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DEDICATED
TO
THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
OF
THE CITY OF BOMBAY,

IN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE ASSISTANCE GIVEN BY THAT
BODY TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND THE
BOMBAY SANITARY ASSOCIATION TOWARDS
PROMOTING THE EDUCATION OF THE
PEOPLE IN SANITATION AND
PUBLIC HEALTH.

PREFACE

DURING the past twelve years the Public Health Department of Bombay has, under the auspices of the Government of Bombay, been giving a six months' course of lectures with a view to making provision for a supply of men versed in the theory and practice of sanitation, for employment as Inspectors or Health Officers in mofussil Municipalities. Students come from all parts of India and Burma. At the end of the course an examination is held and certificates are awarded to successful students. Latterly the Royal Sanitary Institute, London, offered to co-operate in the examination and grant its certificates to successful candidates. The offer was accepted and this arrangement has been in force since 1910.

With a view to improve the sanitary condition of the country and secure the better observance of health regulations, the Government of India and the Provincial Governments have recently put in force a scheme for the improvement of the sanitary services and laid down rules for the guidance and instruction of students.

The lectures and demonstrations given to students of the Sanitary Surveyors' Class by the Officers of the Public Health Department, Bombay, have now been elaborated and published in the hope that they may reach a wider circle of students than can manage to attend the Class and generally provide for Municipalities and others interested in questions of public health and hygiene a handy and practical guide to sanitation in India.

The book aims at providing the sanitary student with information on the practical application of modern sanitary methods adapted to India as well as to other places ; for the principles of sanitation are the same in all countries although the conditions may differ.

As far as possible, each subject has been dealt with in a practical form, so that the book may furnish information which may be of value to the sanitary student in carrying out the duties of a responsible post.

It will be seen that the Public Health Acts and Bye-laws both in England and India have been given in full on each subject, because we lay great stress on the value of properly constructed laws and regulations for any scheme of sanitary progress in India. As pointed out in the Chapter on Administration, the Acts and Bye-laws in force in the various towns of India are based on the Public Health Act, 1875, and other English Acts, modified to suit the conditions but are weak in many respects. The Sanitary Officer should realise the importance of a thorough acquaintance with the sanitary regulations in force in his district and be able to suggest amendments which are required from time to time.

We recognise that there is in the book much that relates to purely local sanitary methods of a large city like Bombay, but we make no excuse for this, for we hold that the highest standard should always be aimed at. All the towns and cities cannot work up to that standard at once. But though some towns and districts can only spend thousands while others spend lakhs, the principle involved is the same.

We do not claim to have covered the whole area of sanitation in India which is a very wide one, but we trust we have introduced some new matter not touched upon before. For contributions on some of the subjects the works of other authorities have been freely consulted. In the Chapter on Malaria the works of Manson, Ross, James, Liston and Bentley have been freely drawn upon, while it also includes a detailed statement of a Malaria campaign in a large city. Maxwell's book on "Refuse Disposal in England," Robertson and Porter's "Sanitary Law and Practice in England" are among other standard works to which we have referred.

A special feature of the book is the insertion of a large number of photographs illustrative as far as possible of the sanitary methods dealt with.

Though some of the measures advocated cannot be immediately applied to all parts of India, it is hoped that the example set by the larger cities, which are enumerated in the book, will have the effect of stimulating interest in sanitary matters throughout India, and that many of the growing towns and cities will gradually recognise the importance of organising a trained staff of Sanitary Officials and of carrying out those measures which experience has shown to be both necessary and practicable.

I am deeply grateful to my assistants and staff generally for their valuable co-operation and help; to Mr. N. S. Kowshik, the Chief Clerk of the Health Department, are due our warmest thanks for his assistance in correcting the proofs and to Mr. Shamrao G. Rajapurkar for many of the drawings. The co-operation of the *Times of India* Press has greatly facilitated the publication of this book.

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