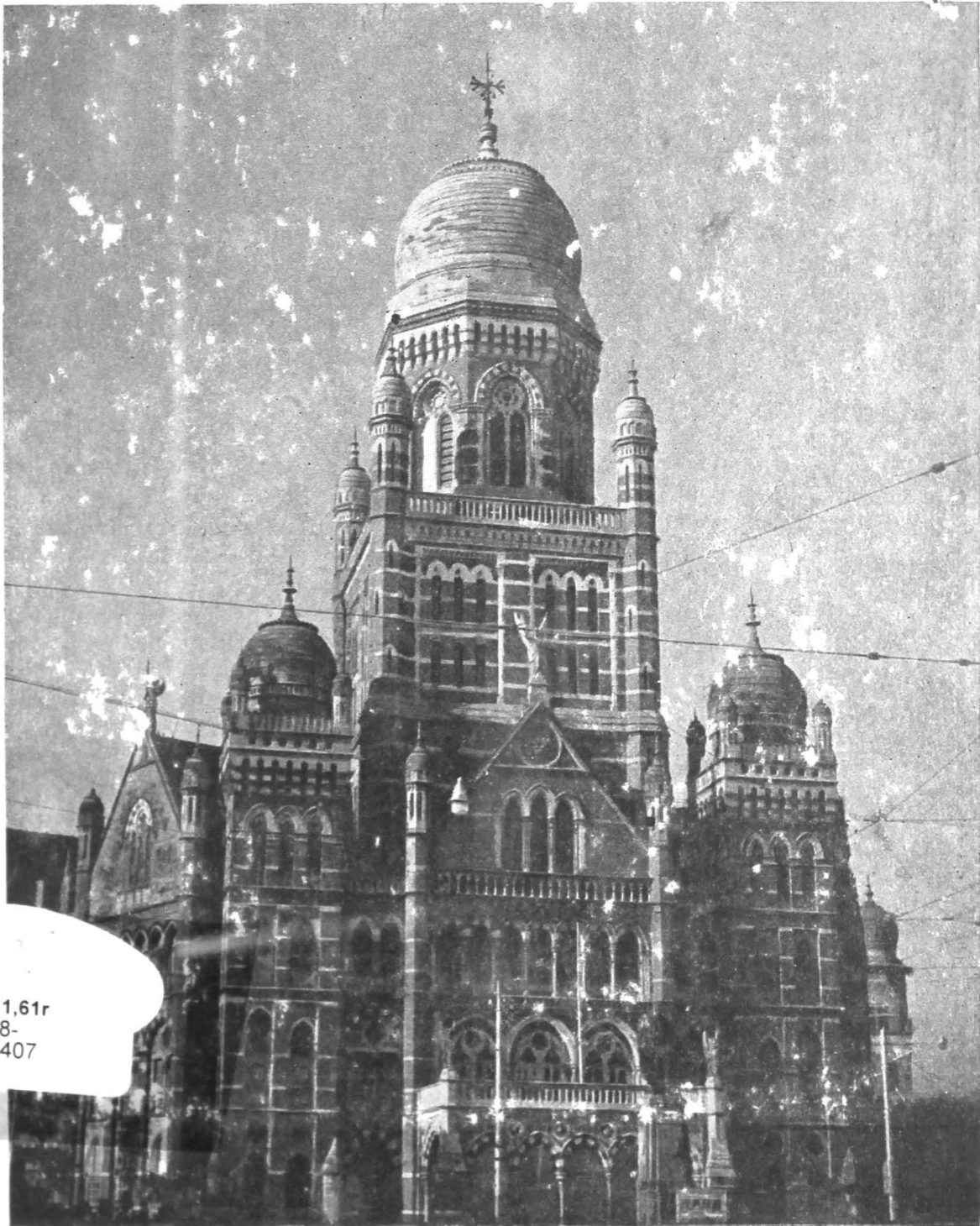


**ADMINISTRATION REPORT  
OF THE  
MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER  
FOR  
GREATER BOMBAY  
FOR THE YEAR  
1953-54**



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**BOMBAY**  
MUNICIPAL PRINTING PRESS

1954

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**REVIEW OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ADMINISTRATION  
REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER FOR GREATER  
BOMBAY FOR THE YEAR 1953-54.**

(SUBURBS)

The Municipal administration of the suburban areas continued to be carried on under the immediate charge of an Assistant Municipal Commissioner till 21st August 1953. Upon the loan of services of the incumbent of the post to the Government of India from 22nd August 1953, the municipal administration of the suburbs was placed under the direct charge of the Deputy Municipal Commissioner (Suburbs).

2. In preparing the Budget Estimates for the year under report an Opening Cash Balance of Rs. 18.09 lacs was estimated. On the final closing of accounts for the year 1952-53, the actual Opening Balance for 1953-54 was Rs. 31.67 lacs which was more by Rs. 13.86 lacs than the actual Opening Balance of the previous year, viz., Rs. 17.81 lacs. The total income was budgetted at Rs. 113.10 lacs but the actual realization amounted to Rs. 133.31 lacs, showing an increase of Rs. 20.21 lacs over the budgetted amount and an increase of Rs. 20.28 lacs over the actuals of the previous year, viz., Rs. 113.03 lacs. On the Expenditure Side, the budgetted amount was Rs. 119.14 lacs which exceeded by Rs. 16.60 lacs the actuals of Rs. 102.54 lacs of the previous year, but the actual expenditure at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 107.81 lacs which was less than the original estimate (Rs. 119.14 lacs) by Rs. 11.33 lacs. The anticipated deficit of Rs. 6.04 lacs was thus turned into a surplus of Rs. 25.50 lacs. The financial transactions for the year ended with a Closing Balance of Rs. 56.97 lacs against Rs. 31.67 lacs in the preceding year.

A detailed study of the Income Side reveals that there was a net increase of Rs. 20.21 lacs, compared with the original Budget estimates comprising of gross increases amounting to Rs. 23.28 lacs counterbalanced by decreases to the extent of Rs. 3.07 lacs. The main increases were under General Tax Rs. 9.28 lacs, Interest and profit on investment of surplus loan and other balances Rs. 2.17 lacs; Street Cleansing and Conservancy Rs. 0.62 lac; Licensing and Removal of Encroachments Rs. 1.31 lacs and Water Works Rs. 7.89 lacs. The main decreases in income are under Grant-in-aid from Government, Rs. 1.76 lacs; share from Budget 'A' for Town Duty under Section 123 (B) (2) of the Act Rs. 0.86 lac and Medical Relief and Education Rs. 0.32 lac.

The actual expenditure for the year, i.e., Rs. 107.81 lacs showed a net increase of Rs. 5.27 lacs over the actual expenditure of Rs. 102.54 lacs of the previous year. It was, however, less by Rs. 11.33 lacs than the original budgetted expenditure of Rs. 119.14 lacs. The final sanctioned grant for the year aggregated to Rs. 131.52 lacs against which the actual amounted to Rs. 107.81 lacs, leaving an unexpended balance of Rs. 23.71 lacs at the close of the year. Of this a sum of Rs. 10.99 lacs was being renewed for expenditure during the year 1954-55 and the balance, viz., Rs. 12.72 lacs was treated as savings on final grants sanctioned.

The amount of the loan proposed during the year was Rs. 45 lacs. A further provision of Rs. 15 lacs was made for raising a loan from Government for the work of laying a pipe line for Oil Refineries at Trombay. The amount actually raised to finance the Capital Works expenditure including purchase of Plant and Machinery was Rs. 20 lacs. A contribution of Rs. 1.20 lacs was received from Government, being 1/3rd share of the expenditure incurred on the extension and improvement of (a) water supply, (b) sewerage and (c) surface drains.

The book value of investments of the Sinking Fund at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 13.89 lacs including Rs. 129 in cash with the Imperial Bank of India. Valuing the Municipal Debentures at par, the market value of Sinking Fund Investments came to Rs. 14.29 lacs. This together with the amount of interest accrued upto 31st March 1954, viz., Rs. 4,857 and cash with the Imperial Bank of India Rs. 129 brings the amount of Sinking Fund to Rs. 14.34 lacs which more than covered the amount viz., Rs. 13.78 lacs to which the Sinking Fund should have accumulated at the close of the year. The excess in the Sinking Fund Investment account was Rs. 0.56 lac.

The total amount at the disposal of the Education Committee for the year was Rs. 17.64 lacs. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 18.24 lacs. An amount of Rs. 5.50 lacs was received from Government towards the cost of Primary Education in the Suburbs.

3. The rates of taxation on buildings and for water supplied by meter measurement were the same as in the last year.

At the close of the year the total number of properties on the Assessment Register was 31,732 as against 30,854 and 29,448 in the previous two years showing an increase of 878 and 2,284 respectively. The rateable value of all properties was Rs. 348.91 lacs as against Rs. 305.31 lacs and Rs. 291.19 lacs for the previous two years. This gave a rate of Rs. 68.38 per head of population (5,10,250) as against Rs. 59.85 and Rs. 57.08 in the previous two years. The net total demand in respect of Property and Wheel taxes for the year was Rs. 92.43 lacs plus the arrears of Rs. 59.11 lacs from the previous year. The amount collected during the year was Rs. 102.35 lacs, as against Rs. 85.65 lacs in the previous year. The total outstanding of taxes at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 46.26 lacs, i.e., 31.13 per cent. of the net demand viz., Rs. 148.61 lacs.

The rates of taxation during the year continued to be the same as in the preceding half year, (1st October 1952, to 31st March 1953), viz., 5 per cent. in the case of buildings and lands the rateable values of which were above Rs. 2,000 in each case and 2½ per cent. in the case of buildings and lands, the rateable values of which were Rs. 2,000 and below but not less than Rs. 500 in each case. The net demand in respect of the tax was Rs. 20.65 lacs. The amount collected was Rs. 11.22 lacs, i.e., about 54.31 per cent. of the demand. This shows rather a high percentage of outstanding and the Standing Committee hopes that necessary steps will be taken for the collection of outstanding taxes in time.

In the classification of properties according to the user, it is found that out of 31,372 properties with an approximate rateable value of Rs. 348.91 lacs, 25,970 properties only are used for residential purposes with an approximate rateable value of Rs. 250.95 lacs.

From the classification of properties according to the rateable values, it is found that as many as 31,288 properties come within the rateable value of Rs. 20,000 leaving only 84 properties having rateable values between Rs. 20,001 and Rs. 3,50,001 and above.

#### Public Works.

4. In order to boost up the standard of municipal service under the Public Works in the merged areas, the progress of different construction works was speeded up during the year. Works of asphaltting water-bound roads, providing sewerage facilities, laying of sewers with Pumping Stations, remodelling markets, construction of housing accommodation for Municipal subordinate staff etc., etc., were undertaken in different parts of the suburbs during the year.

A provision was made to replace the old pumps at some of the Municipal Stations to cope with the increased volume of sewage consequent upon the increase in population. The total expenditure booked on the sewer works during the year was Rs. 19.5 lacs against Rs. 10.41 lacs and Rs. 3.16 lacs in the previous two years.

The sewerage work in Khar and Santa Cruz and the purification works at Khar were nearing completion. The works on the sewerage of Ghatkopar area were undertaken and are being expedited to facilitate sewerage of Industrial Housing at Chembur undertaken by the Housing Commissioner. The work of extending sewerage facilities to Vile Parle-Andheri area was undertaken during the year.

Some of the newly laid sewers in Khar-Santa Cruz area started functioning. In all 22 street connections were made at a cost of Rs. 4,958. 430 privies were converted into full flushing water-closets and an amount of Rs. 35,400 was paid as subvention money.

5. The work of preparing an inventory of the Municipal properties in the Suburbs was nearing completion. The work of preparing a Road list for the Suburbs was taken in hand.

The total mileage of roads in the Suburbs is about 139, comprising 26 miles of water bound roads, 107 miles of asphalt roads, 2 miles of concrete roads and 4 miles of unmetalled roads. Many water bound roads were asphalted during the year. Materials amounting to Rs. 0.11 lac were supplied to the residents in different areas for carrying out the work of water bound roads through voluntary efforts.



The ferry service between Versova and Madh was maintained satisfactorily during the year. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 14,844 as against the expenditure of Rs. 8,673.

The cost of street lighting, both by electric and incandescent lamps numbering 4,918, amounted to Rs. 3.36 lacs against Rs. 1.62 lacs in the previous year. The work of improving lighting on many roads was in full vigour. Most of the through and main roads were provided with lights.

There is an urgent need of constructing public sanitary conveniences at suitable sites in the suburbs. Plans and estimates for different areas were prepared but no satisfactory progress was made for want of suitable sites.

Special Building Bye-laws for the Suburbs in addition to the Building Regulations in the City were brought into effect from 15th April 1952. But it was found that they required thorough overhauling in the light of the practical experience gained.

It was proposed to vary all the twenty finalised Town Planning Schemes in the Suburbs so as to allow in particular more built up area and an additional storey. The Town Planning Schemes Nos. III, IV and V, Bandra, were proposed to be varied. Government sanction for the same is awaited.

The area of the Suburbs merged within the City proper is very large and the Corporation's resources to bring them on a high standard of civil services are very limited. It will, therefore, take a long time to bring the suburban area to the standards obtaining in the City as regards various amenities. An all round effort was, however, made during the year to improve the condition of these areas and to provide additional amenities within the resources available. Throughout the year the tempo of construction works was kept up. There was a good deal of activity particularly in the Trombay area where two very large Oil Refineries were established; various new roads in Trombay and Chembur were under construction. A number of residential buildings were also under construction by the Housing Commissioner for providing accommodation for about 9,000 families (industrial labourers) in the area.

6. Suburbs like the City were supplied with water by gravity from the three lakes, viz., Tansa, Vihar and Tulsi. In the suburban areas, water is supplied for 24 hours except for certain elevated localities like Bandra Hill and Pali Hill which receive water for 10 hours at night time. Water for all purposes was charged by meter measurement. There were in all 10,852 connections in the Eastern and Western Divisions of the Suburbs against 10,040 and 9,549 in the previous two years. About 3,270 million gallons of water were supplied to these divisions during the year against 3,140 and 2,300 million gallons in the preceding two years.

98.31 miles of water mains of various sizes were maintained during the year. There were 83 complaints regarding the absence of water supply and 1,082 about short supply against 67 and 800, respectively, in the previous year. It is reported that most of these complaints were due to manipulation of supply by landlords to prevent against excessive use of water by tenants. 38 fire calls were answered by the Suburban Departments and about 0.27 million gallons of water was used for the purpose.

There were 37 bursts on various mains and 2,152 repair works were carried out during the year.

Ten Parks and Gardens were maintained by the Water Works Department during the year at a total cost of Rs. 11,500. Considerable improvements, renovations, etc., were carried out to keep these places in an attractive condition for recreation of the suburban population.

There were 143 Public Stand Pipes and 86 wells during the year under report and about 90 million gallons of water was supplied gratuitously to the public through the stand pipes.

It is gratifying to note that during the year under report the benefit of piped water supply was extended to Vadhavoli, Kirol, etc., Villages at a cost of about Rs. 59,900. Upto this time these villages depended for their water supply on a few private wells, which frequently dried up during the summer.

For improving water supply in the suburbs, new mains were laid and old ones were enlarged to meet the increasing demand for domestic and industrial purposes. It is reported that 53,837 feet of water mains of different sizes were laid at a total cost of Rs. 9 lacs.

7. During the year 5,826 Licences and Permits were issued as against 5,061 and 4,350 during the previous two years, showing an increase of 765 and 1,476 respectively. The fees realized therefrom amounted to about Rs. 1.55 lacs as against Rs. 1.66 lacs and Rs. 0.93 lac in the previous two years. The reason for a drop of Rs. 0.11 lac in the receipts as compared with the previous year's revenue in spite of an increase in the number of permits issued are not mentioned in the report. Fees amounting to Rs. 27,425 were received for permits issued for exhibiting 915 sky-signs and advertisements, as against Rs. 38,999 and Rs. 22,697 in the previous two years. The fees realized from the issue of 3,438 licences to Hawkers and Squatters amounted to Rs. 37,676 as against Rs. 29,547 and Rs. 23,220 in the previous two years.

During the year 587 prosecutions for offences under the Act as against 413 and 427 in the previous two years were instituted. The total amount of fines inflicted in 206 cases was about Rs. 4,477 as against Rs. 3,510 and Rs. 3,569 for the previous two years in 131 and 151 cases of convictions, respectively.

8. During the year 1,671 new Establishments were registered and the total number of Establishments registered at the close of the year was 9,527 as against 8,729 and 8,082 in the previous two years. During the year 227 complaints were received and 12 were pending disposal at the beginning of the year; 216 complaints were investigated, leaving 23 pending at the close of the year. While 483 prosecutions were instituted during the year, the number of cases pending at the end of the year was 68. The total amount of fines realised was Rs. 17,760 as against Rs. 8,305 in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 5,814 was received by way of collection of parking fees at the Juhu Foreshore. This was discontinued from 1st November 1953. The total expenditure incurred in administering the Act was Rs. 77,446 including the Dearness Allowance. The grant-in-aid sanctioned by the Government for the year 1952-53 in respect of the administration of the Act in the suburban area was Rs. 8,305 against Rs. 8,085 in the previous year. An amount of Rs. 2,809-12-0 was received by way of Registration Fees, etc., as against Rs. 2,786 in the preceding year.

**Theatre Tax.**—The concession of 20 per cent. rebate, if the tax was paid in advance before the 5th of the month was continued during the year. The total collection of receipts from this tax amounted to about Rs. 86,886 as against Rs. 79,989 in the previous year.

9. During the year the number of Municipal Markets and Slaughter Houses remained the same as in the previous year viz., 16 and 5, respectively. Besides the 16 Municipal Markets there were two private markets as in the previous year. The Five Year Plan for expansion and development of marketing facilities in the merged areas had been partly implemented by including proposals of acquisition of land and establishing a market at Kurla, remodelling the Khar Market and centralisation of the slaughter of sheep and goats on the east side in the Kasaiwada, Kurla. In the City for lack of space of development, it is not possible to remodel and extend the markets but the Standing Committee hopes that care will be taken to see that in the merged areas where space is available the layout of markets will be done by a systematic planning with space available for future expansion.

The total receipts of the Department during the year amounted to Rs. 5.15 lacs as against Rs. 4.42 lacs and Rs. 4.59 lacs realised in the previous two years. The rise in the revenue was mainly due to the increase in the receipts of squatters fees and the recovery of arrears of the enhanced entrance fee.

During the year unwholesome articles of food, such as, meat, fish, vegetable, etc., weighing 11,687 lbs. were destroyed as against 11,998 lbs. and 28,426 lbs. for the preceding two years. The total meat destroyed was 2,804 lbs. as against 6,135 lbs. and 1,316 lbs. in the previous two years. Out of the 26 prosecutions launched for unauthorized slaughter of animals during the year 18 resulted in convictions, 6 in acquittals and 2 were pending. Total fines inflicted amounted to Rs. 620.

10. In the merged areas during the year, the Corporation maintained 93 Municipal Schools with 19 regular Classes with a strength of 27,634 pupils on the roll and 743 teachers of whom 614 were trained and 129 untrained. Four new Schools and one Class were opened while six Schools were converted into Classes and two Classes were converted into Schools. Out of 93 schools, 36 were Upper Primary Schools.

The number of Municipal owned school-buildings at the beginning of the year was 32 against 31 in the preceding year. During the year a new school building at Vile-Parle was



An amount of Rs. 1,40,753-14-6 was collected as Riot Taxes in the year under report.

**General Remarks.** During the year under report the dispute between the Central Government and the Corporation about the payment of General Tax at a rate higher than the rate prevailing immediately before 1st April 1947 was amicably settled as the Central Government have agreed to pay the tax at the enhanced rate from 1st April 1954.

**Urban Immovable Property Tax.** 11. The rates of taxation continued to be the same as in the previous year, viz., 5 per cent. in the case of buildings and lands the rateable values of which were above Rs. 2,000 in each case and 2½ per cent. in the case of buildings and lands the rateable values of which were Rs. 2,000 and below but not less than Rs. 500. Properties having rateable value of less than Rs. 500 per annum continued to be exempted. During the year under review, the demand in respect of this tax was Rs. 97.01 lacs, as against this demand, the collection amounted to Rs. 74.99 lacs; and drawback Rs. 20-2-0 only, while Rs. 22.09 lacs remained outstanding at the close of the year. The total collection of the Tax during the year amounted to about Rs. 88.82 lacs.

In the classification of properties according to user, it is found that out of 54,157 properties, with an approximate rateable value of Rs. 2,343.85 lacs, 36,103 properties only are used for residential purposes with an approximate rateable value of Rs. 1,244.35 lacs.

From the classification of properties according to rateable values it is found that as many as 46,610 properties come within the rateable value of Rs. 20,000, leaving only 1,701 properties having rateable value between Rs. 20,001 and Rs. 3,50,000 and above. These figures do not include properties belonging to the Bombay Port Trust and Railways, which are assessed in lump.

**Town Duties.** 12. During the year the rates of Town Duties continued to be the same as those in the previous year, except that of Ghee substitutes which was reduced from Re. 1 to As. 8 per quarter with effect from 1st April 1953. The gross realization from Town Duties amounted to Rs. 93.86 lacs as against Rs. 92.95 lacs and Rs. 96.23 lacs in the previous two years. There was an increase in the net receipts from grain and sugar and commodities not accounted for with a corresponding decrease in timber and plywood, tea, dates (wet) and edibles. The refund for the year under review was Rs. 19.67 lacs as against Rs. 20.19 lacs and Rs. 24.52 lacs in the previous two years. Town Duties gave a net revenue of Rs. 74.19 lacs as against Rs. 72.76 lacs and Rs. 71.71 lacs in the previous two years. The total number of claims for refunds was 36,608 as against 34,564 and 29,379 in the preceding two years. Though the number of claims for refund during the year was more by 2,044 than in the previous year, the amount of refund was less by Rs. 0.53 lac.

Fees for stamping sugar bags, tea-cases, etc., amounted to Rs. 0.84 lac as against Rs. 1.01 lacs and Rs. 0.83 lac in the preceding two years.

Town duties collected at Bhandup and Jogeshwari in respect of articles coming by roads amounted to Rs. 6.03 lacs as against Rs. 6.92 lacs and Rs. 7.19 lacs in the preceding two years. Town duties on dutiable parcels imported by air amounted to Rs. 0.10 lac as against Rs. 0.05 lac in the preceding year.

During the year under report, Section 195 of the Bombay Municipal Corporation Act, was amended with effect from 27th November 1953 under which refund of Town Duty on export of articles, upon which Town Duty was levied at the time of their import was fixed at 93½ per cent, the balance of 6½ per cent. to be credited to the Municipal Fund as fee for collection and refund. Under the same amendment of the Act, the minimum amount of refund admissible was raised from Rs. 5 to Rs. 10.

**Elections.** 13. Supplementary Election Roll containing 467 names was published on 20th December 1953, in accordance with the provisions of Section 21-B of the Bombay Municipal Corporation Act.

**Municipal Properties.** 14. The total number of properties, both Municipal and ex-Trust, maintained by the Maintenance Branch during the year was 3,183 which was more by 27 and 42 than the number of properties, viz., 3,156 and 3,141, respectively, in the previous two years. This increase was due to new buildings having been handed over for maintenance. The work of up-keep and maintenance of these buildings was carried out partly by contract and partly by departmental agency. The Budget provision for the said purpose was Rs. 23.53 lacs against which the expenditure incurred amounted to Rs. 15.43 lacs. Corresponding figures of the Budget grant and expenditure for the last two years were Rs. 24.56

lacs and Rs. 22.64 lacs and Rs. 9.74 lacs and Rs. 11.39 lacs, respectively. In addition, repairs to school buildings under Budget 'E' were also carried out at a total expenditure of Rs. 36,261, in the year under report. Out of the total expenditure, works to the extent of Rs. 10.68 lacs were carried out departmentally and of Rs. 3.94 lacs through the Petty Works contractors, as against Rs. 8.22 lacs and Rs. 2.63 lacs, respectively, in the previous year.

New Works and Special Repairs Works were carried out at a total expenditure of Rs. 3.83 lacs as against Rs. 4.02 lacs in the previous year. The total Budget grants for carrying out Special Repairs to Municipal properties and *ex-Trust* Chawls and properties were Rs. 4.00 lacs and Rs. 7.16 lacs, respectively, as against Rs. 3.22 lacs and Rs. 9.05 lacs, respectively, in the previous year, against which the actual expenditure incurred during the year amounted to Rs. 1.09 lacs and Rs. 5.23 lacs, respectively, as against Rs. 1.88 lacs and Rs. 1.43 lacs, respectively, in the previous two years.

Works on the five years' programme of heavy repairs and improvement of water supply to the *ex-Trust* Chawls were continued. The work of improving water supply at Chandanwadi Chawls, Princess Street Chawls and some chawls at Sydenham Road Estate was completed, while measures therefor at the Palton Road and Bellasis Road Chawls were in progress. The works of electrification of Sydenham Road Chawls, Nagpada and Mazagaon Chawls were nearing completion.

The cost of maintenance of Municipal and *ex-Trust* buildings continued to be on the upward trend. This increase was largely due to the continuously deteriorating condition of the properties consequent upon their old age and overcrowding of the premises due to prevailing housing shortage.

The following major works were completed during the year :—

**Construction.**

- (1) A building for an electrically operated Crematorium at Chandanwadi ;
- (2) Construction of a school building at Laxmi Narayan Lane, Matunga ; and (3) Additional floor over the J. R. Municipal School Building at Sandhurst Road (East).

The following new works were undertaken during the year and were either in progress or nearing completion at the close of the year :—

- (1) Reconstruction of godown at the Central Stores at Byculla ; (2) Construction of a Repairs Workshop at the Dadar Purification Works ; (3) Construction of a covered market at Dongri ; (4) Construction of a school building at Suparibaug ; and (5) Construction of a school building in Scheme 6, Sion-Matunga Estate.

A programme of constructing school buildings in different parts of the City was framed and the same was being pursued according to the availability of funds and suitable sites. A Five Year Programme for the construction of Municipal owned school buildings was under consideration at the close of the year.

During the year under report the following work of construction of tenements for housing the Conservancy Staff of the Public Health Department was in progress :—

- (1) Construction of the remaining 96 tenements at Rajwadkar Street, Colaba, 48 tenements having been completed ;
- (2) Construction of 144 tenements out of 244 tenements at Bapty Road Yard ;
- (3) Replacement of 'Patra Chawls' at Mahalaxmi by storeyed building comprising of 410 tenements and 10 shops.

A semi-detached house comprising two tenements 12'×10' and a verandah 4' wide was erected at Jogeshwari Squatters' Colony departmentally with walls of soil cement bricks. The cost per tenement worked out at about Rs. 700.

Another house comprising one tenement was also erected at the same colony with walls of pre-cast vibrated concrete panels and columns through the agency of Messrs. Sayaji Cement Products at a cost of Rs. 1,188.

15. During the year 5,052 applications against 5,437 and 4,391 in the previous two years were received for the construction of new buildings or additions and alterations to the existing ones. The number of buildings covered by these applications was 2,067 against 1,689 and 1,990 in the preceding two years. It is very

significant to note that there was a considerable fall in the number of new tenements constructed during the year which was 1,996 against 2,568 and 2,565 in the preceding two years. Out of 1,996 tenements, 291 were one-room tenements 662 two-room tenements and 1043 larger tenements. The corresponding figures for the two years were 303,597 and 1,665 ; 492, 634 and 1,442, respectively. Of the newly constructed tenements during the year the highest number was 777 in G Ward in which 218 one-room, 387 two-room and 172 larger tenements were constructed. The total number of buildings constructed by private enterprise during the year was 423 of which 164 were residential and 253 non-residential, 4 buildings were constructed by Co-operative Societies and 2 by employers for their employees. It will thus be seen that the new buildings activity in the year of report did not even touch the fringe of the problem looming large since a long time. A fillip in this industry is very essential, if housing accommodation is to be provided to the citizens within some reasonable range of time.

The number of tenements demolished during the year was 580 against 535 in the previous year. Of these 434 were one-room tenements, 60 two-room tenements and 86 were larger tenements. Of the demolished buildings, the highest number was 136 in G Ward in which 124 one-room tenements, 8 two room tenements and 4 larger tenements were demolished. Such demolitions tend to aggravate the existing acute housing shortage. The Standing Committee hopes that the executive get themselves first thoroughly convinced about the ruinous condition of a house which its owner may propose to demolish sometimes with the intention of ousting tenants who may not surrender to his whims.

During the year under report, action for removal of unauthorised works was taken vigorously to check the growing tendency on the part of law breakers to put up such structures without permission and in contravention of the provisions of the Act and the Building Bye-laws. Most of such structures were inadequately lighted or ill-ventilated or were deficient as regards open spaces required under the Building Bye-laws. Sanction of the Standing Committee was obtained in 137 cases, for the removal of unauthorised works and 54 such works were removed by the parties while 34 cases were removed departmentally. Out of the remaining 49 cases, in 3 cases the works were regularised and 46 cases were pending at the close of the year.

The Corporation had revised the scale of stall-board charges with effect from 1st April 1952. Under this scale only the projections on important streets are to be charged at one and half times the rates charged for other projections. This has resulted in giving considerable relief to the stall-board holders as against double the rates originally proposed to be charged.

Action for the removal of stall board projections and show cases on public streets was continued through the Stall-Board Removal Staff. In all 2,142 notices were issued against 3,856 in the previous year. Out of these, 1,653 notices were complied with 489 were pending at the close of the year as against 2,574 and 1,282, respectively, in the previous year. During the year 1,723 projections were removed by the parties of their own accord and 2,318 were removed departmentally.

763 stall-board projections and 911 weather-framed projections were allowed to be retained on payment of fees against 1,207 and 848, respectively, in the preceding year. The net income derived from temporary projections, such as, stall-boards, etc., amounted to Rs. 3.49 lacs against Rs. 2.32 lacs and Rs. 2.76 lacs in the preceding two years, while the expenditure incurred on the establishment, etc., for the control of such projections was Rs. 0.97 lac as against Rs. 0.90 lac and Rs. 0.83 lac in the preceding two years.

In the case of dilapidated houses the issue of notices and the launching of prosecutions continued as before. In some cases where the owners failed to comply with the requisitions in spite of convictions, the tenants approached the authorities to force the landlords to carry out repairs. The tenants were given authorities under Section 499 of the Act to carry out repairs works and to recover the reasonable expenses incurred by them from the rents.

In some cases departmental action had to be taken for pulling down unsafe portions of buildings in the interest of public safety as the owners failed to carry out Municipal requisitions. In some cases the owners deposited the amount towards the expenses of such work.

It is hoped that the new Rent Act which came into force from 1st April 1954, would give an inducement to the landlords to carry out repairs as they would be entitled to increase the rent to the extent of 5 per cent. on the amount spent on repairs.

The prevailing acute housing shortage hampered the improvement and widening of narrow streets in congested localities. The setback lines prescribed on a majority of such

streets in the City could not be demanded for want of alternative accommodation of the dis-housed persons. It is hoped that the executives will not take drastic actions against the landlords only for the purpose of widening a road unless some alternative accommodation is provided for the purpose.

**16. Dadar Purification Works.**—The sewage Purification Works at Dadar functioned satisfactorily throughout the year under report. The total volume of sewage received at the Plant during the year amounted to 3,746.43 million gallons, *i.e.*, an average of 10.26 million gallons per day, against the total quantity of 4,073.53 and 3,952.6 million gallons received at the Works in the previous two years giving a daily average of 11.16 and 10.8 million gallons, respectively. The total quantity of sludge gas generated during the year was 45.11 million cubic feet almost 6.25 million cubic feet more than the last year's average while the production was 1,23,603 cubic feet per day. From the experience gained it can be said that the distribution of sludge gas for domestic consumption was both economical and simple. The total revenue realised during the year by sale of gas amounted to Rs. 1.11 lacs as against Rs. 78,490 and Rs. 62,690 in the previous two years. The total expenditure on power, stores, laboratory, establishment, etc., charges for the purification plant, Digestion Tanks, Sewerage Pumping Station, etc., amounted to Rs. 2.70 lacs as against Rs. 2.31 lacs in the previous year.

**Love Grove.** Sewage installation at Love Grove worked satisfactorily throughout the year. The average quantity of sewage pumped during the year was about 71.48 million gallons per day against 57.95 million gallons per day in the previous year. The total expenditure on the maintenance of the station was Rs. 3.03 lacs as against Rs. 2.46 lacs and Rs. 1.94 lacs during the previous two years.

**Dharavi Purification Works.** The electrical and mechanical machinery for the work of providing a purification plant capable of treating 5 million gallons per day forming part of the Scheme of treating 10 million gallons was installed during the year, and the work of installing new pumps at the Mahim Pumping Station, sewage from which will be carried to the Dharavi Purification Works was completed. The work of refuse dumping was started in September 1953. Regular samples were collected and tested. Gas generated at the Works was supplied to the Municipal Group of Hospitals, Sion. The plant was put into operation on 22nd June 1953.

**Remodelling existing sewerage system.** The sewerage system of the City depends upon the satisfactory working of Pumping and Compressor Stations. Sewage from the sewerage system of the City was pumped through 13 Pumping Stations, 5 of which, *viz.*, Love Grove, Dadar, Matunga, Mahim and Jacob Circle are major stations and the remaining are secondary ones. The Pumping stations at Dharavi and Tulsi Pipe Line Road were installed and put into operation during the year and they worked satisfactorily. The number of secondary stations will be also increased when the schemes of Pumping Stations at Chowpatty, Chinchpokli and at the Globe Mill Passage are ready for operations. The work at the Globe Mill Passage is practically completed and it will start functioning from June 1954. All the Pumping Stations worked satisfactorily during the year.

Upto this time considerable difficulty was experienced in removing the silt accumulating at the bottom of the sumps of various stations due to tremendous increase in the quantity of silt finding its way in the sewers. This was removed at some stations by agitating the sewage with compressed air. In the design of the new pumping stations, arrangements are made for getting sumps cleaned mechanically, so that the sump wells can be cleaned even at the time of peak load flows without the aid of manual labour. This has worked well at the newly installed pumping station at Tulsi Pipe Line Road.

**17. Transport.** During the year 448 motor vehicles were in commission against 454 and 344 in the previous two years. During the year 19 old vehicles were scrapped and sold, 10 new vehicles and 1 new motor car were purchased and 2 vehicles used for distribution of milk were converted as ambulances and added to the fleet. The expenditure incurred on the maintenance of the motor transport amounted to Rs. 15.20 lacs against Rs. 10.15 lacs and Rs. 9.57 lacs in the previous two years.

The execution of the scheme for constructing a Central Garage near Worli for housing all the vehicles at a central place sanctioned by the Corporation was further deferred due to financial stringency.

**18. Repairs and Maintenance of Roads and Foot-paths.** The total mileage of roads in the City limits at the end of the year was 273.606 miles against 280.891 and 270.717 in the preceding two years. The cost of adding to roads the setback lands acquired in the different parts of the City amounted to Rs. 1.21 lacs. The total area thus added to the road during the year was 9,447 square yards.

During the year, about 60,212 square yards of area of road surfaces were renewed with 3" sheet asphalt and 'Recondo' process at a total cost of Rs. 4.67 lacs. The work of maintenance of roads and footpaths was generally satisfactory throughout the year. A total area of 2.63 lac square yards of the different types of the road surfaces was improved during the year. The work of asphaltting foot-paths was continued during the year and foot-paths of 26 roads covering an area of 56,841 square yards were asphalted at a cost of Rs. 1.26 lacs.

Traffic islands were provided at important intersections and the total number of such islands at the close of the year was 99.

During the year a sum of Rs. 1.31 lacs was realised on road opening fees, ground rents or fees for temporary occupation of roads and foot-paths.

Total number of street lamps in the City at the end of the year was 11,885 as against 11,638 and 11,619 in the previous two years. An expenditure of Rs. 19.69 lacs was incurred for lighting and maintenance of street lamps. An additional expenditure of Rs. 2.26 lacs was incurred on erection of new lamps, maintenance, miscellaneous works, etc.

19. As in the past the major portion of refuse was as usual transported to Deonar in railway wagons. The remaining refuse was dumped into low-lying lands in the City, viz., Hornby Vellard, Haines Road Cemetery, near Love Grove Pumping Station, Sion-Kurla Creek, Dadar Purification Works and Dharavi, which sites were required to be filled in. A part of the refuse was also utilized for filling in the old storm Water Reservoir.

Three trains consisting on an average of 22 wagons each were in commission for the transport of refuse to Deonar every day. Total number of wagons sent to Deonar during the year under report was 23,465 as against 25,421 and 26,433 during the previous two years. The total quantity of refuse removed to Deonar was about 3.99 lac tons as against 4.07 lac and 4.49 lac tons during the previous two years. The total expenditure on account of removal and disposal of refuse amounted to Rs. 7.83 lacs against Rs. 8.87 lacs and Rs. 8.90 lacs in the preceding two years. The total cost of unloading refuse wagons amounted to Rs. 3.64 lacs as against Rs. 3.98 lacs and Rs. 4.06 lacs in the previous two years. The work of unloading refuse wagons was carried out wholly by contract. The cost of haulage and unloading per ton amounted to Rs. 1-15-5 approximately as against Rs. 2-7-10 and Rs. 2 per ton in the previous two years. The decrease in expenditure was due to less number of wagons received at Deonar.

The position of the rolling stock required for work was not satisfactory. The rolling stock including stock lying "sick" in the Railway Workshop at Mahalaxmi siding and at Deonar is 106 as against 122 in the previous year. As it was found necessary to increase the rolling stock, a provision of Rs. 7 lacs for the purchase of 50 wagons was made in the Budget. Taking into consideration the urgent need of wagons it was decided to purchase 45 iron bodied open second hand Railway Wagons to be used as Refuse Wagons from the Western Railway authorities. The health of the City usually depends on the prevailing sanitary conditions. Looked at from this angle it must be admitted that the position is not as satisfactory as would be desired and sometimes there is complete break down of the conservancy machinery even endangering the city's health and giving rise to epidemic diseases. A radical change seems necessary to put these services on a proper and fool-proof footing.

20. The Master Plan for the Greater Bombay Region was approved by the Corporation in 1948. The State Government consider that the implementation of the Master Plan is primarily the responsibility of the Municipality. In regard to control of the user of land, provisions of amended Bye-laws being inadequate further legislation to introduce zoning was under consideration.

Investigation was made in respect of waste lowlying areas lying idle in the suburbs due to tidal inundation. Some of the areas bear high potentiality for immediate use for industrial or residential purposes. Though the rough outline for the reclamation of lands was formed the problem is being studied further on different lines analogous to those practised in Holland with proper local adaptations without the conventional mode of filling in the areas by earth.

As a result of the survey of existing industries and the discussion with factory owners a revised plan was evolved and approved by the Zoning Committee. A Zoning Code and the final detailed plan are under preparation.

The data for the planning of the Municipal Slaughter House to be established at Deonar was collected for preparing a preliminary scheme. No further progress was made in this direction except providing an access road in the course of the year at a cost of Rs. 4.13 lacs.

The work of the aerial survey of the Greater Bombay Region was completed and photo-mosaics with contact prints have been since received.

The total expenditure booked for the preparation of the Master Plan work from the commencement, viz., 1st June 1947 upto 31st March 1954, amounted to Rs. 2.25 lacs.

The Government of India after studying various sites with Municipality approved during the year an alternative site at Powai for the proposed Western Higher Technological Institute and the same was notified by the Government of Bombay for acquisition.

Details for the development of the Juhu Beach on the Government land on the foreshore were prepared during the year.

**Town Planning Scheme.**—In all 4 Town Planning Schemes for Bombay City were approved by the Corporation and the State Government upto 31st March 1954. The whole of the Town Planning Scheme area in City No. 1 was kept under vigilant control with a view to preventing constructions in contravention of the provisions of the Town Planning Act.

The Mahim area covered by the provisions of the Bombay Town Planning Act, 1915, was divided into three Schemes, viz., Schemes Nos. 2, 3 and 4.

The total expenditure incurred in connection with the preliminary works of the proposed Town Planning Schemes for the areas from the commencement upto the end of the year under report was Rs. 4.02 lacs, and the expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 1.08 lacs. The Department continued to look after the work of acquisition of lands and preparation of lay-outs, etc., as before. The Trustees were appointed Estate and Land by the Charity Commissioner in connection with Scheme 5, Case No. 374, Temple Property and the Award of the Special Land Acquisition Officer was awaited. There being stiff opposition from the villagers from Scheme 52, Worli Village, for fear of being dispossessed of their ancestral properties, a new scheme which would meet their objections and also enable the Municipality to carry out improvement in that locality was under consideration and the City Engineer was requested to prepare a lay-out showing the development of the locality. Possession of Government land in Scheme 6, Sion-Matunga Estate, was taken over for the purpose of Municipal Housing, and the documents were being executed. The case about the Scheme for widening the 1st Marine Street, Dhobi Talao, was closed and a fresh agreement with the Trustees was under preparation. Possession of the properties in Lower Parel Division for provision of a recreation ground, etc., was taken during the year. No progress was made in connection with the revised lay-out of Haji Ali Park, Hornby Vellard, during the year. Government sanction to the revised lay-out was still awaited.

Out of the total area of 139.36 lacs sq. yds. (about 2,879 acres) vested in or acquired by the ex-Trust, about 37.3 per cent. remained to be developed and out of the developed area 3.5 per cent. remained to be leased, including an area of 1,62,509 sq. yds. reserved for municipal purposes, such as, schools, markets, etc. At the end of the year, the area of undeveloped land was 51.97 lacs sq. yds., as against 52.15 lac sq. yds., in the previous year, the cost of acquisition of which was Rs. 187.09 lacs as against Rs. 187.74 lacs in the preceding year.

During the year under report not a single Municipal plot was disposed of while the number of plots disposed of, in previous three years were, 3, 1 and 10, respectively.

The area of land disposed of during the year show a decrease over that for the last year while the value realized thereon is more, viz., 11,871 sq. yds., and Rs. 6.69 lacs, as against 14,923 sq. yds. and Rs. 5.87, respectively, in the preceding year.

During the year, in all 21 plots covering a total area of 16,371 sq. yds. and valued at Rs. 7.82 lacs were leased. The corresponding figures of the last two years were 11 plots, 14,923 sq. yds., Rs. 5.87 lacs and 32 plots, 23,092 sq. yds., and Rs. 5.03 lacs, respectively. The total number of plots disposed of upto the end of the year of report was 4,226 with an area of 59,63,611 sq. yds., valued at Rs. 12,29,55 lacs as against 4,213 plots with an area of 59,53,705 sq. yds., and having a value of Rs. 12,240. lacs, respectively, in the previous year.

Of the 21 plots leased during the year, 5 were leased on rental basis and 16 on premium basis, as against 11 plots during the preceding year out of which 9 plots were leased on rental



basis and 2 on premium basis. The total annual rental to be derived from 5 plots was estimated at Rs. 23,855 as against for 9 plots estimated at Rs. 21,697 in the preceding year. Of the plots leased during the year, the highest number was 4 in Suparibaug Estate.

During the year under review an amount of Rs. 12.86 lacs was received by way of commutation of ground rent, premium, etc., as against Rs. 9.68 and Rs. 10.12 lacs in the preceding two years.

At the commencement of the year, the Department had in its charge 568 acquired or surrendered buildings against 571 in the preceding year. These continued 5,008 tenements and they remained as such during the year under review. Rent realized from these buildings totalled Rs. 7.95 lacs as against Rs. 7.98 lacs in the previous year.

At the present rate of rents, losses are being incurred by the Municipality every year and to compensate that loss the Commissioner has placed before the Corporation a proposal for increase in rents of *ex-Trust* Chawls built prior to II World War by 50 per cent. in respect of residential rooms and 60 per cent. for shops and godowns and for creation of an Amenity Fund and Rent Equalisation Fund. It may be mentioned that even after increasing the existing rents of old tenements as proposed their rentals will be still lower than those charged by private landlords for similar tenements in the vicinity. They will also be lower than the economic rents.

The monthly rent charged for one-room, two-room and three-room tenements in permanent *ex-Trust* Chawls ranged, respectively, from Rs. 4-15-0 to Rs. 10-13-0 from Rs. 18-8-0 to Rs. 25 and from Rs. 30-13-0 to Rs. 36-1-0 and Rs. 8 for larger rooms with partition remained the same as in the previous year. These rents were about 30 per cent. less than the economic rent and were in fact still lower when compared with the existing trend of rents of private premises, while the maintenance cost on account of sanitation and repairs was far higher than incurred by private landlords. The average population in the chawls during the year was 62,008 against 61,217 and 61,130 in the previous two years, while the corresponding figures for semi-permanent sheds including Labour Camp were 29,058, 36,629 and 21,915, respectively. The death rate in the chawls during the year was 3.6 per 1,000 against 4.5 and 5.1 in the preceding two years.

With a view to relieving housing shortage in the City, the Corporation have permitted construction of an additional floor on buildings on plots in *ex-Trust* and Shivaji Park Estate. In accordance with this policy, additional floors on 46 buildings were sanctioned during the year on payment of extra premium of Rs. 1.47 lacs. Construction of 729 motor garages on the compulsory open spaces of plots in these Estates was also sanctioned during the year on payment of extra premium amounting to Rs. 0.28 lac.

With the object of maintaining sanitation, etc., at the Municipal chawls and buildings the enforcement of Bye-laws framed by the Corporation was continued along with the propaganda work and the supervision of the inspecting staff, during the year, as a result of which fines amounting to over Rs. 670 were recovered. The amount of fines realized is to be utilized for providing First Aid sets and sick-room requisites, such as, thermometers, hot water bottles, etc., at the various Chawls Centres.

The Collector of Bombay declared his award in favour of the Municipality as the sole and only interested party in connection with 38 plots in Scheme 47, Sewri-Wadala Estate. Many cases are still pending before the Acquisition Officer.

During the year under report, acquisition proceedings of the sites of Manbudruk and Majas Villages, requisitioned in 1951 and 1952, were started. The Collector declared his award for compensation and the Municipality agreed to pay compensation at 4 per cent. per annum on value of land at Rs. 7,500 per acre in case of Majas and Mogra lands.

During the year 1,516 ejectment suits were filed against the tenants for sub-letting the rooms as also for arrears of rent, taxes, etc., as against 1,300 and 965 in the previous two years. No claim suit was filed during the year.

22. The rainfall this year was above normal. The Tansa Lake, the principle source of City's Water supply, over-flowed continuously for one month. Tulsi Lake also over-flowed for about six weeks. Vehar Lake did not over-flow, but the lake level registered was higher by 8 feet than that recorded in the previous year. It is pertinent to note that the Vehar Lake has not overflowed since the year 1938, in spite of the fact that water was transferred to the Lake from the Tansa Lake and the fact that it

also received the overflow of the Tulsi Lake. The average daily supply to the City during the year under report was about 120.41 million gallons against 119.31 million gallons and 119.98 million gallons in the previous two years.

During the year, the quantity of water supplied to the City and the Suburbs was 43,949,50 million gallons against 43,553,00 and 43,926,00 million gallons in the previous two years, out of the above quantity, supply to the Thana Municipality was 144.35 million gallons against 156.60 million gallons in the previous year. Water supply to bodies outside the limits of Greater Bombay was 289.70 million gallons against 309.00 million gallons in the preceding year. Of the total supply, a quantity of 21,052.92 million gallons or 47.90 per cent. was for domestic purposes against 24,584.65 million gallons or 56.45 per cent. in the previous year. The percentage fall appears to be very perceptible, particularly when the population is on the increase and there is a great clamour for domestic supply. The average daily supply (for all purposes) per head on the basis of the population of 28.42 lacs as per the Census Report of 1931 was 42.36 gallons, while that for domestic purposes only worked out to 20.29 gallons. Percentage of total supply for domestic and other purposes worked out 47.90 and 52.10, respectively. Total quantity of water supplied by meter measurement was 15,363.46 million gallons of which 3,407.11 million gallons were consumed by mills, *i.e.*, 7.75 per cent., 2,415.66 million gallons were consumed by the Bombay Port Trust including residential quarters, *i.e.*, 5.48 per cent., 4,240.00 million gallons of water or 9.74 per cent. were wasted due to leaks and other estimated losses, through Municipal mains, etc. There were 3 major bursts, 30 heavy leaks, 1,140 minor leaks on Trunk mains and 71 leaks on the duct line. All the leaks were promptly repaired. Water from the three Lakes was sterilized by chloramine treatment. Supply from the Tulsi Lake was sterilized after pre-treatment of potassium permanganate and filtration. The total cost incurred on sterilization amounted to Rs. 2.75 lacs.

The total calls received from the Fire Brigade Department was 1,247 as against 986 and 1,071 in the last two years. They were promptly attended to. The total quantity of water used on fires by the Fire Brigade was about 3 million gallons as against 3.25 million gallons in the previous year. In order to enable the staff to attend to fires promptly, two fire vans were permanently maintained, one at Babula Tank and the other at F Ward Office. Similarly, one such van was maintained at night only at G Ward Office.

8 Gardens in the Outside City Division were maintained during the year. The number of visitors to the Tansa and the Vehar lakes on Sundays and holidays was about 10,000 and 80,000, respectively. Additional amenities in the shape of a Children's Park, etc., were provided at the Vehar Lake at a cost of Rs. 11,300.

With the rise in population but without any increase in the quantity of water available for distribution, the number of complaints about short supply, etc., increased to 23,245 during the year, as against 16,461, *i.e.*, 42 per cent., over that in the previous year. 3,887 notices were issued on owners for houses for defects in water fittings on their premises.

There was abundant rainfall during the year, but the monsoon stopped early and the lake levels on 1st October 1953 were practically the same as in the previous year with the exception of the Vehar Lake, the level of which was about 8' higher on that date. As demand both in the City and the suburbs further increased, the quantity available for distribution having practically remained the same, there was a further fall in the supply pressure ranging from 2 to 4 lbs. per sq. inch. as compared with the previous year. This necessitated the reduction of general hours of supply to the City from 6 to 5½ hours.

With a view to checking wastage of water in private premises, periodical house inspections were made. 1,362 defect notices were issued. Rewashing work by house to house inspection was continued to minimise wastage by leakage. Out of 3.46 lac taps inspected 50,639 taps were re-washed and 1,359 taps were renewed. The corresponding figures in the previous year were 3.50 lac taps inspected, 46,553 re-washed and 518 taps renewed.

8,576 meters of various sizes were maintained during the year as against 7,241 in the previous year. The revenue derived from the supply of water by meter measurement during the year amounted to Rs. 145.36 lacs as against Rs. 106.67 lacs in the last year for the City only.

The total number of water connections in the City was 59,606 as against 58,595 and 57,402 during the preceding two years. During the year 1,186 new connections were made, while 175 connections were cut off on account of demolition of old buildings, etc.

With a view to preventing undue wastage of water and short supply complaints on upper floors, the programme of fixing meters was pursued in order to minimise wastage and to prevent excessive use of water. 305 new properties were metered during the year.

The work of maintenance of gardens along the slopes of Gibbs and Ridge Roads (known as Hanging Gardens), Sir Pherozechah Mehta Gardens on the top of the Malabar Hill Reservoir, Joseph Baptista Gardens on the top of the Bhandarwada Hill reservoir and Ladies and Children's Gardens at Ridge Road was in the control of this Department. Electric lights were provided during the year in the Joseph Baptista Gardens at Mazagaon and it was kept open till 9 P.M. for the convenience of the public. To afford shelter to visitors from sun and rain and to beautify the general appearance of the gardens Summer Houses were sanctioned to be constructed and two such shelters were erected, one at the Sir Pherozechah Mehta Gardens and the other at the Kamala Nehru Park.

A system of taking over private meters and maintaining the same at Municipal cost for the first five years was introduced. Only 15 such meters were taken over during the year.

The work of laying two outlets from the Malabar Hill reservoir to serve the Kalbadevi and the Fort areas was continued during the year. The Kalbadevi outlet was put into commission upto Dr. Viegas Street on 18th March 1954.

The Scheme for improving the water supply to ex-Trust Chawls at Bellasis Road and New Nagpada Road was formulated at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.42 lacs. The preliminaries were started in the year under report.

23. During the year under report work of excavation on the Dam site was nearly complete. The Dam was founded for a minimum depth of 5' into solid rock with a 2 per cent. grade rising upstream to down stream. In order to consolidate the foundation rock, 11,350 R.ft. of holes were drilled and grouted with cement at 40 lbs. per square inch. 45 thermometers were installed in the body of the Dam to study the temperature gradients. The total number of instruments embedded in the Dam was 87. A total quantity of 87.91 lacs C.ft. of concrete cooled down to 60° F. was laid during the year, and the total work done up to the end of the year was about 138 lac C.ft. The experiments and tests at the Concrete Testing Laboratory and the Hydraulic Experimental stations were carried on satisfactorily during the year. The Municipal owned Power House continued to give the same service as before. During the year, a lubricating oil filter was put into operation. It worked for 831 hours and 3,898 gallons of lubricating oil was filtered and re-used.

Vaitarna-cum-Tansa Scheme.

Works of driving tunnels between Vaitarna and Tansa were completed with other allied works, such as, construction of R. C.C. Intake Tower, construction of Bifurcation Chamber, laying of 126" dia. pipe line between Tunnel faces Nos. 2-3 and 4-5, etc., etc.

The work of formation for laying 120" dia. pipe line and road from Tunnel face No. 6 to Tansa was continued. The work of formation for laying 96" dia. pipe line between Powai and Mahim was completed. The work of constructing a bridge across the Bandra Creek was also completed.

The work of laying out a portion of pipe line between Tunnel faces at Tasu and Balwant Nallas was also completed.

Land acquisition.—Out of the total area of 3,991 acres involving 79 cases of private Inam and Government lands, awards of compensation amounting to about Rs. 6 lacs in respect of 22 cases were declared. The work of clearing the jungle in the water spread of the Vaitarna Lake was completed. Proceedings for the acquisition and transfer of land for laying 96" diameter pipe line from Powai to Mahim were in progress.

General.—Various amenities at the Vaitarna camp for facility of work and for recreation to the staff engaged on site functioned satisfactorily. New Telegraphic Unit was started from January 1954 by the Post Office. The work of preparing the contour map was completed. 11 Rain gauging stations were established in the Catchment Area of Vaitarna to collect data of rainfall.

The total expenditure booked upto 31st March 1954 for the various items of the scheme came to about Rs. 9.10 lacs.

24. During the year the total number of Fire Stations in the City proper remained 11 as in the last year. To provide fire services for distant merged areas a new Fire Station was opened at Andheri on 19th February 1954 and started functioning from 1st March 1954 with one fire engine and a motor ambulance.

Fire Brigade.

The Fire Brigade received during the year, 1,247 calls against 1,154, 1,729 and 1,366 calls during the preceding three years. Out of these, 657 calls were for actual fires as against 608 and 634 calls during the preceding two years ; while 347 were false calls of which as many as 124 were due to mischievous interference with fire alarms as against 316 and 105, respectively in the preceding year. 115 calls against 83 in the preceding year were for special services. Of these 68 were in respect of fallen buildings, etc. Total distance travelled by fire appliances was 24,029 miles as against 11,470 and 10,714 miles in the preceding two years.

The City was served by 208 fire alarm posts (including private ones) as against 204 in the preceding year. These were connected to 9 Fire Stations. About 55 per cent. against 57 per cent. in the last year of the total calls received for fires, etc., were transmitted through this system.

There were 7 major fires in each of which the estimated loss exceeded rupees one lac. The estimated total loss to property damaged or destroyed by fire was about Rs. 28.12 lacs as against Rs. 53.7 lacs, Rs. 59.32 lacs and Rs. 31.15 lacs during the previous three years. The annual losses have thus been gradually brought down from about Rs. 94 lacs in 1948-49 due to the revised code of fire precautionary measures adopted by the Department for manufacture, storage, etc., of hazardous and combustible articles and the strict vigilance exercised in respect thereof by the inspecting staff. The value of insurance of property affected by fire was about Rs. 15.38 lacs and the total value of property involved was about Rs. 2,715.48 lacs.

Casualties by fire, during the year under report, included 16 persons who were burnt to death, 22 persons who were severely injured and died subsequently in hospitals and 81 persons who received minor injuries but recovered ultimately. Corresponding figures of the last two years were 9, 19, 61 and 6, 15 and 73, respectively.

The approximate quantity of water used in extinguishing fires was 30.77 lacs gallons of which 27.47 lacs gallons were drawn from Municipal mains, as against 32.47 lacs gallons and 27.53 lacs gallons, respectively, for the preceding year and the rest from the sea, tanks and wells.

The issue of licences for storage of cinematograph films with nitrate base continued to be controlled by the Government of India but all cases of cinematograph films with safety base, however, continued to be referred to this Department to ascertain the suitability or otherwise of premises for the proposed storages. This department had also to inspect storages of dangerous petroleum before licences were issued by the Explosive Department. 155 such storages were inspected before licences were issued by the department during the year as against 108 in the preceding year. 4,078 sites proposed for establishment of hazardous trades, etc., were inspected by the department and necessary precautions against fire were recommended in each case.

During the year under report, five candidates deputed by semi-Government institutions were entertained for training in fire-fighting, for a full term course of three months and one deputed by Government for training in short term course of one month.

The total number of calls within the limits of Greater Bombay received during the year was 1,387 for accidents, 1,913 for maternity cases and 2,872 for hire cases, removing in all 6,049 persons as against the corresponding figures of 1,360, 2,053, 3,311 and 6,640 in the preceding year.

The total mileage covered by ambulance vehicles during the year was 47,035 as against 47,790 and 47,271 in the previous two years. The total receipts on account of hire cases amounted to Rs. 18,858 including the arrears of the previous year as against Rs. 18,778 and Rs. 18,296 in the preceding two years.

25. During the year under report the Department maintained 92 sites for public recreation, consisting of 19 Gardens, 4 Fountains, 3 Band stands, 7 Traffic islands, 4 open spaces, 50 Recreation grounds, 1 Statue and 4 Ornamental Box Hedges. Besides these, three new sites (1) Recreation ground at the junction of Fitwala Road and Tulsi Pipe Road, (2) playground at S. P. Shed, Dharavi Sanatorium, and (3) the open space formerly occupied by milch cattle stables at Currey Road, were taken over by this Department. A large number of music programmes for public entertainment was arranged during the year, as in the past. There were 38 Band programmes, 37 Indian Vocal Music Programmes, 30 Orchestra Programmes and 422 Radiogram music programmes at different places. In addition to this, music broadcast by All India Radio was relayed every day in the Victoria Gardens between

5 P.M., and 7-30 P.M., through the Radio set installed thereat. A new cabin was provided at Gokhale Park, Parel, to relay radiogram music. Directed Children's Centre at the Victoria Gardens under the supervision of the Bombay Presidency Women's Council, and Directed Play Centres at various places, continued to be popular as in the previous years. The play centre at 2nd Peerkhan Street which was resumed last year under the supervision of the Nagpada Neighbourhood House was extended by adding a portion of the open plot of the Engineering Department and proved to be very popular. Benches and play apparatus were provided at 11 centres at a cost of Rs. 22,062.

*Victoria Gardens.*—During the year the number of visitors to the Gardens was 54,28,836 as against 55,12,299 and 32,83,287 in the previous two years. The decrease in the number of visitors as compared with the previous year's figures is attributed to the defect in the machine recording the number of visitors, at the main entrance, although the entertainment programmes, etc., were arranged as before. A weighing scale was allowed to be installed by a firm at the main entrance to the Victoria Gardens during the last quarter of the year on payment of 25 per cent. of the realisations to the Corporation. The amount realised by the Department thus came to Rs. 192-2-0. A Charity Box was also kept at the Office of the Gardens Superintendent and the amount realized was Rs. 141-7-0. This is to be utilized for the well-being of animals.

During the year, the live stock in the Zoo increased by about 10.5 per cent. which included new births, purchases or exchanges made and presents received. Important acquisitions were 4 very rare specimen of Rattle Snakes obtained in exchange from New York Zoo and they attracted a large number of visitors. One Elephant 'Lakshmi' and 4 Toucans and 4 white Swans were purchased during the year.

During the course of investigation of diseases among birds and animals many interesting discoveries were made, note-worthy of which was Entamaeba Hystolitens infection and its successful treatment on one of the Lionesses. Various schemes for improvement of the present Zoo as also for starting a bigger Zoo-cum-Garden in the merged areas are still under consideration.

Maintenance of a well equipped laboratory in the Zoo Hospital is overdue for medical research particularly when great strides have been made in this direction in some foreign countries. Being encouraged by the results of breeding experimental animals in the Victoria Gardens for the Municipal Medical Colleges, the Dean, G. S. M. College, intends to expand the section so as to meet the increased demand for these animals for research work.

The expenditure of the Gardens Department amounted during the year to Rs. 5.20 lacs as against Rs. 4.79 lacs and Rs. 6.02 lacs during the last two years, while the income by sale of flowers and plants, etc., was Rs. 38,100 as against Rs. 25,357 and Rs. 19,683 during the last two years.

The Vegetable, Fruit and Flower Show was held during the year under review, after a lapse of 6 years. The Corporation paid a grant in aid of Rs. 3,000 to meet the preliminary expenses on the Show, which had attracted a large crowd of about 50,000 visitors.

26. The Museum was kept open to the public for 305 days as against 305 ; 299 and Victoria and Albert 301 days in the preceding three years.  
Museum.

The total number and the daily average of visitors during the year was 10.25 lacs and 3,362, respectively, against 10.51 lacs and 3,444 of the preceding year. During the year 14,077 pupils from Primary and Secondary Schools in the City visited the Museum as against 15,520 during the preceding year. The reason for an alround fall in the number of visitors is not explained in the report. The practice of keeping the Museum open on Wednesdays for ladies, children and parties of students only, was continued during the year.

11 Books were added to the Museum Reference Library, which continued to be popular with students of Art and History.

The amounts realized by the levy of an admission fee of half anna per visitor above 12 years of age on Fridays, Sundays and public holidays (except Wednesdays) on 104 ticket days and by sale of 4,300 copies of the Victoria and Albert Museum Brochure came to Rs. 8,435-14-6 and Rs. 268-12-0, respectively, which were credited to the Special Fund called the Victoria and Albert Museum Fund. The total expenditure on the maintenance of the Museum during the year was Rs. 39,146.

27. During the year under report, the number of Libraries and Reading rooms maintained was 14, the same as in the previous years. With the approval of the Book Selection Committee in all 352 books on various subjects and in different languages were purchased at an aggregate cost of Rs. 1,065 against 521 and 721 books at a cost of Rs. 1,572 and Rs. 2,048-11-0 in the preceding two years. It is reported that more books could not be purchased for want of accommodation and also because only a few good books were available. The total number of visitors to the Reading Rooms and Libraries during the year was 2,27 lacs as against 2.49 lacs and 2.66 lacs during the preceding two years.

As the Libraries and Reading Rooms were not found to have been patronised by the public as well as expected, some reduction in the number of periodicals subscribed to was made by way of economy. It is very surprising that with the spread of literacy in the City and thirst for knowledge among the average citizens, the number of visitors to the Municipal Libraries and Reading Rooms is dwindling as could be seen from the record of visitors of last five years given in the report. It is very imperative that serious efforts should be made to make our Libraries and Reading Rooms popular and bee-hives of those who desire to expand their knowledge of world affairs. The Standing Committee hopes that with the appointment of a Chief Librarian and the reorganization of Libraries to be classified as popular and less popular on the basis of daily attendance, it will be possible to make these institutions attractive adjuncts to cultural civic service and to afford the citizens to make a better use of their leisure. These libraries should not be mere storehouse of books but with trained staff they should answer queries of general public in matters of reading, reference, etc.

The cost of conducting the Libraries during the year amounted to about Rs. 46,119 and the income was about Rs. 1,349 as against Rs. 48,003 and Rs. 1,890 during the preceding year.

28. Tenders were invited for the purchase of stores during the year in 170 cases as against 169, 157 and 145 in the previous three years and the number of contracts entered into for the various scheduled articles was 167 against 141, 143 and 135 in the preceding three years. Besides these contracts large quantities of materials like cement, iron and steel products, foodgrains, etc., which would only be acquired under licences granted by Government, were secured at controlled rates from authorized stockists. The value of stores and other materials purchased during the year amounted to Rs. 58.87 lacs against Rs. 68.30 lacs, Rs. 59.15 lacs and Rs. 57.21 lacs during the previous three years. The increase was mainly due to the higher demand for the supply of the materials. Of the total purchases made, stock of the value of Rs. 53.41 lacs was of Indian Manufacture and the balance of Rs. 5.46 lacs represented the value of foreign goods. During the year 7 Import Licences were received for Fire Fighting Hose, Sluice Valves and spare parts for crushers the total purchase of which amounted to about Rs. 2 lacs.

4,943 orders for the purchase of stores against 5,279, 5,311 and 5,440 in the preceding three years were placed with contractors and other dealers. Against these purchases and stock on hand, the consuming departments submitted 44,388 indents and sales memos as against 44,418 and 46,061 in the preceding two years. The total turnover of the department, viz., receipts and issues of stores during the year was Rs. 119.49 lacs against Rs. 125 lacs, 114.35 lacs and Rs. 114.7 lacs in the preceding three years. At the close of the year, the department had on hand stores of the value of Rs. 36.75 lacs against Rs. 38.49 lacs and Rs. 26.88 lacs in the preceding two years.

As in the preceding years, mixed scrap and other unserviceable articles received from different departments was sold by public auction but cast iron scrap as also brass and other non-ferrous scraps had to be reserved for the Municipal foundry. The total amount realized by sale of scrap, etc., came to Rs. 0.44 lac as against Rs. 0.35 lac, Rs. 0.49 lac and Rs. 0.27 lac in the last three years.

During the year about 18,042 tons of cement worth about Rs. 17.88 lacs were purchased. Likewise, 1,330 tons of Iron materials worth about Rs. 5.99 lacs were also purchased. It is reported that the quantities of cement, pipes and steel materials purchased during the year were more than those purchased last year but comparative figures of value or volume of purchases are not given in the report. There were many difficulties in obtaining early permits and taking deliveries. The distribution of cement and other articles amongst Contractors and various consuming departments presented special difficulties as the supply of cement was not steady and continuous. The department, however, could meet the difficulties.

Since the last two years this Department is under reorganization by Messrs. Ibcn, Ltd. Against the potential reduction of 32 per cent. of staff recommended by the said



Company, so far a reduction of only 8 per cent. has been effected. In the last year's report the reduction was reported to be about 7 per cent. This slow progress of the implementation of reorganization proposal is probably due to the policy that has been adopted by the Corporation in the matter of implementation of such proposals.

29. During the year 33,973 licences and permits were issued against 36,649 and 34,946 in the previous two years. The amount of fees realized therefrom came to Rs. 10.29 lacs during the year under report as against Rs. 10.25 and Rs. 9.75 lacs in the preceding two years. Fall in the number of licenses, etc., issued and rise in the amount of fees realised appear at first sight a paradox which has not been accounted for in the report. At the end of the year, an amount of Rs. 75,780 was outstanding in respect of 1,558 notices of demand, against outstandings of Rs. 1,20,310 and Rs. 9,177; respectively, for 1,959 and 274 notices for the previous two years. Against a negligible outstanding of Rs. 9,177 for 1951-52, the outstandings during the two followings years appear to be enormous and require to be watched and reduced. The loss of revenue incidental disuse or demolition of old licensed places amounted to Rs. 0.46 lac as against Rs. 0.52 lac and Rs. 0.38 lac in the preceding two years.

The total number of permits issued for exhibiting sky-signs, advertisements, etc., was 3,592 realising Rs. 4.80 lacs as revenue. The corresponding figures for the last two years were 2,908 and 3,358 and Rs. 2.91 lacs and Rs. 4.13 lacs, respectively.

The number of squatters and hawkers licences issued during the year was 30,392 and the earnings therefrom amounted to Rs. 3.75 lacs against 35,985 and 43,761 similar licences issued during the previous two years which had then realised Rs. 3.89 lacs and Rs. 3.47 lacs, respectively.

During the year the Licence Department instituted 4,015 prosecutions for offences under Section 328, 328A, 394 and 412A of the Bombay Municipal Corporation Act, as against 2,535 and 2,802 during the previous two years. The total amount of fines inflicted was Rs. 0.41 lac as against Rs. 0.28 lac and Rs. 0.84 lac in the previous two years.

It is significant to note that against 4,015 prosecutions instituted during the year, 2,535 were withdrawn on compliance with law. The amount of fines inflicted compares very unfavourably with those of the previous years having regard to the number of cases, which resulted in convictions.

The total revenue of the Department during the year was Rs. 20.94 lacs against Rs. 18.82 lacs and Rs. 18.92 lacs in the previous two years.

On going through the report it is observed that the amount outstanding from squatter licence fees on 31st March 1953 was only Rs. 0.55 lac and the loss of revenue incidental to the cancellation of Reserved Areas was nil, as against Rs. 1.20 lacs and Rs. 0.52 lac in the previous two years. It is gratifying to note that steps have been taken in the year under review to recover the outstandings.

30. The total number of establishments under the various categories excluding Theatres, etc., on 31st March 1954, were 82,340, as against 78,732 and 75,611 in the previous two years.

2,141 complaints were received in addition to 110 pending from the preceding year; out of which 2,019 were investigated, leaving 232 complaints pending at the close of the year; 200 mass raids against 270 and 185, in the preceding two years were carried out upto the end of the year. The number of visits and revisits paid to different types of establishments was 67,510 of which 52,768 were to shops, 7,869 to commercial establishments, 6,438 to restaurants, 326 to residential hotels. The corresponding figures for the previous year were, 67,894, 50,285, 9,590, 7,538 and 324, respectively.

At the beginning of the year 1,021 prosecutions were pending, while 3,885 new prosecutions were instituted during the year making up a total of 4,906. Of these prosecutions, 4,428 cases were disposed of, out of which 3,899 resulted in convictions, 21 in acquittals while 508 cases were withdrawn. The number of cases pending at the end of the year was 478. The total amount of fines realized was Rs. 1,27,481 giving an approximate average of Rs. 32-11-2 per case as against Rs. 85,414-8-0 and Rs. 37-7-0, respectively, in the previous year.

The total expenditure incurred in administering the Act in 1952-53 was Rs. 2,86,571, against which the Government grant-in-aid was Rs. 86,169. The corresponding figures in the previous year were 2,78,374 and Rs. 79,862, respectively.

In spite of various efforts made to secure an increased grant, Government is not prepared to do anything in the matter. The total income from the Registration fees and fines realized during the year under report was Rs. 13,501 and Rs. 1,27,481, respectively as against Rs. 15,564 and Rs. 85,414, respectively in the previous year.

The total revenue of this Department during the year under report was Rs. 5.07 lacs against Rs. 7.07 lacs and Rs. 4.81 lacs in the previous two years. It is gratifying to note that, on account of the reorganization of the department, savings to the tune of Rs. 48,000 per annum were effected.

The administration of the Theatre Tax Section continued to function under the control and supervision of the Chief Inspector, Shops and Establishments, Theatre Tax, for purposes of recovery of the Theatre Tax. The total number of establishments under this category on 31st March 1954, was 74, as against 73 and 71 in the previous two years. The total number of visits and revisits paid to Theatres, etc., was 109 as against 157 and 208 in the previous two years.

The rates sanctioned by the Corporation for the levy of Theatre Tax for the year 1953-54 were the same as for the previous year. A rebate of 12½ per cent., and 20 per cent. for Class I and Class II Cinema Theatres, respectively, was allowed on certain conditions, as before. Similarly, the tax was recovered in respect of Dramas, Dances, Variety Entertainment programmes, etc., held at different Halls and Theatres or places hired out for the purpose where admissions were on payment. The total income derived during the year was Rs. 4.91 lacs against Rs. 6.89 lacs and Rs. 4.66 lacs in the previous two years.

31. The total receipts of the department during the year amounted to Rs. 36.14 lacs against Rs. 36.16 lacs in the previous year, which showed a decrease of 0.02 lac which was due to the fall in receipts from stallage charges, squatters fees and Arthur Crawford Scale-shed fees. Revenue from markets would show an upward trend if the authorities could take effective measures to eliminate unauthorized hawkers and squatters in the vicinity of markets. This would also spare the menace to pedestrians and vehicular traffic and would allow the use of the footpaths and roads for the purpose for which they are primarily meant.

The number of Municipal Markets during the year was 21 (i.e., same as in the previous year) including three squatters' areas at Sandhurst Road, Nowroji Hill Road and Parel Village. The Sandhurst Road squatters' area was discontinued from July 1953. The net receipts amounted to Rs. 17.02 lacs as against Rs. 17.98 lacs in the preceding year, thus showing a decrease of Rs. 0.96 lac which was mainly due to fall in receipts from the Arthur Crawford Market, Erskine Road Market and the Gold Mohur Castle Market. The average percentage of vacant stalls per quarter was 7.51 against 7.07, 6.0 and 8.13 in the preceding three years. The total receipts from stallage charges, squatter fees, licence fees, etc., in respect of all the Municipal Markets amounted to Rs. 24.81 lacs as against Rs. 25.23 lacs and Rs. 23.24 lacs in the preceding two years. During the year under report works of repairs, improvements, extensions, etc., to the several Municipal Markets were carried out. The work of collecting fees at the Arthur Crawford Scale-shed was continued to be carried out departmentally and the revenue collected therefrom amounted to Rs. 4.59 lacs as against Rs. 4.66 lacs and Rs. 3.25 lacs realized in the preceding two years.

The number of private markets during the year was 22 against 21 and 20 in the previous two years. One new full-fledged private market was established at Gokhale Road South. There was only one private Slaughter House. The licence fees realised therefrom was Rs. 0.82 lac as against Rs. 0.72 lac and Rs. 0.78 lac in the preceding two years.

The number of outside meat shops was 188 as against 185 and 186 in the previous two years. An amount of Rs. 0.12 lac was realized by way of fees as against almost the same realisations in the preceding two years.

Special efforts were made to detect the smuggling of animals and contraband meat and unauthorized slaughter as also to insanitation and congestion in markets.

During the year the total quantity of unwholesome articles of food, such as, meat, fish, fruits, vegetables, etc., including contraband meat seized and destroyed was 5.01 lacs lbs. as against 6.81 lacs lbs. and 6.36 lacs lbs. in the previous two years. The fall in the total quantity of unwholesome food stuff is very remarkable but it is not known whether it is due to laxity in the inspection of food-stuffs and sudden development of civic consciousness among traders to serve only wholesome edibles to customers.

The total number of animals brought to the fair ground at the Bandra Slaughter Houses during the year was 14.11 lacs as against 14.31 lacs and 14.66 lacs in the previous two years. Of these animals, 8,025 against 9,605 and 8,027 in the previous two years were rejected as unfit on *anti mortem* examination.

The approximate weight of dressed carcass meat of buffaloes, cows and bullocks was 8,182 tons as against 8,064½ tons in the previous year, while that of sheep and goats was 8,883 tons against 8,947½ tons in the last year. Of these 24 tons and 12 tons, respectively, against 20½ tons and 14 tons in the previous year were condemned, giving percentage of 0.30, and 0.15 respectively, against 0.25 and 0.15 of the previous year.

The total amount of slaughter and removal fees realized was Rs. 6.04 lacs as against Rs. 5.96 lacs and Rs. 6.02 lacs during the previous two years.

The total number of animals slaughtered during the year was 13.22 lacs against 13.27 lacs and 13.47 lacs in the previous two years.

During the year under report, high level conferences were held with Government representatives and others with a view to regulating the fruit and vegetable trade in the City. As a result thereof it was decided to amend certain provisions of the Municipal Act and also the conditions regarding the grant of licences to brokers and dealers operating in various Municipal Markets.

**32. Outstanding Activities.**—(i) Anti-rat weeks were observed and ward-wise anti-rat campaign consisting of propaganda drive and intensification of rat destruction was undertaken in A, C, D, E and G Wards.

(ii) A special mobile squad for checking adulteration of food was started. The work of seizure and destruction of exposed and unwholesome foodstuffs was carried out on the spot.

(iii) Anti-Cholera measures were taken when Cholera was reported to be prevalent outside Greater Bombay.

(iv) The work of construction of an Electric Crematorium was completed and trials were taken. The total expenditure incurred was about Rs. 4.50 lacs including a donation of Rs. 1.0 lac by the "Lotus Trust".

**Births and birth rate.**—The number of live births recorded during the year was 62,726 which was less by 3,399 than the number for the previous year (66,125). However, it was 6,375 above the average of the decennium (1943-52). Of the registered births, 32,450 were males and 30,276 females, giving a proportion of 106 males to 100 females. The birth rate was 26.9 per 1000 of the population as against 28.2 in the preceding year. The number of still births was 2,878 or 4.6 of live births.

**Deaths and death Rate.**—The total number of deaths registered from all causes during the year was 33,927 as against 34,337 and 33,841 in the previous two years. It was less by 3,604 than the average annual mortality of the last ten years and by 2,106 than the mean mortality of the preceding five years. According to the Census population, the death rate per 1,000 living persons worked out to 14.6 against 14.8 and 14.5 in the last two years. Of the total 33,927 deaths, 19,040 were among males and 14,887 among females. The death rate among females was, however, higher than among males, the male death rate being 12.9 and the female death rate 17.5 against 13.0 and 17.8, respectively, in the preceding year. As in the previous years the diseases of the Respiratory system were responsible for the highest death rate of 3.3 per 1,000 of the population. A large proportion of deaths from Respiratory diseases occurred among children and infants under 5 years of age. Congenital debility and diseases of early infancy constituted the next most fatal group giving a death rate of 1.9. The causes coming next on the list for the year were Tuberculosis (1.0) and old age (1.5).

Deaths among infants under one year of age was 9,000, which was 335 less than in the preceding year (9,335) and 673 less than the annual average of the previous decennium. The infant mortality rate for the year was 143.5 per 1,000 of live births as against 141.2 in 1952. The slight rise in this rate was, it seems, due to the fall in the births registered.

**Maternity and Child Welfare.**—During the year under report, the Maternal and the Child Welfare Services were continued in all their aspects at the Municipal Maternity Homes with the help of the Health Visitors attached to ten subsidiary clinics and the maternity unit

at Dharavi. Relief was rendered to the poor and needy women during confinements. The number of cases admitted in these Homes was 10,908 against 10,697 and 10,189 in the preceding two years, while the number of confinements was 9,343 as against 9,188 and 8,895 in the previous two years. Of the confined cases 1,786 were *prima paræ*, against 1,709 and 1,823 in the last two years.

Social services in the shape of ante-natal care, care at birth, care during infant and pre-school life were rendered to the public through the 5 Maternity Homes under the charge of lady medical officers with a staff of 25 nurses and 20 Health Visitors. The maternity unit at Dharavi was in charge of two trained Health Visitors. The Health Visitors, paid 40,383 visits in various districts against 58,072 and 72,647 in the previous two years. This fall in the visits would require to be explained more particularly when the other health services require greater attention. The Health Visitors also attended 38 cases of confinements at homes, while the Medical Officers personally visited 2,781 cases as against 50 and 3,430 cases, respectively, in the previous year.

With a view to controlling maternal and infant mortality, advice and instructions in spacing births were given confidentially by qualified lady doctors to married women strictly on medical grounds at the 16 Family Planning Clinics. The total number of attendance at the Clinics was 6,322 as against 4,306 and 2,074 in the preceding two years and in all 3,923 women as against 1,939 and 783 women in the preceding two years were given free supply of the required appliances. It is gratifying to note that this scheme is becoming more and more popular in the women world.

The Maternal mortality rate recorded during the year was 1.3 as in the previous two years.

**Infectious Diseases.**—The total number of cases of infectious diseases reported during the year was 5,401 as against 4,925 and 5,024 in the previous two years. Of these 5,297 (98.1) as against 4,774 (96.9) in the previous year were from the District Registrars and 104 (1.9) against 151 (3.1) in the last year from medical practitioners. No notification was received from Hakims and Vaidyas. This requires exercise of some vigilance on the part of the Health authorities as it is difficult to believe that no case of communicable disease was treated by these professionals. There was no case of Plague. Cholera caused 66 attacks (including 21 imported) and 22 deaths. Small-pox caused 693 attacks (including 44 imported) and 189 deaths, and Enteric Fever caused 1,736 attacks (including 140 imported) and 323 deaths. Diphtheria caused 1,040 attacks and 112 deaths. Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis caused 41 attacks (9 imported) and 19 deaths.

During the year 367 persons were inoculated against Plague, 1,29,837 against Cholera and 2,39,333 against Enteric Fever as against 32,338, 14,167 and 3,30,859, respectively, in the preceding year. Primary Vaccination and revaccination against Small-pox done during the year were 61,006 and 5,37,630, respectively, as against 71,885 and 4,26,351, respectively, in the preceding year.

**General sanitation.**—The principal causes contributing towards the insanitary conditions in some parts of the City were insufficiency of sewers, continuance of the basket privy system and high density of population per acre. There are some practical difficulties in the way of rendering adequate conservancy service as regards collection, removal and disposal of refuse and also of shortage of water supply. Sooner the basket privies are converted into water-closets on full flushing system, the better it will be for the health of the citizens. The work of providing sewerage in all parts in the North of the Island has not yet been complete. The routine inspection of dwellings with sanitary defects was made by the Medical Assistants and Inspectors under the general supervision of Assistant Health Officers. During the year under report 684 insanitary huts were demolished as against 2,923 in the preceding year. 3,382 milch cattle in 16 stables in E, F and G Wards were yet to be removed to the Government milk colony at Aarey.

**Control of rat pest.**—The total number of rats caught and destroyed during the year was 10.13 lacs as against 11.25 lacs in the previous year and rats examined were 2,509 as against 5,802 in the previous year. No rat was found infected with Plague.

**Control of stray Dogs.**—Improved and humane methods were introduced in catching and destroying stray and ownerless dogs. The work of destroying stray dogs and licensing of dogs was carried out as in the previous years. 12,727 stray dogs were caught as against 11,114 and 8,072 in the previous two years. Out of those stray and ownerless dogs caught 10,489 were destroyed, 1,112 were returned to the owners, 135 sent to Hospitals for experi-

mental purposes, 4 escaped and 123 detained at the Kennel at the Mahalaxmi Refuse siding, 12,338 dog bite cases were reported during the year as against 10,380 and 8,146 in the preceding two years. 8,065 dogs were licensed under the Dog Licensing Act, as against 7,893 and 7,978 in the preceding two years. The total income by way of dog licensing fees, etc., was Rs. 43,643-8-0 as against Rs. 44,655-4-0 in the previous year. It is not understood why only 8,065 dogs were licensed when as many as 12,727 stray dogs were caught. A vigorous propaganda in this direction appears necessary.

**Health Education and Propaganda.**—Health Education was carried out among children by Medical Officers and School Health Nurses, which aimed at inculcating healthy habits among children. Routine health talks on simple personal hygiene were often given to the children in schools. Regular health education procedure was formulated and teachers were trained in Health Education so that after some time the teachers themselves could manage Health Education work efficiently in their schools. During the year 299 and 1,030 talks were given by Medical Officers and School Health Nurses, in order to inculcate clean and healthy habits among children.

Ailing children were visited and revisited at their homes by the School Health Nurses as per directions of the Medical Officers, when they imparted instructions wherever found necessary to parents of ailing children as regards their care, diet, etc. In this way the possibility of recurrence of the disease was minimised.

**Conservancy.**—Roads, footpaths, and house gullies were swept twice daily as a normal routine. Some of the main roads were attended to more frequently as was found necessary. House gullies were flushed and main roads were washed periodically. Refuse gathered by sweeping roads, foot-paths and house gullies was collected in cane baskets or hand carts and either carried to the nearest dust bin shed or removed in travelling carts or lorries to the place of disposal, at least twice daily. Refuse taken to Mahalaxmi Refuse Siding was transported to Deonar daily in refuse train.

Domestic refuse was collected in galvanised iron receptacles with proper covers provided by the owners. The owners were called upon to arrange for removal of refuse from their premises through their private servants either to the Municipal travelling carts and lorries or to the nearest dust bin sheds.

**Insecticidal Service.**—Due to vigorous steps taken to control fly-nuisance by regular spraying and dusting of actual and potential fly-breeding places, the nuisance from flies was reduced to a great extent. The use of 'Tifa' Unit was continued during the year and the insecticide fogging operations were carried out in about 935 lanes and by-lanes in the City. 14,894 houses were fogged during the year. Insecticides worth Rs. 91,728-1-3 were purchased during the year as against Rs. 74,799-11-0 and Rs. 67,858-9-9 in the previous two years. The work of private treatment on payment of fees was extended and the squads operated in all Wards of the City making the Scheme popular. A sum of Rs. 49,815-13-0 was received as against Rs. 47,503-5-0 in the previous year for rendering insecticide service in private places.

**Malaria.**—Malaria was registered as the cause of 17 deaths as against 41 and 59 in the preceding two years. 3 deaths were ascribed to Ague and Remittent Fevers as against 18 in the preceding year. The number of cases treated at the Municipal dispensaries was 67 as against 276 and 474 in the previous two years. Out of 2,143 wells in the City, 6 were filled in and 1 was covered completely. Campaign against stegomyia mosquitoes, the sector of Yellow Fever, was continued throughout the year, on account of heavy rains. The stegomyia index did not show anything more than 2 per cent. which was considered as safe. Anti-malaria drugs were made freely available to the public at the Municipal dispensaries. Notices were issued against the owners to keep their compounds free from mosquito breeding as a precaution against the disease.

33. The number of new cases treated at the 23 dispensaries and one mobile dispensary was 3,23,384 (1,86,163 males and 1,37,221 females) as against 2,88,047 and 2,55,855 in the previous two years. The total attendance was 14,30,870 against 12,98,128 and 12,35,671 in the previous two years. In addition to the above dispensary work, women's and children's Clinics were conducted by three part-time lady doctors at 6 Municipal Dispensaries in the City thrice a week. The number of new cases treated at these dispensaries was 8,334 (6,477 women and 1,857 children) as against 8,397 in the previous year. The total attendance at the clinics was 86,395.

The Municipal Eye Dispensary and Hospital at Kamathipura were kept under two Honorary Medical Surgeons by turn. The Hospital has an accommodation of 6 beds each.

for males and females with an operation theatre. The total attendance of patients was 87,333 as against 84,430 and 83,350 in the preceding two years. The total number of new cases treated was 12,128 as against 11,704 and 10,703 in the previous two years. The number of indoor patients treated was 217. The Hospital has a full time Resident Nurse.

**Leprosy.**—The control of Leprosy in the City was exercised as before through the Acworth Leprosy Home, Matunga. In the absence of a Municipal institution for the isolation and treatment of cases suffering from this disease, this Home has been doing invaluable work for over 50 years. In addition to this, the institution conducts a well equipped out-patients clinic. Almost the whole cost of the maintenance of this clinic is borne by the Corporation. The Corporation pays an annuity of Rs. 10,000 for giving sulphone treatment to the patients.

The average daily attendance of patients was 220 and the total number of new cases treated at the clinic was 2,294 as against 214 and 1,812, respectively in the previous two years. The accommodation of 396 beds (284 for males and 112 for females) for the isolation of leprosy patients was the same as in the previous year.

The seven Health Visitors appointed by the Home gave 4,009 Talks on leprosy and paid visits to the houses of patients first 905 and subsequently 6,861, as against 3,399, 1,174 and 4,884, respectively, in the preceding year.

34. During the year under report the Group of T. B. Hospitals went under the direct administrative control of the Municipal Commissioner from 1st November 1953, which were so far under the control of the Executive Health Officer.

There were three T. B. Clinics for outdoor patients and a group of T. B. Hospitals at Sewri where cases in primary and advanced stages received institutional treatment. The total number of beds at these Hospitals was 315 (117 for males and 138 for females) against 99 in the previous year. Each clinic is managed by well-qualified staff and is equipped with installation necessary for treatment of patients. Besides the indoor staff, Health Visitors paid domiciliary visits. Patients from Municipal T. B. Clinic at Lalgaug were referred to either the Princess Street or the Foras Road Clinic for radiography and screening. The total number of patients in various stages of pulmonary tuberculosis treated during the year was 2,412 (including 286 of the previous year) as against 1,956 during the previous year. The largest number of admissions was from the age groups between 20 and 30 years. The total number of surgical operations performed on patients was 412.

The follow-up of discharged patients and giving them A. P. and P. P. refills were continued as before. The total number of such A. P. and P. P. refills given during the year were 2,498 and 23,181 as against 4,073 and 24,047, respectively, in the preceding year, some of the patients attended the hospitals for follow up continuously for over 3 years. There were 825 new admissions to the out-door A. P. and P. P. Refill Department during the year against 859 in the previous year. Tuberculosis took a toll of 2,427 lives and the death rate per 1,000 from T. B. was 1.0.

The total expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 8.08 lacs approximately as against Rs. 8.16 lacs in the previous year. The average cost per patient per day was Rs. 6-8-0 exclusive of capital expenditure on major works, etc.

The Poor Box Collections including fees for medical certificates issued during the year amounted to Rs. 6,917-14-0 and a sum of Rs. 2,395-3-3 was spent on medicines, injections, etc., administered to poor patients. A regular monthly donation of Rs. 100 from the British India Steam Navigation Company Ltd., was continued during the year. The working of such Institutions will foster if such philanthropists come forward.

35. For combating Venereal Diseases, free medical facilities both preventive and curative were continued as in the preceding year at the Clinic at Bellasis Road. During the year 18,126 cases were treated at the Clinics as against 17,838 and 16,072 in the previous two years. Of these 15,409 were males and 2,717 females. For prophylaxis 14,415 attended the Clinic as against 16,457 and 15,567 in the previous two years. The average daily attendance at the Clinic was 687.8 as against 671.3 and 683.7 in the previous two years.

Propaganda through posters, leaflets, lectures, etc., emphasizing the importance of avoiding exposure to infection, similarly, the free service available at the Prophylactic Treatment Centres in different parts of the City was vigorously published by the Propaganda



Section. One room was specially reserved for exhibiting educative pictures which were specially prepared through the Publicity Section for the guidance and instructions of persons visiting the institution.

Personal prophylaxis was given at eight municipal free prophylactic centres. The centre at the main clinic was kept open day and night. Total attendance at various clinics was 17,929.

Under the advice and guidance of the World Health Organization, expectant mothers attending Municipal Ante-Natal Clinics were subjected to the Kahn or Meinick's blood tests for syphilis and out of 1,061 blood specimens examined 250 gave positive results, and out of these 250 cases 153 attended the clinic for treatment during the year. Examination and treatment of the patients at these clinics were carried out very secretly and results of treatment were assessed from time to time by the latest laboratory methods.

Medical persons who attended the clinic were given training in diagnosis and treatment of Venereal diseases.

36. The Health Propaganda drive was intensified both in the City and the Suburbs through all popular and modern publicity media. During the year, the outstanding activities of the Unit included propaganda during anti-rat week campaigns, celebrations of second school health day and starting of an itinerant exhibition for Municipal schools. Important activities consisted of 460 health education film shows, 15 sectional health exhibitions, 30 itinerant exhibitions in Municipal schools, 90 sanitation campaigns and propaganda during 16 food raid campaigns and four special anti-rat exhibitions. Meetings and talks on environmental sanitation and preventive aspects of communicable diseases were also carried out. 274 mass vaccinations, 88 mass T. A. B. inoculations and 7 anti-cholera campaigns were arranged with the help of the Propaganda vans. Display of posters and distribution of leaflets on various aspects of public health hygiene and sanitation was arranged through different agencies. Besides, the section aided several welfare organizations in organizing Health Weeks, co-operated with the Government in the celebration of the World Health Day, B. C. G. Day and Prohibition Week.

Other publicity work included miscellaneous items as press notes, slide releases, talks from mobile vans and displays arranged in Municipal maternity homes. A Health Department stall opened in the Civic Exhibition was much appreciated by the public and attracted large crowds of visitors to the Exhibition.

37. During the year in all 43,589 children (24,555 boys and 19,034 girls) attending Municipal Schools and Classes against 39,383 in the previous year were medically examined. Of those examined, 34,995 were found suffering from one or more physical ailments and reports about their ailments were sent to their parents or guardians. The Standing Committee, however, note with regret that only 28,876 parents responded. Out of these also only 22,289 parents consented to allow treatment to their children or wards while 6,587 declined to give treatment to their children even at the Municipal School Clinic. The rest did not reply at all. The Medical Officers interviewed 611 parents and explained to them the necessity of rectifying the defects in their wards attending clinics and dispensaries.

Minor ailments among the children were dealt with by Municipal dispensaries, while cases with major ailments were treated at the School Clinic at the K. E. M. Hospital which is now found quite inadequate for treatment of more than 2,000 children annually. 963 new and 6,904 old cases only requiring immediate attention were, therefore, taken up and 457 children were treated at the out-patient department of the Hospital. 350 schools and 34 classes were supplied with emergency outfit. 118 children suspected to have leprosy infection were directed to the Acworth Leprosy Home. Of them 12 were found positive and were prevented from attending schools, one such child was, however, allowed to attend the school but was kept under observation. 564 children suffering from scabies, ring-worm and boils were treated in the schools by the school medical officers. 130 tonsil and other operations were performed at the school clinic. 77 suspected cases of T. B. were screened at the Princess Street T. B. Clinic. 92 children with dental defects were treated at the Nair Hospital Dental College. 299 and 1,030 health talks on subjects of simple personal hygiene were given to pupils, respectively, by the Medical Officers and the School Health Nurses. The latter also visited and revisited 2,575 and 1,050 ailing children, respectively, at homes and gave necessary instructions to their parents as regards their care and diet.

Due to variation and short supply the scheme for the supply of free milk to under-nourished needy poor children did not function from 16th April 1953 to 16th August 1953,

About 36,000 certified undernourished children in all were given pasteurised toned milk each 8 oz. on every school working day at 306 milk distributing centres in Municipal Schools.

The total expenditure incurred on (1) Medical inspection and treatment of school children and (2) on the milk Scheme were approximately Rs. 91,930 and Rs. 6.96 lacs, respectively.

38. The Hospitals have a total accommodation for 314 beds, of which 172 are in the City Fever Hospitals. Small-pox unit, 128 in the General Unit, while 14 constructed mosquito proof are reserved for Yellow Fever cases. Except Tuberculosis and Leprosy, patients suffering from other infectious diseases are admitted in the Hospitals. The total number of patients admitted during the year was 9,802, as against 6,883 and 6,726 in the preceding two years, the daily average admission being 356 as against 229 and 218 in the preceding two years. Of the total number of patients, 2,056, 730 and 1,470, respectively, suffered from Enteric Fever, Small-pox and Diphtheria. The cost per patient per day was Rs. 8-3-0 as against Rs. 9-7-2 in the preceding year.

Looking to the present population of the City, and the incidence of such diseases, the existing bed accommodation and other facilities at these Hospitals are far too short of the demand. The Standing Committee would desire to repeat their observation made in the last year's review that sooner the number of beds for treatment of these diseases is increased the better it will be in the interest of the public. The Commissioner is requested to take into consideration the paucity of beds in these Hospitals and to try to do the needful in the matter very early. It is also suggested that the Commissioner should consider the desirability of establishing one more Hospital on this line in the Suburban areas for the use of the people residing in the merged parts of Greater Bombay. The Standing Committee understands that proposals for constructing small-pox wards and wards in general units and extension of the administrative block and the residential quarters for staff of these Hospitals had to be deferred for financial stringency. The Standing Committee hopes that very soon it will be possible to provide funds for this.

The total expenditure during the year was Rs. 10.65 lacs as against Rs. 7.88 lacs in the previous year.

39. The number of beds was increased from 510 last year, to 550 with the addition of the Neuro-surgical Ward with 40 beds, which was opened in November K. E. M. Hospital. 1953. The 550 beds were distributed amongst men, women and children patients as 365, 145 and 40, respectively. The accommodation was fully occupied throughout the year and on several occasions extra patients had to be accommodated on the floor. A special clinical investigation ward with 10 beds was opened in May 1953 especially for investigations on Cirrhosis of Liver. The total number of in-patients admitted during the year was 19,257 against 19,674 and 19,148 in the previous two years. The daily average number of in-patients was 636.68 against 610.25 and 603.16 of the previous two years. The maximum number of in-patients on a single day was 692. The average number of days each patient was resident was 12.03 against 11.02 and 11.50 in the last two years. The total number of operations performed on in-patients, was 8,186 against 8,955 and 8,874 in the previous two years. The total number of in-patients treated during the year was 19,871 including 614 of the previous year as against 20,264 in the previous year. Of these in-patients 7,120 were cured, 6,405 were discharged or relieved, 3,865 left the hospital against medical advice or were otherwise discharged and 1,815 died (exclusive of 3 still-born) leaving a balance of 666 at the end of the year. The average cost per in-patient per day was Rs. 8-12-6 as against Rs. 8-15-11 and Rs. 8-4-11 in the previous two years. The average cost per in-patient admission showed a further rise being Rs. 108-0-4 as against Rs. 102-1-2 and Rs. 95-12-4 in the preceding two years. Out of 1,815 deaths as many as 741 died within first 24 hours of admission.

The above statistics reveal the extreme congestion in the Hospital in spite of other medical institutions provided by the Corporation. Patients are accommodated on the floor as a matter of routine in most of our hospitals and the required hospital accommodation in the City is far below the normal requirements, resulting inordinate congestion. Standing Committee feels that intensive thought is required to be devoted to hospitals construction and management so as to provide beds, nursing service, medical attention, surgical care, etc., according to pathological needs. Standing Committee hopes that medical service will find a high priority in the near future planning programme of the Corporation.

The total number of new out-patients treated was 1,75,995 against 1,66,812 and 1,56,888 of the preceding two years showing an increase of 9,183 and 19,107 patients, respectively. The daily average number of new out-patients was 657.6 against 620.5 and 590.2 in the previous two years, while the daily average number of out-patient attendance worked out

to 1,955 against 1,919.3 and 1890.2 in the previous two years. The total number of out-patients attendance including casualty patients during the year came to 5,79,505 against 5,70,742 and 5,59,901 in the previous two years. The highest number of out-patients attendance on any one day was 2,571 as against 2,601 and 2,649 in the previous two years, while new out-patients admitted on a single day was 703 as against 691 and 692 in the previous two years. The total number of operations on out-patients during the year was 20,339 against 23,147 and 20,347 in the previous two years. The average cost per out-patient attendance during the year was Rs. 1-5-10 against Rs. 1-5-8 and Re. 0-14-0 in the previous two years, while the average cost per out-patient admission was Rs. 3-1-3 against Rs. 3-4-10 and Rs. 3-4-6 in the preceding two years.

With the installation of new equipments in the year, the X-Ray Department can now claim to be as well-equipped as in any other country.

The Poor Box Charity Fund from which relief was rendered to poor patients continued to give relief and comforts to deserving patients which ordinarily could not be given out of the Municipal Fund. An amount of Rs. 33,734-11-0 as against Rs. 36,547-9-0 in the previous year was spent for affording relief to poor patients out of the Charity Fund. The total contributions during the year by way of collections from the out-patients, ward boxes, donations etc. amounted to Rs. 44,721 as against Rs. 41,700-6-9 in the previous year.

The Gift Shop started for the convenience of patients continued to receive steady support. Similarly, the Occupational Therapy Centre and School, Prophylactic Immunization Centre, Family Health Centre, Ambulance Division and the Co-operative Credit Society, carried on their work in their respective spheres satisfactorily.

The Neuro-surgical and Neurological Units started functioning in the year with 40 beds. It is hoped that this new branch of medical service will be taken advantage of by the afflicted for their relief.

40. The bed accommodation in the Hospital continued to be the same as in the last year, viz., 300 beds, 14,018 patients were admitted during the year as against 12,002, 9,426 and 8,085 during the preceding three years. The highest number of in-patients on a single day was 381. The daily average number of in-patients was 350.5 as against 339 and 291 in the preceding two years. Average number of days each patient was resident was 9.5 days as against 10.3 and 12.6 days in the preceding two years.

The total number of in-patients treated was 14,331 including 313 of the previous year. Of the 14,331 in-patients, 8,851 were treated for medical and surgical complaints and 5,480 for deliveries and gynaec complaints.

The total number of operations performed on in-patients was 4,013 as against 2,641 and 2,139 in the preceding two years. The average cost per in-patient on diet per day was Re. 0-15-5 against Re. 0-15-6 in the preceding two years.

The total number of new out-patients was 70,014 with a daily average of 228.8 as against 62,195 and 212.7, respectively, in the preceding year and 51,431 and 164.3 in the year preceding the last. The total number of out-patients attendance was 3.26 lacs with a daily average of 1065.5 as against 2.55 lacs and a daily average of 825.2, respectively, in the preceding year. The highest number of out-patients attendance on a single day was 2,297 as against 1,940 in the preceding year. The total number of operations performed on out-patients was 4,499 as against 3,220 and 2,348 in the preceding two years. 16,931 accident and other emergency cases were treated in the Casualty Department as against 10,560 in the preceding year.

Paying Bed Scheme started from 1st September 1951 is working satisfactorily. More and more patients take advantage of the same as will be seen from the fact that 1,337 patients were admitted in the General and Special rooms as against 921 and 390 in the previous two years. 189 major and 238 minor operations were performed on paying patients, as against 119 and 177, respectively, in the previous year.

Pathological and Bacteriological investigations in respect of 31,520 in-patients and 12,172 out-patients were carried out in the Laboratory of the Hospital against 17,730 and 9,784 respectively, in the previous year. 84 autopsies were also performed during the year.

The Research Department started in 1951 was working very satisfactorily. During the year enquiries with the problem of Anaemia and Diabetes were taken. 4,969 patients for

Anaemia and 323 patients for Diabetes were investigated as against 4,435 and 404, respectively, in the previous year.

The Hospital has an up-to-date library with latest publications of modern medical, etc., science. 53 additional books on various subjects were purchased bringing the total to 357 books.

The Poor Box Fund at the close of the last year was Rs. 55,580 as against Rs. 35,338 in the previous year. During the year a sum of Rs. 48,941 was collected in the Charity Boxes and by way of donations, etc., and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 29,657. A balance of Rs. 74,804 remained in the Poor Box Fund at the close of the year.

**Nurses Training School.**—27 students were admitted for course of training in midwifery. Out of 26 students who appeared for the examination 24 were declared successful.

This Hospital has been attached to the Topiwalla National Medical College for Clinical instructions to under graduate students.

41. The Hospital has an accommodation of 330 beds distributed among men, women and children patients as 171, 126 and 33, respectively, as in the last

Bai Yamunabai L. Nair Charitable Hospital. year. The accommodation was fully occupied throughout the year. The total number of in-patients admitted was 12,113 against 11,450 and 10,036 in the previous two years. The daily average number of in-patients was 322.27 against 295.52 and 240.41 in the previous two years. The highest number of in-patients treated on a single day was 363. On the average each patient was resident for 9.7 days against 9.25 and 8.95 in the previous two years. The total number of in-patients treated was 12,400 including the balance of 287 of the previous year of whom 4,963 were cured, 3,954 were relieved, 721 died 2,425 were otherwise discharged and 337 remained at the close of the year. The average cost per in-patient per day was Rs. 8-6-4 against Rs. 8-2-10 and Rs. 8-3-6 during the preceding two years.

The total number of out-patients treated was 2,43,429 against 2,15,259 and 1,86,437 in the previous two years and the average number of out-patients attendance per day was 814.87 against 719.36 and 601.41 in the previous two years. The highest out-patients attendance on a single day was 1,250 against 1,078 and 940 in the previous two years. The average cost per out-patient per day was Rs. 1-4-9 against Rs. 1-0-10 and Re. 0-15-4 during the preceding two years. During the year 4,501 and 4,235 operations were performed, respectively, on in-patients and out-patients against 4,494 and 4,665, respectively, during the last year.

The total expenditure incurred on the maintenance of the hospital amounted approximately to Rs. 12.29 lacs against Rs. 13.01 lacs in the preceding year.

The total amount spent out of the Poor Patients' Fund in giving relief, which could not ordinarily be given out of the Municipal Fund, came to Rs. 9,393-4-8 while the contributions amounted to Rs. 7,208-12-8 by way of donations and Rs. 12,762-13-6 by way of collection from the boxes kept in wards and out-door departments.

The major part of the equipment required for the Blood Bank has been received and it would start working shortly. During the year blood transfusion were provided for 369 cases out of which 227 cases were given blood of paid donors to whom payment was made from the Poor Patients' Fund.

The midwifery class started in the previous year continued to work with the same strength as in the last year.

42. During the year under report, 82 fresh admissions were made of whom 80 were single and 2 married. Besides, 12 Licentiates were admitted for the Seth G. S. Medical College. Condensed M.B., B.S., Course. Of the 635 students on the roll against 584 in the previous year, 135 were lady students and 146 post-graduate and research students against 131 and 121, respectively, in the previous year. Out of 492 students sent up for various examinations, 288 passed the whole examination against the corresponding figure of 517 and 331 of the previous year. Clinical instructions in diseases of children continued to be given at the Bai Jerbai Wadia Hospital for Children.

Number of male students residing in the Hostel during the year was 147, while the number of lady students accommodated in the Lady Students Hostel was 28 as in the previous year. Income derived from the College and the Hostels by way of tuition fees, hostel rent,

etc., was Rs. 1.90 lacs against Rs. 1.78 lacs and Rs. 1.74 lacs in the previous two years, while the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 5.06 lacs including payment of Dearness Allowance of Rs. 0.83 lac) against Rs. 4.83 lacs and Rs. 4.41 lacs in the preceding two years. The income derived from and the expenditure incurred on the Hostels were Rs. 24,814 and Rs. 25,873, respectively, as against Rs. 16,142 and Rs. 21,503 in the previous year. The gross and net cost per student worked out at Rs. 1,024.4 and Rs. 644.08 as against Rs. 1,043.6 and Rs. 659.2 in the previous year. The amount of fees received from the post-graduate students was Rs. 23,770 as against Rs. 22,110 in the previous year.

The Co-operative Society carried on its work satisfactorily with a share capital of Rs. 1.73 lacs.

The different departments of the College and the Hospital had in addition to their normal teaching and departmental work made some investigations under the auspices of the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi.

It is gratifying to note that the Rockefeller Foundation have given a grant-in-aid amounting to about £5,800 for one year from 15th May 1953 to provide minimum facilities for recognition of Pharmacology Department of this College as a post-graduate Research Centre. They have also given a grant-in-aid of about £ 3,500 to the Indian Council of Medical Research for opening an Experimental Surgical Unit at the K. E. M. Hospital. The work was not started during the year as full apparatus and appliances required had not been received.

The progress of other activities, like Library, Museum, Gymkhana, etc., was satisfactory.

43. The College had 384 undergraduate students on the roll at the close of the year, out of whom 65 were lady students. Besides, there were 50 post-graduate students including 7 lady students. Out of 318 students sent up for various examinations, 180 passed during the year under report. The number of male students residing in the College Hostel was 77. For want of accommodation admission to the Hostel had to be refused to a large number of students. Arrangements were made to accommodate female students at the Grant Medical College Hostel as there was no hostel attached to this College for them. The total expenditure incurred on the maintenance of the College amounted to Rs. 3.78 lacs against Rs. 3.72 lacs in the previous year. A grant of Rs. 2.18 lacs was received from the State Government for the year 1951-52 which was about the same amount as received in the preceding year. Government paid grant to this institution from 1946 to 1950-51. The Government have decided that the grant should be reduced progressively by 1/5 per annum so that after the next five years no grant would be paid to the College. The Corporation will, therefore, have to foot the bill of expenditure for the College *in toto*. The total income by way of tuition fees, etc., received amounted to Rs. 1.32 lacs against Rs. 1.24 lacs in the previous year.

44. During the year under report the College had 75 dental chairs as against 59 in the previous year; 24 Dental Units, 1 Dental X-Ray Machine and other equipments to give dental treatment on modern lines and to provide facilities for teaching in dentistry. There were 111 students including 17 lady students on the roll. 26 students including 7 lady students appeared and passed the Diploma Examination. The College Diploma is recognised not only by the State and the Union Government but also by leading Institutions in the line in U. S. A., U. K. and other foreign countries. The College also runs a Dental Clinic which treats patients at a nominal cost and supplies artificial sets of teeth. During the year 62,283 patients (37,460 males, 17,345 females and 7,388 children) were treated as against 51,247 and 31,183 in the preceding two years. The total expenditure incurred was Rs. 1,63,578 as against Rs. 1,51,710 and Rs. 1,40,379 in the previous two years and the total revenue by way of fees from students and patients was Rs. 73,226 as against Rs. 63,015, and Rs. 48,133 during the previous two years.

The Academic Council started to look after the academic affairs of the College and the Advisory Board to conduct Final L.D.sc., Diploma Examination, etc., continued to function during the year under report, as before. Almoner service to deserving cases was done from the Poor Box Fund to poor deserving patients in the shape of supplying sets of artificial teeth, blood transfusion, vitamin injections, etc.

45. At the close of the year there were 1,81,927 pupils in 443 schools and 53 classes in Greater Bombay, the number in the City being 1,54,293 pupils in 350 schools and 34 classes and in the suburbs 27,634 pupils in 93 schools and 19 classes. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 1,75,104 pupils in 444 schools and 43 classes in Greater Bombay, which was made up of 1,48,131 pupils in 351 schools

and 29 classes in the City and 26,973 pupils in 93 schools and 14 classes in the Suburbs. Thus during the year, there was a net increase of 6,823 pupils in Municipal Schools. The highest number on roll was 1,95,409 at the end of September 1953. The number came down to 1,81,927 at the end of March 1954. The total number of teachers in Greater Bombay at the end of the year was 4,872 of whom 4,645 were ordinary and 227 were special teachers. Out of 4,645 ordinary teachers, 3,954 were permanent and 691 were temporary. The percentage of trained teachers was 87 in the City and 82 in the Suburbs.

During the year the "Class Room Formula" to determine the number of teachers was adopted. Under this, teachers were recruited according to the number of class rooms in actual use so as to ensure one teacher for each class. Another change in the policy adopted by the Education Committee was to confer on all temporary teachers the salary and grade as per the qualifications they hold after completion of one year's service in the department. These are the landmarks in the annals of the Education Committee.

The curriculum was divided month by month and distributed to the schools. Some of the main factors which hampered the progress were a top heavy curriculum, inadequate accommodation resulting in over-crowding and necessitating the holding of schools in two sessions, and inadequate facilities for pupils to study at home.

The Byculla Educational Centre was discontinued from 1st March 1952 for want of funds. However, the Centre continued its activities by conducting lectures of eminent educationists in the City on various educational topics for the benefit of teachers and arranging programmes of film shows for the benefit of school children. It is gratifying to note that the proposal to convert the Centre into a Unit for research work in the problems of Primary Education received active consideration of the Municipal Commissioner and the Education Committee. The Standing Committee feels that the establishment of such a unit will help to assess the educational results we achieve and discover defects in the system so that remedial action can be devised and implemented.

The total number of Municipal owned buildings at the end of the year was 63 of which 30 were in the City and 33 in the merged areas. These 63 buildings accommodated only about 36,500 pupils, whereas the rest were housed in rented buildings.

The two schools converted into Basic Schools continued to work as before with a view to exploring the possibility of implementing the Basic Education Schemes in Municipal Schools and imparted education in spinning and weaving as the Basic craft. From experience it is found that the conversion of Primary Schools into Basic Schools will not be of any practical use in the City like Bombay on account of paucity of funds, paucity of Basic trained teachers, absence of suitable accommodation, etc.

Besides imparting education in 3 R's, the Corporation also imparts vocational education. There are 22 Municipal Vocational Upper Primary Schools, including 10 for girls only, which prepare pupils for the Primary School Certificate Examination with the subject of craft as one of the compulsory subjects. Carpentry and tailoring are also taught in these schools. Other subjects taught in the schools are Sewing, Embroidery, Tailoring, Printing and Binding, Clock repairing, Sign-board painting and Card Board modelling. There were 21 Handicraft Classes for Carpentry, Tailoring Book-binding etc. In all 2,960 pupils were attending these classes. Out of these pupils 2,684 received instruction in Carpentry and Tailoring.

At the close of the year there were 291 Aided Schools in Greater Bombay (226 in the City and 65 in the Suburbs) as against 283 and 285 in the previous two years. The number of pupils in these schools was 73,771 as against 69,552 and 69,100 in the previous two years. The number of recognized schools not receiving grant-in-aid was 29 with 6,082 pupils as against 31 and 23 with 4,805 and 3,179 pupils in the previous two years.

The total number of teachers in Aided Schools including special and part-time teachers was 2,862 as against 2,663 and 2,721 in the previous two years. The total amount of grants recommended for payment to Aided Schools was Rs. 3,37,993 for City schools and Rs. 1,14,998 for the Suburban schools. The corresponding amounts for the previous year were Rs. 3,57,793 for City schools and Rs. 1,06,829 for the suburban schools. As in the past the grants were recommended after applying varying cuts to the assessed grants taking into consideration the income and other resources of the respective institutions. The average cost per pupil calculated on the total number of pupils on the rolls in the Aided Schools worked out to Rs. 70.4 in the City and Rs. 54.7 in the Suburbs. The average cost per pupil to the Corporation by way of grant was Rs. 12.9 and Rs. 7.9 for the City and Suburbs, respectively.



During the year under report it was decided by the Education Committee and the Corporation to approach Government for permission to dispense with the taking of a census of non-attending children this year. The necessary permission having been received, no Census was taken during the year. 1,18,416 pupils of compulsory age were attending Municipal Schools as against 1,13,202 at the end of the previous year.

Physical Education was imparted in almost all schools on the lines of the curriculum laid down by Government. The number of pupils taking physical education was 1,76,246 out of 1,81,927. Annual sports were held as usual. Mass drill displays were also held in which more than 9,250 children from 125 schools participated.

The Municipal Boy Scout and Girl Guide Associations continued their activities vigorously as before. The usual activities, such as, week-end camps, social work, help to all departmental and public functions, etc., were carried out during the year. A new feature of the year was the "Anand Bazar" arranged by the Guides' Section of the State Bharat Scouts and Guides where self-prepared articles were sold by the Guides in aid of that organization. During the year under report, the All India Bharat Scouts and Guides Mela was held at Secunderabad and 34 scouts and scouters and 21 guides and guiders were deputed to attend the *Jamboree*. The Bombay Municipal Boy Scout and Girl Guide Association has been affiliated to the Bharat Scouts and Guides. The scope of the Association has been widened a great deal within the past few years. With a view to dealing effectively with the varied problems of scouting and guiding it has been proposed to have a Divisional Organization. The Constitution and Bye-Laws have been prepared and sent to the National Head Quarters, Bharat Scouts and Guides for their approval. This matter is under consideration since 1951 and the Commissioner is requested to bring the new constitution into operation at a very early date.

The School Health Service under the Executive Health Officer was continued as before for the benefit of the children of Municipal Primary Schools. Detailed medical examination of 43,589 children reading in Standards I and III was taken by the Medical Inspection Department. Free medical treatment was given to the pupils at the Municipal Dispensaries and the Central School Clinic at the K. E. M. Hospital and at the various vaccination centres. Free milk was supplied to about 39,180 under-nourished children, in the year. On account of paucity of funds it was not possible to supply milk to all under-nourished needy children of suburban schools. The Standing Committee feel that this want will soon be supplied and if not at least every needy pupil would be supplied with this nourishment so essential to build up physique of the future generation of this Great City.

A unique feature of the Education Department is a Central Library for City teachers only. During the year the library contained over 18,046 books in different languages as against 17,418 in the previous year and a good number of teachers on all sides took advantage of the same. The daily average attendance in the library was satisfactory. There is absence of such an institution for teachers in the suburban schools.

Various extra-curricular activities were carried on as usual during the year under report, such as, Vacation Libraries in the Summer Vacation, Sharad Utsav, School Anniversaries, Excursions, Co-operative Stores and Exhibitions.

The average cost per pupil in the City schools calculated on the number of pupils on rolls was Rs. 73.8 as against Rs. 74.9 in the previous year and the average cost per pupil in the Suburban Schools was Rs. 61.2 as against 60.4 in the previous year.

The income side of the Education Fund is more or less fixed. The Corporation's contribution is restricted and so also the Government grant. Other sources contribute a very negligible amount to the total receipts of the Education Fund. Thus with the inelastic sources of revenue on one hand and the increasing demand for more and better schools and educational facilities for the increasing population of Bombay on the other hand, the Corporation find it very difficult day by day to cope with even the urgent needs of the Primary Education Department.

Unless, therefore, the Income Side is substantially augmented by increased contribution either by the Corporation or the Government, there will be no alternative but to shrink the activities of this nation building Department, so as to make both ends meet.

46. The difficulty in obtaining paper experienced in the previous years eased to some extent during the year under report. Out of 170 tons of both the **Municipal Printing Press.** bleached and unbleached paper for which orders were placed with the Government, 152 tons were received from the mills, while 34½ tons of foreign bleached paper

had to be purchased locally for specialized jobs. Over and above this the Budget Estimates and Establishment Schedules and several other jobs from the B. E. S. & T. Undertaking were also printed at the Press. Total quantity of paper consumed was 174½ tons against 153½ and 142 tons in the previous two years.

The transactions of the Press for the year closed with a surplus of Rs. 8,589 on the total turnover of Rs. 8.33 lacs against the surplus of Rs. 2,893 over the turnover of Rs. 8.12 lacs for the previous year. The labour staff at the close of the year consisted of 220 workers against 223 on the 28th February 1953.

A notable feature of the year was the printing of the Draft Bill to revise the Municipal Act and the compilation of Amendments comprising of 2,028 and 254 pages, respectively. This work was executed in record time at a total cost of Rs. 27,302-2-0 only.

The Municipal Printing Press has also taken up the printing and publication of "The Bombay Civic Journal".

47. During the year under report the department continued to attend to contested matters and other legal proceedings in the High Court, City Civil Court, Small Causes Court and Police Courts as also to other legal matters. **Legal Department.** During the year, the department received 7,791 files, against 8,945 files in the preceding year, addressed 3,051 letters against 1,719 letters in the previous year to outside parties or their legal advisers and gave opinions on different departmental matters and advices on 136 documents against 165 documents in the last year. The report contains figures of High Court suits, as well as number of documents, such as, conveyances, etc., that were completed.

The income by way of costs recovered amounted to Rs. 38,148-7-10 and the expenditure to Rs. 75,365-14-7 as against Rs. 14,971-15-6 and Rs. 70,162-15-3, respectively, in the preceding year.

48. As in the previous year, 10 Trade Unions represented Municipal employees with a total membership of 12,492 against 8,953 in the preceding year. **Labour Department.** The total number of labour staff employed was 29,015 against 27,182 persons in the previous year. Labour relations remained quite normal.

Nine Joint Councils continued functioning satisfactorily during the year more or less on the lines of the Whitley Councils of Greater Britain. The scope of the work of these Councils was elastic enough to allow discussions and recommendations on all matters pertaining to conditions of services. They helped to create harmonious relations between the Administrations and the Labour.

The Labour Officer dealt with 1,681 complaints against 1,434 in the previous year, regarding service conditions, promotions, transfers, etc., of these complaints 848 were redressed, 694 were found not genuine and 139 were pending cases.

The recreational, educational and other cultural activities indoor as well as out-door organized by the Welfare Branch of the Department for the benefit of Municipal workers and their dependents were conducted vigorously in the year under report and the participants evinced great interest in them. The maternity unit attached to the Chembur Welfare Centre continued to do its useful work under a qualified lady Doctor and medical treatment, wherever necessary, was given by the Welfare Organization. 2,848 cases were treated at the Unit during the year under report as against 3,626 in the preceding year.

Under their Resolution No. 983, dated the 12th January 1953, the Corporation had sanctioned two Labour Welfare Schemes in the shape of granting (i) scholarships to children of Municipal employees and (ii) medical assistance to them. The work of implementing them was entrusted to the Labour Department. Out of 269 applications received for Scholarships, 86 Scholarships were awarded to eligible scholars at a total cost of Rs. 11,940. 68 applications were received for medical assistance and help of Rs. 4,983 was given in 60 deserving cases. The remaining cases were rejected being not eligible under the rules.

49. Labour relations during the year were smooth and there was no dislocation of work at any time. It is observed that the employees represented by the Bombay Municipal Hospital Employee's Union, the Bombay Municipal Kamgar Union, the Greater Bombay Municipal Employees' Federation and the Bombay Municipal Workers Union showed a little restiveness and submitted grievances from time to time which were settled amicably. Similarly, the Bombay Municipal Hospital Employees' Union which had served a strike notice withdrew the same and the matter was settled amicably.

50. The two Ward Officers (one for the South and the other for the North of the City) during the year under report attended to and dealt with complaints pertaining to drainage, conservancy, water supply, buildings, sanitation as also with other complaints connected with encroachments, markets, gardens, fires, etc. On their usual rounds the complaints were verified and the needful was done, while attending to complaints by inspection on site, whatever sanitary and other defects were noticed by them in the course of their rounds were reported to the respective heads of departments for necessary action. The total number of complaints received during the year was 5,675 as against 5,671 the proceeding year. The number of such references in respect of buildings was 1,279, drainage 431, sanitation 2,175, water supply 1,577 and miscellaneous 213, the corresponding figures for the preceding year were 1,405, 359, 2,106, 1,562 and 239 respectively.

51. The Bombay Civic Journal is a new venture in the history of the Bombay Municipal Corporation. This is to be an accredited organ of the Corporation. In January 1954 the first issue entitled 'Our Bombay' was published by the Corporation. This issue was greatly appreciated by the Press and the public alike. From March onwards regular monthly issues under the name and style of 'The Bombay Civic Journal' were printed and published.

The aims and objects of the Journal are very well given in its first issue which express that 'the object was not only to review the projects, activities and achievements of the Corporation, interpret its policy, bring to the notice of the civic body genuine grievances of the public estimate civic awareness and foster closer contact, but also to present in word and picture the many sided life of Bombay, its tradition, history and social economic progress and to promote an objective discussion of civic problems and the larger issues relating Self Government from the national angle. As regards policy, it will be non-partisan in approach and wholly independent in outlook having only the progress of Local Self Government and the realisation of the greatest good of the greatest number at heart'.

It is earnestly hoped that this organ would serve to enlighten Citizens on various civic matters and educate them.

52. This year also the Municipal Chief Auditor's Report has not been included in the Municipal Commissioner's Administration Report, as required by Section 137 (4) of the Act, as it was not received in time. The Municipal Chief Auditor's Report would have been of much help to the Standing Committee while studying the report of the Municipal Commissioner. The report will be forwarded to the Corporation separately when received.

53. In conclusion, the Standing Committee desire to record their appreciation of the very valuable services rendered by Shri P. R. Nayak, I.C.S., J.P., whose high administrative abilities and financial acumen were of great help to the Committee. The Committee also place on record their appreciation of the services rendered by the other Municipal Staff.

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OFFICE,  
BOMBAY, 17th March 1955. }

SULOCHANA M. MODI,  
Chairman, Standing Committee.

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