8'41	17'65	21'31	15'73	10'20	9'46	12'57	12'79	16'59	12'79	13'75
Total ...	140'22	127'98	185'12	164'11	127'05	135'22	216'81	203'50	179'01	171'19	165'02

Table Showing Percentage of Run-off from Catchment Area for 1926.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Date.	Depth below Spill.	Water in Reservoir.	Water drawn off.	Rain-fall.	Rain equivalent in Gallons over Catchment Area.	Gain in Reservoir.	Loss in Reservoir.	Run-off in Catchment Area.	Percentage Col. $\frac{9}{6} \times 100$.
1926.	Ft. in.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Inches.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	
January	1 0 2½	1,764,960,000	317,750,000	7'86	424,440,000	—	213,260,000	104,490,000	24'61
February	31 4 3	1,551,700,000							
March	1 4 3	1,551,700,000	307,070,000	2'24	120,960,000	—	330,787,000	23,717,000	19'60
April	28 10 10½	1,220,913,000							
May	1 10 10½	1,220,913,000	324,888,000	10'46	564,840,000	—	261,783,000	63,105,000	11'17
June	31 16 5½	959,130,000							
July	1 16 5½	959,130,000	323,274,000	14'19	766,260,000	—	12,886,000	310,388,000	40'50
August	30 16 9	946,244,000							
September	1 16 9	946,244,000	330,698,000	26'91	1,453,140,000	760,788,000	—	1,091,486,000	75'11
October	31 1 3½	1,707,032,000							
November	1 1 3½	1,707,032,000	719,436,000	20'74	1,119,960,000	50,968,000	—	770,404,000	68'78
December	30 0 4	1,758,000,000							
Total	1 0 4	1,758,000,000	773,691,000	21'03	1,135,620,000	—	17,361,000	756,330,000	66'60
January	31 0 8	1,740,639,000							
February	1 0 8	1,740,639,000	353,286,000	9'55	515,700,000	2,241,000	—	355,527,000	68'94
March	31 0 7½	1,742,880,000							
April	1 0 7½	1,742,880,000	571,580,000	18'63	1,006,020,000	9,495,000	—	581,075,000	57'75
May	30 0 5½	1,752,375,000							
June	1 0 5½	1,752,375,000	448,086,000	16'37	883,980,000	—	51,075,000	397,011,000	44'91
July	31 1 5	1,701,300,000							
August	1 1 5	1,701,300,000	391,033,000	10'42	562,680,000	—	91,144,000	299,889,000	53'29
September	30 3 1½	1,610,156,000							
October	1 3 1½	1,610,156,000	351,115,000	12'79	690,660,000	73,641,000	400,756,000	424,756,000	61'50
November	31 1 8½	1,683,797,000							
Total					9,244,260,000		Total	5,178,178,000	

Percentage yield of catchment area 56'01.

MUNICIPALITY OF COLOMBO.
Statement of Monthly Consumption, 1926.

95

METERED.						
Month.	Trade and Garden Watering.		Shipping.	Government Supply.	Domestic Purposes.	Total Consumption.
	Gallons.		Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
January ...	15,708,000	...	7,807,000	...	41,750,000	...
February ...	14,294,000	...	8,988,000	...	252,485,000	...
March ...	12,365,000	...	9,085,000	...	40,321,000	...
April ...	15,850,000	...	10,911,000	...	243,467,000	...
May ...	14,624,000	...	9,140,000	...	40,903,000	...
June ...	9,033,000	...	7,679,000	...	44,016,000	...
July ...	15,856,000	...	7,015,000	...	252,497,000	...
August ...	13,909,000	...	8,998,000	...	265,742,000	...
September ...	11,761,000	...	8,798,000	...	26,062,000	...
October ...	16,159,000	...	9,110,000	...	268,662,000	...
November ...	13,668,000	...	9,342,000	...	274,658,000	...
December ...	11,554,000	...	8,818,000	...	45,372,000	...
Total ...	164,781,000		105,691,000		32,459,000	
					266,562,000	
					262,965,000	
					255,812,000	
					278,724,000	
					3,145,116,000	
					3,883,907,000	

Colombo Waterworks.—Statement showing Income and Expenditure during the year 1926.

Item No.	INCOME.	Rs.		Rs.	
			c.		c.
1.	(a) Sale of water for trade and shipping purposes ...	866,203	99		
	(b) Costs on recoveries ...	1,777	28		
	(c) Contribution by Military ...	16,119	32		
	(d) Meter rent ...	23,395	43		
				907,496	2
2.	Departmental charges recovered on—				
	(a) House connection works ...	3,636	34		
	(b) Government departments ...	2,013	45		
	(c) Miscellaneous ...	252	59		
	(d) Laying mains in private lanes ...	3,390	18		
				9,292	56
	Total ...			916,788	58

Item No.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.		Rs.	
			c.		c.
1.	General superintendence ...			108,708	89
2.	Cost of works :—				
	(a) Maintenance works ...	134,891	5		
	(b) Miscellaneous ...	1,935	70		
	(c) New works ...	117,353	0		
				254,179	75
1.	Interest and sinking fund on loans for Colombo waterworks extension, 1912 ...	—		150,000	0
		—		403,899	94
2.	Excess of income over expenditure				
	Total ...			916,788	58

APPENDIX E.

REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL ENGINEER FOR 1926.

Part I.—Summary of the Year's Work.

THE total expenditure of the Department incurred on its own votes, on deposit accounts, on votes for other departments amounted to Rs. 3,796,922'17. This output is far higher than previous effort and over one million rupees in advance of the previous year. Such a rate of progress cannot be maintained with the present staff which is based on an expenditure of two persons only. During the year under review there was no supervising officer absent on leave for long period. This will probably never occur again, whilst at times it will be likely that there will be two away at once.

The average daily labour force employed was 4,366, and the amount paid in wages amounted to Rs. 1,564,726'74.

The work or services on which this expenditure was incurred may be classified, along with the approximate proportion of the total expenditure devoted to each, as follows:—

1. Overhead charges—Salaries, allowances, stationery, &c. ...	8.5 per cent.
2. Maintenance of property and buildings, includes lighting, fans, cleaning, &c. ...	2.6 per cent.
3. Improvements to buildings and new buildings ...	3.1 per cent.
4. Street lighting maintenance ...	3.7 per cent.
5. Street lighting extensions ...	0.4 per cent.
6. Parks and playgrounds ...	1.0 per cent.
7. Conservancy ...	3.3 per cent.
8. Scavenging, including destruction and disposal of refuse ...	8.8 per cent.
9. Road maintenance ...	16.2 per cent.
10. Road widenings and improvements, including permanent paving, &c. ...	21.0 per cent.
11. Main drainage working and maintenance, including pumping and treatment ...	10.0 per cent.
12. Drainage extensions ...	6.0 per cent.
13. Lavatories, laundries, and tipping depôts ...	1.7 per cent.
14. New lavatories and laundries ...	1.0 per cent.
15. Connecting up private premises to drainage scheme ...	3.6 per cent.
16. Plant and tools (common to various services) ...	5.7 per cent.
17. Miscellaneous ...	0.8 per cent.
18. Deposit and advance account works ...	0.8 per cent.
19. For other departments ...	1.8 per cent.
Total ...	100.0 per cent.

From May 1 onwards the wages of all daily paid labour were increased by 20 per cent. This, of course, also added to the price of material produced by daily paid labour.

Part II.—Buildings.

1.—MAINTENANCE.

Maintenance.—Municipal buildings and properties in charge of the Department were maintained at a cost of Rs. 59,615.49, including minor alterations. This figure does not include pumping stations, lavatories, and accessories under the drainage scheme, which are more correctly included under drainage.

The property here dealt with includes—

Eleven markets.
Thirty-three shops in Gasworks street and Kachcheri road.
Two large blocks of offices and laboratory at Maligakanda.
The Cattle Mart and Quarantine Station (thirty-one sheds).
Three cemeteries with keepers' quarters and cooly lines.
One Fire Station, residence and firemen's quarters.
The Town Hall.
The Dog Pound and Rat Depôt.
The Public Library
The Khan Clock Tower.
153 tenements for coolies.
Stores, Disinfector, and Workshop buildings.
The Slaughter-house and quarters.
Cattle isolation camp and sheds (fourteen sheds).
Two laundries.

Many of these are modern buildings and are valuable properties and sites.

The cost of lighting and electric current for these buildings for the year amounted to Rs. 35,016.85.

2.—NEW BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

Slave Island Market.—This new market is situated in Jefferson street and was opened for use on May 1. It provides fourteen meat stalls, fourteen vegetable, and eighteen fish stalls, with office and store, &c. It is of the same general type, subject to rearrangement to suit particular sites, as its recent predecessors. The general arrangements appear successful and suitable and do not seem to call for any substantial alterations at present.

All stalls are open only on to an interior courtyard and food is thus protected from dust and dirt. The cost of the building was Rs. 78,064.60.

Kachcheri Road Market.—An extension to provide another twenty stalls for plantain sellers was in hand and nearly complete, there being great demand for such stalls. Special railings made of galvanized piping are provided, and from these the bunches of plantains are hung. The estimated cost is Rs. 10,650.

Cemeteries.—An additional cooly line and store room were added at Liveramentu. The cooly lines at Kanatta were improved, a store room added, and the yard between the lines paved with concrete; total cost Rs. 2,339.28.

Cattle Mart.—A new milk room was erected at a cost of Rs. 1,337.36.

Slaughter-houses.—Considerable improvements were being effected to the cooly lines.

Rinderpest Hospital, Borella.—One shed was reconstructed and crow-proofed.
Laundries.—A number of additional concrete posts were provided in the drying grounds at Blomendahl, and the linen rooms at Wekanda were rat-proofed.

Part III.—Street Lighting.**1.—MAINTENANCE.**

Lighting.—McCallum road and Prince of Wales avenue and all the streets in the Fort Ward, except the Galle Face, are lit by electricity. The remainder are lit by gas. The annual maintenance charge was Rs. 139,547.52. The total number of lamps lighted on the streets is 2,565, the total candle power 284,760, as against 269,260 of last year. Increase 16,500 candle power. The total candle power hours of light during the year was 1,999,800, as against 1,890,480 of 1925, an increase of 109,320 candle power hours.

The following minor improvements were effected :—

Seven road junctions were illuminated with larger powered lamps.

Two central lamp posts were fitted with a shelter for policemen on point duty.

Forty-nine lamp posts were moved to new positions owing to road improvements, &c.

Four lamp posts were moved to make room for gateways.

A total of sixty lamps were fitted with burners giving double their previous illumination in Cotta road, Kanatta road, and Buller's road.

Twelve lamps fitted with ordinary burners were replaced with 300 candle power arc lamps.

The illumination on Dehiwala bridge was improved.

The overhead electric service cable in McCallum road was moved and re-erected along the edge of the kerb.

With the exception of the Fort and a few only of the main thoroughfares the street lighting generally appears somewhat below the standard desirable for modern fast traffic conditions. The call for funds in other and more pressing directions is however very great and no serious improvements can be effected without considerable initial outlay, in addition to increased annual costs.

2.—EXTENSIONS.

The following extensions were carried out during the year :—

203 yards of one-inch main and three new lamps were erected in Vellon's passage, Albert road, and East and West Baseline road.

207 yards of two-inch main were laid and three lamps erected in Rockwood place and Arab lane.

4,076 yards of three-inch main were laid and fifty-six gas lamps erected on the following roads :—East and West Baseline road, Fife road, Franciawatta road, Kelaniganga Mill road, Station passage, Slave Island, Paranawadiya road, Second Maligakanda lane, and Maligakanda lane. The Council's share of the cost amounted to Rs. 15,164.56. The company pays half the cost of the mains.

Further extensions to Greenlands road, Yakbedda road, Kuruppu road, and Rodney street have been sanctioned and await the receipt of supplies of pipes.

Part IV.—Parks and Playgrounds.**1.—PARKS.**

There seems to be need for considerable expansion of spaces available for allotment to games for grown up people. This should receive consideration equally with the necessity for more playgrounds for children.

The following parks and gardens were maintained during the year at a total cost of Rs. 29,721.17 :—Gordon gardens, Price park, Galle Face esplanade, Victoria park, Rifle street gardens, Campbell park, Havelock park, Maligakanda park, Union place gardens, Dematagoda gardens, and Glennie street gardens.

Victoria Park.—Two shrubberies and six canna beds, each 50 feet long, were made up and planted along the borders of the new road through the park opposite the Town Hall, and 10,000 square feet of grass border levelled and planted with grass.

26,000 cuttings of malpighia were planted along the hedge of the shrubberies to form an edging. 168 new palms, shrubs, crotons, and choro flowers were planted. Some 110 kinds of flower seeds were sown. Twenty-four concrete pickets of a new pattern were fixed along the sides of the drive. Ninety white ant hills were dug and nests destroyed. Twelve trees (poor specimens) were removed to open out the view of the new Town Hall. The following trees were planted :—potato trees, 4 palms, 1 king coconut, 2 jacaranda, 5 lagerstrœmia, 1 vitex.

New Town Hall.—A bed, 15 feet long, was laid out with panax behind the new Town Hall. A bed, 55 feet long, was laid out with shoe flower cuttings and also with antigonum climbers.

Free Library Garden.—Four beds, each 28 feet by 4 feet, were laid out with flowering and ornamental foliage plants. Four canna beds, each 4 feet in diameter, were laid out with assorted cannas.

The masonry work of the old plant house was demolished.

Riding Track.—10,200 square feet were levelled with 557 cart loads of earth and 167 cart loads of old gravel.

Union Place Gardens.—Four dead flamboyant were cut down and replaced. The lawn was much improved after the filling of the uneven parts. This work will be continued in the coming year.

Dematagoda Gardens.—The tennis court was relaid and new wire netting was supplied.

Rifle Street Gardens.—The lawn was filled in at low places and a general improvement was effected by planting grass in bare places. The wire fence was renewed. A bin for rubbish was built in this garden.

White Park.—Three trees were felled in this park and timber transported to Stores. The tennis court was relaid and the wire netting was renewed.

Havelock Park.—404 square feet of grass were replanted. Weeding and manuring of grass were done systematically throughout the year. Planted four flamboyant and four palms. The tennis court was relaid and wire nettings were renewed.

Gordon Gardens.—The paths were gravelled and the visitors' shed renewed. The lawns were much improved by the spreading of leaf mould and manure. Two sooriya trees were felled and a new refuse bin was built.

Campbell Park.—The star bed was relaid. 225 square feet were planted with grass. Madras thorn seeds were planted along the hedge to fill up the gaps. Relaid the surface of two tennis courts. The section of the park occupied by the Wesley College was greatly improved by the filling up of the low-lying land.

The overhanging branches of all the trees along the path on the side of the Home for the Incurables were lopped. The sides of the open drain were turfed. Silt removed from the open drain was used to fill up the uneven ground adjoining the drain.

Price Park.—A shed was erected to store the park tools. Steps were taken to grow grass on bare spots. Four peltophorum were planted in place of dead ones.

Glennie Street Gardens.—The coarse grass was replaced with a finer kind. The gaps in the hedge were attended to.

Galle Face Esplanade.—403 white ant nests were removed and destroyed. All refuse was collected and removed regularly. The esplanade was weeded and the ridges were levelled.

2.—PLAYGROUNDS.

The following is the list of playgrounds with their instructors :—

1. Price park	...	...	Mr. P. G. de Silva
2. Rifle street garden	...	...	Mr. S. Rajasingham *
3. Hyde park	...	...	Mr. Edward Henry *
4. Prince of Wales avenue	...	...	Mr. H. James Soyza *
5. Dematagoda	...	...	Mr. T. H. Mendis
6. Alexander playground (Watersmeet)	...	...	Mr. S. Abraham

* Part-time instructors.

Attendance :—			Total Attendance for the Year.	Daily Average.
1. Price park	...	...	59,069	198
2. Rifle street garden	...	...	18,458	87
3. Hyde park	...	...	15,511	58
4. Prince of Wales avenue	...	...	18,028	60
5. Dematagoda	...	...	27,763	109
6. Alexander playground	...	...	25,166	92

Presumably these playgrounds mainly serve those children who do not go to any school, but it is evident that they attract only a small fraction of the large number of children of school going age who do not go to any school at all, since, according to the District School Committee, there are 9,288 such children in Colombo. The number of boys that come to the playgrounds, particularly to Price park is a little too many for one instructor to manage. More instructors and playgrounds are therefore desirable. Alexander playground at Mutwal was opened. The two full-time instructors, Messrs. Mendis and Abraham, were deputed to look after them.

Games.—Soccer, hockey, volley ball, basket ball, boxing, swings, giant strides, seesaw, ragan, slide, rounders, and a score of group games are indulged in. A great variety of activities is employed to meet the inclinations of the children, but football is the most popular, both among men and boys, as the 60 or more barefooted football clubs testify. The City Football League is easily the largest football league in the Island, to-day. It is difficult at times to control and direct excessive keenness that not infrequently develops into disputes, but it is hoped that there is now a dawning of a better spirit of sportmanship in the matches.

Some of the playgrounds are greatly handicapped for want of space for football, most notably Rifle street garden. It has therefore been suggested that this little plot be converted into a girls' playground and that the City League be requested to permit a portion of the seven acres granted to them by the Government to be utilized as a Municipal playground, and that in return the Council might undertake to level one or both football grounds for them. This should not cost very much.

1926 Tournaments :—

- (a) Ceylon Volley Ball League Champions—Price park.
- (b) City League Champions—Smallpass Football Club.
- (c) Inter-Playground Volley Ball Champions—Price park (boys' team).
- (d) The Juvenile League Champions—Price park (boys' team).

Price park, the oldest playground, is particularly fortunate in its situation. It is almost in the heart of the city, and children are attracted to it from many tenements around Dias place, Chekku street, Wolfendahl, and even from Kochchikade.

It has been possible to arrange first class matches with all the teams of the warships calling at Colombo. The officers and men have always expressed their desire to come again to Price park.

August 25.—Price Park Volley Ball Team travelled up to Kandy on an invitation from the Kandy Horti-Agricultural Show to play a match against Kandy's best team. They won the match easily 15'1; 15'6. The team was in charge of Major Stanley Fernando.

Inter-playground sports were held on December 18. A feature of the meet was that only teams competed; there were as many as fifteen teams that took the field. Prizes of sarongs and banyans were graciously distributed by Lady Clifford. His Excellency the Governor himself was an interested spectator.

Instructors' Meeting.—The monthly meeting of the instructors is held in the Young Men's Christian Association for want of suitable Municipal meeting place. It is well attended and Office is vacated it will be possible to use that temporarily to organize other activities relating to playground movement. A good club house or meeting room is a necessary auxiliary to a successful playground scheme. There boxing meets, concerts, lectures may be regularly held, and inter-playground "socials" may be arranged.

Apparatus.—All playgrounds are fairly well equipped with permanent apparatus.

Music in the Playgrounds.—Band music is much appreciated by the children and by some of their parents. There is an appeal from the instructor of Alexander playground for the band there.

Improvement in the physical and moral development of many children who regularly come to these organized and supervised playgrounds is noticeable. Many weedy boys have grown into healthy and well-behaved youths, willing and competent to do any kind of work. Quite a large number of these are to-day employed as peons, porters, fitters, drivers, cleaners, and messenger boys, &c. The right type of playground instructor who can devote his whole time to the work is essential in the moulding of the character of the children who attend the playgrounds. The employment of full-time instructors is therefore most desirable. At present we have three full-time and five part-time instructors.

It is hoped that the benefits of the playground movement are sufficiently evident to cause its extension. Similar facilities for girls would seem desirable. Many girls persist, in spite of discouragement from the boys, in coming evening after evening to the playgrounds.

Part V.—Conservancy.

The following is a statement of work done for private premises:—

	1925.	1926.
1. Average number of buckets conserved per diem ...	10,780	10,256
2. Average number of coolies employed per diem ...	195	189
3. Number of hand carts in daily use ...	133	129
4. Average number of complaints per diem ...	707	1
5. Quantity of undiluted disinfectant used per diem (gallons) 17 ...	17	16
6. Cost of service for the year ...	Rs. 109,063	Rs. 119,934

There was no change of general method or organization. There was a slight reduction in work at an increased cost due to all wages being increased by 20 per cent.

Though progress is slow, the reduction in the number of buckets conserved is satisfactory, indicating that the house connection work of the drainage branch is not only keeping pace with new buildings but is making up leeway in respect of existing houses.

Part VI.—Scavenging.

1.—REFUSE COLLECTION.

The cost of collection of all household rubbish, of all refuse thrown on to streets in the Council's charge, and of the flushing and cleaning of all public surface drains for the year 1926 was Rs. 262,588'52. The average daily labour force was 11 overseers, 8 sub-overseers, 406 coolies, 152 carts, and 4 petrol vehicles. Refuse is collected at least once and frequently twice a day.

There was no radical alteration in the general arrangements, but an order was placed for four new petrol collecting vehicles.

The quantity of refuse collected was equivalent to about 173,000 cart loads, of which roughly half were tipped and half burnt.

2.—REFUSE DISPOSAL.

The Destructor was shut down for annual overhaul and cleansing for seventeen days, but with this exception it worked continuously throughout the year. It burnt 16,165 tons of refuse at a cost of Rs. 1'76½ per ton, a rise of 3 cents per ton over 1925, which is quite satisfactory considering the 20 per cent. increase in wages. There were also incinerated: 54 horses, 618 cattle, 1,993 goats, 2,297 dogs, and 93,391 rats, as well as 1 turtle and 1 deer. This is a big increase on the number of goats destroyed and a corresponding reduction in respect of dogs as compared with 1925.

It is probable that an additional oil engine for providing forced draught to the Destructor furnaces during wet weather will shortly have to be provided.

For the disposal of refuse of a non-combustible nature or of a general nature for a short period when the Destructor has to be closed down, the system now in force is that of dumping near Prince of Wales avenue and covering with ashes, but it is dependent on a destructor. As previously pointed out, the provision of an additional destructor is inevitable.

The cost of collection and disposal of refuse works out roughly Rs. 1'15 per head of population per annum.

Part VII.—Roads.

1.—MAINTENANCE.

The middle part of the year was again abnormally wet and for a period there was difficulty in getting regular stone supplies owing to flooding out of quarries, fever amongst the labour so employed, and to the state of the river preventing river transport. At the end of the year the standard of maintenance was, on the whole, fairly good and in some cases there was distinct improvement. The Galle road for instance was continuously maintained in better condition, probably than it had ever been before.

Increased activity in the essential work of connecting up premises with the drainage system adds, of course, to the difficulty of maintaining smooth surfaces, for such reinstatements cannot be executed, no matter how carefully the work is done, without unevennesses and without general detriment to the road surface. It is a trouble common to all the world and, though every effort is made to mitigate it by co-operation between the parties concerned, it is to a large extent unavoidable. There is no practicable solution. We do not apparently suffer more in this respect than other places. It is recorded for instance that last year in Sheffield their roads suffered from 900 separate excavating operations totalling 100 miles of trenching.

The provision of more adequate funds for permanent paving is most satisfactory and will help to reduce the mountain of material necessary for the constant renewal of non-permanent surfaces, which would otherwise have buried us.

It is hoped that the results will make themselves sufficiently apparent to encourage the continuation of that policy. The present stage we have arrived at is somewhat transitional owing to the extraordinary rapid development of traffic and the necessity of conversion of gravel to metal roads. The actual touchable cash savings available from such a policy are hardly noticeable though saving has actually been made, and if the policy is continued it is certain that despite of increase of traffic and higher cost of wages and materials there will in time be considerable actual reduction in annual charges.

A most satisfactory start has been made, but it must be borne in mind that so far the extent of permanent paving completed is small compared with that in many other large towns.

The total length of metalled roads maintained by the Council is 73'18 miles. Of this length, 45'8 miles were re-metalled, others, of course, having minor repairs effected. The number of cubes of metal used was 9,257'38 at a cost of Rs. 332,285'33 laid complete.

Of the 73'18 miles of metalled roads, 18 miles are trunk roads and maintained at Government expense. The amount recoverable under this particular item is Rs. 105,363'24.

There are 42'13 miles of gravelled roads, of which 7 miles were entirely re-gravelled, others having repairs of a lesser nature effected. 1,892'12 cubes of gravel were used at a cost of Rs. 31,627'06 laid complete.

Owing to increasing wages and therefore increased cost of metal as well and to increasing traffic the unit cost of effecting repairs of this nature must continue to rise. The greater the volume of traffic the more frequent and longer are the interruptions to rollers and working parties and the less is the proportion of useful work it is possible to perform in a day.

The conversion of gravel into metal roads continues. The choice of the order of conversion is sometimes dictated by the bad condition of a particular road, coupled with inability to obtain gravel for it within reasonable time, or by the fact that a length of gravel road is surrounded by metalled and painted surfaces which do not require watering, whereas the gravel section does, and isolated cases are expensive and difficult to arrange for.

Buller's road between Cotta road and Castle street, Maitland crescent, Racecourse avenue, Boyd place, and part of St. Michael's road were so converted in 1926. Others are in progress in the north of Colombo.

In the course of ordinary metalling or gravelling the following effective carriage-way widths were improved :—Alwis road, Kotahena, increased to 20 feet at its junction with College street and for about 200 feet therefrom ; Fishers hill, Kotahena, increased by about 10 feet at its narrowest point by cutting back the banks on both sides ; Prince of Wales avenue, Armour street to Layard's Broadway, increased by 20 feet.

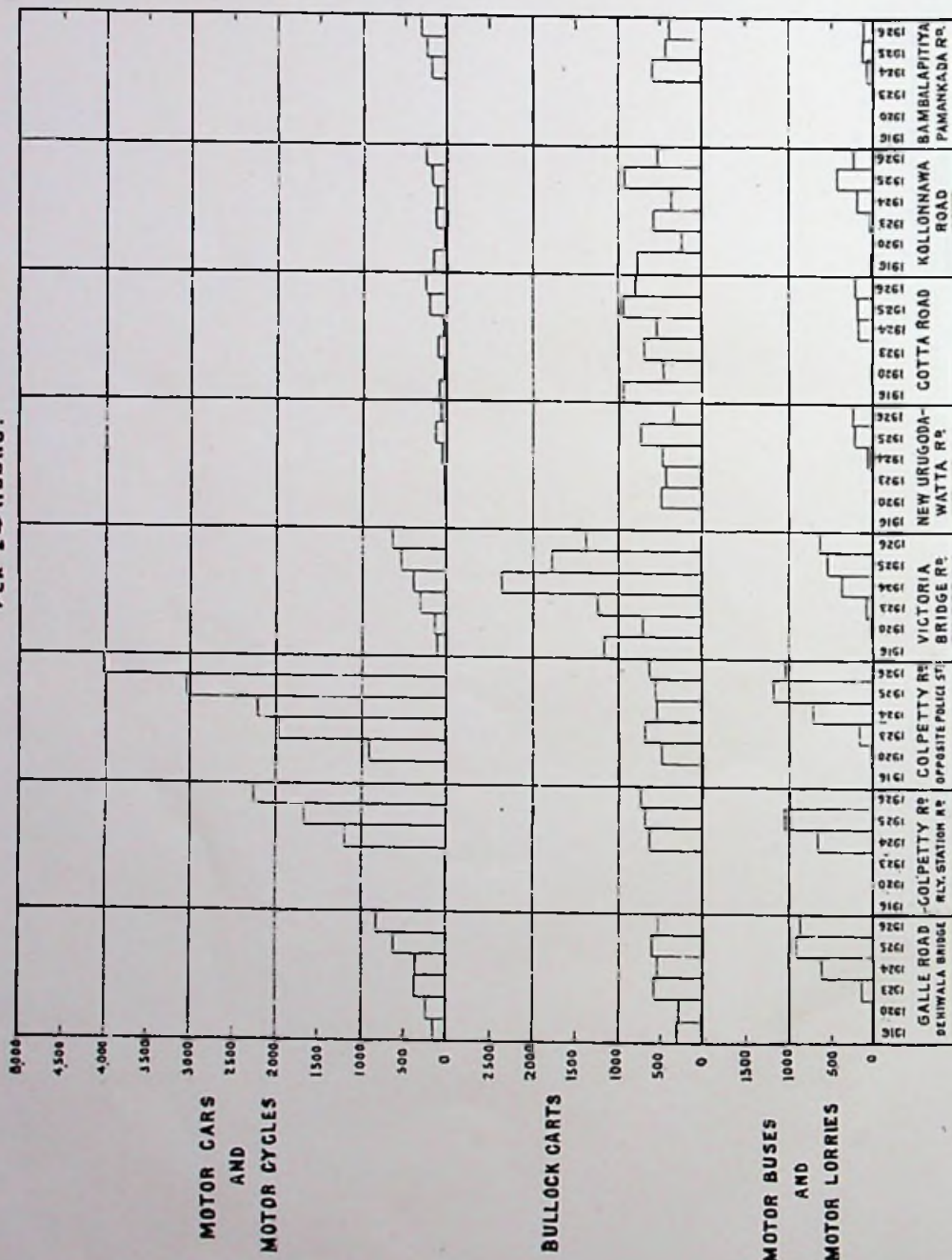
Surface Painting.—The expenditure under this head totalled Rs. 101,962'45. This work has in the past been referred to under the description dust prevention, but as a matter of fact it is entirely a work of surface maintenance and preservation, and its benefit as a dust preventative merely incidental.

The materials used and areas so treated are tabled as under :—

					Squares.
Asphaltum	...	...	...	...	40,744
English tar	...	...	...	...	32,740
Local tar	...	...	...	...	9,825
Spramex	...	...	...	...	13,295
Colas	...	...	...	...	7,282
Total					45,065'55

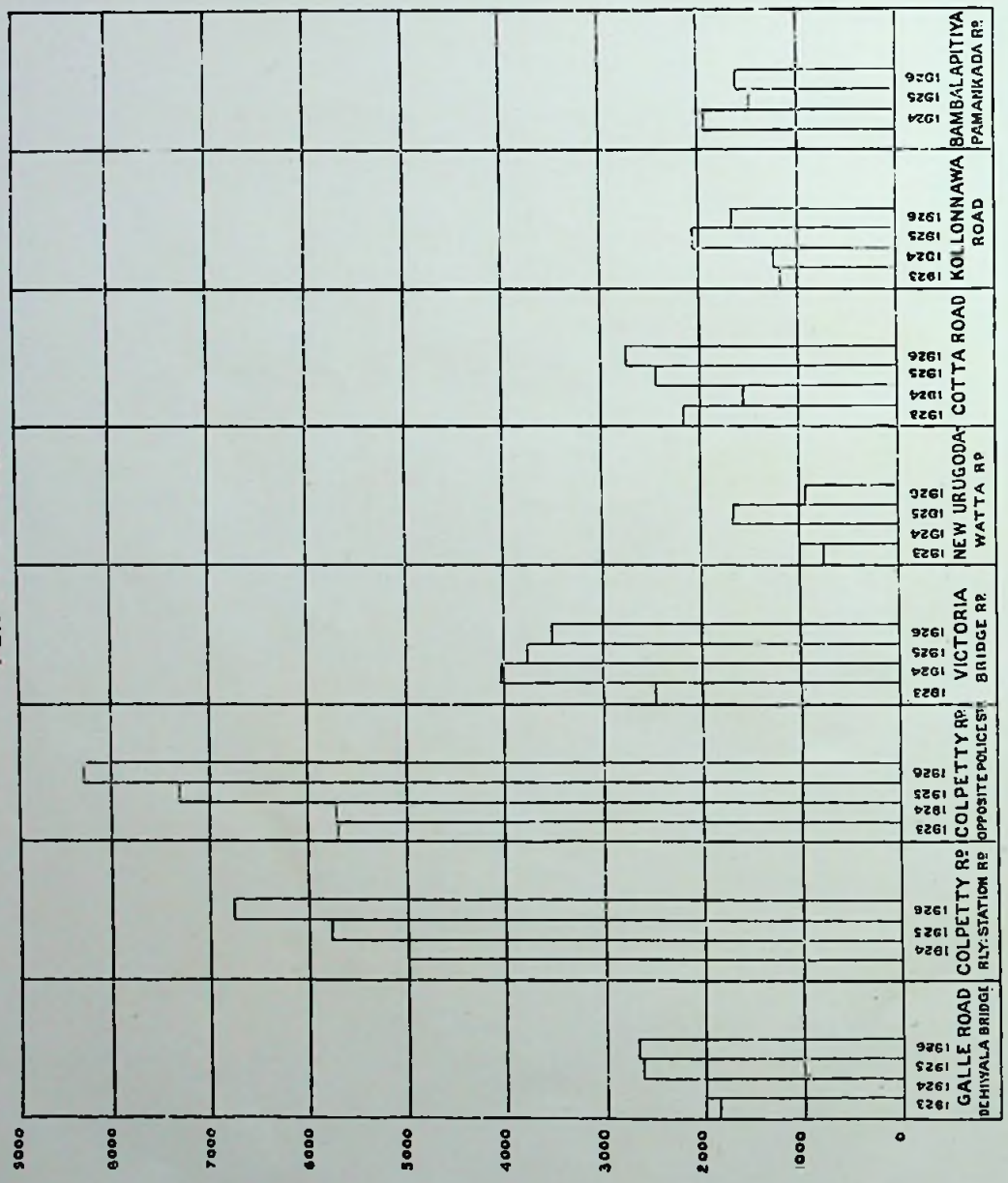
or roughly about 150 acres. The average cost per square of 100 square feet works out at Rs. 2'26. The price of refined tar has risen so high with its quality still variable that its use is not likely to be an economical proposition in future. Bituminous materials have a much longer life and their price is now greatly reduced.

TRAFFIC ON TRUNK ROADS. PER 24 HOURS.



K.S. 801
77-3-27

TOTAL TRAFFIC ON TRUNK ROADS. PER 24 HOURS.



N^o 802
17. 3. 27

Surface painting was continued on all roads previously so treated and was extended to Maitland crescent, Racecourse avenue, Laurie's road, Pamankade road, San Sebastian street.

Half the amount spent on this kind of work on trunk roads is refunded by Government. This amount was Rs. 20,788'94 for 1927.

Dust Laying and Dust Removal.—The expenditure on watering and oiling amounted to Rs. 44,943'59. Watering was carried out in accordance with the usual programme as and when required. Over 42 million gallons of water were spread and 20,600 gallons of oil. Wet seasons such as we have been experiencing do not admit of any extensive use of oil which incidentally, though a perfect layer of dust, does not improve the road surface.

Over 26,000 loads of dust and mud were swept, collected, and removed and tipped or used for filling where possible. The cost was Rs. 34,084'99 or about Rs. 1'30 per load.

Traffic Census.—A census of wheeled traffic was again taken on trunk road routes in October. Broadly speaking it indicates a very big increase of fast motor traffic and on some routes a small decrease of slower heavy traffic such as carts, buses, and lorries. It is probable that in order to obtain accurate results it would be wise to take a record twice a year since at any one particular time chosen, there may be some rise or fall above or below ordinary average for reasons that cannot be arrived at. It is essential that these records should be extended to other important roads as soon as personnel to supervise is available. The trend of traffic and needs of the future cannot be correctly foreseen and provided for without such records.

Traffic Restrictions.—The following alterations and additions were gazetted during the year:—

Motor buses were prohibited along Campbell place, Second Division, Maradana, and Third Division, Maradana.

Bullock carts were prohibited along Second Division, Maradana.

Traffic was confined to one direction along Bankshall street towards St. John's road, Fourth Cross street towards Norris road, Keyzer street towards Front street, and Baillie street towards York street.

Signs.—117 standard pattern warning or direction signs were cast and erected during the year:—

- 26 Dangerous Corners.
- 46 Stop Motor Buses.
- 15 Bus Halting Places.
- 3 Stop Buses and Lorries.
- 10 Silence Boards for Hospitals.
- 3 Stop Buses and Bullock Carts.
- 14 Stop All Vehicles.

It is most desirable that the colouring on such signs should remain clear and bright and great difficulty is being experienced in finding paints which retain their colour under our climatic conditions.

Street Names.—110 streets were fitted with name boards in Sinhalese and Tamil.

White Lines.—The renewal of white lines was temporarily abandoned until such time as their observance could be insisted upon. Little or no attention was paid to them and it was decided that for the time they served no useful purpose.

Stands and Parking Places.—Where circumstances have permitted, York street and part of Norris road for instance, the provision of standing or parking space at the side of the road kept quite distinct from the track available for moving traffic have proved a great relief to this problem, but the difficulty remains in all other roads where it is still the writer's view that the centre of a road is the best parking place.

Side Drains.—Unbuilt side drains in parts of the following streets were lined with half-round concrete inverts:—Wall's lane, Greenlands road, Reid avenue, San Sebastian hill, Molawatta road, Ingham street, Dematagoda road, Bagatelle road, Timbirigasyaya road, Old Kolonnawa road, Galle road, Cotta road, De Vos lane, Castle street, Ketawalamulla road, Park avenue, Havelock road, Daniel's road, Barnes place, Hulftsdorp, Greenpath, and Baseline road.

General repairs to built side drains were effected where required and in the following instances were overhauled throughout the entire length of roads:—Brassfounder street, Andival street, Chekku street, Gintupitiya road, Ferry street, Wasala road, Ambalama road, Hulftsdorp, Vincent street, Wilson street, Oilman street, Court street, Silversmith street, and Silversmith lane.

Footways.—All footways of stone chips painted with bitumen radiating from the Fort as far as Slave Island, Kollupitiya, Pettah, San Sebastian, and St. Paul's were overhauled and repaired or resurfaced where required. At a few places in Fifth Cross street, Fishers quarters, Second Division, Maradana, and outside Borella market where it was found that the wear and tear was too heavy for that class of surface, slabs were substituted. An earth footway with kerb was made up in the lower part of Ferry street.

The cost of maintenance of footways, carriage stands, &c., was Rs. 14,960'92.

Trees.—Following the general programme laid down by Mr. Macmillan, 284 trees were removed the timber being cut and used for firewood and 229 new ones planted as follows :—

Name of Street.		Name of Tree.
Reid avenue	...	2 Flamboyant
Reid avenue	...	5 Lagerstroemia
Thurstan road	...	4 Jacaranda
Flower road	...	3 Flamboyant
Havelock road	...	51 Na
Havelock road	...	4 Jacaranda
Greenpath	...	6 Peltophorum
St. Michael's road	...	10 Lettuce
Circular road	...	5 Flamboyant
Military laundry	...	4 Barringtonia
Parsons road	...	5 Flamboyant
Norris road	...	5 Peltophorum
Norris road	...	2 Flamboyant
Turret road	...	1 Peltophorum
Kollupitiya market	...	1 Bougainvillea
Museum road	...	6 Flamboyant
Buller's road	...	8 Poinciana
Prince of Wales avenue...	...	7 Peltophorum and Flamboyant
Edinburgh crescent	...	5 Lagerstroemia
Guildford crescent	...	8 Lagerstroemia
Gregory's road	...	2 Peltophorum
Front street	...	1 Peltophorum
Fort station	...	4 Peltophorum
Alexandra place	...	2 Poinciana
Cambridge place	...	5 Na
Wolfendahl junction	...	1 Peltophorum
Armour street	...	19 Peltophorum
Panchikawatta	...	23 Peltophorum
Queen street	...	1 Peltophorum
Lake road, Galle Face	...	10 Barringtonia
Norris Canal road	...	3 Peltophorum
Islet ...	...	3 Poinciana
Saunders place	...	2 Peltophorum
Braybrooke place	...	3 Poinciana
Hunupitiya Lake road ...	...	8 Peltophorum

Quarries.—At Kirillapone quarry bad weather and fever interfered with production in the middle of the year. Conditions were normal again during the last quarter. Prevention of mosquito breeding is now a matter of permanent attention at the quarry. The reconstruction of the bridge over the canal on the Nugegoda road having removed the necessity for truck transport the quarry access road was opened out sufficiently to enable lorries to load direct from breaking place and the cost of internal transport mainly done away with.

The fence and store building falling within the new lines of Kirillapone-Padukka road, which Government are now constructing, were removed and set back. Three existing wells were made to conform to Sanitary Board requirements.

2,271'87 cubes of 2-inch metal were paid for and taken over from breakers, whereas the measurements of the same quantity received on the various works totalled 2,282'23 cubes. 371'61 cubes of rubble were issued to works.

Works on Biyagama quarry commenced in July. At this quarry the contractor was paid for 358'90 cubes of 2-inch metal, whereas measurement after receipt on the various works totalled 378'73 cubes.

457'59 cubes of rubble were produced, of which 180'53 cubes were issued to works during the year, the remainder being balance stock. Considerable care is being exercised in the selection of rubble for breaking, in order to get the best possible quality of 2-inch metal.

Kalubovila Quarry.—2,875 feet of dilapidated hedge were replaced with concrete post and barbed wire fence. The cess pits that were in constant use during the last fourteen years were cleaned out and closed and bucket conservancy established.

1,002'31 cubes of 2-inch metal were produced and 946'30 cubes transported, balance being still available as stock. 31'75 cubes of rubble were also obtained and issued to works.

Biyagama Quarry.—Work was commenced and 129'25 cubes of rubble and 10'68 of 2-inch metal were issued to works.

2.—NEW WORKS.

(a) *Street Paving.*

Front Street.—Between Norris road and Main street half width only on the Granaries side had been previously paved with setts and provided with a footpath. An additional 16 feet of sett paving was provided, completing a carriage-way 32 feet wide, and the footpath on the east side made up with concrete slabs, kerbs, gullies, &c., except that in front of the Consistory buildings the footpath could not be completed pending discussions between Government and the Dutch Church authorities as to the ownership of the open land in front of these premises. Also the whole width of the carriage-way between Main street and Bankshall street was paved with setts. The expenditure for the year was Rs. 41,124'99.

Old Moor Street and Quarry Road.—Experience having shown that the macadam portion of the carriage-way between sett tracks previously laid at the sides of Quarry road between Messenger and Old Moor streets and for a distance of 420 feet along Old Moor street extension got rapidly cut to pieces by cart traffic, this was taken out and replaced by sett paving. The average width of the new paving was 16 feet and the total width of the carriage-way now paved is 34 feet. The cost was Rs. 11,650'72.

Butcher Street.—This narrow lane was paved with setts to its full width. The expenditure for the year was Rs. 5,837'21.

Skinner's Road.—Armour street section from Silversmith street to Barber street junction was paved with sett cart tracks on both sides 9 feet in width. This much needed work was completed at a cost of Rs. 27,972'96.

Panchikawatta Road.—A short length of track on the east side going north from Maradana was laid some years ago. This track was continued as far as the junction of Skinner's road and a similar track on the west side between Skinner's road and Maradana put in hand and practically completed. The expenditure for the year was Rs. 38,265'90.

Seabeach Road.—Between St. John's road and Kochchikade sett tracks were laid on both sides of this road. Kerbs, channels, gullies, and slab paved footways were also provided on both sides and practically completed before the end of the year, the expenditure being Rs. 62,961'46.

Prince of Wales Avenue.—The work referred to in the 1925 Report was continued and completed between Layard's Broadway and Nagalagam street. The total cost was Rs. 108,074'85, which has been refunded by Government.

Between Victoria bridge and Madampitiya road a commencement was made with the sett paving of this section to a width of 24 feet. This is on Government account, funds not being available until October. The expenditure for the year was Rs. 6,613'66.

Gabo's Lane 2nd and Gouldings Lane. were paved with old setts taken out from cart tracks after repairs. They were laid without concrete or other special foundation at a trifling cost no greater than that of otherwise disposing of them, but made an adequate and very satisfactory improvement.

(b) Road Widening.

Galle Road.—The extension of the widening to 78 feet south of Turret road as far as Deal place was taken in hand. The acquisition and obtaining possession of the properties required took time and no serious progress on the work of construction was possible until the second half of the year. By the end of the year the carriage-way was completed to its full width, the sides being surfaced with bituminous carpeting using Trinidad asphalt as a binder. This was provided with a concrete foundation on the land side where the subsoil was new and soft. On the sea side, however, it was laid direct on the old road crust. The expenditure for the year was Rs. 314,380'91.

Arab Lane.—Owing to pressure of work on prior items the actual construction of the widening of this lane to 40 feet was not taken up till late in the year. The carriage-way has since been completed and the work is approaching completion. The expenditure for the year was Rs. 8,821'69.

Alexandra Place.—The carriage-way from Ward place to Horton place was widened out to 36 feet and the sides surfaced with bituminous carpet of the same description as that used on the Galle road. The expenditure for the year was Rs. 37,409'18.

Symonds Road.—Between the fish market and the entrance to the store yard the roadway was widened out to 66 feet and our entrance improved and tidied up. The expenditure for the year was Rs. 6,574'64.

Van Rooyen Street.—Between New Chetty street and Green street the carriage-way was widened out to 24 feet and the drainage and surface of this section generally improved.

<i>Java Lane Improvements</i> <i>Rajamalwatta Improvements</i> <i>Symonds Road Widening from Forbes</i> <i>Road Northwards</i> <i>Havelock Road Widening near Thim-</i> <i>birigasyaya</i>	}	were still in the acquisition stage.
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<i>Maradana road.</i> <i>Serendib road.</i>	}	Certain blocks of land were acquired for the purpose of the future widening of Third Division, Maradana, and of the continuation of Serendib road.
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(c) Road Diversions.

Circular Road.—The section in front of the new Town Hall was moved further away from the Town Hall towards the park on a new trace. The carriage-way was completed and opened to traffic in July.

Road to Hendala Ferry.—This approach was diverted and a new gravel roadway 20 feet wide made up from Vuystwyke road to the old jetty.

(d) New Roads.

Victoria Park.—A new road through Victoria park to open out a more or less disused portion of it and at the same time to open up a vista of the new Town Hall and to improve the view therefrom was completed as a gravel road 24 feet wide with wide grass borders and ornamental flower beds.

Road to Maligawatta.—A small start was made with the necessary embankment for this road starting from its junction with Baseline road.

(e) *Blind Corners.*

Elie House Corner.—Finally completed at a cost of Rs. 2,129'47.

<i>Dickman's Road-Havelock Road</i>	}	were all in hand.
<i>Castle Street-Kanatta Road</i>		
<i>Regent Street-Kynsey Road</i>		
<i>Kynsey Road-Ward Place</i>	}	were in the acquisition stage.
<i>St. James Street-Ahitmawatta</i>		
<i>Andival Street-Chekku Street</i>		

(f) *Footways.*

New footpaths were constructed in connection with works already mentioned in Seabeach road, Front street, and side walks developed in Alexandra place.

Slab paved footpaths, with kerbs, channels, and gullies were also constructed and completed on both sides of San Sebastian hill from Saunders place to San Sebastian street at a cost of Rs. 9,880'02 and in Bridge street between the railway gates and Lake road at a cost of Rs. 7,343'65.

(g) *Quarry.*

At Biyagama the necessary rail track was laid to connect the working places with the loading place on the river bank, a short length of stream being diverted for this purpose. Barges were assembled and put into use along with the launch. Cranes and skips were received. Boundary pickets were built in permanently. Quarrying was commenced at the end of the year.

Part VIII.—Drainage.**I.—GENERAL.**

The expenditure on items classified under the general head of Drainage totalled Rs. 990,371'36.

Progress in this work is indicated by the following figures :—

Year.			Rs.	c.
1915	...	...	155,697	9
1920	...	...	309,084	42
1925	...	...	849,285	63

Activity in the direction of extending sewers and rainwater drainage, erecting lavatories, and connecting up premises with the Drainage Scheme was fully maintained.

2.—MAINTENANCE.*(a) Sewer and Rainwater Drains.*

The following is a summary of the position at the beginning and end of year :—

			Up to December 31, 1925.		Up to December 31, 1926.
Street sewers (minor sewers)	...	lineal yards	140,424	...	141,490
Main sewers	...	lineal yards	35,207	...	35,207
Rising mains	...	lineal yards	1,413	...	1,413
Sewers and culverts at treatment works	...	lineal yards	3,245	...	3,245
Rainwater drains (excluding old rainwater drains)	...	lineal yards	62,595	...	67,207
Total length of sewers and new rainwater drains	...	miles	137'60	...	140'83
Total length of old rainwater drains (approximate)	...	miles	12	...	12

These were cleaned and maintained at a total cost of Rs. 115,410'99, the staff consisting of 1 Chief Inspector, 5 overseers, 11 sub-overseers, and 280 men.

A considerable length of the main 6 feet by 4 feet outfall was desilted along with the other main sewers and additional clearing done from the sump pits at all pumping stations. As the system is put more and more into use so must the work and cost of desilting and cleaning increase.

Silt removed was as follows :—

		Cubic feet.
Main sewers	...	9,225
Minor sewers	...	6,298
Main sewer syphons...	...	770
Rainwater drains	...	36,903
Temporary connections	...	9,084

Ninety-eight cast iron street manhole and lamp hole covers were adjusted to suit road surface. Five cast iron street manhole and lamp hole covers were found damaged and replaced with new heavy covers and frames. Seven cast iron street manhole and lamp hole covers and frames were found damaged and replaced. Seven old pattern rainwater drain manhole covers were found damaged and replaced. One cast iron ventilating manhole cover was found damaged and replaced, four additional cast iron manhole and lamp hole covers were found wanting and fitted

with new heavy covers and frames. Seventeen cast iron manhole and lamp hole covers were exchanged. The second penstock gate in the Skinner's road main sewer syphon was repaired and painted. The third gate was in hand and nearing completion. The following lengths of 9-inch sewer pipes were found damaged and were relaid by new pipes:—

				Feet.
Charles place	...	...	...	20
Private land, Panchikawatta road	...	...	...	18
Korteboam street	...	...	...	18

Subsoil leaks were discovered and repaired in the following sewers:—Fifth lane, Pedris lane, Darley road Government land, Lascoreen street, private land Fourth lane, Alfred gardens, Nagalagam street, Grandpass road, Blomendahl road, and the 6 feet by 4 feet main sewer, Prince of Wales avenue.

Road subsidence was caused in Mill street by earth washing into sewer through junctions which had no proper plugs. Four of these were discovered and plugged.

The public latrine and tipping depôt in Price park were improved with a view to prevent rainwater entering soil sewer.

The 9-inch vent shaft in St. John's road-Reclamation road junction was found damaged and repaired. Owing to complaint of nuisance the 9-inch vent shaft in Nelson place was extended in height. The connection to 9-inch vent shaft in front of Maradana station was diverted to allow Gas Company to carry the main through.

Minor repairs were effected to the following rainwater drains:—Fishery Harbour, Norris road, Saunders place, New Urugodawatta road, and Kew road.

The rainwater drain outfall in Ferry street was extended slightly in connection with the San Sebastian canal improvement. A new additional manhole was built in rainwater drain, Sea street. Steps were provided to manholes in the rainwater drains, York street and Korteboam street. Flap valves were fixed on rainwater drain outfall, McCallum road.

House drain connection pipes were found damaged at the sewer joint behind the Bishop's house, Kollupitiya, and were repaired. An outlet of abandoned house drainage connection to premises No. 26, "Alcove," Arab lane, was plugged.

Improvements were effected to sewer connections in Municipal Council Cattle Mart and Slaughter-house. The temporary sewer connection in Jampettah street was improved with additional gratings, &c. Damaged flushing valves were replaced by new ones in temporary connections Norris road and Third Cross street.

(b) *Gullies, Catch-pits, &c.*

Positions of two gullies were altered at Symonds road-Dean's road junction. A gully was shifted in Lotus road in connection with the new premises for the Port Commission.

100,609 gully clearances were made and 13,867 cart loads of silt removed. The cost of this cleaning was Rs. 41,860'91.

3.—TREATMENT WORKS.

(a) *Madampitiya.*

Maintenance.—The total quantity of sewage pumped during the year was 3,085,693,000 gallons. The minimum daily dry weather flow was about 5,327,000 gallons, as against 3,383,000 gallons in 1921. The maximum quantity pumped in 24 hours was 18,002,000 gallons.

The total quantity pumped for the past five years is as follows:—

				Gallons.
1922	...	...	...	1,907,683,000
1923	...	...	...	2,359,427,000
1924	...	...	...	2,750,891,000
1925	...	...	...	2,859,502,000
1926	...	...	...	3,085,693,000

Aerobic Beds.—Two more beds were dismantled, the metal being removed for road and other purposes.

Tanks.—All ironwork and woodwork was painted with bitumastic solution and solignum respectively and exteriors of all tanks and channels cementwashed.

A number of the heavy concrete slabs, which had been forced out by the gases from the uppermost sloping portions of the central gas vents and had fallen down, were lifted into position opposite to each other and stayed across with iron tie-rods. The weir gauges in No. 6 wet weather tanks were provided with new copper floats.

Laboratory.—Interior whitewashed and exterior colourwashed. Woodwork varnished and painted.

Roads.—Roads and paths generally were maintained in good order. The road from the concrete shed to the pumping station was improved by straightening and widening. Both this road and the main entrance road were surface painted. The remaining gravelled portions of road along the circular sedimentation tanks and adjoining the wet weather channel were being metalled.

Boundary Walls.—These were scrubbed and washed down and the wooden gate at the main entrance was replaced by a new one.

(b) Wellawatta.

Maintenance.—The total quantity of sewage pumped was 174,000,000 gallons, of which 94,000,000 gallons were passed through the sedimentation tanks and the remainder direct to the sea.

Tanks.—These were cementwashed and the ironwork coated with bitumastic solution. The top concrete slabs of the gas vents which showed signs of being displaced by the gases were held together by iron tie-rods as at Madampitiya.

Roads.—All roads within the boundary walls as well as the main approach road were gravelled.

Boundary Walls.—These were cementwashed and whitewashed. Maintenance of both treatment works cost Rs. 18,945'81.

4.—PUMPING STATIONS.

(c) General.

				Gallons Pumped in Millions
Northern Pumping Station ...	...	...	...	3,085
Harbour Pumping Station ...	...	...	...	755
Slave Island Pumping Station...	...	...	...	203
Polwatta Pumping Station ...	...	...	...	324
Eastern Pumping Station ...	...	...	...	233
Maligawatta Pumping Station ...	...	...	...	60
Jawatta Pumping Station ..	...	...	...	21
Vuystwyke Pumping Station ...	...	...	...	17
Western Pumping Station ...	...	...	...	14
Wellawatta Pumping Station ...	...	...	...	174

Fuel Consumption.

	Coal. lb.		Coke lb.		Oil Fuel Gallons
Northern Pumping Station ...	820,717	...	343,326	...	27,255
Harbour Pumping Station ...	219,383	...	91,683	...	—
Slave Island Pumping Station...	47,329	...	41,733	...	—
Polwatta Pumping Station ...	80,043	...	41,972	...	—
Eastern Pumping Station ...	114,665	...	38,454	...	—
Maligawatta Pumping Station ...	63,534	...	38,296	...	—
Jawatta Pumping Station ...	—	...	—	...	1,510
Vuystwyke Pumping Station ...	—	...	—	...	453
Western Pumping Station ...	—	...	—	...	541
Wellawatta Pumping Station ...	—	...	—	...	4,423

All pumping stations were whitewashed and painted and the sumps thoroughly cleaned out.

NORTHERN PUMPING STATION.—MAINTENANCE.

Engines.—(a) Dry weather.—No. 1 fitted with new sparking plug and liner bolts and nuts. No. 2 fitted with new sparking plug, exhaust valve, and gas valve spring. No. 3 fitted with new piston rings. No. 4 belt-roller fitted with new ball bearings. No. 5 fitted with new sparking plug, new belt, and belt-roller with ball races.

(b) Wet weather.—No. 1 fitted with new magneto and gas valve spring. No. 4 fitted with new gas pecker blade and new admission valve lever spring. No. 5 fitted with new admission valve lever spring and belt roller with new ball races. No. 6 fitted with new belt and new big-end brasses. No. 7 fitted with new liner bolts and nuts, new strainer frame and silt strainer for fuel heater, and new belt.

(c) Screen House.—Engine fitted with new belt, magneto, and magneto spring.

(d) Dynamo Engines.—No. 2 fitted with new exhaust valve.

Pumps.—New impellers were fitted in Nos. 1 to 5 dry weather and Nos. 1, 2, and 4 to 7 wet weather pumps.

New side-plates and bushes were fitted in Nos. 4 and 5 dry weather and in Nos. 4 to 7 wet weather pumps.

Suction Gas Plant.—Nos. 1 to 5 scrubbers were re-coked. All units were kept in good working order.

Screen House.—New chains were fitted in pits B and D and new rakes in pit B. The main penstock gates in pit A were repaired to prevent leakage.

New Work.—Six additional bunkers, each of 30 ton-capacity, were built by extending the existing coal shed adjoining the wet weather tanks.

HARBOUR PUMPING STATION.—MAINTENANCE.

Engines.—The crankshaft balance weight bolts and nuts of all engines were removed. Nos. 1 and 2 wet weather engines were fitted with new cylinder liners, pistons complete with rings, and small-end brasses. No. 1 wet weather engine fitted with new belt.

Pumps.—Nos. 1 and 2 dry weather and No. 2 wet weather pumps fitted with new shafts, impellers, and bushes, and No. 2 with a new pump cover also.

Gas Plant.—The erection of the "E" size "National" gas producer expansion box and connected piping was completed. The introduction of this larger unit, transferred from the Northern Pumping Station, has resulted in a distinct saving of fuel and added to the reliability of running conditions.

• *General.*—The overhead water supply to the gas producer units was improved by fixing pipes of larger bore.

SLAVE ISLAND PUMPING STATION.

Engines.—Nos. 1, 2, and 3 were scraped and painted. New piston rings and belts were fitted. No. 3 engine also fitted with new big-end brasses.

Pumps.—No. 2 was fitted with a new shaft and thrust washer.

Gas Plant.—Nos. 1 and 2 scrubbers were re-coked. No. 2 generator hopper repaired.

POLWATTA PUMPING STATION.

Engines.—Nos. 1 to 4 scraped and painted. No. 3 cylinder liner was rejoined, new piston rings and belt fitted. Screen-house engine fitted with new piston rings.

EASTERN PUMPING STATION.

Engines.—No. 1 big-end bearings re-metalled.

Pumps.—Nos. 5 and 6 fitted with new shafts, bushes, and ball thrust washers.

Gas Plant.—Nos. 1 and 2 generators re-lined with firebricks and No. 2 scrubber re-coked.

General.—Self starting plant was overhauled. New sprocket wheels and bushes were fitted on silt elevator.

MALIGAWATTA PUMPING STATION.

Engines.—No. 1 fitted with a new belt.

JAWATTA PUMPING STATION.

Pumps.—Both Nos. 1 and 2 were overhauled.

VUYSTWYKE PUMPING STATION AND WESTERN PUMPING STATION.

No special repair necessary.

WELLAWATTA PUMPING STATION.

No. 2 dry weather pump fitted with a new shaft.

The cost of pumping and maintenance of stations totalled Rs. 203,297'53.

6.—NEW WORKS.

Among those completed during the year were the following :—

SEWERS.	Length. Feet.	Expenditure.		Period of Construction. Months.
		Rs.	c.	
Laurie's road to Bambalapitiya station road	275	3,137	36	13½
Baseline road	390	17,458	5	in progress.
St. Lucia's lane, Kotahena	275	3,499	47	1½
Andival street	90	1,393	73	1½
19th Lane, Bambalapitiya	762	5,906	48	4½
Alexander road to Wellawatta (part)	114	4,773	48	5
Temple lane, Kollupitiya	656	6,288	7	2½
Muhandiram's lane, Wellawatta	187	870	58	1
Sewer J 12, Kotahena	251	19,007	0	in progress.
Diversion sewer A 78, Fort	1,317	47,264	87	complete.
Silt pit, Baggage Office	—	478	48	2½
Sewer extension to Queen's road sewer	465	3,831	20	1½
Sewer, Temple road (for lavatory)	231	2,045	99	1
Sewer, De Vos lane	55	295	71	½

RAINWATER DRAINS.

Alfred place to Laurie's road	1,634	8,354	20	3½
Nelson place to railway culvert, Wellawatta	1,228	21,573	99	1
Cotta road to Baseline road	1,363	13,629	56	4
Kirillapone canal to Fussell's lane	4,466	36,329	52	4½
Vajira lane to Laurie's road	1,615	28,319	93	in progress.
Boswell place to Siri Wickrama road	1,497	26,506	11	in progress.
Temple road, C.-D.	297	4,362	24	9
Temple road, A.-B. and B.-C.		24	50	
Rainwater outlets trapping to San Sebastian canal	—	2,039	40	2
Arab lane	147	946	71	1
Third Cross street	195	2,513	38	1
Seabeach road	1,394	11,806	86	2

Twenty rainwater outlets into the San Sebastian canal were trapped as follows :—

Lock Gate lane	2	Old Urugodawatta	1
Ferry street	1	New Urugodawatta	3
Selby stores	1	Nagalagam street	7
Chapel place	1		
De Waas lane	3	Total	20
Molawatta	1		

A catch-pit was built in the main rainwater drain near the Baggage Office in the Jetty premises. Provided a 9-inch vent shaft for the main rainwater drain at St. John's road.

The following main open surface water channels were improved at a cost of Rs. 14,386'54:—

From Wolfendahl to Andival street; between Messenger street and Barber street; off St. James' street; from Ketawalamulla road to grass garden; from Temple road to main drain; off Third Division, Maradana, in Zion House premises; and in 85, Modera street.

(b) *Gullies.*

105 new gullies were fixed and connected during the year. Old gullies numbering 387 were mosquito-proofed in the streets of the city:—

Hospital street, Hospital lane, Canal row, York street, Baillie street, Prince street, Queen's street, Leyden Bastion road, Chatham street, Main street, Front street, Norris road, Saunders place, Dias place, Gasworks street, Fifth Cross street, St. John's road, Sea street, Kacheheri road, Dam street, Regent street, Kynsey road, and the Law Courts premises.

(c) *Treatment Works and Pumping Stations.*

No new extensions were undertaken during the year. Sanction was however obtained for the erection of an automatic sludge ejector. It is hoped to have this plant in operation early this year.

Part IX.—Lavatories, Laundries, and Tipping Depots.

1.—MAINTENANCE.

These were maintained at a cost of Rs. 65,024'60. This figure includes and mainly consists of the wages of attendants, who number 165.

The public lavatories in use total 61 and contain 435 seats for men, 202 for women, 215 bathing places for men and 99 for women.

2.—NEW WORKS.

The following lavatories were constructed during the year:—

Lavatory.	Cost. Rs. c.	Date opened.
Princes gate ...	5,501 43	September 21, 1926.
Temple road ...	2,045 99	Under construction.
Forbes road ...	3,862 47	Under construction.
Vincent street ...	4,702 76	January 28, 1926.
Opposite Railway Station, Fort ...	5,381 35	December 6, 1926.
Jefferson street ...	771 42	January 7, 1926.
The Mews, Slave Island ...	1,250 28	January 18, 1926.

Laundries.—A number of additional concrete posts were provided for the drying grounds at Blomendahl and the linen rooms at Wekanda were rat-proofed. A start was made with the filling up of the lakeside drying ground for the Polwatta laundry.

Part X.—House Connections.

The following work was done in noticing owners for private drainage:—

	1926.
Number of notices served ...	1,457
Number of prosecutions ...	205
Number of convictions ...	88
Amount of fines ...	Rs. 1,330'50

A summary of the year's work for connections is as under:—

	During Year.		Previously.	Total.
	Aided.	Unaided.		
Number of applications received ...	62	681	3,928	4,671
Number of applications cancelled ...	—	145	310	445
Number of applications approved ...	62	796	3,269	4,127
Number of applications received for alterations or additions to existing drainage since January 1, 1913 ...	—	236	476	712
Number of premises drained ...	76	739	3,229	4,044
Number of premises connected to rainwater sewers only ...	—	1	43	44
Number of connections to rainwater sewers ...	19	95	304	418
Number of advance connections to rainwater sewers ...	—	18	—	18
Number of connections to soil sewers ...	68	501	2,606	4,175
Number of advance connections to soil sewers ...	—	74	55	129
Number of water closets installed with seats ...	23	360	3,476	3,859
Number of water closets installed without seats ...	87	990	5,161	6,238
Number of earth closets removed since January 1, 1913 ...	107	1,040	5,112	6,259

Blockages.—250 blockages were cleared during the year.

Among the more important buildings drained during the year are—

Two new buildings, Queen's road.	New building, Barnes place.
Elphinstone Theatre, Maradana.	Registrar-General's Office.
"Delaware," Horton place.	Military quarters, Kew road.
"Sukastan," Ward place.	Wesley College, Baseline road.
"Barnes Lodge," Barnes place.	Borah Community Hall, Fifth Cross street.
Mann Little Motor Show Rooms, Union place.	"Nandasar," Alexandra road.
"Vimal Villa," Turret road.	

Part XI.—Workshops.

The services of the workshops are, of course, given to all departments and spread over both maintenance and new works. The total value of the work done was Rs. 351,481'71 on 2,800 different jobs, each of which was separately costed and accounted. This is exclusive of any machinery, plant, or transport units purchased during the year. More work was done than the previous year, due to the general increase of work in the Department.

New Sheds.—One additional shed was erected for housing plant and another one started to accommodate additional motor vehicles.

Printing Department.—The erection of a new engine for printing machines, shafting, &c., is in progress.

The Symonds road entrance to the workshops was improved.

New Town Hall.—Carpentry and joinery work for this proceeded throughout the year on an extensive scale.

Four steel barges for river transport arrived in sections and were assembled. Bodies were erected on one steam lorry and trailer and an ambulance body on a Fiat chassis. Steelwork was supplied for the plantain market, Kachcheri road, and for the Cattle Mart. The Slave Island market was installed with electric light.

Concrete Castings.—The year's output showed a considerable increase. Its value was Rs. 64,212'68 and consisted of—

Description.	Quantity.	Description.	Quantity.
Kerb blocks ...	11,936 lineal feet.	Cement bricks ...	38,484
Channel blocks ...	7,232 lineal feet.	Bull nose bricks ...	200
9-inch half round channels ...	936 lineal feet.	Concrete manhole covers ...	1,728
12-inch half round channels ...	14,661 lineal feet.	Concrete frame and covers ...	116
15-inch half round channels ...	6,534 lineal feet.	Concrete blocks, No. 1 ...	162
18-inch half round pipes ...	2,835 lineal feet.	Concrete blocks, No. 2 ...	485
24-inch half round pipes ...	3,618 lineal feet.	Concrete blocks, No. 3 ...	116
9-inch concrete pipes ...	2,502 lineal feet.	Concrete blocks, No. 4 ...	149
12-inch concrete pipes ...	3,456 lineal feet.	Concrete blocks, No. 5 ...	171
15-inch concrete pipes ...	930 lineal feet.	Concrete blocks, No. 6 ...	36
18-inch concrete pipes ...	2,061 lineal feet.	Ventilation blocks ...	54
21-inch concrete pipes ...	1,254 lineal feet.	Blocks over ventilation ...	9
24-inch concrete pipes ...	2,718 lineal feet.	Moulded blocks ...	242
Slabs, 2 feet by 2 feet by 3 inches	41,624 square feet.	Moulded blocks, half size ...	24
Slabs, 2 feet by 1 foot by 3 inches	3,620 square feet.	Urinal blocks ...	12
Slabs, 3 feet by 2 feet by 2 inches	846 square feet.	Bath blocks ...	8
Slabs, 1 foot by 1 foot by 2 inches	37 square feet.	Partition blocks ...	16
Slabs, for slopes, 2 feet by 2 feet		Coping blocks ...	139
by 3 inches ...	1,056 square feet.	Roof slabs, small ...	48
Concrete blocks, special, 20 inches		Roof slabs, large ...	8
by 19 inches by 3 inches ...	2	Seat blocks, large ...	3
Garden kerbs, 18 inches by 6 inches		Seat blocks, small ...	3
by 2½ inches ...	46	6-inch reinforced vent columns	3
Gully pots ...	269	Concrete fence posts, ordinary ...	340
Copings for walls, 3 feet 7 inches		Concrete fence posts, straining ...	20
by 1 foot 7 inches by 3 inches	50	Concrete flower pots, large ...	86
Concrete pillar caps ...	16	Concrete flower pots, small ...	158
Concrete survey pickets ...	412		

Roughly 2 miles of kerb blocks, 1½ miles of channel blocks, 5½ miles of half-round drain inverts, 2½ miles of concrete pipes, and over 1 acre of concrete slabs were turned out.

Part XII.—Transport and Rollers.

At the end of the year the list of vehicles and rollers controlled by the Department was as follows:—

Steam rollers ...	13	Motor lorries, disinfection ...	2
Steam water vans ...	3	Motor lorries, general ...	3
Steam wagons and trailers ...	10	Motor ambulances ...	2
Motor lorries, scavenging ...	5	Motor animal ambulances ...	2
Motor lorries, conservancy ...	1	Motor cars ...	2

The following work was performed by the transport vehicles :—

Steam wagons totalled a mileage of 50,437 for the year and transported 5,460 cubes of metal and 22,550 tons of other materials.

The steam water wagons totalled a mileage of 13,057, having spread 13,600,000 gallons of water.

The mileage done by the motor lorries are follows :—

35,277 miles on scavenging.
10,131 miles on general work.
5,317 miles on conservancy work.

The total cost of maintenance and renewals was Rs. 42,376'52.

There were added during the year, one oil driven road roller, which is working satisfactorily and very economically, one sentinel lorry and trailer, and one Fiat. An additional steam lorry and trailer and four petrol scavenging vehicles were on order.

Part XIII.—Plant and Tools.

Plant generally was maintained to a satisfactory standard, but the old drainage works boilers are no longer fit for use and will require replacement at an early date. The bitumen mixer was kept at work so far as weather permitted and continues to do good work. Our pile driver rendered assistance to the Colombo Harbour Works.

One launch, four steel barges, cranes, rails, and trucks, and one hydraulic press were received during the year. A few other machines for the Workshop are on order. These are essential for the ordinary maintenance of our increasing fleet of mechanical transport vehicles and some further additions are still essential.

The total cost of maintenance and wastage of plant and tools (other than pumping stations) for the year was Rs. 48,109'57.

Part XIV.—Miscellaneous.

An acquisition for a Child Welfare Centre, making provision for the future widening of Gintupitiya street and Hill street lane, was completed. Two 'bus stands were completed at Mutwal and Destructor road at costs of Rs. 1,482'66 and Rs. 1,155'15 respectively.

Work to the value of Rs. 29,525'60 was done by the Department on deposit and advance accounts and the value of work done for other departments totalled Rs. 67,958'04.

Part XV.—Administration.

1.—PRIVATE STREETS, BUILDINGS, BUILDING ORDINANCE, AND BY-LAWS GENERALLY.

During the year 6,581 inspections were made and 684 cases had to be taken to Court, the penalties inflicted amounting to Rs. 4,959

Licenses were issued for nineteen petroleum stores, seven petrol pumps, four carbide stores, and one quarry.

The following applications were dealt with during the year:—

Nature of Buildings.	Number of Applications.	Number Allowed.	Number Refused.	Number Withdrawn or under Consideration.
Permanent ...	1,408	1,109	189	131
Temporary ...	314	298	8	8
Rethatchings ...	121	113	6	2
Scaffoldings ...	42	42	—	—
Total ...	1,885	1,562	203	141

Permanent buildings erected for which certificates have been granted are as follows :—

Building.	Number of Certificates granted.	Building.	Number of Certificates granted.
Bungalows and cottages ...	197	Bakeries ...	2
Tenements ...	139	Schools ...	4
Stores ...	15	Photo studios ...	1
Shops ...	15	Racing stables (stalls) ...	16
Boutiques ...	18	Pavilions (temporary) ...	1
Dairies and cattle sheds ...	14	Flats ...	14
Open sheds (permanent) ...	41		
Garages ...	31	Total ...	509
Theatre halls ...	1		

General building activity was distinctly above the average in 1926. There was a considerable increase in the number of tenements completed, but the rate of progress in this direction is, no doubt, very inadequate and unequal to the demand. It is probably a very in attractive form of investment and as previously suggested it is likely that the supply will remain inadequate unless Government, local authorities, and large employer's of labour build for themselves. The Council added only one such quarter during the year.

The scheme for rebuilding the Kochehikade insanitary area cannot be proceeded with until the legal objection that the Council have no power to carry out such work is removed.

The provision of dwellings, as a whole, including bungalows, cottages, tenements and flats showed a large and satisfactory increase.

During the year three private street lines were sanctioned in order to assist owners to build and make use of their plots.

2.—SURVEYS, DRAWINGS, &C.

210 special surveys and 76 sections were made and plotted and 3 tenement lists prepared, 47 visits made for taking or handing over property. Levels and setting out for work in progress was done as and when required.

268 original drawings and 24 maps were prepared, as well as 981 tracings and 1,870 prints. House drainage and other record maps were kept up to date as work proceeded.

Amongst other matters three alternative schemes and estimates were prepared in detail for the widening of the Galle road between Deal place and Frederica road. This was a very long and heavy task as accuracy was essential for comparative figures.

3.—LEGAL.

Certain small amendments to the special area or zoning by-laws and traffic regulations were confirmed, but nothing has yet been accomplished as regards amendments to the Vehicles or Housing Ordinance.

4.—GENERAL.

The staff of the Department was last fixed as being anything but extravagant on the basis of a value of work done which has ever since been exceeded by about fifty per cent. and last year exceeded by about one hundred per cent.

It is hoped that further assistance will soon be forthcoming since the Council's normal programme of work based on present day requirements cannot be carried on without it. In the meantime important matters will be subject to delay as it is impossible to continue the rate of progress for the year under review.

I wish to acknowledge the hard work and assistance cheerfully given by the staff.

Mr. Hallock Wijenathen, Works Engineer, returned from leave and resumed duties on January 4, 1926.

Mr. J. M. Blizzard, Drainage Engineer, left on leave on October 29, 1926.

Mr. C. Foenander, Superintendent Conservancy, retired after 38 years' service with effect from December 31. He left behind a long and unblemished record of work of a very high standard.

Mr. R. McKeller, Supervisor, Conservancy, was appointed Sub-Inspector, Public Health Department.

Mr. F. E. Gooneratne, Clerk, was transferred to Municipal Treasurer's Department.

Mr. F. A. de Silva, Clerk, was transferred to Public Health Department.

Several other clerks, who recently joined left the Department as soon as they secured appointments in the Government service.

N. M. INGRAM,

Municipal Engineer.

Maligakanda, April 9, 1927.

APPENDIX F.

REPORT OF THE VETERINARY SURGEON FOR 1926.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES (ANIMALS).

Rinderpest.—A case of this disease was discovered at Captain's Gardens in December due to the activity of Veterinary Inspector Mr. Gunatilleke, who was commended by the Chairman. An extensive area was proclaimed, preventive measures were adopted, and ninety contacts were quarantined. The sick animal was a recent arrival from Mulleriyawa, in the Western Province, and fortunately had been kept in an isolated enclosure all the time. No further cases occurred. The source of infection could not be traced, as inquiries made at Mulleriyawa and in the adjoining villages showed that there was no trace of rinderpest anywhere there.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease.—A case of this disease occurred in a calf at No. 6, Silversmith street, in November. In this case too the source of infection could not be traced. The sick calf was removed to hospital, where it died, and eight contacts were quarantined. No fresh cases occurred.

Anthrax.—Four fatal cases of anthrax occurred among cattle in the town during the year.

Rabies.—There were 77 cases of rabies in 1926, against 40 in 1925 and 20 in 1924. Of these, 37 gave positive results and 11 gave negative results. The remaining 29 were not examined, either because they were considered to be typical cases that had bitten no persons or other dogs, or because the brains were in a state unfit for examination. Of the 77 cases, 4 were among horses and 1 in a calf, the remainder occurred among dogs.

The number of stray dogs seized and impounded was 2,537, of which 2,243, or 88.4 per cent., were destroyed or died in the pound. Motor night raids were made, which resulted in the catch of 77 of the total number of dogs seized. In addition, 183 dogs were shot by the Police.

Dog Registration.—During the year 2,260 dogs and 815 bitches, making a total of 3,075, were registered, against a total of 2,869 in the previous year. House to house inspections were made by the staff, and 618 unregistered dogs were detected and their registration secured. At the same time 292 ownerless dogs were found and sent to the Dog Pound for destruction.

CATTLE MART AND QUARANTINE STATION.

Admissions.—The number of cattle admitted was 5,436, against 3,706 in the previous year, of which 4,907 were for slaughter, 248 for draft, and 281 for milch purposes. The number of buffaloes admitted was 2,385, against 1,882 in the previous year, of which 520 were for slaughter and 1,865 were milch animals. The number of sheep and goats admitted was 110,670, against 85,494 in 1925, of which 25,219 came from Aden, 4 from Karachi, and the remaining 85,447 from Tuticorin.

The numbers of cattle and buffaloes imported in recent years show no very marked fluctuations. But in the case of sheep and goats the numbers imported annually have shown a steady increase. The number of admissions in 1922 was 59,786; in 1923 it was 62,839; in 1924 it was 71,425; in 1925 it was 85,494; and in 1926 it was 110,670. In the year under-report it practically reached the pre-war level, due to the large number imported from Aden.

The importation of goats from Aden in such large numbers caused serious congestion at the station. On occasions there were at the station over 4,000 goats on a single day. Steps were, therefore, taken to restrict the numbers imported, pending the provision of additional accommodation. Council of September 1 sanctioned the erection of two additional sheds at an estimated cost of Rs. 22,500 and the fencing off of two cattle sheds with wire at an estimated cost of Rs. 650. The fencing has been erected, but not the two sheds. The mortality among the sheep and goats arriving from Aden was fairly heavy due to overcrowding on board.

Animal Disease.—An outbreak of rinderpest occurred at the Quarantine Station at the end of April, among recent arrivals from India. There were 10 cases, 7 of which were shot and 3 of which recovered. In addition, 2 contacts, which had been removed to the Slaughter-house sheds, developed the disease and were taken back to the hospital at the Quarantine Station. Early in April there were 2 cases of foot-and-mouth disease, both of which recovered. There were 1,138 fatal cases of anthrax among the sheep and goats.

Dairy at the Cattle Mart.—The work in connection with the dairy at the Cattle Mart was commenced at the beginning of September. Rules were laid down which provided for cleanliness, the use of approved milk vessels, milking at fixed time and places, straining and measuring of the milk, and the prevention of adulteration and the removal of cream. The rules also required that only registered dairymen and milk vendors could milk the cows, handle the milk vessels, and remove milk from the dairy. To carry out the work and enforce the rules, 2 Stock Sub-Inspectors and 4 coolies were appointed. Objections were raised by the owners of the cows to the enforcement of some of these rules and these are under consideration.

The water supply at the Quarantine Station, which was very defective, was improved at a cost of Rs. 1,286.75.

PUBLIC SLAUGHTER-HOUSE.

The number of cattle slaughtered was 14,884, and the number of buffaloes slaughtered was 9,750, making a total of 24,634. It is interesting to note that the average number of these animals slaughtered during three years 1919 to 1921 was about 26,700. During the three years 1922 to 1924 there was a steady annual decrease of about 2,000 animals, till in 1924 the number slaughtered was only 20,039. Since then there has been a steady annual increase of over 2,000 animals slaughtered, and the figure now stands at 24,634, but the normal average has not yet been reached. Of the cattle and buffaloes slaughtered, 4,922 cattle and 587 buffaloes, making a total of 5,509, were imported, and the remainder were obtained locally.

The number of sheep and goats slaughtered was 90,674, of which 89,472 were imported, and the balance 1,202 were obtained locally. Here again there has recently been a steady annual increase in the numbers slaughtered. During the three years 1921 to 1923 the average number slaughtered annually was about 57,800. In 1924 it was 65,310; in 1925 it was 75,739; and in 1926 it rose to 90,674.

The number of pigs slaughtered was 3,188. This has been about the normal average for many years.

A question asked by Mr. T. G. Jayewardene at a General Meeting of the Council held on August 4, elicited the following reply from the Chairman:—

“The methods of handling and slaughtering of animals at the Slaughter-house can hardly be described as up-to-date. Whether they are humane is a question on which opinions differ and largely depends on the skill of the slaughtermen. The cattle awaiting slaughter are housed in walled sheds over 100 yards distant from the place of slaughter. The animals are cast. The legs of cattle and buffaloes are tied together, sheep are held down. In all cases the throats are cut. In 1910 and 1917 attempts were made to introduce the use of a pistol known as a “humane killer,” but they were discontinued. Not only was it not entirely successful, but the butchers objected in a petition in which they stated that it destroyed the brain, and thereby caused a loss of 40 cents on each animal. The Muslims also objected on the ground that it was contrary to the rules of their religion to stun or otherwise injure an animal before cutting its throat. All the present butchers, who slaughter, are Muslims, except one, and all employ the method of cutting the throat, because all have Muslim customers. Until, therefore, at least the religious objection is withdrawn it appears to be useless to attempt to alter the present methods. It seems desirable to postpone the question of erecting a new Slaughter-house until Government has designed and possibly erected the new Quarantine Station, which at present is under consideration.”

Improvements to the sanitary arrangements to the Slaughter-house at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,095 were carried out during the year.

The number of live animals rejected before slaughter was 829, of which 751 were on account of poor condition. The number of sheep and goats rejected before slaughter was 139.

The number of carcasses of cattle and buffaloes rejected as unfit for food was 191. Carcasses of sheep and goats or pigs were rejected.

RAT DESTRUCTION.

The number of rat traps placed during the year was 615,597, and 424,228 rats were caught. The number of rats caught per 100 cages was 20.18, against 24.49 in 1925 and 23.27 in 1924. The drop in the catch is due to a consignment of unsatisfactory rat traps, which were imported direct from England. The rats found easy egress from them owing to the pliability of the wire.

The number of rats sent to the City Microbiologist for examination was 6,925 live rats and 14,630 carcasses, or a total of 21,555, of which only one was found to be infected. The number of poison baits placed was 1,693,945, of which 66,085, or 3.91 per cent., were probably eaten or removed by rats. The number of dead rats found was 20. Rat holes were found in 26 premises and steps were taken to have these fumigated and closed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

During the year 15 cattle sheds and livery stables were discontinued, and 10 new ones were licensed, leaving a total of 167 at the end of the year against 172 at the end of 1925.

Vehicles and Animals.—The number of vehicles and animals passed for license was as follows:—Carriages and horses 13, against 20 in 1925; hackeries and bulls 97, against 104 in 1925, and rickshaws 4,169, against 3,891 in 1925. Three new rickshaw stands were erected during the year, and the number for which 2 existing rickshaw stands were registered was increased.

Grazing on Parks and Open Spaces.—The action taken against the grazing of milch cattle, belonging to illicit milk vendors, on parks and open spaces, which was commenced in 1925, was vigorously continued during the year under report with satisfactory results.

The number of cattle seized and impounded was 361, and 70 prosecutions were entered against their owners. The amount of the fines imposed was Rs. 559.

During the year, at the request of the Municipal Magistrate, I examined and reported on 114 animals in cruelty cases, against 87 in the previous year.

C. W. PATE,

Municipal Veterinary Surgeon.

Colombo, March 23, 1927.

APPENDIX G.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, FIRE BRIGADE, 1926.

I HAVE the honour to forward my Annual Report for 1926.

Cost of maintenance of the Fire Department was Rs. 65,135.81, viz. :—

				Rs.	c.
Salaries and wages	...	...	...	39,739	79
Allowances	...	...	...	1,620	0
Uniforms	...	...	...	5,653	4
Stores	...	...	...	4,354	58
Working expenses and lights	...	...	...	4,583	87
Stationery	...	...	...	59	38
Library	...	...	...	28	83
Hose, couplings, &c.	...	...	...	9,096	32
Total	...	...	...	65,135	81

No expenditure was incurred under capital account.

Calls.—Fifty-four calls were received, as compared with forty-one for 1925. One was for a fire outside the Municipal limits which the Department attended, two were malicious false calls, and one a false call given with good intent. Forty-five were given through the Public and Police Telephone Exchanges, five by means of York Street fire alarm point, and four by strangers and firemen.

Fires.—Two fires each involved a loss of Rs. 75,000. Both of these were covered by insurance. Several of the other outbreaks would undoubtedly have caused heavy losses but for the prompt attention of the Department. It is gratifying to report that this fact was recognized by the occupiers of properties involved. The great increase in motor vehicles is reflected in these returns, eight outbreaks of fire occurring amongst this class of risk resulting in two cases of total destruction. Singularly, public garages get off very lightly, not, I fear, from any exceptional precautions against fire being taken, but rather owing to the necessity of being well ventilated under tropical conditions as compared with those in temperate climates.

Fire Loss.—The estimated loss caused by fire in the city was Rs. 180,497, as compared with Rs. 247,136 for 1925.

Fees.—The Brigade earned for inspection, watching, instruction, and the out of area fire Rs. 4,332.

Sick.—Has been at full strength throughout the year. Sickness has been very prevalent, 440 days being lost through this. When sickness is of an infectious nature it is quickly transmitted under the existing conditions of living at the Fire Station.

A serious accident, the first which has befallen the Brigade, occurred on the night of November 27. Number four motor tender with crew of seven men whilst responding to a fire call turned completely over, resulting in all the men receiving injuries, three of whom had to be detained in hospital. The appliance has had to be condemned as a consequence.

Water Supply.—Has been sufficient at all fires. Hydrants were opened on twenty-one occasions either to supply the fire pumps or to be used with hose jets directly on to the fire.

Appliances.—With the exception of the fire escape ladder, all appliances are in good order. A new fire tender will have to be obtained to replace that mentioned as condemned.

A new fire ladder will be ordered shortly, funds having been provided in current Budget.

Causes of Fires.

Unknown	...	...	14	Back fire in carburettor	...	...	2
Defective electric circuits	...	...	7	Petrol vapour coming in contact with	...	...	1
Suspicious	...	...	1	lighted oil tail lamp	...	...	1
Spark from passing train	...	...	1	Children playing with matches	...	...	1
Accumulation of carbon deposit	...	...	1	Back fire in oil engine	...	...	1
Lighted cigarette end thrown down	...	...	3	Petrol vapour coming in contact with	...	...	1
False alarm given by fire alarm point	...	...	1	naked light	...	...	1
Over flooding of carburettor	...	...	1	False alarm given with good intent	...	...	1
Explosion	...	...	4	Spark from burning buildings	...	...	1
Spark from cooking fire	...	...	3	Upsetting kerosine oil bottle lamp	...	...	1
Leakage of gas	...	...	2	Slaking of lime	...	...	1
Spark from sulphur bleaching of fire	...	...	1				
Overheating of exhaust pipe	...	...	2				
Bursting of a crucible	...	...	1				
Malicious false alarms	...	...	2				
						Total	54

Nature of Risks.

Store	...	...	1	Boutiques	...	...	3
Hotel	...	...	2	Workshops	...	...	1
Cadjan cooly lines and sheds	...	...	8	Engine rooms	...	...	3
Import stores	...	...	5	Timber depôt and carpenter sheds	...	...	1
Street lamp	...	...	1	Malicious false alarms	...	...	1
Motor cars and lorries	...	...	8	Out of area fires	...	...	2
Export stores	...	...	3	False alarm given with good intent	...	...	1
Private bungalows	...	...	5	False alarm given by fire alarm point	...	...	1
Electric tramway	...	...	1				
Public motor garage	...	...	2				
Public bioscope	...	...	3				
Office buildings	...	...	2				
						Total	54

MOTOR AMBULANCES.

Infectious Diseases.

Calls attended	...	...	...	...	...	700
Persons removed	...	...	...	...	...	978
Distance travelled (miles)	...	...	...	...	...	11,900
Time engaged (hours)	...	...	...	...	...	1,135
Expenditure	...	...	...	...	...	Rs. 9,055 ^a
Refunds on account plague prevention, Port and other fees	...	...	...	...	...	Rs. 924
					Total	Rs. 8,131

^a Includes wages of three male and one female attendant, Public Health Department.

Accidents.

		Wellawatta.	San Sebastian.
Calls attended	...	282	388
Persons removed	...	330	393
Distance travelled (miles)	...	3,173½	2,247
Time engaged (hours)	...	410	239
Expenditure	...	...	Rs. 2,659

On the opening of the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Angoda in February, the Ambulance Services were rearranged, the Fire Brigade being deputed to deal with the infectious diseases of the city and port; Police Department, accidents; and the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services, private surgical and medical cases. An ambulance is also now available in connection with the port, owned and maintained by the Port Commission. It is for the conveyance to hospital of all cases from the port other than those of an infectious nature.

A Fiat ambulance was placed in commission on June 23. It is a great improvement on the Ford vehicle, but the springing is still unsatisfactory when travelling over bad roads. It is difficult to eliminate road shocks and internal vibration when a commercial type of chassis is used.

Funds have been provided in 1927 Budget for two more ambulances. When these materialize the remaining Ford vehicles will be removed from the infectious diseases work.

P. H. LANAWAY,
Superintendent, Fire Brigade.

February 25, 1927.

APPENDIX H.

REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL MAGISTRATE FOR THE YEAR 1926.

THE number of cases instituted in the Municipal Court during the year 1926, 18,665, in which 21,590 persons were charged. This shows an increase of 3,674 in the number of cases instituted over the previous year. There were 1,454 cases relating to cruelty to animals, 887 relating to vagrants, 1,121 relating to nuisances.

The fines imposed amounted to Rs. 169,735'86.

The annexed classification shows the manner of their disposal:—

	1925.		1926.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Judicial fines to Municipal revenue	75,896	63	90,278	53
Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals	18,625	50	19,410	0
Police Reward Fund	30,513	16	46,556	33
Boil (uncovered)	16,315	85	13,491	0
Total fines imposed	141,351	14	169,735	86

The following is a classified statement of charges disposed of during the year:—

= Number of cases.

P = Number of persons charged.

	Vagrants.		Thorough-fares.		Cruelty to Animals.		Nuisances.		Police.		Vehicles.		Weights and Measures.		Unlawful Gaming.		Miscellaneous.*		Total.	
	No. 4 of 1811.		No. 10 of 1861.		No. 13 of 1907.		No. 15 of 1862.		No. 16 of 1865.		No. 4 of 1916.		No. 4 of 1919.		No. 17 of 1889.					
	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.
ding on December, 1925 ...	10	10	11	11	9	9	18	18	18	18	105	105	2	2	13	29	85	114	271	316
stituted during the year ...	887	1,433	551	551	1,454	1,455	1,121	1,193	3,482	4,145	4,856	4,941	70	72	303	1,064	5,941	6,736	18,665	21,590
	897	1,443	562	562	1,463	1,464	1,139	1,211	3,500	4,163	4,961	5,046	72	74	316	1,093	6,026	6,850	18,936	21,906
icted ...	848	1,385	511	511	1,405	1,406	1,003	1,066	3,397	4,051	3,729	3,810	68	70	260	915	5,164	5,819	16,335	19,033
itted and dismissed.	36	45	39	39	51	51	103	110	87	96	1,183	1,186	4	4	48	167	794	937	2,345	2,635
ding ...	13	13	12	12	7	7	33	35	16	16	49	50	—	—	8	11	68	94	206	238

Cases.		Cases.	
Pending from 1925	271	Disposed of	18,730
Instituted in 1926	18,665	Pending on January 1, 1927	206
Total	18,936	Total	18,936

* Cases appearing under this head are instituted under Ordinances Nos. 11 of 1920, 2 of 1883 (section 259), 21 of 1919, 2 of 1919, 1921, 24 of 1921, 42 of 1917, and Municipal Council's By-laws made under section 4 of Ordinance No. 8 of 1901.

MERVYN JOSEPH,

Municipal Magistrate.

March 1, 1927.

APPENDIX I.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN FOR THE YEAR 1926.

I HAVE the honour to submit my Administration Report for the year 1926.

The Report for 1925 struck an optimistic note, and it is a pleasure to record that those hopes were not belied during 1926. The returns from the various departments prove that the public have shown a greater appreciation of this institution.

Considerable progress has also been made with the work of rearrangement. All the books have now been classified. The catalogue of fiction was completed, but its printing was unavoidably held over owing to pressure of work in the Municipal Printing Department. The rest of the books having been classified, it only remains to prepare the catalogue for the printer. The delay that has been experienced so far has been mainly due to the efforts made towards producing a catalogue with a full index.

Towards the end of the year a start was made with the rebinding of damaged books. About 100 books were rebound at a cost of Rs. 275'50. The number of books that need rebinding is out of all proportion to the rest, and for a number of years rebinding will be a heavy item of expenditure.

A public telephone was installed in the Library, early in the year, but lack of support necessitated its removal.

A few flower beds on the lawn and the removal of the fernery have added to the general appearance of the Library building.

The Committee for the year consisted of the following :—

The Chairman, Messrs. A. E. de Silva, R. L. Pereira, W. E. V. de Rooy, Dr. E. A. Coorey, Dr. D. Blackwood, Rev. M. J. Burrows, the Hon. Mr. G. A. Wille, Mr. F. Dadabhoy, the Hon. Sir H. M. Fernando, Dr. J. Pearson, Prof. R. Marrs, Prof. Leigh Smith, Mr. P. de S. Kularatne, Rev. Fr. Y. M. E. Jeune, Mr. E. W. Jayewardene, K.C., and Mr. L. M. Maartensz.

Three meetings were held during the year.

A few amendments were made to the rules. The hour of opening was altered from 7 A.M. to 8 A.M., and that of closing from 8 P.M. to 7.30 P.M.

The hour of closing on Wednesdays was altered to 11 A.M.

The number of books a borrower was entitled to was made two instead of one: a welcome concession to readers.

No changes took place in the staff.

READING ROOM.

A few improvements have been made here in the disposal of the newspapers and periodicals. These last were placed in covers and displayed on a rack. The result has been a tidy table. The newspapers were placed on stands in a separate room; no chairs or stools were provided. This supposed oversight raised a mild protest from the readers, but familiarity has bred acquiescence.

The following newspapers and periodicals were taken in during the year :—

Daily.—London Times, Times of Ceylon, Ceylon Observer, Ceylon Daily News, Ceylon Morning Leader, Ceylon Independent, Catholic Messenger.

Weekly.—London Times Weekly, Times Educational Supplement, Times Literary Supplement, Manchester Guardian Weekly, Nation, Truth, Spectator, Illustrated London News, Sphere, The Field, Queen, Punch, Nature, Indian Times Weekly.

Monthly.—Blackwood's Magazine, Nineteenth Century Magazine, Strand, Home, Contemporary Review, Review of Reviews, Fortnightly Review, Nash's and Pall Mall Magazine, Bookman, Cornhill, Connoisseur, Journal of Education, National Geographic Magazine U.S.A., Scientific American, Modern Review, Indian Review.

Quarterly.—Hibbert Journal, Quarterly Review, Edinburgh Review, Science Progress, The Round Table.

Annually.—Whitaker's Almanac, Daily Mail Year Book, Colonial Office List, Who's Who.

Two sales of periodicals were held in January and July, and realized Rs. 49'50 and Rs. 70'50, respectively.

The following is a return of visitors to the Reading Room from March to December, 1926:—

	Total number of Visitors.	Daily Average.		Total number of Visitors.	Daily Average.
March	866	28	August	922	30
April	748	25	September	951	32
May	858	28	October	987	33
June	802	27	November	1,029	34
July	973	31	December	758	25

There has been a steady increase during the year in the number of visitors, the decline in April and December being due, no doubt, to the exodus from Colombo that takes place during those months.

Some readers who frequent the reading room indulge in the vicious practice of defacing periodicals and newspapers by cutting out articles and pictures which they fancy. Detection of these culprits is difficult, but, on the other hand, complaints are raised when readers are hedged about with a few restrictions.

LENDING LIBRARY.

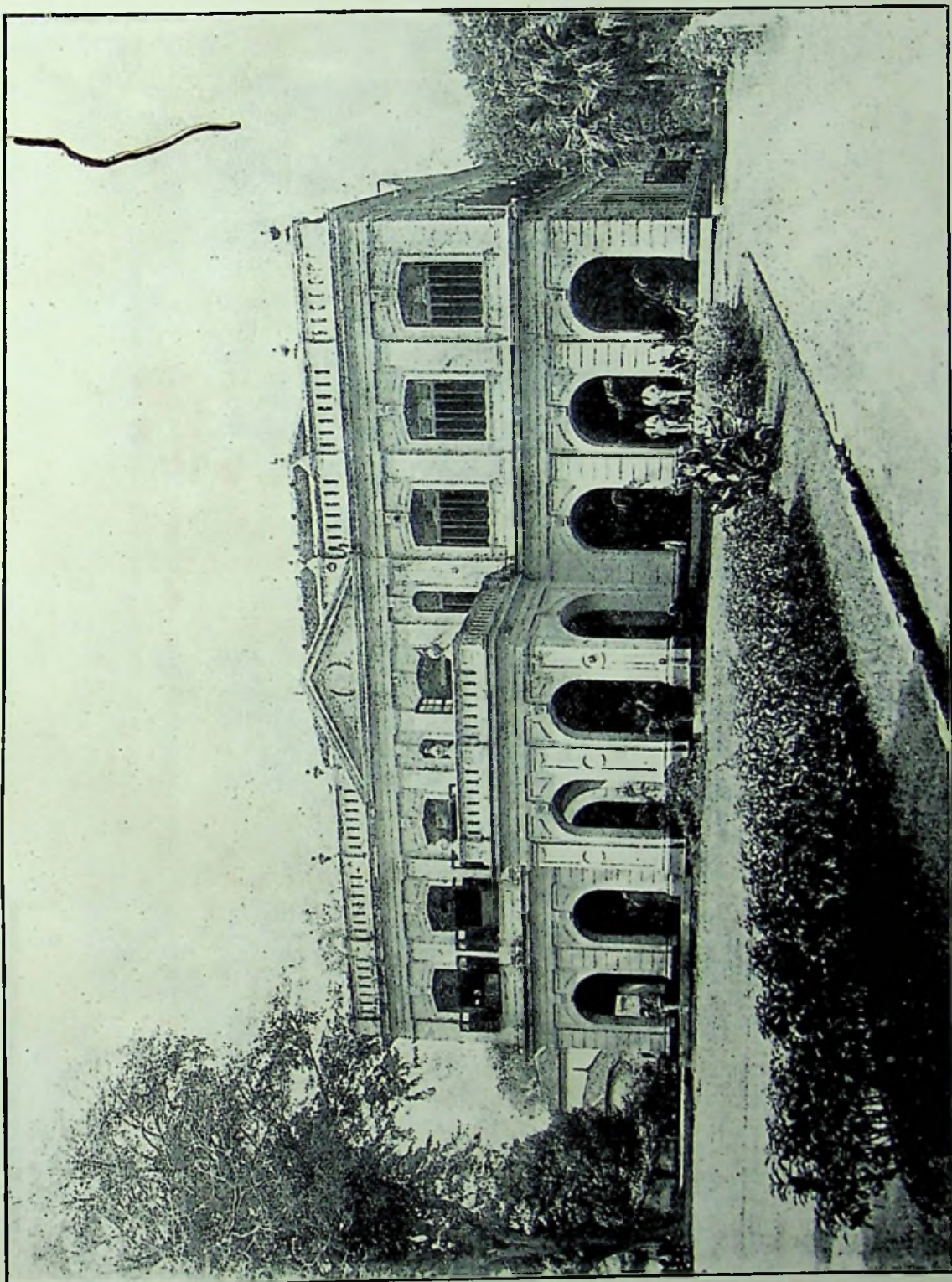
At the beginning of the year there were 91 borrowers on the list. 144 joined up in the course of the year and 24 withdrew. The total number as it stood at the end of the year was 211, showing an increase of 120 over the number in 1925.

The following is the return of issues :—

General works	119	Fine arts	22
Philosophy	77	Literature	498
Religion	22	History	572
Sociology	86	Fiction	2,866
Philology	—		
Science	101	Total	4,376
Useful arts	13		

Fines amounting to Rs. 95'25 were collected.

The work of weeding out old and out-of-date fiction was completed. 387 books were withdrawn; of these, 235 were returned to the Committee of the late Colombo Library. The remainder were offered for sale at 25 cents each. Twenty-seven books were sold and the proceeds credited to revenue. 125 were distributed among the Lunatic Asylum, Leper Asylum, Kandana Sanatorium, and the Prisons.



COLA MDC PUBLIO LIBRARY.

MUNICIPALITY OF COLOMBO.

150 works of fiction and 350 works of other classes were purchased out of the year's vote. The latter included the latest in biography, literature, history, and travel.

It has been decided to purchase books quarterly so that there would be ... or newly published books at any time.

REFERENCE LIBRARY.

Mention was made in the last Report of the inadequacy of works of reference. This deficiency has now been supplied to some extent by the addition of fifty-six works of reference. Most of these were purchased from a valuable bequest left by the Committee of the late Pettah Library.

Five valuable books on Ceylon were bought for this Department at a cost of Rs. 450.

The return of books consulted is as follows:—

Philosophy	...	7	Literature	...	105
Religion	...	32	History	...	179
Sociology	...	10	General works	...	205
Philology	...	1			
Science	...	9			
Useful arts	...	2			
Fine arts	...	11			
			Total	...	561

A valuable donation of Rs. 4,719'75 has been given to this Library by the Committee of the late Pettah Library, the conditions of the gift being that it was to be spent on the purchase of useful works of reference. It was decided to spend Rs. 2,000 on the immediate purchase of books of reference, which should form the "Pettah Library Bequest." The balance was to be placed in fixed deposit for the future purchase of books. It is to be hoped that the good example set by the Committee of the Pettah Library will be followed by many others in the near future.

The following donations of books are acknowledged with thanks:—

From Mr. L. J. Gratiaen	...	Nineteen books.
From The Consul for Denmark	...	The book entitled "Denmark."
From Mr. H. M. Gittens	...	The Life of Cesare Borgia by Rafael Sabatini; Torquemada and the Spanish Inquisition by Rafael Sabatini.
From Mrs. L. Seneviratne	...	One of China's Scholars by Mrs. Howard Taylor; The Scarlet Pimpernel by Baroness Orczy.

Receipt of complimentary copies of the following periodicals is acknowledged with thanks:—Tropical Agriculturist, Buddhist Annual, Buddhist Chronicle, Journal of the British Medical Association (Ceylon Branch), New Outlook, Sessional Papers and Blue Books, Pranks, The Referee, Rays from the Rose Cross, Sydney Sunday Times, Tasmanian Illustrated Mail, Theosophical News, Royal College Magazine, Training College Magazine, Government Gazette, Mercantile Guardian, New Zealand Statistical Report.

Again I have to thank the staff for the help they have given me during the year under review.

S. C. BLOK.

Librarian.

March 4, 1927.

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL.

The Hon. Mr. N. H. M. Abdul Cader, M.L.C., moved that, in terms of Section 102 of Ordinance No. 6 of 1910, the Chairman's Administration Report for the financial year, 1926 be, as usual, submitted to His Excellency the Governor.

Dr. E. V. Ratnam seconded.—Carried.