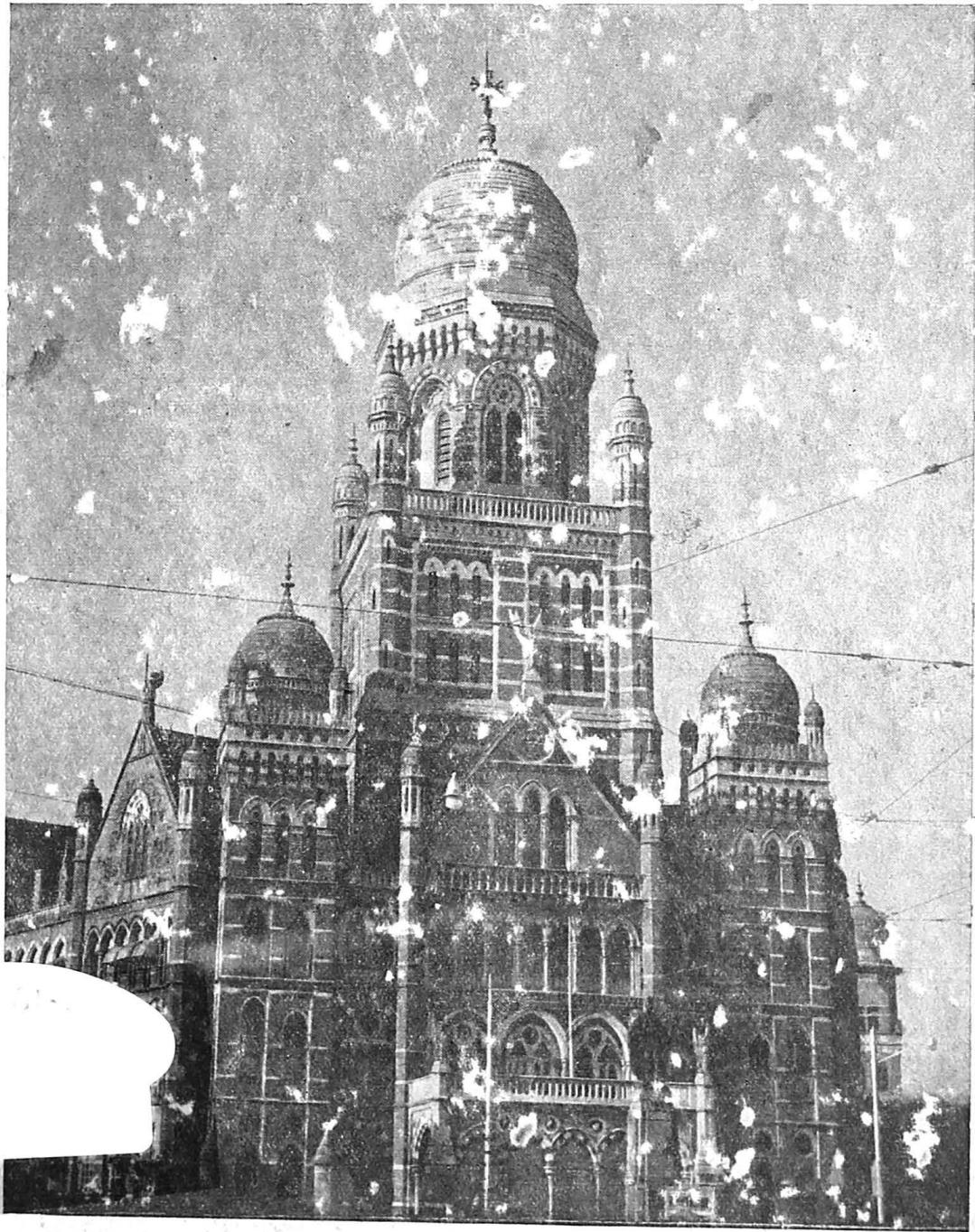
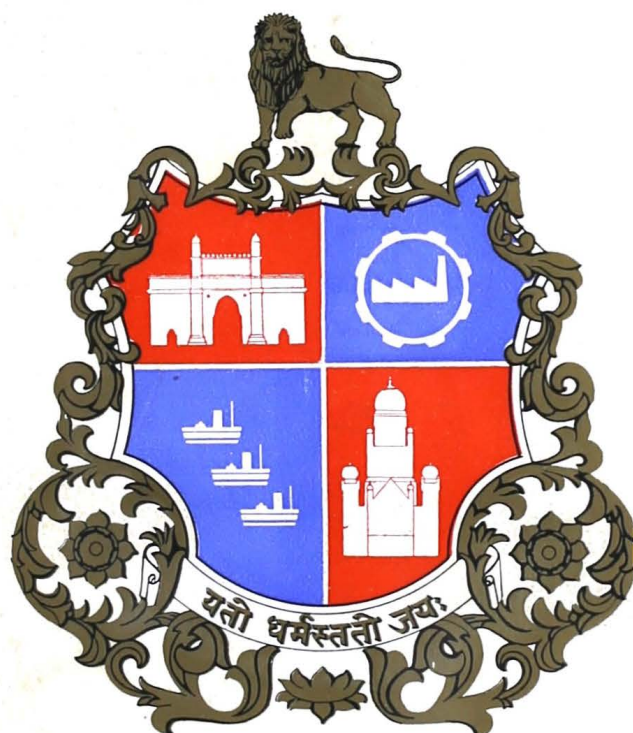


**ADMINISTRATION REPORT
OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER
FOR
GREATER BOMBAY
FOR THE YEAR
1955-56**



BOMBAY
PRINTED AT THE MUNICIPAL PRINTING PRESS
1956

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**REVIEW OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE ADMINISTRATION REPORT
OF THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER FOR GREATER BOMBAY
FOR THE YEAR 1955-56.**

The Administration Report, submitted by the Municipal Commissioner, gives in detail the working of various Municipal Departments for the year 1955-56.

2. Shri Narsingrao C. Pupala was elected Mayor of Bombay for the year under report. On Shri Pupala's resignation of the office on 7th February 1956, Smt. Sulochana M. Modi, M.A., was elected Mayor of Bombay on the 23rd February 1956 and held that office for the remaining period of the year. Shri G. B. Mahashabde, who was elected Chairman of the Standing Committee, resigned from that office on 27th January 1956 and Dr. P. D. Daftary, L.C.P.S. (Bom.) was elected to that office on the 6th February 1956 and held it for the remaining period of the year. Shri P. V. Mehta, who was elected Chairman of the Improvements Committee on the 12th April 1955, died on the 17th April 1955; and Dr. Simon C. Fernandes was elected to that office on the 3rd May 1955 and held it for the remaining period of the year. Shri B. R. Sunkersett, B.A., who was elected Chairman of the Education Committee on the 7th April 1955, resigned from that office on the 27th January 1956, and Major S. R. Bamji, F.C.R.A., F.R.S.A., F.C.I., M.B.E., was elected to that office on the 3rd February 1956 and held it for the remaining period of the year.
3. Shri P. R. Nayak, I.C.S., continued to hold the office of the Municipal Commissioner practically throughout the year, except for the period from 12th December 1955 to 7th January 1956 when he was on leave. During Shri Nayak's absence on leave, Shri J. K. Daruvala, B.A. (Hons.), A.S.A.A., was appointed to act as Municipal Commissioner.
4. The financial transactions have resulted in a surplus of Rs. 71.11 lacs at the end of the year instead of the anticipated deficit of Rs. 45.29 lacs. This was due to the fact that the actual income increased by Rs. 47.59 lacs over the Budget Estimate while the expenditure was reduced by Rs. 68.81 lacs over the budgeted amount. The strain on Municipal finances continues unabated and if progress is to be maintained in keeping with the City's position as a premier city in this sub-continent, the Corporation will have to provide funds for civic amenities which the City lacks at present and for which the possibility of additional sources of income will have to be explored. The prospects in the latter direction, however, appear to be dim under the existing conditions. Available sources of revenue have been utilized almost to the maximum extent possible and are incapable of yielding better returns. The only alternative, therefore, appears to be reduction on the expenditure side but this might possibly result in the deterioration of health and other civic services. The implementation of the recommendations of Messrs. Ibcn, Ltd., who were entrusted with the task of the reorganization of different Municipal Departments have already resulted in a considerable reduction on establishment charges which had tended to grow out of proportion during recent years. If the process is continued with zeal by the executive without impairing efficiency, it will be possible to effect appreciable savings not only under establishment but also on other items of growing expenditure, which might enable the Corporation to make both ends meet at least for the time being.
5. In preparing the Budget Estimates for the year under report, an Opening Balance of Rs. 85.12 lacs was estimated. On the final closing of the accounts for the year under report, the actual Opening Balance for the year under report amounted to Rs. 91.90 lacs, as against Rs. 95.80 lacs for the previous year. The total income budgeted for was Rs. 9,54.70 lacs while the actual realizations amounted to Rs. 10,02.29 lacs, showing an increase of Rs. 47.59 lacs over the budgeted amount and also an increase of Rs. 83.30 lacs over the actuals of the previous year, viz., Rs. 9,18.99 lacs. On the Expenditure Side, the amount budgeted for was Rs. 9,99.98 lacs whereas the actuals of expenditure were Rs. 9,31.18 lacs, as against the previous year's actuals of Rs. 8,82.68 lacs. The anticipated deficit of Rs. 45.29 lacs was thus turned into a surplus of Rs. 71.11 lacs as against the surpluses of Rs. 36.31 and Rs. 18.08 lacs in the previous two years. The financial transactions of the year ended with a Closing Balance of Rs. 1,30.31 lacs.

A detailed study of the Income Side reveals a net increase of Rs. 80.15 lacs with that of previous year's figure, viz., Rs. 8,84.59 lacs (exclusive of transfers from B. E. S. & T. Fund). There were increases almost under every major head, the main increases being under General Tax, Rs. 34.32 lacs, Town Duties, Rs. 13.55 lacs and Water Works, Rs. 29.76 lacs.

The main decreases in income are in respect of Grant-in-Aid in respect of fines for offences against the law Rs. 0.77 lac, Interest and Profit on investment of Surplus, etc.,

balances Rs. 9.29 lacs, Miscellaneous Rs. 0.57 lac, Medical Relief Rs. 0.98 lac, Gardens Rs. 0.86 lac, Extraordinary Receipts Rs. 0.57 lac, Rebate from Government on account of Collection of U. I. P. Tax Rs. 0.11 lac and certain other heads Rs. 0.6 lac.

6. As against the final sanctioned grants (including renewed and additional grants) which aggregated to Rs. 11,44.86 lacs, the actuals amounted to Rs. 9,31.18 lacs, leaving an unexpended balance of Rs. 2,13.68 lacs. Against this, an amount of Rs. 1,38.39 lacs was required to be renewed for expenditure in the following year and the balance of Rs. 75.29 lacs was allowed to lapse as savings.

The actual expenditure for the year, viz., Rs. 9,31.18 lacs, compared with that of the previous year, viz., Rs. 8,82.69 lacs, showed a net increase of Rs. 48.49 lacs, i.e., gross increases of Rs. 53.50 lacs less decreases of Rs. 5.01 lacs.

The main increases on the Expenditure Side were under General Supervision Rs. 6.90 lacs, Water Works Rs. 13.87 lacs, Public Health Rs. 5.55 lacs, Medical Relief Rs. 1.91 lacs, Street Cleansing, etc., Rs. 18.24 lacs, Road, S. W. Drains, Rs. 0.68 lac, Fire Brigade Rs. 0.69 lac, Licensing Rs. 0.26 lac, Markets Rs. 1.48 lacs, and minor increases under certain other heads, whereas the main decreases were under Mechanical Rs. 0.35 lac, Building Rs. 1.28 lacs, Gardens Rs. 0.50 lac, Provident Fund Rs. 2.13 lacs and Grant-in-Aid Rs. 0.75 lac.

7. The Opening Balance on 1st April 1955, on account of Loan Funds (excluding the Trust Funds) was Rs. 20.70 lacs. Loans aggregating to Rs. 4,74.36 lacs were raised during the year including an amount of Rs. 2,50 lacs received from the Government of India for financing the Vaitarna-cum-Tansa Scheme. The Standing Committee would once again like to place on record their sincere thanks to the Central Government for their timely assistance which has no doubt helped the Corporation to put through the Scheme more expeditiously than could have otherwise been possible.

The total Loan Funds available for expenditure during the year were Rs. 4,95.06 lacs. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 6.42 lacs was reserved for the purchase of Capital Stock. The net amount thus available for expenditure during the year was Rs. 4,88.64 lacs. The total expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 4,70.28 lacs, leaving a balance of Rs. 18.36 lacs at the close of the year.

The actual expenditure amounted to Rs. 4,65.89 lacs on Capital Works as against the budgeted figure of Rs. 5,33.59, the percentage by which actuals fell short of Budget Estimates being 13 as against 26 for the preceding year.

The amount of new loan proposed in the Budget for 1955-56 was Rs. 5,50 lakhs. The same was reduced to Rs. 4,90 lakhs in the revised estimates.

A loan of Rs. 2,50 crores was raised from Government in three instalments, two of Rs. 1 crore each and one of Rs. 50 lakhs. The loan of Rs. 1,80 lakhs was raised by public subscription and Rs. 30 lakhs was raised in one instalment internally. The total amount actually raised to finance the Capital Expenditure including purchase of Plant and Machinery was Rs. 4,74.36 lacs.

Balance of the loan of Rs. 90 lacs of the loans aggregating to Rs. 5,50 lacs [sanctioned for 1955-56 was also allowed to lapse.

Reduction of Debts during the year amounted to Rs. 71.05 lacs. At the close of the preceeding year, the total amount of Municipal Loan Outstanding including advances from the various Special Funds was Rs. 26,29.42 lacs. Amount of loan outstanding as on 31st March 1956 was Rs. 30,32.73 lacs. The total debt charges for payment of interest, Sinking Fund, etc., amounted to Rs. 2,29.15 lacs.

8. The book value of investments of the Sinking Fund at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 4,92.92 lacs. Valuing the Municipal and Improvement, Trust Debentures at par, the market value of the Sinking Fund Investment at the end of the year stood at Rs. 4,75.24 lacs. This, together with the amount of interest accrued upto 31st March 1956, viz., Rs. 2.15 lacs, and cash of Rs. 3.40 lacs, brought the total amount of the Sinking Fund to Rs. 4,77.39 lacs, which more than covered the amount of Rs. 4,66.89 lacs at which the Fund should have accumulated at the close of the year. The excess in the Fund was thus Rs. 10.50 lacs against Rs. 12.04 lacs at the end of the previous year.

9. The total Income for the year amounted to Rs. 1,19.30 lacs against Rs. 1,27.35 lacs for the previous year showing a net decrease of Rs. 8.05 lacs, the main decreases were in respect of (i) Rent and other proceeds of properties, Rs. 3.22 lacs; (ii) Receipts on account of Tobacco Duty, Rs. 3.61 lacs; (iii) Interest and Profits on investments Rs. 1.29 lacs; (iv) Miscellaneous Receipts Rs. 0.19 lac counterbalanced by an increase of Rs. 0.27 lac in contribution from Municipal Corporation.

The total expenditure for the year viz., 1,23.93 lacs, showed an increase of Rs. 0.19 lac over that of the previous year, viz., Rs. 1,23.74 lacs. This is made up of an increase of Rs. 0.52 lac under maintenance of properties and streets, counterbalanced by a decrease of Rs. 0.33 lac under Debt Charges.

Loan liabilities of the *ex-Trust* at the commencement of the year were Rs. 15,19.16 lacs against Rs. 15,26.50 lacs in the previous year. No new loan liability was incurred during the year while the debt was reduced by Rs. 7.58 lacs, which amount was repaid to Government on the basis of equated payments. The outstanding loan liabilities at the close of the year thus stood at Rs. 15,11.58 lacs of which the actual liability to Government was Rs. 7,77.64 lacs. All the debentures in respect of loans aggregating to Rs. 4.76 lacs originally raised from Government have now been repurchased according to the approved programme for Sinking Fund investments. The liability to Government on this account is, therefore, only Rs. 3,01.64 lacs.

The year began with an Opening Balance of Rs. 1,09.08 lacs. In the course of the year receipts on account of sale proceeds of Land and Buildings amounting to Rs. 7.38 lacs were credited to this Account. The total funds thus available were Rs. 1,16.47 lacs, out of which an amount of Rs. 31.87 lacs was spent on different works. The deficit in the General Account for the year amounted to Rs. 4.62 lacs and was transferred to the Capital Account. There was thus left an unspent balance of Rs. 79.98 lacs at the close of the year.

The actual Expenditure during the year on schemes amounted to Rs. 31.87 lacs as against the Revised Estimates of Rs. 7,02.62 lacs including Rs. 8.11 lacs on account of the cost of Management and Establishment. The total expenditure on Schemes upto 31st March 1956 amounted to Rs. 21,21.45 lacs of which Rs. 14.66 lacs represent discount and other charges on loans.

The amount of Sinking Fund on 31st March 1956 was Rs. 5,79.78 lacs including cash of Rs. 237 with the State Bank of India. Valuing the Municipal and Trust debentures at par, the market value of Sinking Fund Investments at the end of the year under review amounted to Rs. 5,81.25 lacs. This, together with interest accrued upto 31st March 1956, viz., Rs. 1.19 lacs and cash of Rs. 237 with the State Bank of India, brought the total amount of Sinking Fund to Rs. 5,82.44 lacs against Rs. 5,30.27 lacs, at which the Sinking Fund should have accumulated at the close of the year. The excess in the fund thus amounted to Rs. 52.17 lacs.

The total amount of loans raised for Improvement Schemes and outstanding on 31st March 1956, was Rs. 15.12 lacs. Out of this Rs. 3.02 lacs were borrowed from Government, and the balance of Rs. 12.10 lacs represented loans raised by issue of debentures. Out of this, Rs. 4.76 lacs originally borrowed from Government have now been repurchased for Sinking Fund and Rs. 7.34 lacs from the public.

The gross Capital liabilities of the Improvement Schemes stood at Rs. 15,59.17 lacs at the close of the year under review and the assets at Rs. 28,89.22 lacs including the book value of lands comprised in Schedules 'W' and 'X' which has resulted in surplus of Rs. 13,30.06 lacs.

The total income for the year amounted to Rs. 1,52.55 lacs (including Rs. 1,13.90 lacs being the contribution from Budgets 'A' and 'D') against the Budget Estimates of Rs. 1,55.77 lacs and the Revised Estimates of Rs. 1,51.71 lacs showing a decrease of Rs. 3.22 lacs on Budget Estimates and an increase of Rs. 0.84 lac on the Revised Estimates. The decrease of Rs. 3.22 lacs is made up of a decrease of Rs. 5 lacs in contribution from Budgets 'A' and 'D' and of Rs. 0.12 lac in Miscellaneous Receipts counterbalanced by an increase of Rs. 0.54 lac in Fees and Fines from Municipal Schools, Rs. 0.43 lac in contribution from Government and Rs. 0.94 lac in other Miscellaneous Revenue. The final sanctioned grants amounted in the aggregate to Rs. 1,73.05 lacs (including the unexpended grant for the previous year and the additional grants).

The total expenditure booked was Rs. 1,49.73 lacs and the total unexpended grants amounted to Rs. 23.32 lacs. Out of this, grants renewed in 1956-57 aggregated to Rs. 10.46 lacs, leaving a balance of Rs. 12.87 lacs to lapse as savings.

The expenditure booked during the year on the Capital Works was Rs. 6.82 lacs leaving a balance of Rs. 21.21 lacs to be carried to the following year. A loan of Rs. 20 lacs was raised by public subscription during the year for Budget 'E'. The loan liability under the Education Fund during the year, therefore, stood at Rs. 0.45 lac against which the Sinking Fund stood at Rs. 2.41 lacs.

The Opening Balance of the Education Fund at the beginning of the year was Rs. 21.13 lacs. The transactions for the year resulted in a surplus of Rs. 2.82 lacs. The balance at the close of the year was Rs. 23.95 lacs. There was a decrease of Rs. 0.14 lac in the amount reserved for meeting the revenue expenditure for 1955-56 and the previous years to be incurred during 1956-57 over that of the previous year. Thus the balance at the close of the year stood at Rs. 24.09 lacs.

10. During the year under report, the rates of taxation remained the same as in the previous year, *i.e.*, General Tax (including Fire Tax) at 17½ per cent., Water Tax at 3½ per cent. and Halalkhore Tax at 3 per cent. Tax on vehicles and animals was levied at the maximum rates mentioned in Schedule G. Rates charged for the supply of water by meter measurement also remained the same as in the previous year and ranged from As. 12 to Rs. 2-6-0 per 1,000 gallons according to the class of properties, the minimum rate being charged to the Government and the maximum to the Race Course premises.

On the Assessment Register at the close of the year, there were 54,527 properties against 54,527 and 54,157 during the previous two years. 51,187 properties as against 46,659 properties in the previous year were assessed to General Tax while 2,215 properties against 2,021 in the previous year were exempted from General Tax under Section 143(1)(a) of the Bombay Municipal Corporation Act, while the Municipal properties not assessed to the General Tax numbered 1,125.

Properties newly erected, demolished and enlarged during the year numbered 675,703 and 721, respectively, as against 845,475 and 674 in the previous year. At the end of the year single-room tenements, double-room tenements and flats or blocks numbered 2,72,977, 74,800 and 58,476, respectively, against 2,72,820, 69,369 and 48,185 in the previous year.

Rateable value of all properties in the City at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 25,20.61 lacs as against Rs. 24,98.48 lacs and Rs. 23,43.35 lacs in the preceding two years. The rateable value *per capita* was Rs. 108-5-11 as against Rs. 107-6-8 and Rs. 100-12-0 in the previous two years. In 175 cases, the rateable value was increased by more than Rs. 2,000 in each case.

The total number of vehicles and animals taxed during the year (including those taxed under the Public Conveyance Act, was 44,241 as against 43,600 and 41,582 in the previous two years. Of this total number, the maximum number in any group was of 23,496 for motor cars (including 3,253 taxis) and the smallest numbers were 4 for trollies and 86 for trailers.

During the year under report, Wheel Tax for hack-victorias, labour-carts and hand-carts (without pneumatic tyres) leviable, respectively, at Rs. 112, Rs. 40 and Rs. 8 per annum was compounded for the calendar year at Rs. 100, Rs. 35 and Rs. 6, respectively, as they had to pay the tax for the whole year in advance instead of quarterly as in the case of other vehicles.

During the year under review, bills numbering 1,22,391 and 1,16,115 were issued; respectively, for Property and Wheel Tax. The amounts collected against net total demands of Rs. 8,87.87 lacs and Rs. 58.79 lacs were Rs. 6,97.64 lacs and Rs. 39.96 lacs which worked out to 78.58 and 67.97 per cent. of the net demand, respectively. The percentage of the net total recovery to the total demand worked out to 77.92. The total outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 2,09.05 lacs. Outstandings against private rate-payers stood at Rs. 1,01.63 lacs at the end of the year. The figure is exclusive of the amount of Rs. 47.74 lacs involved in complaints against rateable value, which were pending at the close of the year and Rs. 25.82 lacs being taxes for new proposals for revision under Section 137 submitted in the last month of the year due to new constructions, additions, alterations, etc. Out of the total outstandings of Rs. 1,01.63 lacs from private properties, an amount of Rs. 8.86 lacs was involved in suits filed or being filed, Rs. 6.34 lacs were payable by the Court Receiver and Official Assignee, about Rs. 9 lacs were involved in appeals against rateable values and about Rs. 4.77 lacs were involved in disputes regarding Water-tax. The amount was also inclusive of a sum of about Rs. 12.40 lacs in respect of properties occupied on flat-ownership basis. The average of recovery to the total demand during the year under report was 77.92, the percentage for outstandings being 22.08 as against 23.13 and 18.07 in the previous two years. The Standing Committee views with concern that there is no perceptible decrease in the percentage of outstandings and hopes that strenuous efforts will be made to reduce the outstandings to the barest minimum.

The total amount of exemption from General Tax allowed in respect of different properties during the year was Rs. 31.51 lacs as against Rs. 30.49 lacs and Rs. 29.09 lacs in the previous two years.

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The number of claims received for drawback and refund was 66 and 3,067, respectively, against 59 and 4,114 and 56 and 3,064 in the previous two years. Of these only 3 and 2,279, refund claims were admitted involving an amount of about Rs. 397 and Rs. 5.70 lacs, respectively.

During the year 6,198 complaints were received against revision of assessment amounting to Rs. 4,63.20 lacs against 5,355 complaints involving an assessment amounting to Rs. 6,99.28 lacs in the previous year. 71 appeals for rateable values were received in the year. Of these 25 were settled out of Court, 5 were withdrawn and 41 were pending.

No fresh suits for recovery of taxes were filed in the year under report. As per the amended provisions of Section 203 of the Bombay Municipal Corporation Act, action to attach the immoveable property of a defaulter is being resorted to with a view to effecting early recovery of the bills. In one case, a property was attached and the arrears amounting to Rs. 23,973-12-0 were recovered. In several other cases, this action is in progress.

An amount of Rs. 25,932-1-0 was collected as Riot Tax in the year under report.

During the year under report, the question relating to the payment of General Tax at a rate higher than the rate prevailing immediately before 1st April 1937 by the Central Government was referred to the Municipal Solicitors requesting them to take steps to state a case for the High Court's decision, and in the meanwhile the Central Government agreed to pay the tax at the enhanced rate for the period prior to 1st April 1948. This would result in payments being received from the Central Government so long withheld and the question of stating a case for the High Court's decision will be dropped. As regards the properties which came into existence on or before the 1st April 1937, the Central Government have now agreed to pay from 1st April 1954, the charges for the specific services rendered by the local authorities and have directed the State Government to fix a percentage of such charges. The matter is now under correspondence with the State Government.

Tax amounting to Rs. 8,470-14-0 on 445 race horses for the period from November 1955 to March 1956 was recovered from the Royal Western India Turf Club, Ltd., as against Rs. 6,369-4-0 for the preceding year. The tax collected on hand-carts and bullock-carts during the year amounted to Rs. 96,839-6-0 as against Rs. 86,203-5-0 for the preceding year.

The gross savings effected upto 31st March 1956 on account of the implementation of the recommendations of Messrs. Ibcn Ltd., by the Standards Officers work out to Rs. 5,24,234-0-0 as against Rs. 3,97,004-0-0 for the previous year.

A retired officer of the Department, who was appointed to scrutinise the accounts of the Central and Western Railways properties to determine their assessment, for the quinquennium 1949-54, submitted his report and the matter is under correspondence with the Railway authorities. The question of fixing the assessment for the quinquennium 1954-59 will be taken up when the assessment for the previous quinquennium is finalised. The assessment of the Bombay Port Trust properties for the quinquennium period 1944-49 according to Justice Lokur's Report, is still pending. A representation in this behalf was addressed to the Central Government impressing upon them the need of settlement of the assessment.

In the classification of properties according to user, it is found that out of 54,527 properties with an approximate rateable value of Rs. 25,20.61 lacs, 36,283 properties only are used for residential purposes with an approximate rateable value of Rs. 1,402.98 lacs.

From the classification of properties according to rateable values, it is found that as many as 46,813 properties come within the rateable value of Rs. 20,000, leaving only 1,946 properties having rateable value between Rs. 20,001 and Rs. 3,50,000 and above. These figures do not, however, include properties belonging to the Bombay Port Trust and the Railways, which are assessed in lump.

11. The rates of taxation continued to be the same as in the preceding year, *i.e.*, 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 in each case but not less than Rs. 500. Properties having value of less than Rs. 500 per annum each continued to be exempted. The arrears of the tax as on the 1st April 1955 were Rs. 35.80 lacs, which increased to Rs. 48.64 lacs, on account of amendments and issue of 1.02 lacs, supplementary bills for four years 1948-49 to 1951-52 amounting to Rs. 13.23 lacs. Out of this amount, a sum of Rs. 25.80 lacs was collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 22.84 lacs at the close of the year. The demand in respect of the tax for the year 1955-56 was Rs. 1,05.53 lacs. collection at Rs. 83.56 lacs, drawback allowed Rs. 112-1-0, while Rs. 21.98 lacs remained outstanding at the close of the year. The total collection of Urban Immoveable Property Tax thus amounted to Rs. 1,09.36 lacs during the year under report.

12. During the year, the rates of Town Duties continued to be the same as prevailing in the previous year. The gross collections from Town Duties amounted to Rs. 1,14.46 lacs as against Rs. 93.49 lacs, Rs. 93.86 lacs. and Rs. 92.95 lacs in the preceding three years. There was a substantial increase in the net receipts from grain, sugar, iron and steel. Street supervision over the staff and the fluctuation in the prices of timber and edibles was in part responsible for the increase in revenue. The amount refunded during the year under review was Rs. 22.96 lacs as against Rs. 15.73 lacs, Rs. 19.67 lacs and Rs. 20.19 lacs in the previous three years. Town duties gave a net revenue of about Rs. 91.51 lacs as against Rs. 77.75 lacs, Rs. 74.19 lacs and Rs. 72.76 lacs in the previous three years. The total number of claims for refunds was 35,173 as against 29,123, 36,608 and 34,564 in the preceding three years. The number of claims for refund during the year was more by 6,050 than in the previous year and the amount of refund was more by about Rs. 7.23 lacs.

Fees for stamping sugar bags, tea-cases, etc., amounted to Rs. 0.90 lac as against Rs. 0.64 lac, Rs. 0.84 lac and Rs. 1.01 lacs in the preceding three years.

Town Duties collected at Bhandup, Jogeshwari, etc., in respect of the articles coming by roads amounted to Rs. 11.19 lacs as against Rs. 7.85 lacs, and Rs. 6.03 lacs in the preceding two years.

13. The Municipal Election Roll for the General Elections, 1956, containing 14,10,104 names of voters, came into operation from 20th December 1955. This time the mode of entering the names alphabetically streetwise was changed to building-wise in every street.

124 Elective seats on the Corporation were re-allocated amongst 41 Electoral Wards on the basis of population figures of 1951 Census and some villages of Kurla Ward were transferred to Andheri-Vile Parle Ward. Again, these 41 Electoral Wards were divided into 192 smaller divisions with a view to shortening the distance a voter has to travel to reach the Polling Station.

As the General Elections to be held in 1956 were postponed the preliminaries relating to the Poll were not undertaken during the year.

During the year under report, 42 casual vacancies of Councillors occurred, one vacancy on account of the death of Shri P. V. Mehta, a Councillor from Ward No. 21, and 41 vacancies on account of resignations of Councillors during the months of January and February 1956. However, no bye-election was held during the year under report. The work of preparing the new Roll for the General Elections to be held in 1957 was also undertaken from March 1956 in view of the postponement of the General Elections to be held in 1956.

14. The Planning Section of the Engineering Department prepared plans and estimates for six new school buildings. Similarly, plans and estimates for additional floors for four existing schools were completed.

This branch also prepared plans and estimates for numerous other works as detailed in the report.

Plans and estimates for certain roads and for Transit Camps, Dormitories and Housing Schemes were also prepared by this branch. Detailed investigations in connection with the flooding of lowlying areas in the City were carried out during the year and the cost of installation of battery-pumps to pump out storm water at Love Grove as a radical cure was under investigation at the close of the year and other incidental works were carried out. Quotations for the pumps were also invited. It is likely that the cost of such pumps would be prohibitive and will not be commensurate with the benefits that the City will derive. One of the alternative solutions would be to provide relief storm water drains wherever the existing ones are inadequate.

A comprehensive programme for the Second Five Year Plan was drawn up during the year under report. It envisages a total expenditure of Rs. 3,929.43 lacs for the City and Rs. 619 lacs for the Suburbs. In this programme emphasis has been laid on slum clearance, housing for low-income groups and Municipal employees, water supply, hospitals, roads, drainage and school buildings. During the year under report, the work of clearance of Slums at Palton Road and Haines Road was taken in hand. A tentative agreement was reached between the Union and the State Governments and the Municipal Commissioners of Bombay, Poona and Ahmedabad to the effect that the Union Government should advance loans upto 50 per cent. and a subsidy upto 25 per cent. and that the State Government should subsidize the Slum Clearance programme by a further subsidy of 25 per cent.

During the year under report, removal of the tin shed slums at Palton Road was completed and the construction of a four-storeyed building on the site so released was in progress.

Plans and estimates for housing the 385 displaced families from the slums at Haines Road was completed and the work of clearance is proposed to be carried out in stages.

Survey of the Kamathipura Slum area was completed during the year and a layout plan indicating the future development of the area was prepared and submitted to the Corporation. The main features of the layout comprise widening of roads, cancelling some of the existing roads so as to make available large and contiguous areas for better development, provision of recreational parks, segregation of shopping centres from residential areas, and provision of amenities like clinics, maternity homes, libraries, etc. The implementation of the plan is estimated to cost over Rs. 7 crores. During the year, a scheme for reclaiming low-lying swampy lands admeasuring 5,670 acres of land at an estimated cost of Rs. 303.95 lacs was prepared for overcoming shortage of buildings in the City. The method for reclaiming the low-lying lands by putting dykes across the Mahim Creek and draining away the water, collected in the swampy land into specially created large reservoirs to be finally pumped into the sea was proposed to be tried at Dharavi. By adopting this method, the cost for reclaiming the low-lying lands in the City was expected to be lower than by filling them with earth. To start with a Pilot Scheme was proposed to be taken in hand at the Mahim Creek for an area admeasuring about 385 acres for which plans and estimates were under preparation.

Final plans for the extension of the Municipal Head Office Building in Gothic style were completed but the work had to be slowed down for sometime due to the shortage of cement.

15. The total number of properties both Municipal and *ex-Trust* maintained by the Maintenance Branch during the year was 3,196 which was less by 17 and more by 20 and 57 than the number of properties, *viz.*, 3,213, 3,193 and 3,156, respectively, in the previous three years. 33 properties were added during the year under report while 50 properties were demolished. The work of up-keep and maintenance of buildings was carried out partly by contract and partly by departmental agency. The Budget provision for the said purpose was Rs. 12.00 lacs against which the expenditure incurred amounted to Rs. 10.62 lacs. Corresponding figures of the Budget grants and expenditure for the last three years were Rs. 27.56 lacs and Rs. 19.28 lacs, Rs. 23.53 lacs and Rs. 15.43 lacs and Rs. 24.56 lacs and Rs. 22.64 lacs, respectively. Out of the total expenditure, works to the extent of Rs. 4.33 lacs were carried out departmentally and to the extent of Rs. 3.83 lacs through the Petty Works Contractors as against Rs. 7.35 lacs and Rs. 1.68 lacs, respectively, in the previous year. In addition, repairs to school buildings under Budget 'E' were also carried out at a total expenditure of Rs. 0.23 lac in the year under report. In addition oil-painting and white-washing to the Municipal properties were carried out at a cost of Rs. 0.75 lac.

Works under the Five Year Programme which included heavy repairs and improvement of water supply to the *ex-Trust* Chawls, special repairs by gunnite treatment and provision of separate electric meters and electrification at the *ex-Improvement Trust* Buildings, were continued and in several cases completed.

New Works and Special Repairs Works estimated to cost Rs. 12 lacs were taken in hand and the expenditure against them during the year amounted to Rs. 10.62 lacs.

The actual cost of the Aerial Survey in connection with the Master Plan and its implementation amounted to Rs. 1.21 lacs.

During the year under report, tenders were invited in connection with the following important constructional works :—

(i) Extension of the school building at Laxminarayan Lane, Matunga, (ii) construction of two new school buildings at Victoria Bunder Road, Colaba, (iii) Open Air Theatre in the Victoria Gardens and (iv) Additional floors over Nurses' Quarters at the R. P. T. B. Hospital.

The following major works were completed during the year :—

(i) 420 tenements at Mahalaxmi, (ii) Dormitory at Palton Road, (iii) two additional floors over R. P. T. B. Hospital, (iv) two additional floors over the Bai Yamunabai L. Nair Chairtable Hospital, (v) Dongri Market, (vi) Sion School Building and (vii) Building for Municipal General Hospital, Sion.

During the year under report, the following works of construction of tenements for housing the Conservancy Staff of the Public Health Department were completed :—

Tenements at (i) Rajawadkar Street, Colaba, (ii) Bapty Road and (iii) at Tardeo.

During the year, 40 per cent. of the Civil Engineering works of the proposed Love Grove Purification Works (1st stage) was completed. Construction of 33" Sewers and laying storm water drains, covering of channels, etc., works were also in progress during the year.

Works for the permanent construction of a portion of DeLisle Road and Tulsi Pipe Road and 18 by-lanes and provision of footpaths along certain roads in the City, etc., were also in progress during the year.

During the year the working of the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Olympic Swimming Pool at Shivaji Park was satisfactory. The estimate amounting to Rs. 1.37 lacs for providing Venetian Mosaic glass tiles to the walls and floors of the pool was approved by the Corporation. However, the work was deferred to the next year. The management of the Pool which had been entrusted by contract to Shri P. P. Golwala since the pool was thrown open to the public was taken over by the Corporation from 1st May 1955.

The works of air-conditioning the Mayor's Room and the Corporation Hall were carried out during the year. The programme of electrification of the Municipal tenements on the basis of independent meter per tenement was pursued further during the year also.

16. During the year, 3,428 applications against 4,600, 5,052 and 5,437 in the previous 3 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 2,070 against 2,051 and 1,689 in the previous three years. It is significant to note that there was considerable fall in the number of new tenements constructed during the year which was 1,561 against 1,696, 1,996 and 2,568 in the preceding three years. Out of 1,561 tenements, 296 were one-room tenements, 454 were two-room tenements and 811 larger tenements (blocks). The corresponding figures for the previous three years were 155, 360 and 1,181, 291, 662 and 1,043 and 303, 597 and 1,665, respectively. Of the newly constructed tenements, the highest number was 554 in F Ward consisting of 37 one-room, 132 two-room and 385 larger tenements. The total number of buildings constructed by private enterprise during the year was 284 of which 96 were residential and 188 non-residential. 1 building was constructed by a Co-operative Society and 5, by employers for their employees. According to the above statistics, the new building activity did not even touch the fringe of the problem looming large since a long time. A fillip to this industry is very essential, if adequate housing accommodation is to be provided to the citizens within some reasonable range of time.

The number of tenements demolished during the year was 1,143 against 540 in the previous year. Of these, 948 were one-room tenements, 65 two-room tenements and 130 larger tenements. Of the demolished buildings, the highest number was 320 in C Ward and consisted of 266 one-room tenements, 31 two-room tenements and 23 larger tenements. Such demolitions though inevitable in the interest of the occupants of the premises, tend to aggravate the existing acute housing shortage. It is, therefore, necessary that the Executive should, before pulling down any building, satisfy themselves that the building is definitely in a ruinous condition and beyond repairs.

During the year, action for removal of unauthorized works was pursued vigorously to check the growing tendency on the part of law breakers to put up such structures without proper permission and in contravention of the provisions of the Municipal Corporation Act and the Building Bye-laws. Most of such structures were inadequately lighted or ill ventilated or were deficient in open spaces required under the Building Bye-laws. Sanction of the Standing Committee was obtained in 717 cases for the removal of unauthorized works. In addition, there were 245 cases pending at the close of the last year giving a total of 962 unauthorized structures. Of these, 277 works were removed by the parties while 144 cases were removed departmentally. Out of the remaining 541 cases, in 37 cases the works were regularised and 504 cases were pending at the close of the year.

Action for the removal of stall board projections and show cases on public streets was continued through the Stall-board Removal Satff. In all 113 notices were issued against 943 and 2,142 in the previous two years. All these notices were complied with as also 148 notices pending at the close of previous year. Some explanation appears necessary for this heavy drop in the number of notices issued. During the year 449 projections were removed by the parties of their own accord and 1,064 were removed departmentally.

532 stall-board projections, 606 framed projections and 28 rolling shutters were allowed to be retained on payment of fees against 1,184, 993 and 82, respectively, in the preceding year. The net income derived from temporary projections, such as stall-boards, etc., amounted to 5.72 lacs against Rs. 4.12 lacs, Rs. 3.48 lacs and Rs. 2.32 lacs in the preceding three years, while the expenditure incurred on the establishment, etc., charges for the control of such projections was Rs. 0.87 lac as against Rs. 0.99 lac, Rs. 0.97 lac and Rs. 0.90 lac in the preceding three years.

In the case of dilapidated houses, the issue of notices and launching of prosecutions continued as before. In all 6,497 notices were issued during the year for removal of unsafe buildings against 7,265 in the previous year. Out of these 5,210 were complied with and 1,287 were pending at the end of the year. Out of 1,879 notices pending at the end of the last year, 1,429 were complied with and 450 notices still remained pending at the close of the year. In some cases where the owners failed to comply with the requisitions in spite of convictions and where the tenants approached the authorities to force the landlords to carry out the repairs, authorizations under Section 499 of the Act, were given to them to carry out repairs works and to recover the reasonable expenses incurred by them from the rents. Such cases were, however, very few.

In some cases departmental action had to be taken to pull down unsafe portions of buildings in the interest of public safety, as the owners failed to carry out the Municipal requisitions. In some cases, the owners deposited the amount towards the expenses of such demolitions. The amendment to the Bombay Rent Control Act, permitting the landlords an increase over standard rents upto 10 per cent. of actual cost of repairs did not seem to have the desired effect.

The enormous cost involved in the acquisition of set-backs hampered the improvement and widening of narrow streets in congested localities and in several cases minor works were withheld. Regular lines were permitted perforce on payment of indemnity money. The area of the setbacks added to the road was 3,551.17 square yards. Lands coming within the set-back lines prescribed on a majority of such streets could not be demanded for want of alternative accommodation for persons likely to be dishoused. The question of providing Transit Camps for tenants affected by set-back proposals and also for families dishoused by house collapses was under consideration of the authorities.

During the year 101 buildings or portions thereof collapsed as against 118 in the previous year. Out of these in 85 cases there were no casualties and in the remaining 16 cases 34 persons were injured but none was killed.

17. Dadar Purification Works.—The Sewage Purification Works at Dadar functioned satisfactorily throughout the year under report. The total quantity of sewage received at the Plant during the year was 5,307.46 million gallons, *i.e.*, an average of 14.5 million gallons per day against the total quantity of 4,162.98, 3,746.43 and 4,073.54 million gallons received at the Works in the previous 3 years giving daily averages of 10.26 and 11.16 million gallons, respectively. The total quantity of sludge gas generated during the year was 4,27,59,960 cubic feet almost 1.36 million cubic feet less than the last year *viz.*, 44.12 million cubic feet while the daily production was 1,16,830 cubic feet as against 1,20,871 cubic feet per day last year. The total revenue realised during the year by sale of gas amounted to Rs. 1.35 lacs as against Rs. 1.23 lacs, Rs. 1.11 lacs and Rs. 0.78 lac in the previous three year. The total expenditure on power, stores, laboratory, establishment, etc., charges for the Purification Plant, Digestion Tank, Sewerage Pumping Station, etc., amounted to Rs. 1.93 lacs as against Rs. 2.06 lacs in the previous year.

Sewage installation at Love Grove worked satisfactorily throughout the year. The average sewage level during the year was about 72.0 T.H.D. against 71.08 T.H.D. in the previous year. The new Detritus Tanks forming part of the works under the first stage of the proposed Love Grove Purification Works put into commission during the last year had stopped working due to breakdown of the springs of clearance rake from 16th June 1955 to 21st March 1956.

The Sewage Purification Works at Dharavi worked satisfactorily during the year under report. The total volume of sewage received at the plant during the year was 1,288.8 millions gallons, *i.e.*, an average of 3.6 million gallons per day as against 1,39.81 million gallons and 3.13 million gallons during the previous year. The total quantity of sludge gas generated during the year was 39.87 lacs cubic feet. The total revenue realized during the year by sale of gas amounted to Rs. 16,260-13-0 and by sale of sludge manure amounted to Rs. 1,578-8-0.

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.

18. During the year under report, the administrative control of the Suruban Transport Office was taken over by the Transport Superintendent from the Deputy Executive Health Officer. During the year, 461 motor vehicles with 1 Bulldozer were in commission against 457, 448 and 454 in the previous three years. During the year, 9 new vehicles were purchased.

The execution of the scheme for constructing a Central Garage near Worli for housing all vehicles at a central place sanctioned by the Corporation in 1949 and further deferred due to financial stringency have been modified and necessary plans and estimates for an independent transport workshop at Worli are being prepared.

During the year under report, the work of conversion of all Layland Moving floor lorries into tipping lorries was completed and all the lorries were put into operation. Similarly, work of converting 75 moto-carts into trailers was taken up departmentally and 21 moto-carts have been converted into trailers during the year.

In order to augment the fleet, tenders were invited for the purchase of 12 low-loaders, 15 pick-ups and 90 trailers. Orders for purchase of trailers were already placed with the firm. The Committee note with regret that during disturbances in January, one Studebaker was burnt while damage was caused to a large number of scammell trailers.

19. The total mileage of roads in the City limits at the end of the year was 2,74,226 miles against 2,74,056 ; 2,73,606 and 2,80,891 miles in the preceding three years. The cost of adding to roads the set-back lands acquired in the different parts of the City amounted to Rs. 51,356-11-0. The total area thus added to the road during the year was 3,557.17 square yards.

Repairs and Maintenance of Roads and Footpaths.

During the year, about 10,974 square yards of area of road surfaces were renewed with 3" sheet asphalt at a total cost of Rs. 6.50 lacs. The work of maintenance of roads and footpaths was generally satisfactory throughout the year. A total area of 2.78 lacs square yards of the different types of the road surfaces was improved during the year. The work of asphaltting footpaths was continued during the year and footpaths of 39 roads converging an area of 62,383 square yards were asphalted at a cost of Rs. 2.47 lacs.

Traffic Islands were provided at important inter-sections and the total number of such islands at the close of the year was 108. Out of this 4 Traffic Islands were provided during the year under report.

The work of construction of a Pedestrian Sub-way across Queens' Road near Church-gate Railway Station was taken up in hand before the close of the previous year. The work was completed during the year at a cost of Rs. 2,48,541, and the Sub-way was thrown open to the public. The State Government agreed to pay one-third of the cost of the Sub-way and also promised similar financial assistance in case of future Sub-ways. The Standing Committee are pleased to record their appreciation of the helpful attitude of the Government.

During the year a sum of Rs. 0.88 lac 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 12,325 as against 12,164, 11,885 and 11,638 in the previous three years. An expenditure of Rs. 19.94 lacs was incurred for lighting and maintenance of street lamps. An additional expenditure of Rs. 1.68 lacs was incurred on erection of new lamps, maintenance, miscellaneous works, etc.

Since the year 1954-55, 'All in Hire Scheme' for mercury vapour and fluorescent electric lamps has been introduced, under which all such lamps already installed and to be installed will be owned by the B. E. S. & T. Undertaking, the Capital expenditure in respect of these lamps being borne by the Undertaking and the maintenance cost for the lamps being paid by the Corporation to them. The statue of the late Lokmanya Tilak was provided with flood lights last year. During the year under report the statues of Sir Pherozshah Mehta and of Shri Vithalbai Patel were provided with flood lights.

20. As in the past, the major portion of the refuse was as usual transported to Deonar in railway wagons ; the work of unloading continued to be in charge of Messrs. Anderson Dawn & Co. 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, and Dharavi which sites were required to be filled in.

Removal of Town Refuse.

The arrangement of running two refuse trains per day instead of three introduced from 15th July 1954 was continued during the year consisting of an average of 32 wagons each.

The total number of wagons sent to Deonar during the year under report was 23,007 as against 21,511, 23,465 and 25,421 during the previous three years. The increase is mainly due to the increase in rolling stock. The total quantity of refuse removed to Deonar was about 3.91 lac tons as against 3.66 lac, 3.99 lac, and 4.97 lac tons during the previous three years.

The total expenditure on account of the removal and disposal of refuse amounted to Rs. 7.46 lacs, as against Rs. 7.18 lacs, Rs. 7.82 lacs and Rs. 8.87 lacs in the preceding three years. The total cost of unloading refuse wagons amounted to Rs. 3.56 against Rs. 3.34 lacs, Rs. 3.64 and Rs. 3.98 lacs in the previous three years. The work of unloading refuse wagons was carried out wholly by contract. The increase in expenditure was due to the increase in the number of wagons received and unloaded at Deonar. The cost of haulage and unloading per ton amounted to Rs. 1-14-6 approximately as against Rs. 1-15-5, Rs. 1-15-5 and Rs. 2-7-10 per ton in the previous three years.

The position of the rolling stock required for work was far from satisfactory. The Rolling stock including 43 wagons lying 'sick' in the Railway Workshop at Mahalaxmi siding and at Deonar at the end of the year was 91 as against 90 in the previous year. With a view to eliminating shortage of wagons, 45 wagons were taken on hire from the Western Railway during the year under report at the rate of Rs. 4-8-0 per day per wagon.

21. The Master Plan for the Greater Bombay region was approved by the Corporation in 1948. In regard to control of the user of land, provision of amended **Master Plan for Greater Bombay Region.** Bye-laws being inadequate, etc., a Draft Zoning Legislation was prepared and forwarded to the Government who have, however, replied that as the recent amendment to the Town Planning Act embodied therein the Zoning Districts contemplated by the Corporation, need for a separate legislation did not exist.

Conferences were held during the year with the representatives of Bombay Industries Association in connection with the issue of permits to Factories and suitable arrangements were evolved for satisfactory working by creating a new Branch called 'Factory Permits Branch'. The Section prepared 703 new permissions and renewed 182 old permissions. The matter relating to the enactment of Zoning Legislation was pursued with Government and monthly meetings of the Zoning Committee consisting of heads of different departments for co-operation of the work of all departments continued to be held during the year under report.

The total expenditure booked in connection with the preparation of the Master Plan from the commencement, viz., 1st January 1947 to 31st March 1955, amounted to Rs. 2.61 lacs. The amount booked for preparing the Master Plan since its commencement amounted to Rs. 2.6 lacs.

Development of Trombay Island.—The work for the Eastern Express Highway with the overbridge on the Harbour Branch line of the Central Railway was completed during the year under report. The work of widening old roads and constructing new ones in the area started in the previous year was completed. Tentative layouts for utilising Mogra area for industrial purposes were prepared. The work of relocation of Anik village at two sites, one near Shiva Temple and the other at Ghatla at Borla was completed. The work of reconditioning the Corridor Road was completed and quotations for reconditioning the Diversion Road to Mahul were invited.

Town Planning Schemes.—In all, four Town Planning Schemes for Bombay City were approved by the Corporation and the State Government upto 31st March 1956. The areas under all the four Town Planning Schemes were kept under vigilant control with a view to preventing constructions in contravention of the provisions of the Town Planning Act.

The Mandvi and Elphinstone areas, which were devastated by dock explosions and subsequent fires in April 1944, comprised of Town Planning Schemes Bombay City No. I.

The Mahim area covered by the provisions of the Bombay Town Planning Act, 1915, was divided into three Schemes, viz., Schemes Nos. II, III and IV.

The final scheme in respect of Town Planning Scheme No. I as drawn up by the arbitrator and approved by the Corporation was forwarded to the Government for their sanction, which is awaited.

As regards Scheme No. II, the Arbitrator submitted his Award to the Tribunal of Arbitrators. The Tribunal gave their decision on 28th September 1955. The final Scheme is being drawn up by the Arbitrator. Arbitration proceedings in respect of Scheme No. III were completed by the Arbitrator during the year under report and his award was awaited. Arbitration Proceedings in respect of Scheme No. IV commenced and were in progress.

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. 12.22 lacs and the expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 2.18 lacs.

Roads, footpaths and house gullies were swept daily as a normal routine. Some of the main roads were attended to with increasing frequency as and when found necessary. House gullies were flushed and main Roads were washed periodically. Daily average in square miles of roads, footpaths and House Gullies cleaned regularly throughout the day was 270.7, 280.4 and 104.0, respectively. Total refuse collected through Municipal Agency was 8.07 lacs tons as against 7.98 lacs tons in the previous year.

Refuse gathered by sweeping the roads, footpaths and house gullies was collected and either carried to the nearest dust bin sheds or removed in travelling carts or lorries to the place of disposal, at least twice daily. Refuse taken to the Mahalaxmi Refuse Siding was transported to Deonar daily in a special refuse train. Dry refuse was sent for filling in low-lying lands at Hornby Vellard, Haines Road, Matunga Railway Lines and Dharavi. Domestic refuse was collected in galvanised sanitary bins with proper covers provided by the owners and was deposited in Municipal travelling carts and lorries or to the nearest dust bin sheds. The system of house to house collection of refuse was continued in A, D, F and G Wards.

Control of rats pest.—The total number of rats caught and destroyed during the year was 9.97 lacs as against 9.52 lacs in the previous year and rats examined were 475 as against 461 in the previous year. No rat was found infected with Plague.

Control of stray Dogs.—The work of destroying stray dogs and of licencing dogs was carried out as in the previous years. 11,939 stray dogs were caught as against 11,771, 12,727 and 11,114 in the previous three years. Out of the above stray and ownerless dogs caught, 10,261 were destroyed, 1,057 were returned to the owners, 122 sent to hospitals for experimental purposes, 13 escaped and 146 were detained at the Kennels at the Mahalaxmi Refuse Siding. 14,038 dog bite cases were reported during the year as against 13,262, 12,338 and 10,380 in the preceding three years. 8,130 dogs were licensed under the Dog Licensing Act, as against 7,981, 8,065 and 7,893 in the preceding three years. The total income by way of dog licensing fees, etc., was Rs. 41,865-4-0 as against Rs. 41,012-4-0 in the previous year.

The work of immunizing the Milch Cattle against Rinderpest was continued and 22,978 milch cattle were inoculated as against 24,379 in the previous year.

In addition to the above, the Conservancy Branch also rendered special conservancy and halakhore services to various circuses, exhibitions, etc., realising thereby Rs. 0.51 lac.

22. The Department continued to look after the work of acquisition of lands and preparation of layouts, etc., as before. The Special Land Acquisition Officer declared his Award in respect of the temple property in Case No. 374, Scheme 5. The reconstituted plot will be leased to former owner of the temple with certain restrictions to ensure orderly development. As regards the area of land along the foreshore of the Worli Village in Scheme 52, an amount of Rs. 88,579 was paid to the Special Land Acquisition Officer, towards the balance of compensation payable to the villagers. In pursuance of the old agreement, the rights of the villagers who returned the *waras* land compensation to the Municipality are to be restored their Fazandari Holdings on payment of Fazandari Rent of 1/2 Anna per sq. yd. 40 out of 275 villagers returned their compensation. The work of filling in the Government land in Scheme 77, 'Housing for fishermen of Mahim Foreshore', acquired for providing a recreation ground as well as for housing fishermen last year, was in progress.

Negotiations for taking over Government land in Scheme 6, Sion-Matunga Estate C. S. No. 38, for the purpose of Municipal housing were opened and were in progress during the year. Awards in respect of 7 more cases of the acquisition of Milch Cattle Stables were declared during the year under report. Similarly, vacant possession of property for the extension of Nair Hospital was obtained during the year. Acquisition of several other sites were under negotiations both in the City and Suburbs during the year under report.

Out of the total area of 139.36 lacs square yards (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 1,64,680 square yards reserved for Municipal purposes, such as, schools, markets, etc. At the end of the year, the area of undeveloped land was the same as in the previous year, *viz.*, 51.97 lac square yards, the cost of acquisition of which was Rs. 1,87.09 lacs, as reported in the previous year.

During the year under report only one Municipal plot admeasuring 2,696 square yards at Shivaji Park Scheme, Mahim, was disposed of, while the number of plots disposed of in the previous three years were 1, 1 and 3, respectively.

The area of the Trust land disposed of on permanent basis during the year showed a decrease over that for the last year but the value realised thereon was comparatively more, viz., 554 square yards, and Rs. 4.00 lacs, as against 4,288 square yards and Rs. 3.50 lacs, respectively, in the preceding year.

During the year, in all 3 plots covering a total area of 554 square yards and valued at Rs.4.00 lacs were leased. The corresponding figures for the last three years were 10 plots, 8,879 square yards, and Rs. 4.51 lakhs; 21 plots, 16,371 square yards and Rs. 7.82 lacs and 11 plots, 14,923 square yards, and Rs. 5.86 lacs, respectively. The total number of plots disposed of upto the end of the year of report was 4,236 with an area of 59,68,453 square yards valued at Rs. 12,37.05 lacs as against 4,233 plots with an area of 59,67,899 square yards, valued at Rs. 12,33.05 lacs, respectively, in the previous year. Commutation of ground rent in respect of plots leased on long term basis is being discouraged as the same is not considered advantageous to the Corporation.

Of the 3 plots leased during the year, 1 was leased on rental basis and 2 on premium basis, as against 10 plots during the preceding year out of which 9 plots were leased on rental basis and 1 on premium basis. The total annual rental to be derived from 1 plot was estimated at Rs. 5,952 as against for 9 plots estimated at Rs. 17,769 in the preceding year. All the plots leased during the year were from the Sydenham Road Estate.

During the year under review an amount of Rs. 9.10 lacs was received by way of commutation of ground rent, premium, etc., as against Rs. 14.29 lacs, Rs. 12.86 lacs and Rs. 9.68 lacs in the preceding three years.

At the commencement of the year, the Department had in its charge 568 acquired or surrendered buildings against 568 in the preceding year. These contained 5,064 tenements. At the end of the year there were 566 buildings with 5,095 tenements, the difference being due to demolition of 3 structures and acquisition of 1 structure during the year. New residential accommodation comprising 431 tenements became available in the apartments constructed by lessees during the year.

The gross demand for 5,095 tenements in these buildings amounted to Rs. 8.70 lacs. Deducting therefrom losses on account of vacancies and concessional rents, the net demand for the year was Rs. 8.58 lacs. The net revenue collected amounted to Rs. 8.63 lacs which was 88.12 per cent of the total recoverable amount including arrears of Rs. 1.21 lacs for previous year.

To provide shelter to the City's pavement dwellers, a Dormitory with an accommodation of 351 bed spaces was constructed during the year under report. Besides this, construction of new tenements was in progress at Hay Stack Road, Palton Road, Agripada and Byculla during the year under report.

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. 194 tenements at Sewri were charged rent at Rs. 25 per tenement per mensem. The gross demand for 10,570 tenements including shops, godowns, etc., was Rs. 11.93 lacs as against Rs. 11.30 lacs in the previous year. Deducting out-goings of Rs. 9.55 lacs, the net income was Rs. 2.38 lacs during the year under report. Deducting therefrom Rs. 9.43 lacs, as the Sinking Fund and interest charges on the Capital expenditure of Rs. 162.6 lacs incurred for these tenements at the rate of 4.65 per cent., the Corporation suffered a net loss of about Rs. 7.05 lacs on these tenements during the year under report.

The average population in the chawls during the year was 62,934 as against 62,042, 62,008 and 61,217 in the previous three years, while the corresponding figures for semi-permanent sheds including Labour Camp were 29,938, 29,900, 29,088 and 26,629, respectively. The death rate in the chawls during the year was 3.3 per 1,000 against 2.5, 3.6 and 4.5 in the preceding three years.

At the present rates of rents of Municipal tenements, huge losses are being incurred by the Corporation every year owing to an increase in the maintenance cost as a result of increase in salaries, repairs and sanitation services, over-crowding and sub-letting of the tenements putting heavy pressure on these services. To compensate that loss the Commissioner had placed before the Corporation a proposal for increase in rents of *ex-Trust* Chawls built prior to the last World War by 50 per cent in respect of residential rooms and 60 per cent. for shops and godowns and for the creation of an Amenity Fund and a Rent Equalisation Fund. The proposal has since been passed and it is hoped that the new measure will go considerably in reducing the present financial losses to the Corporation on the maintenance of *ex-Trust* properties.

The gross demand for 4,046 rooms in S. P. sheds and Labour Camps was Rs. 4.62 lacs. Deducting therefrom the losses due to vacancies and concession in rents, the net demand for the year was Rs. 4.57 lacs. The actual collections amounted to Rs. 4.74 lacs which was Rs. 88.03 per cent of the recoverable amount including arrears of Rs. 0.82 lacs for the previous years.

During the year under report, electric installations with separate meters in each tenement were provided at Mazagaon, Love Lane, Sydenham Road and Nagpada Chawls.

Besides this, the Department looked after 19 properties requisitioned for A. R. P. purposes consisting of 560 tenements and 660 tenements constructed for explosion victims at Arthur Road, Fergusson Road and Wadala Road.

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 Estates. In accordance with this policy, additional floors on 96 buildings were sanctioned to be constructed during the year on payment of extra premium of Rs. 1.65 lacs and an extra ground rent of Rs. 3,521. Construction of 33 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. 0.37 lac and extra ground rent amounting to Rs. 947. During the year, in 207 cases encroachments on compulsory open spaces and change of user were detected and action to remedy the irregularities was taken.

With the object of maintaining sanitation, etc., in the Municipal chawls and buildings, 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. 400 were recovered. First Aid sets and sick-room requisites, such as, thermometers, hot water bottles, etc., were provided at 8 Chawl Centres, Matunga Labour Camp, Dharavi and Mankhurd Colony.

During the year 1,410 ejection suits were filed against the tenants for sub-letting rooms as also for recovery of arrears of rent, taxes, etc., as against 1,922, 1,516 and 1,300 in the previous three years. Two claim suits were filed during the year. An expenditure of Rs. 30,256-8-6 was incurred for filing these suits and a sum of Rs. 25,010-12-3 was recovered towards Court costs.

At the end of the year the number of unbuilt plots already in the possession of the lessees was 362 and the number of plots, of which possession was yet to be given to the lessees for want of proper access, temporary lettings, drainage arrangements, etc., was 438. The total annual ground rent of these was Rs. 9.47 lacs.

During the year under report, the Corporation revised Rules regarding grant of permission for monsoon shelters and also delegated their powers to condone minor breaches of Building Rules, for additional floors and monsoon shelters on municipal plots to the Improvements Committee.

Implementation of the recommendation of Messrs. Ibcn Ltd., continued during the year and the actual staff of the Department was reduced to 668 as against the standard staff of 563, giving an index of 84.0. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 705, 562 and 800.

23. The rainfall during the year was above normal. The Tansa and the Vaitarna Lakes, the principal sources of City's water supply, overflowed for a total period of seven weeks. The Tulsi Lake also overflowed for about five weeks. The Vehar Lake, however, did not overflow this year. The Vehar Lake has not overflowed during the years 1938 to 1954 in spite of the fact that water was transferred to the lake from the Tansa Lake and the fact that it also received the over-flow from the Tulsi Lake.

The average daily supply to the City during the year under report was about 1,39.77 million gallons as against 1,33.76 million gallons 1,20.41 million gallons and 1,19.31 million gallons in the previous three years. During the year, the quantity of water supplied to the City and the Suburbs was 51,157.50 million gallons as against 48,822.40 million gallons and 43,949.50 million gallons and 43,553.00 million gallons in the preceding three years. Out of the above quantity, supply to the Thana Municipality was 241.24 million gallons as against 140.85 million gallons in the previous year. Water supplied to bodies outside the limits of Greater Bombay was 385.03 million gallons as against 270.59 million gallons in the preceding year. Of the total supply, a quantity of 38,881.17 million gallons or 76.00 per cent. was for domestic purposes as against 34,364.60 million gallons or 70.20 per cent. in the previous year which registers a slight increase. 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 1951 was 49.17 gallons, while that for domestic purposes only worked out to 37.38 gallons. Percentage of total supply for domestic and other purposes worked out at 76.00 and 24.00, respectively. The total quantity of water supplied by meter measurement for domestic purposes was 4,477.66 million

gallons and that for trade purposes was 8,527.79 million gallons of which 3,694.90 million gallons were consumed by mills, *i.e.*, 8.198 per cent., 598.83 million gallons were consumed by the Bombay Port Trust, *i.e.*, 1.329 per cent., 5,79.95 million gallons of water or 1.287 per cent. were wasted due to leaks and other losses through Municipal mains, etc.

There was no major burst during the year. There were 35 major leaks, 3,214 minor leaks on trunk mains and 335 leaks on the duct line and 158 leaks on syphon mains. 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 calls received from the Fire Brigade Department were 1,495 as against 1,081, 1,247 and 986, in the past three 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 2 million gallons in the previous year. In order to enable the staff to attend fires promptly, two fire vans were permanently maintained for 24 hours, one at the Babula Tank Office and another at 'F' Ward Office. Similarly, one such van was maintained at night only at 'G' Ward Office.

10 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 62,000 and 2,20,500, respectively, against 60,000 and 2,00,000, respectively, during the previous year. Additional amenities at the Vehar Lake in the shape of a children's park, house boat, giant's castle, etc., were fully utilized by the public.

The number of complaints about short supply, etc., was 13,375 during the year as against 13,629 in the previous year. 5,524 notices were issued on owners of houses for defects in water fittings on their premises, as against 5,265 notices in the past year.

The work of house to house inspection of leaky taps and fittings throughout the City continued during the year under report. Anti-waste campaign by exhibiting cinema slides and posters was also continued during the year. Out of the 2.82 lacs taps inspected, 39,737 taps were rewashered and 894 taps were renewed. The corresponding figures in the previous years were 3.15 lacs taps inspected, 49,313 rewashered and 1,093 taps renewed. The figures for the year under report show an alarming decrease. The Department has not given any explanation for it. The Standing Committee feel that this service which is so essential for preventing wastage of water, should receive proper attention of the Department.

9,934 meters of various sizes were maintained during the year as against 8,833 in the previous year. The revenue derived from the supply of water by meter measurement during the year amounted to Rs. 149.91 lacs as against Rs. 134.07 lacs during last year for the City only.

The total number of water connections in the City was 61,987 as against 60,761, 59,606 and 58,595 during the preceding three years. During the year 1,459 new connections were made. The figure for the previous year was 1,256.

During the year 1,225 cases were reported to the Standing Committee for severing water connections for non-payment of taxes, etc., as against 1,111 in the previous year. Of these, in 296 cases water connection was cut off but subsequently restored, in 110 cases it was cut off and in the remaining cases orders were not carried out as the consumers complied with Municipal requisitions.

The programme for making domestic water supply in areas where quantum of water was above average, was continued during the year and 646 new properties were metered as against 236 in the preceding year.

During the year 1,766 cases of compounded water charges for water used for construction purposes were filed with a revenue of Rs. 8.58 lacs as against 1,282 cases with a revenue of Rs. 6.03 lacs in the previous year.

The work of maintenance of gardens along the slopes of Gibbs and Ridge Roads (known as Hanging Gardens), Pherozeshah Mehta Gardens on the top of the Malabar Hill Reservoir, Joseph Baptista Garden on the top of the Bhandarwada Hill Reservoir, the Ladies and Children's Garden at Ridge Road and the Kamla Nehru Park was under the control of this Department. The work of providing electric lights at the Kamla Nehru Park was nearly completed during the year under report except for under-water floodlights in the fountain. The Park was kept open till 9 P.M. for the convenience of the public. The Gardens were lighted on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays which was much appreciated by the public. To

afford further convenience to the visitors, the work of soil-cementing the path-ways at the Pherozshah Mehta Gardens was started during the year. The Corporation also approved of a proposal to construct sanitary blocks at the Gardens. This as also the work of the construction of one more Summer House at the Gardens to afford shelter to the ever growing number of visitors was under consideration. The cost of maintaining the Gardens during the year was Rs. 0.30 lac. Construction of the Powai Park at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,29,896 on a 43 acres picturesque country-side plot of land near the Powai Lake was in progress during the year. Another plot admeasuring 11 acres on the opposite side of the Hill was also proposed to be developed into a garden at a cost of Rs. 18,656.

Further length of 12 miles of 96" Vaitarna Main was brought into commission during the year under report making the total length so far brought into commission to 22 miles. The average quantity of water per day brought into City was 139.77 million gallons.

The work of laying two outlets from the Malabar Hill Reservoir to serve the Kalbadevi and the Fort areas was completed during the year. The Kalbadevi outlet was put into commission upto Dr. Viegas Street on 18th March 1954 while the Thakurdwar Road main was put into commission on 25th July 1955.

The Corporation had approved of an estimate of Rs. 70.00 lacs for the work of protection of steel mains by patch-plating and guniting them and 1,048 R.ft., of the 57" mains were patch-plated and gunited in the preceding year. Further length of 1,900 R.ft. was completed during the year under report. Similarly, works to the extent of Rs. 7.91 lacs were carried out to improve the condition of deficiency in water supply in 'G' Ward during the year.

Labour relations during the year were cordial. Demands made by the labourers were considered and disposed of by the Commissioner.

The Standards Branch continued to function for the department during the year under report.

429 running miles of water mains were maintained by the Department during the year under report. 51,671 works pertaining to repairs to communications, cleansing of chokes in consumers' pipes, and fittings, etc., were carried out at a cost of Rs. 1.00 lac as against 36,838 works at the same cost in the preceding year. Out of the 10,000 fire hydrants, 9,861 fire hydrants were repaired during the year by the special staff comprising one fitter and 3 labourers appointed for the purpose. The figure indicates to what extent the public has been misusing the hydrants.

The work of clearing the pipes and fittings beyond the stop-tap in the Dadar-Matunga district was sanctioned by the Corporation in view of the fact that Vehar water supplied to this area contains algae resulting in frequent chokes. The work was continued and 514 connections aggregating 1,65,688 R.ft. of consumers' pipes were cleaned at a cost of Rs. 8,700 during the year under report.

2,72,226 pipes and fittings were tested during the year. Of these 1,49,173 were for private parties, the revenue derived therefrom being Rs. 17,590.

Concession for use of inferior pipes given during the war time was withdrawn after due notification.

Drinking Fountains which were closed down on account of the fittings being stolen, were brought under use by replacing the fittings during the year under report. The Flora Fountain and the Wellington Fountain played regularly. The work of flood-lighting the former was completed during the year.

The total expenditure incurred on water works amounted to Rs. 185.09 lacs including Rs. 141.65 lacs for Sinking Fund charges, etc., for loans raised for water works. The total revenue derived was Rs. 225.71 lacs, the excess of income over expenditure thus being Rs. 40.62 lacs.

24. The scheme was sanctioned by the Corporation in 1948 to stabilise water supply to Tansa Lake, especially, in the years of scanty rainfall and creating an additional storage of useful water of about 38,500 million gallons. The main works in the Scheme consisted of the construction of a Dam across the Vaitarna River, driving of a Tunnel, joining Vaitarna Lake with Tansa and laying 126" dia. and 96" dia. pipelines from the Lake site to the City. The project was initially estimated to cost Rs. 16 crores. Out of this, the work of driving the tunnels was completed in July 1953 at a cost of Rs. 1.64 crores as against the estimated cost of Rs. 1.75 crores. The dam is a

Vaitarna-cum-Tansa
Scheme.

solid gravity cement concrete Dam 1,820 feet in length and 269 feet in height in the deepest portion. A Crest Spillway with eight gates-four float-operated and four electrically or manually operated has been located in the River portion to take care of a maximum discharge of 2,00,000 cusecs. A roadway 18 feet wide has been provided on the top of the Dam. The work of foundation of the Dam was started in May 1952 and the concreting of the Dam was completed in November 1955. The total quantity of concrete laid in the Dam came to about 20 million c. ft.

Out of eight gates at the Spillway, 3 were erected during the year under report. The crest of the Spillway is 511.00 T.H.D. ; the full supply level of the lake when all the gates are erected will be 535 T.H.D.

The total length of the 96" dia. Pipeline to be laid is 47½ miles, out of which a length of 33 miles has been completed. The Pipe laying work is being done in 3 stages ; first stage of 20 miles was completed in April 1955 and the second of 27½ miles will be completed in June 1957. The third stage consisting of laying 120" dia. pipeline between Vaitarna and Tansa will be taken up in hand after the completion of the Second Stage work in June 1957. The pipeline of 33 miles already completed, has increased the City's daily supply of water by about 20 million gallons. After the completion of the entire length of the pipeline, the City water supply will be more than doubled, *i.e.*, will be about 200 million gallons per day.

The work of providing a grout curtain at the upstream face of the Dam was continued by drilling 1½" diameter holes along the length of the Dam through the foundation gallery and grouting the same with cement at 150 lbs. per square inch. The total depth of such holes drilled and grouted during the year came to 5,000 R.ft. The work of preparing and depositing the cement concrete was completed during the year and the total quantity poured was about 199 lacs C.ft. The work of erecting the Main Gates, Emergency Gates and Tainter Gates was in progress. The lubricating oil filter worked for 1,784 hours and 7,252 gallons of lubricating oil were filtered and re-used during the year under report.

Tunnels between Vaitarna and Tansa with ancillary works, such as, construction of R.C.C. Intake Tower construction of Bifurcation Chamber, etc., were completed in all respects on 28th July 1953. No works relating to tunnels were carried out during the year under report. The tunnels were in use during the year and about 15,000 million gallons of water was transferred through them from the Vaitarna Lake to the Tansa Lake. The work of formation and laying pipe lines continued during the year under report and 20 miles of pipe line to be laid under the first stage, was completed at a cost of Rs. 1,22.44 lacs as against the contract amount of Rs. 1,25.67 lacs. Side by side, work under Second Stage was carried on and 14 miles of pipes were fabricated and about 13 miles laid in position. The cost of the Second Stage works completed upto the close of the financial year was Rs. 60.31 lacs.

The work of supply and erection of the Chlorination Plant at Powai for chlorinating the additional supply of water brought to the City from Vaitarna was in progress during the year.

The work of rock excavation for pedestals for 96" main between Powai and Mohili was started and the Contractor completed 72,900 c.ft. rock excavation. The work done upto the close of the year amounted to Rs. 29,808 as against the contract amount of Rs. 92,500.

The work of cement grouting under the 65' Thrust Block at South Kasheli Bridge was carried out at a cost of Rs. 8,995 during the year.

A number of works, such as, preparing trenches, providing anchor blocks, etc., were carried out departmentally and the total cost of such works completed during the year came to Rs. 4.11 lacs.

Land Acquisition.—Out of the total area of 3,995 acres involving 673 holdings of private, Inam and Government lands, awards of compensation amounting to about Rs. 7.22 lacs in respect of 501 holdings were declared by the close of the year.

The Inamdar of Tembha filed an appeal in the High Court of Bombay claiming Rs. 40,25,000 in addition to the compensation of Rs. 2,26,000 awarded to him by the Civil Court. Two other appeals filed in the High Court over the Awards of the District Court, Thana, were disposed of during the year and the Awards of the District Court were confirmed.

Out of an area of 2,051 acres of Reserved Forest lands proposed for acquisition, 203 acres have been deforested by the Forest Department. Out of the total area of 35 acres of private, Government, Railway and Aerodrome land comprising 150 holdings acquired for

the work of laying the 96" diameter pipe line from Powai to Mahim, awards of compensation amounting to Rs. 14,153-10-0 in respect of 16 holdings were declared during the year under report. Further proceedings were in progress.

Preliminary inquiries regarding the ownership and other details of the land required for Reservoir Sites at Vyaravli, Pali, Trombay, Worli, Rowli and Gollanji Hill, were in progress during the year.

General.—Various amenities at the Vaitarna Camp for facilitating work and for recreation to the staff engaged on the site, such as, water supply, transport, telephone, communication, medical aid, primary school, post and telegraph service, etc., functioned satisfactorily. 10 Rain gauging stations were established in the Catchment Area of Vaitarna and data of rainfall was collected. The average rainfall in the catchment area was about 124 inches.

The work of strengthening the Tansa Dam was completed in March 1955 at a cost of Rs. 50.94 lacs as against the contract amount of Rs. 58.96 lacs.

The Master Plan for supply and distribution of water supply to Greater Bombay was prepared during the year. The work is spread over about 10 to 12 years and is estimated to cost Rs. 7.52 crores.

It is important to note that the Vaitarna Dam is the first Dam in India, where the aggregates of concrete are cooled to prevent development of the cracks in the body of the Dam, as a result of the heat of hydration of cement. It is also the highest Dam so far built in this country, with cement concrete with fully mechanized plant. The pipe-line is probably the biggest in size and length in Asia and has been designed on the latest practice of pipelaying by using ring girder supports on roller bearings. It is significant to note that the whole Scheme is carried out by Indian Engineers.

25. During the year, the total number of Fire Stations remained the same as in previous year, viz., 11 in the City proper and 1 in the Suburbs. To provide fire services for the distant merged areas, provision for two new Fire Stations, one at Chembur and another at Vikhroli, was made in the Budget Estimates for 1955-56. The proposal for a Fire Station at Vikhroli is being pursued.

The Fire Brigade received during the year 1,658 calls as against 1,286, 1,247 and 1,154 calls during the preceding three years. Out of these, 1,349 calls were for actual fires as against 902, 657 and 608 calls during the preceding three years. 309 calls were false alarms of which as many as 132 were due to mischievous interference with fire alarms, as against 212 and 71, respectively, in the preceding year. 191 calls as against 172, 115 and 83 in the preceding three years were for special services. Of these, 108 were in respect of fallen buildings and 71 for rescue work purposes, such as, leakage of dangerous gas, etc.

During the year under report, one Fire Engine with Fire-Escape and two Fire Engines with extension ladders and a trailer fire-pump and one motor Fire Tender, one Motor Control Post and one Station Wagon were added to the existing appliances in the City proper.

The City was served by 206 fire alarm posts including private ones as against 206, 208 and 204 in the preceding three years. These were connected to 9 Fire Stations. About 46 per cent. as against 50 per cent. 55 per cent. and 57 per cent. in the last three years, of the total calls received for fires, etc., were transmitted through this system. During the year under report, the Brigade got one person arrested for malicious interference with Fire Alarms.

There were 8 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. 66.93 lacs as against Rs. 31.25 lacs, Rs. 28.12 lacs and Rs. 53.7 lacs during the previous three years. This includes an exclusive loss of Rs. 40.10 lacs of the Indian Naval Wireless Station at Mahul. In addition, the disturbances in the City in November 1955 and January 1956 resulted in fire losses to the tune of Rs. 8.63 lacs. The other fire losses were thus of Rs. 18.20 lacs which shows that the annual losses have thus been gradually brought down from about Rs. 94 lacs in 1948-49, due to the growing consciousness among public in matters relating to fire risks and the strict vigilance exercised by the Fire Prevention Section of the Department during their day-to-day inspection. The value of insurance of property affected by fire was about Rs. 66.93 lacs and total value of property involved was about Rs. 1,49,73,85 lacs.

Casualties by fire during the year under report included 15 persons who were burnt to death, 33 persons who were severely injured and died subsequently in hospitals and 47 persons who received minor injuries including 51 involved in House Collapses recovered ultimately. Corresponding figures of the last three years were 21, 39 and 91, 16, 22 and 81 and 9, 19 and 61, respectively.

The approximate quantity of water used in extinguishing fires was 35.08 lacs gallons of which 29.00 lacs gallons were drawn from Municipal mains, as against 22.49 lacs gallons and 20.17 lacs gallons, respectively, for the preceding year and the rest from the sea, tanks and wells, etc.

Issue of licences for storage of cinematograph films with nitrate base continued to be controlled by the Government of India, but the inspection of premises of the proposed licences was carried out by this Department jointly with Explosives Department, Government of India. This Department had also to inspect storages of dangerous petroleum, cinematograph films, etc., before licences were recommended to be issued by the Commissioner of Police. 261 such storages were inspected before licences were issued by the Department during the year, as against 179, 155 and 108 in the preceding three years. 3,987 sites proposed for establishment of hazardous storages, trades, etc., were inspected by the department and necessary precautionary measures against fire were recommended in each case.

During the year under report, four candidates deputed by semi-Government institutions were entertained for training in fire fighting for a full term course of three months. One candidate from the B. E. S. & T. Undertaking and 16 candidates from the Aerodrome Office, Bombay Air Port, were given training in the short term course of one month.

For the first time in recent years, a call from long distance outside City limits, viz., from Karjat 62 miles from the City was received and 3 Engines were sent and the fire was tackled successfully.

During the year Shri M. G. Pradhan, Chief Officer, Fire Brigade, was sent on deputation to Government of India as Commandant, National Fire Service College, Rampur, U. P., for a period of 3 years from 19th May 1955. Similarly, Station Officer Shri G. S. Dalvi was deputed as Fire Fighting Instructor to Home Guards, State of Bombay.

The total number of calls within the limits of Greater Bombay received during the year was 6,854, of which 1,533 were for accidents, 1,581 for maternity cases and 3,740 for hire cases, removing in all 6,654 persons as against the corresponding figures of 6,388, 1,367, 1,729, 3,292 and 6,254 in the preceding year. The figures show an increase of 466 calls over that of last year.

The total mileage covered by ambulance vehicles during the year was 60,519 as against 50,655, 47,035 and 47,790 in the previous three years. The total receipts on account of hire cases amounted to Rs. 25,661 including arrears of the previous year as against Rs. 21,928, Rs. 18,858 and Rs. 18,778 in the preceding three years.

The annual maintenance cost of the Fire Brigade Department including the ambulance service was Rs. 7.96 lacs.

26. During the year under report, the Department maintained 99 sites for public recreation, consisting of 19 Gardens, 4 Fountains, 3 Band Stands, 7 Traffic Islands, 5 Open spaces, 56 Recreation grounds, 1 Statue and 4 Ornamental Box Hedges. Two new sites, viz., (1) The Car Park at Esplanade Band Stand and (2) the site at the junction of Tulsi Pipe Road and Fitwalla Road were taken over by this Department during the year. There were 24 Band Programmes, 30 Indian Vocal Music Programmes, 53 Orchestra Programmes and 428 Recorded music programmes at different places. In addition to this, music broadcast by the 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.

Victoria Gardens.—The Amusement Park established last year in the north-east corner of the Victoria Gardens continued to attract visitors, particularly due to the reduction of the fees for Joy Rides to anna one for each item. As many as 13,33,612 people availed themselves of this amenity. Besides, Elephant and Camel Rides were arranged inside the Victoria Gardens and Pony Rides for children proved a welcome added attraction. Directed Children's Centres at the Victoria Gardens under the supervision of the Young Men's Christian Association and the Bombay Presidency Women's Council and Directed Play Centres for adults at various places, continued to be as popular as in the previous years. Additional Play apparatus were provided at 11 centres and special repairs and some new works were carried out at the Victoria Gardens and other public gardens at a total cost of Rs. 52,140.

During the year the number of visitors to the Gardens was 51,60,005 as against 49,31,407, 54,28,836 and 55,12,299 in the previous three years. The number of visitors per day worked out to 14,137.

Botanical specimens were supplied to educational institutions and student visitors were conducted around. The class for training the students in gardening started last year continued to function during the year under report.

During the year, the live stock in the Zoo decreased by about 13.9 per cent. The total figure included new births, purchases or exchanges made and presents received. Important acquisitions were 1 Tiger, 1 Malayan Python, 1 King Horn Bill and 3 Rattle Snakes.

During the year 547 wild animals and birds were treated and 16 specimens of patho-bacteriological interest were examined at the Bombay Veterinary College Laboratory free of charge.

The Vegetable, Fruit and Flower Show could not be held during the year due to disturbed conditions in the City. Garden Competitions were, however, held with an increasing response from the competitors.

The Wild Life Day was celebrated on 7th July 1955 in the Victoria Gardens under the advice of the Indian Board for Wild Life, where informative talks were held in vernacular languages and in English and voluntary donations were collected from the visitors for the benefit of wild animals in the Zoo.

The expenditure of the Gardens Department during the year amounted to Rs. 5.75 lacs as against Rs. 5.45 lacs, Rs. 5.20 lacs and Rs. 4.79 lacs during the last three years, while the income by sale of flowers and plants, etc., was Rs. 46,237 as against Rs. 38,052, Rs. 38,100 and Rs. 25,357 during the last three years.

27. The Museum was kept open to the public for 307 days as against 302, 305 and Victoria and Albert Museum. 305 days in the preceding three years. The total number and the daily average of visitors during the year was 10.80 lacs and 3,517, respectively, as against 11.65 lacs and 3,859 of the preceding year. During the year, 14,383 students from Primary and Secondary Schools visited the Museum, as against 12,606 during the preceding year. The practice of keeping the Museum open on Wednesdays for ladies and children and parties of students only was continued during the year.

During the year under review 8 new show cases, 6 plywood trays, 4 inner stands and 2 base stands were prepared for better display of agricultural models and metal-ware specimens. A model showing in two parts the rice cultivation in rural areas and that of an ideal Indian Village were prepared and exhibited.

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

Reference service was rendered to Research Students from outside Bombay and to about 275 visitors with the help of exhibits and books in the Library.

The amounts realised 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 110 ticket days and by sale of 3,000 copies of the Victoria and Albert Museum Brochure came to Rs. 8,449-5-6 and Rs. 187-8-0 as against Rs. 8,825-10-0 and Rs. 200, respectively, in the previous year. These amounts 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 about Rs. 50,000 as against Rs. 38,500 in the previous year.

28. During the year under report, the number of Libraries and Reading Rooms main- Municipal Free Read- ing Rooms and Libraries. tained was 18 as in the previous year.

With the approval of the Book Selection Committee, 1,031 books on various subjects and in different languages were purchased at an aggregate cost of Rs. 2,709 as against 804, 352 and 521 books at a cost of Rs. 2,514-9-3, Rs. 1,065 and Rs. 1,572, respectively, in the preceding three years. It is reported that more books could not be purchased for want of accommodation in the Library premises. The Standing Committee would reiterate their suggestion made last year for locating Municipal Libraries in more commodious premises wherein a sufficient number of books can be maintained for the benefit of the readers visiting the institutions. During the year under report a new Book Selection Committee was formed consisting of (1) Principal G. C. Bannerjee; (2) Shri N. G. Limaye; (3) Shri C. L. Bakshi; (4) Shri B. G. Joglekar; and (5) Prof. N. A. Nadvi.

The total number of visitors to the Reading Rooms and Libraries situated in the City during the year was 2.57 lacs as against 2.33 lacs, 2.27 lacs and 2.49 lacs during the preceding three years and in the Suburbs, 0.83 lac as against 0.41 lac in the previous year.

The Re-organization Scheme approved by the Corporation under their Resolution No. 1120, dated the 11th January 1955, was fully implemented and the Scheme to replace Librarians by Library Attendants in the remaining Libraries was carried out during the year.

The cost of conducting the Libraries during the year amounted to Rs. 44,573 and the Income of the Department was Rs. 1,079, as against Rs. 49,886, Rs. 46,119 and Rs. 48,003 and Rs. 1,210, Rs. 1,349 and Rs. 1,890, respectively, during the preceding three years. The expenditure for running the three Libraries in the Suburbs during the year amounted to Rs. 4,674 and the income derived in respect thereof was Rs. 384 as against Rs. 5,033 and Rs. 683 in the previous year.

29. Tenders were invited for the purchase of stores during the year in 150 cases as against 136, 170 and 169 in the previous three years and the number of contracts entered into for the various scheduled articles was 186 at against 292, 167 and 141 in the preceding three years. Besides these contracts, Central Stores. large quantities of materials like cement, iron and steel products were secured at controlled rates from authorized stockists. The value of stores and other materials purchased including articles received from other Departments on Return Stores Mema during the year amounted to Rs. 68.01 lacs against Rs. 65.69 lacs, Rs. 58.87 lacs and Rs. 68.30 lacs during the previous three years. The increase was mainly due to the purchase of cast iron and hume pipes, iron materials and cement, etc. Of the total purchases made, stock of the value of Rs. 64.88 lacs was of Indian Manufacture and the balance, viz., Rs. 3.13 lacs represented the value of foreign goods. During the year, 4 Import Licences were received for Fire Fighting Hose, Sluice Valves, Tyres, and spare parts for Water Meters, the total purchase of which amounted to about Rs. 1.52 lacs.

During the year about 19,359 tons of cement worth about Rs. 21.43 lacs were purchased. Likewise, 2,237.35 tons of Iron Materials worth about Rs. 11.79 lacs; 1,51,492 R.ft. of Galvanised Iron Pipes worth about Rs. 1.75 lakhs, 83,827 R.ft. of Cast Iron Pipes worth about Rs. 12.54 lakhs; 39,466 yards of Cloth worth Rs. 0.29 lakh were also purchased. This Department was entrusted with the work of supplying foodgrains to the various Municipal Medical Institutions, the Conservancy Branch and the Gardens Department. Wheat and rice weighing about 5,914 1/2 Bengal Maunds worth Rs. 99,407 and 4,534 1/2 Bengal maunds of Grains (Bajri, Grams and Wheat Bran) worth Rs. 43,953. The Department was also entrusted with the work of purchasing tea required by different Municipal Institutions during the year under report.

3,938 orders for the purchase of stores against 3,855, 4,943 and 5,279 in the preceding three years were placed with contractors and other dealers. Against these purchases and stock on hand, the consuming departments submitted 41,466 indents and sales mema. as against 42,268, 44,388 and 44,418 in the preceding three years. The total turnover of the department, viz., receipts and issues of stores, during the year was Rs. 146.08 lacs, as against Rs. 138.78 lacs, Rs. 119.49 lacs and Rs. 125 lacs in the preceding three years. At the close of the year, the department had on hand stores of the value of Rs. 19.27 lacs, as against Rs. 29.34 lacs, Rs. 36.75 and Rs. 38.49 lacs in the preceding three years.

As in the preceding years, mixed scrap and other unserviceable articles received from different departments were sold by public auction but cast iron scrap was retained for the Municipal Foundry. The total amount realized by sale of scrap, etc., came to Rs. 0.78 lac as against Rs. 0.32 lac, Rs. 0.44 lac and Rs. 0.35 lac in the last three years.

The Department was under the reorganisation of Messrs. Ibcn Ltd. Against the potential reduction of 32 per cent. of staff recommended, a reduction of only 16 per cent. has been effected so far as against 12 per cent., 8 per cent, and 7 per cent. effected during the last three years. The reduction so far made works out to 51 per cent of the proposed reduction. During the year under report, Messrs. Ibcn Ltd., submitted their report on the work of Inventory, Control and General Stores Expenses, entrusted to them and steps will be taken as far as possible to implement various suggestions made in the matter.

30. During the year 37,217 licences and permits were issued as against 36,721, 36,672 and 36,649 in the previous three years. The amount of fees recovered therefrom came to Rs. 11.29 lacs as against Rs. 9.99 lacs, Rs. 10.29 lacs and Rs. 10.25 lacs in the preceding three years. At the end of the year, Licences. an amount of Rs. 1,86,251-12-0 was outstanding as against the outstandings of Rs. 97,896, Rs. 75,780 and Rs. 1,20,310, for the previous three years. It is reported that out of these outstandings an amount of Rs. 1,25,000 has already been recovered. Compared to a negligible outstanding of Rs. 9,177 for 1951-52, the outstanding during the four following years appear to be enormous. It is reported that the old method of issuing demand notices for collection of the licence fees has been replaced by a new one under which all licences are to be renewed within one month from the date of expiry in the respective Ward Offices by production of old licences

and paying the necessary fees. It is commendable that the Department has taken note of the remarks made by the Standing Committee in their Review of the last year's Administration Report very promptly. The Committee hopes that the new system will help in completely wiping out the outstandings.

The loss of revenue incidental to disuse or demolition of old licensed places amounted to Rs. 0.42 lac as against Rs. 0.40 lac, Rs. 0.46 lac and Rs. 0.52 lac in the preceding three years.

The total number of permits issued for exhibiting sky-signs, advertisements, etc., was 3,800 realising Rs. 4.24 lacs as revenue. The corresponding figures for the last three years were 3,645, 3,592 and 2,908 permits and the amount of the fees collected came to Rs. 4.16 lacs, Rs. 4.80 lacs and Rs. 2.91 lacs, respectively.

The Department instituted 4,737 prosecutions for offences under Sections 328, 328-A, 394 and 412-A of the Bombay Municipal Corporation Act, as against 6,693, 4,015 and 2,535 during the previous three years. The total amount of fines inflicted was Rs. 0.16 lac only as against Rs. 0.20 lac, Rs. 0.41 lac, and Rs. 0.28 lac in the previous three years, respectively.

The number of squatters and hawkers licences issued during the year was 37,873 and the earnings therefrom amounted to Rs. 4.07 lacs as against 26,202, 30,392 and 35,985. Similar licences issued during the previous three years which had then realised Rs. 4.30 lacs, Rs. 3.75 lacs and Rs. 3.89 lacs, respectively.

On going through the report, it is observed that the amount outstanding from squatter licence fees on 31st March 1956 was Rs. 0.22 lac as against Rs. 0.16 lac, Rs. 0.55 lac and Rs. 1.20 lacs in the previous three years.

In the report a mention has been made that the measures taken to improve working of the Encroachment Section so as to weed out unauthorised traders and to give relief to the public from the nuisance otherwise caused by them worked well and achieved the desired results. With a view to abate the nuisance, charges in respect of loaded and empty hand-carts were raised from Rs. 6 and Rs. 4 to Rs. 20 and Rs. 6, respectively, under Corporation Resolution No. 371, dated the 4th August 1955.

The total revenue of the Department during the year was Rs. 23.33 lacs as against Rs. 20.23 lacs, Rs. 20.94 lacs and Rs. 18.89 lacs in the previous three years.

31. The total number of establishments under the various categories excluding Administration of Theatres, etc., on 31st March 1956, was 91,155 as against 86,129, 82,348 Shops and Establishments Act of 1948. and 78,732 in the previous three years.

2,180 complaints were received in addition to 22, pending from the preceding year, out of which 2,156 were investigated, leaving 46 complaints pending at the close of the year. 448 mass raids against 367, 200 and 270 in the preceding three years, were carried out upto the end of the year. The number of visits and re-visits paid to different types of establishments was 71,602 of which 55,470 were to shops, 8,434 to commercial establishments, 7,316 to restaurants and eating houses and 275 to residential hotels and 107 to theatres, etc. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 60,108, 48,447, 6,600, 4,760 and 184, respectively.

At the beginning of the year 708 prosecutions were pending, while 4,840 new prosecutions were instituted during the year, making up a total of 5,548. Of these prosecutions, 4,764 resulted in convictions, 11 in acquittals while 26 cases were withdrawn. The number of cases pending at the end of the year was 747. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 478, 3,796, 4,274, 3,463, 2,083 and 708. The total amount of fines realized was Rs. 1,50,818 giving an approximate average of Rs. 31-10-6 per case as against Rs. 1,17,518 and Rs. 33-14-8, respectively, in the previous year. It is reported that the slight fall in the average of fines per case was due to some Magistrates inflicting fines below the minimum of Rs. 25 prescribed under the Act.

Total expenditure incurred in administering the Act in 1954-55 was Rs. 1,92,253-14-10, against which the Government grant-in-aid was Rs. 1,17,253. The corresponding figures in the previous year were Rs. 2,76,948 and Rs. 1,27,481, respectively. While furnishing the figures for the year 1954-55, the Government was again pointed out that in entrusting of the administration of Payment of Wages Act, 1936, with effect from 1st April 1955, the expenditure to be borne by the Corporation on that account would increase and they were requested to consider the said factor while assessing the grant-in-aid. It is, however, evident from the grant-in-aid sanctioned by Government that they have again shelved the issue. The Standing Committee, therefore, feels that this recurring financial burden on Municipal Funds should be done away with by handing over the entire administration to the State Government at an early date.

The total income from the Registration fees and fines realized during the year under report was Rs. 15,145-10-0 and Rs. 1,50,818, respectively, as against Rs. 13,963 and Rs. 1,17,518, respectively, in the previous year.

The total revenue of this Department during the year under report was Rs. 5.81 lacs as against Rs. 5.55 lacs, Rs. 5.07 lacs, and Rs. 7.07 lacs in the previous three years.

The administration of Theatre Tax Section continued to function under the control and supervision of the Chief Inspector, Shops and Establishments, for purposes of recovery of the Theatre Tax. The total number of establishments under this category on 31st March 1956 was 75, as against 74, 74 and 73 in the previous three years. The total number of visits and revisits paid to Theatres, etc., was 107 as against 117, 109 and 157 in the previous three years. The reasons for a reduced number of visits and revisits during the last two years are possibly due to reduction in staff.

The rates sanctioned by the Corporation for the levy of Theatre Tax for the year 1955-56 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. There were in all 29 Class I and 27 Class II Cinema Theatres and the Tax was, generally, paid regularly. Reclassification of 4 Class II Cinema Theatres as Class I, during the year under report, resulted in the augmentation of Revenue by about Rs. 9,000.

The tax was also 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. Exemption from payment of the Theatre Tax was granted in respect of performances held for the benefit of *bona fide* charities or for the uplift of cultural and educational activities.

The total income derived during the year was Rs. 5.64 lacs as against Rs. 5.39 lacs, Rs. 4.91 lacs and Rs. 6.89 lacs in the previous three years.

Rule No. 4 of the Theatre Tax Rules was amended as it was observed that it was not possible for the organizers to apply for exemption of Entertainment Duty along with exemption certificate, as some times the Police authorities granted post-dated exemptions.

During the year under report, it is reported that the Department had to take recourse to Section 191(h) of the Bombay Municipal Corporation Act, for non-submission of returns, against a *Tamasha* Organizer who was convicted and fined Rs. 25 by the Court.

Work of enforcement of Payment of Wages Act, 1948, was entrusted to this Department from 1st April 1955. It is reported that the Inspectors on the occasion of their Inspection Visits to various establishments, did propaganda work about the provisions of the Act, and also directed the employees to maintain various registers and records as required thereunder. 452 complaints pertaining to the Payment of Wages Act, were received, of which 365 were amicably settled, in 17 cases investigation could not be carried out for want of proper address 13 cases did not fall within the purview of the Act, in 3 cases the complainants sought redress direct with the authority appointed under the Act, and in one case with the Labour Commissioner, leaving a balance of 53 disputes which were pending settlement at the close of the year.

32. Total receipts of the department during the year reached a record figure of Rs. 39.64 lacs against Rs. 37.01 lacs in the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 2.63 lacs which was mainly due to increase in receipts from stallage charges, squatter fees and the mundi (fair ground) and slaughter fees.

The number of Municipal markets during the year was 21 (*i.e.*, the same number as in the previous year) including a squatters' Area at Parel Village and the Plantain Market at Byculla. During the year Naoroji Hill Road squatters' area was closed down and in its place a new full-fledged Market called the New Dongri Municipal Market started functioning from 1st August 1955. The net receipts amounted to Rs. 18.66 lacs as against Rs. 18.61 lacs in the preceding year, thus showing an increase of Rs. 0.05 lac only.

It may be noted that there was a decrease in the receipts at Arthur Crawford Market offset by increased receipts at Plantain Market at Byculla and New Municipal Market at Dongri. The average percentage of vacant stalls per quarter was 8.09 against 7.86, 7.51 and 7.07, respectively, in the preceding three years. The total receipts from stallage charges, squatter fees, licence fees, etc., in respect of all Municipal markets amounted to Rs. 26.63 as against Rs. 26.02 lacs, Rs. 24.81 lacs and Rs. 25.23 lacs in the preceding three years. During the year under report works of repairs, improvements, extensions, etc., to several Municipal markets were carried out. The work of collecting fees at Arthur Crawford Scale-shade continued to be carried out departmentally and the revenue collected therefrom amounted to

Rs. 4.97 lacs as against Rs. 5.49 lacs, Rs. 4.59 lacs and Rs. 4.66 lacs realized in the preceding three years. The fall in revenue is due to reduction in the number of mango parcels received in the Market.

The number of private markets during the year was 22 against 21, 22 and 21 in the previous three years. There was only one private Slaughter House. The licence fees realised therefrom was Rs. 0.87 lac as against Rs. 0.76 lac, Rs. 0.82 lac and Rs. 0.72 lac in the preceding three years. The licence fee in respect of Shroff Private Market remained to be realized, as the matter was still under negotiations.

The number of outside meat shops was 188 as against 189, 188 and 185 in the previous three years. An amount of Rs. 0.14 lac was realized by way of fees as against Rs. 0.14 Rs. 0.12 and Rs. 0.12 lac in the preceding three years.

Special efforts were made to detect and prevent the smuggling of animals and contraband meat and unauthorised slaughter as also to sanitation 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 6.17 lacs lbs. as against 4.37 lacs lbs., 5.01 lacs lbs. and 6.81 lacs lbs. in the previous three years. This year shows a sudden rise in the total quantity of unwholesome food destroyed. The figure for the past three years show a continuous fall. Some detailed explanation for this appears necessary.

The total number of animals brought to the fair ground at the Bandra Slaughter Houses during the year was 16.32 lacs as against 14.71 lacs, 14.11 lacs and 14.31 lacs in the previous three years.

The approximate weight of dressed carcass meat of buffaloes, cows and bullocks was 7,008½ tons as against 7,274 tons in the previous year, while that of sheep and goats was 10.193 tons as against 9,177¼ tons in the last year. Of these 14 tons and 11 tons, respectively, 1 against 21 tons and 12 tons in the previous year, were condemned, giving percentage of 0.2 and 0.12, respectively, against 0.29 and 0.13 of the previous year.

The total amount of slaughter and removal fees realized was Rs. 6.58 lacs as against Rs. 5.66 lacs, Rs. 6.04 lacs and Rs. 5.96 lacs during the previous three years.

The total number of animals slaughtered during the year was 12.13 lacs as against 13.80 lacs, 13.22 lacs and 13.27 lacs during the previous three years.

The Superintendent of Markets in his capacity as a member of the Bombay State Fruit and Vegetable Market Committee, visited important vegetable producing centre like Poona with a view to studying the fruit and vegetable markets and advising in the matter of regulating them. He was appointed a member of the Fish Advisory Committee of the Government of Bombay.

During the year the Indian Council of Agriculture, New Delhi, held the first All-India Mango Show at the St. Xavier's College Hall in May 1955. A few consignments of graded mangoes were despatched to the U. K. with a view to finding a new market for Alphonso Mangoes. Similarly, at the instance of the Government of India, Indian coconuts were dispatched to Germany on the occasion of the Lipzig Fair.

During the year owing to persisting demand, nearly 1,033 porters were licenced to work in different markets and were given new metal armllets for the purpose of their identification.

It is reported that regular removal of offal from Slaughter House at night time has considerably mitigated the vulture nuisance at Bandra Slaughter House.

33. *Outstanding Activities.*—To counteract the effect of diptheria incidence of which has increased during recent year, a scheme for active immunization with Public Health P. T. A. P. was started during the year under report. Immunization centres were opened at the Five Municipal Maternity Homes for the benefit of infants and children upto pre-school age. Similar centres will be started at 15 Municipal General Dispensaries shortly for other children. The mobile squad continued to take samples of food by surprise raids. Costly drugs and injections have been provided at the Municipal General Dispensaries for the benefit of the patients. The leprosy control problem in Greater Bombay has now been dealt with under the Greater Bombay Leprosy Control Scheme.

Birth and birth rate.—The number of live birhs recorded during the year was 66,575 which was more by 3,503 than the number for the previous year (63,072). However, it was

7,737 above the average of the decennium (1945-54). Of the registered births, 34,198 were males and 32,377 females, giving a proportion of 105 males to 100 females. The birth rate was 28.6 per 1,000 of the population as against 27.1 in the preceding year. The number of still-births was 2,921 or 4.4 per cent. of live births.

Death and death rate.—The total number of deaths registered from all causes during the year was 28,108 as against 32,008 and 33,927 in the previous two years. It was less by 8,412 than the average annual mortality of the last ten years and by 5,572 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 12.1 as against 13.7 and 14.6 in the last two years. Of the total 28,108 deaths 15,754 were among males and 12,354 among females. The excess of deaths amongst males may be ascribed to preponderance of males in population. The death rate among females was, however, higher than among males, the male death rate being 10.6 and the female death rate 14.5 against 12.2 and 16.4, respectively, in the preceding year. As in the previous years, the diseases of the respiratory system were responsible for the highest death rate of 2.3 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 1.6. The causes coming next on the list for the year were old age 1.3 and Tuberculosis (0.8).

Deaths among infants under one year of age was 7,897 against 8,534 and 1,505 less than the annual average of the previous decennium. The infant mortality rate for the year was 118.6 per 1,000 of live births as against 135.3 in 1954.

Maternity and Child Welfare.—During the year under report the main clinics at the five maternity homes were kept open thrice a week instead of twice to cope with the rush at these Centres. The ten subsidiary clinics were kept open twice a week as before. Aid was given to the poor mothers in the form of jaggery, ghee, milk, etc. Milk distribution scheme was continued with the object of giving aid to poor and undernourished women attending Municipal maternity homes. The number of cases admitted in these Homes was 11,987 against 11,308 and 10,908 in the preceding two years, while the number of confinements was 10,169 as against 9,622 and 9,343 in the previous two years. Of the confined cases 1,786 were prima parae, against 1,786 and 1,709 in the last two years.

Social services in the shape of ante-natal care, care at birth, care during infancy and pre-school life were rendered to the public through the five 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 resident Health Visitors under the guidance of the Medical Officer, Cadell Road Maternity Home. The Health Visitors paid 45,401 visits in various districts against 43,173 and 40,383 in the previous two years. The Health Visitors also attended 45 cases of confinements at homes as in the preceding year and paid 23,742 visits in several districts while the Medical Officers personally visited 2,306 cases as against 2,381 cases 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 17 Family Planning Clinics. Health Visitors assigned for this work paid domiciliary visits to mothers for carrying on follow-up work and propaganda amongst mothers. The total number of attendance at the clinics was 6,322 as against 6,782 and 6,322 in the preceding two years. It is gratifying to note that this scheme is becoming more and more popular among the women particularly of the low-income group.

The maternal mortality rate recorded during the year was 1.0 as against 1.1 and 1.3 in the previous two years. Investigation into maternal mortality was completed during the year.

Infectious Diseases.—The total number of cases of infectious diseases reported during the year was 8,461 as against 14,549 in the preceding year, which shows a welcome drop. Of these 8,461 (98.3 per cent.) as against 14,468 (99.4 per cent.) in the previous year were from the District Registrar and 146 (1.7 per cent.) against 81 (0.6 per cent.) in the last year from medical practitioners. There were no cases of Plague and Cholera. Small-pox caused 166 attacks (including 28 imported) and resulted in 44 deaths and Enteric Fever caused 1,937 attacks (including 178 imported) with 211 deaths. Diphtheria caused 3,151 attacks (including 262 imported) and 171 deaths. Acute Anterior Polio-myelitis caused 77 attacks (16 imported) and 9 deaths.

During the year 30 persons were inoculated against Plague, 20,729 against Cholera and 2,20,319 against Enteric Fever as against 87; 18,268 and 2,23,903, respectively, in the preceding year. Primary Vaccination and revaccination against Small-pox done during the year were 67,861 and 2,87,104, respectively, as against 72,941 and 16,05,135, 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, such as, absence of proper accesses, etc., in the way of rendering adequate conservancy service as regards collection, removal and disposal of refuse and also of shortage of water supply. There were 803 basket privies to be still converted into W. C.s on full-flushing system which it is reported, were kept pending due to impending Town Planning Schemes. The routine inspection of dwellings to find out sanitary defects was made by the Medical Assistants and Sanitary Inspectors under the general supervision of Assistant Health Officer. During the year under report 1,206 insanitary huts were demolished as against 246 in the preceding year. 2,522 milch cattle in 13 stables in E, F and G Wards were yet to be removed to the Government milk colony at Aarey. The Standing Committee hope that steps would be taken to remove them outside Greater Bombay as early as possible.

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 are given to the children in schools. During the year 225 and 892 talks were given by Medical Officers and School Health Nurses in order to achieve the above object.

Ailing children were visited and revisited at their homes by the School Health Nurses as per directions of Medical Officers, when they imparted instructions wherever found necessary to parents of ailing children as regards their care, diet, etc. 1,958 visits and 541 re-visits were paid during the year. In this way the possibility of recurrence of the disease was minimised.

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 further reduced during the year. The use of 'Tifa' Unit was continued during the year and the insecticide fogging operations were carried out in about 179 lanes and by-lanes in the City. 15,400 houses were fogged during the year. Insecticides worth Rs. 1,50,109-8-9 were utilised during the year as against Rs. 1,52,292-5-6 in the previous year. 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. 50,172-1-0 was received as against Rs. 47,569-10-0 in the previous year for rendering insecticide service in private places. Looking to the magnitude of the work, it is imperative that the service should be still further intensified.

Malaria.—Malaria was registered as the cause of 5 deaths as against 16 and 17 in the preceding two years. 8 deaths were described to Ague and Remittent Fevers as against 12 in the preceding year. The number of clinical cases treated at the Municipal dispensaries was 12 as against 47 and 67 in the previous two years. Out of 2,131 wells in the City on 1st January 1955, 1,657 were hermetically sealed with cement concrete covers and 474 open or partially opened wells. Out of the latter 420 were retained, 38 were 'Jack' wells and remaining 16 were under action. Campaign against Aedes Aegypti mosquitoes, the Vector of Yellow Fever was continued throughout the year. The stegomia 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 through the Municipal dispensaries. Notices were issued against the owners to keep their compounds free from mosquitoes breeding as a precaution against the diseases.

34. The number of new cases treated at the 24 dispensaries and one mobile dispensary was 3,50,918 (1,96,430 males and 1,54,488 females) as against 3,36,519 and 3,23,384 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 6,885 as against 7,432 in the previous year. The total attendance numbered 17,05,574 as against 15,05,316 in the previous year. These figures include the visits of lady doctors to patients at their homes.

The Municipal Eye Dispensary and Hospital at Kamathipura were attended by two Honorary Medical Surgeons by turns throughout the year. The Hospital has an accommodation for 6 beds each for males and females with an operation theatre and a full time resident Nurse. The total attendance of patients was 87,876 as against 83,113 and 87,333 in the previous two years. The total number of new cases treated was 12,542 as against 11,583 and 12,128 in the previous two years. The number of indoor patients among the new cases treated and total attendance of indoor patients were 184 and 3,526, respectively. The question of increasing bed accommodation at this hospital requires urgent consideration.

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 isola-

tion and treatment of cases suffering from this foul 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 average daily attendance of patients was 268.2 and the total number of new cases treated at the clinic was 2,636 as against 6,038 and 220 and 214, 2,294 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, one appointed by the Home and 6 by the Municipality (including 1 for Suburbs) gave 418 talks on leprosy and paid visits to the houses of patients first 958 and subsequently 5,195 as against 851 and 7,538, respectively, in the preceding year. The Medical Assistants in charge of Municipal free dispensaries attempted detection of early cases of leprosy for which they have been specially trained. The number of such cases detected and treated at Municipal dispensaries free was 23. A leprosy clinic was started at dispensary at Worli.

The leprosy control problem in Greater Bombay has now been dealt with under the Greater Bombay Leprosy Control Scheme. Five clinics were opened from 1st November 1955, four in the City and one in the suburbs, for the diagnosis and treatment of leprosy, 2 doctors, 5 health visitors, 3 ward boys and an experienced clerk were appointed under the scheme, the expenditure being shared equally by the Bombay Municipal Corporation, the State Government and the Gandhi Memorial Leprosy Foundation, Wardha. The capital expenditure on account of building, etc., is being borne by the Municipality.

35. There were three T. B. clinics for outdoor patients attached to the Group of Group of T. B. Hospitals. T. B. Hospitals at Sewri where cases in primary and advanced stages received institutional treatment. The total number of beds at these Hospitals was 358 (193 for males and 165 for females) as against 348 in the previous year, 10 beds having been added during the year, in the advanced Section of the Hospital. Each clinic is managed by well-qualified staff and is equipped with appliances necessary for treatment of patients. The total number of patients in various stages of Pulmonary Tuberculosis treated during the year was 2,778 (including 341 of the previous year) as against 2,610 during the previous year. Of these 2,778 cases, 1,951 were discharged as improved, 152 discharged as not improved, 33 were non-Tuberculosis cases, 133 left prematurely against the advice, 186 died and 323 (179 males and 144 females) remained under treatment at the close of the year. The largest number of admissions was within the age groups between 20 and 30 years as in the previous year. Mortality figures also reveal high incidence in the same age groups. The total number of surgical operations performed on patients was 692 as against 541 in the previous year.

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 909 and 26,239 as against 1,488 and 23,018, respectively, in the preceding year. Some of the patients attended the Hospitals for follow up continuously for over 3 years. There were 909 new admissions to the out-door. A. P. and P. P. Refill Department during the year as against 1,001 in the previous year. Tuberculosis took a toll of 1,934 lives and the death rate of T. B. was 0.83 as against 2,184 deaths and 0.9 death rate in the previous year.

The total expenditure incurred during the year on the Group of T. B. Hospitals was Rs. 7.97 lacs approximately as against Rs. 7.84 lacs in the previous year. The average cost per patient per day was Rs. 6-7-6 as against Rs. 6-6-0 in the previous year.

The Poor Box Collections including fees for medical certificates issued during the year amounted to Rs. 12,016-2-6 and a sum of Rs. 5,129-9-9 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 Standing Committee, while thanking the Company for their donation, sincerely hope that more donations of this type would be forthcoming to supplement Municipal efforts in eradicating this disease.

36. For combating Venereal Diseases, free and medical facilities both preventive and curative were continued as in the preceding year. During the year 17,469 cases were treated at the Clinics as against 18,281 and 18,126 in the previous two years. Of these 14,903 were males and 2,566 were females. For prophylaxis 22,478 attended the eight Municipal prophylaxis Centres as against 20,565 and 17,929 in the previous two years, the average daily attendance for treatment and prophylaxis being 661.

Personal prophylaxis was given at eight Municipal free prophylactic centres. The centre at Bellasis Road was kept open day and night and others from 6-30 P.M. to 2-30 A.M.

The average daily attendance at the Clinic was 695.3 as against 687.8 and 671.3 in the previous two years.

The Medical Officer in charge of Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics sent 1,094 samples of blood for investigation of syphilis. Out of these 175 (114 A.N.C. and 61 P.N.C.) gave positive results for Kahn or Meinicke's Tests and of these 175 cases 98 attended the Clinic for treatment during the year.

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

37. Health propaganda drive was intensified both in the City and the Suburbs through all the popular and modern publicity media. During the year, the Health Education and Propaganda section organised important activities such as Health exhibitions and health education film shows on various health subjects, in addition to organising health Weeks and cleanliness campaigns. Municipal schools were sent the itinerant exhibits. It also helped the vaccination and inoculation staff of the Health Department with microphonic talks persuading people to accept vaccination and inoculation, etc. It also attended to the work preparing and distributing health education material in the shape of posters, show-cards, leaflets, models and other types of exhibits. Other publicity work of the department included press notes, slide releases, talks from mobile vans and displays arranged in Municipal maternity homes.

38. During the year in all 43,941 (24,034 boys and 19,907 girls) attending Municipal Schools and Classes as against 43,026 in the previous year were medically examined. Of those examined, 35,430 were found suffering from one or more physical ailments. The total number of defects noted amongst them was 72,861. The Honorary Physicians visited 4 schools and examined 900 children (487 boys and 413 girls) of whom 822 were found defective. The total number of defects noted against them was 1,939. Reports about their ailments were sent to their parents and guardians. However, only 22,952 pupils were treated for defects at the Municipal School Clinic as the parents of the remaining pupils either did not agree for such medical treatment or did not report to the written requests made in this respect. The Medical Officers interviewed 571 parents and explained to them the necessity of rectifying the defects in their wards by attending clinics and dispensaries.

Minor ailments among the children were treated at the nearest 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. Only 1,079 new and 6,286 old cases requiring immediate attention were, therefore, taken up and 621 children were treated at the out-patient department of the Hospital. Each Municipal school was supplied with a first-aid outfit. 56 children suspected to have leprosy infection were directed to the Acworth Leprosy Home. Of them 2 were found positive and were prevented from attending schools. 18 children did not present themselves for the examination at the Home. 36 children were declared negative. 250 took treatment at the Municipal dispensaries. Out of the 84 cases of enlarged spleen, 80 were taken to various Municipal dispensaries for blood smears. Parents of 4 refused to give consent. 63 children with errors of refraction were supplied with spectacles free of charge. 453 children suffering from scabies, ring-worms and boils were treated in the schools by the school medical officers. 171 tonsil and other operations were performed at the School Clinics. One case of a rat bite was treated at the School Clinic. 87 suspected cases of T. B. were screened at the Princess Street T. B. Clinic. 351 children with dental defects were treated at the Nair Hospital Dental College. 196 and 778 health talks in subjects of simple personal hygiene were given to pupils, respectively, by the Medical Officers and the School Health Nurses, in order to inculcate healthy habits. The latter also visited and revisited 1,958 and 541 ailing children, respectively, at homes and gave necessary instructions to their parents as regards their care and diet.

Due to vacation and short supply, the scheme for the supply of free milk to undernourished needy children did not function during the 2nd quarter of the year. Certified undernourished children ranging from 18,570 to 36,870 in all were given pasteurised toned milk each 8 oz. on every school working day at 311 milk distributing centres in Municipal Schools. Snacks in the form of either Chiki (Toffee) or fruits (Chiku or Orange) were also given to these children to supplement the milk diet.

The Sunday Milk Scheme was inaugurated from 18th September 1955, under which children under 12 years of age, irrespective of whether schooling or not were catered with 8 oz. of toned pasteurised milk. The scheme was progressing and children ranging from 6,600 to 26,970 were catered with milk at 44 centres on Sunday only till the end of the year.

The total expenditure incurred on (1) Medical inspection and treatment of school children and (2) the milk scheme were approximately Rs. 84,511 and Rs. 8.28 lacs, respectively.

39. The Hospitals have a total accommodation of 314 beds, of which 186 are in the Small-pox unit, 128 in the General Unit, while 14 mosquito proof City Fever Hospitals. beds (Ward No. 8) were reserved for Yellow Fever cases. Except Tuberculosis and Leprosy, patients suffering from other infectious diseases are admitted to the Hospitals. The total number of patients during the year was 12,316 as against 12,304, 9,802 and 6,883 in the preceding three years, the daily average of admission being 428 as against 453, 356 and 229 in the preceding three years. Of the total number of patients, 2,191, 169 and 3,565, respectively, suffered from Enteric Fever, Small-pox and Diphtheria. The cost per patient per day was Rs. 7-14-8 as against Rs. 7-8-4 in the preceding year.

The total expenditure during the year was Rs. 12.36 lacs as against Rs. 12.42 lacs and Rs. 10.65 lacs in the preceding two years.

40. The bed accommodation in the Hospital continued to be the same as in the past year, viz., 550. 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 about 30 to 40 per cent. extra patients had to be accommodated on the floor. The total number of inpatients admitted during the year was 21,732 against 20,895, 19,257 and 19,674, in the previous three years. The daily average number of in-patients was 718.9 against 692, 636.68 and 610.25 of the previous three years. The maximum number of in-patients on a single day was 792 as against 740 for the previous year, thus making their nursing and medical care extremely difficult. The average number of days each patient was resident was 12.04 against 11.71, 12.03 and 11.02 in the last three years. The total number of operations performed on in-patients was 9,750 against 9,734, 8,186 and 8,955 in the previous three years. The total number of patients treated during the year was 21,732 including 688 of the previous year as against 21,561 in the preceding year. Of these in-patients, 6,448 were cured, 9,134 were discharged or relieved, 4,345 left the hospital against medical advice or were otherwise discharged and 1,784 died (exclusive of 7 Still-born) leaving a balance of 709 at the end of the year. The average cost per in-patient per day was Rs. 8-3-11 as against Rs. 8-8-2, Rs. 8-12-6 and Rs. 8-15-11 in the previous three years. The average cost per in-patient admission showed a slight decrease being Rs. 96-12-7 as against Rs. 102-10-10, Rs. 108-0-4 and Rs. 102-1-2 in the preceding three years. Out of 1,784 deaths as many as 743 died within first 24 hours of admission, 309 after 24 hours but within 3 days and 732 after 3 days.

From the above statistics it is evident that there is extreme congestion in this Hospital although there are other medical institutions provided by the Corporation where congestion is equally heavy. It is reported that 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. The Standing Committee have to repeat the observation made by them in last year's review for intensive thought to be devoted for additional facilities being made available at the hospital so as to provide beds, nursing service, medical attention, surgical care, etc., according to pathological needs.

The total number of new out-patients treated was 1,75,145 against 1,82,265, 1,75,995 and 1,66,812 in the preceding three years, showing a decrease of 7,120, 850 and increase of 8,333 patients, respectively. The daily average number of new out-patients was 653.3 against 681.2, 657.6 and 620.5 in the previous three years, while the daily average number of out-patient attendance worked out to 2,053 against 2,145, 1,955 and 1,919.3, in the previous three years. The total number of out-patients attendance including casualty patients during the year came to 6,10,345 against 6,37,637, 5,79,505 and 5,70,742 in the previous three years. The highest number of out-patient attendance on any one day was 2,761 as against 3,016, 2,571 and 2,601 in the previous three years. While new outpatients admitted on a single day was 747 as against 799,703 and 691 in the previous three years. The total number of operations on out-patients during the year was 29,363 against 26,578, 20,339 and 23,147 in the previous three years. The average cost per out-patient attendance during the year was Rs. 1-5-1 against Rs. 1-4-2, Rs. 1-5-10 and Rs. 1-5-8 in the previous three years, while the average cost per out-patients admission was Rs. 3-4-7 against Rs. 3-3-2, Rs. 3-1-3 and Rs. 3-14-0 in the preceding three years.

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. 52,893-15-0 as against Rs. 41,907-10-6 Rs. 33,734-11-0 and Rs. 36,547-9-0 in the previous three years 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. 34,012-13-9 as against Rs. 36,811, Rs. 44,721 and Rs. 41,700-6-9 in the previous three years.

The Gift Shop started for the convenience of patients continued to receive steady support resulting in a profit of Rs. 6,119-13-6 which was credited to Poor Box Fund. Similarly, the Physiotherapy Centre and School Occupational Therapy Centre and School, Prophylactic Immunization Centre, Family Health Centre, Pharmacological Laboratory, Ambulance Division, Recreation Room and Library for patients, and the Co-operative Credit Society carried on their work in their respective spheres satisfactorily.

The Medico-Social Service Department which was started in September 1954 continued to render valuable help to the needy patients. 885 patients from different departments of the Hospital were helped during the year. It helped much in finding out social, economic and environmental factors associated with the onset of diseases.

Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta Pharmacological Laboratory attached to the Hospital manufactured many injectables and carried on analytical work during the year.

A new Department known as 'Rehabilitation Department' was opened on 14th November 1955 in the premises of the Hospital for expansion of Rehabilitation services in all the institutions in Bombay area. The project is sponsored by the Government of India, the State of Bombay and the Bombay Municipal Corporation with the assistance of United Nations and the World Veterans Federation. The project will help build up permanent training and demonstration programme to serve the whole India and at a later stage other South East Asian countries.

The Neuro-Surgical Department started on 1st March 1955, worked well but had to be suspended due to resignation of Dr. R. G. Ginde of his post of Neuro-Surgeon.

The Blood Bank worked satisfactorily and during the year blood transfusion was given in 2,052 cases for which a sum of Rs. 18,805 was paid to the doctors from the Poor Box Charity Fund. A sum of Rs. 31,322 was received from the relatives of patients for the blood and plasma supplied.

Total expenditure incurred during the year for the maintenance of the Hospital was Rs. 27.22 lacs as against Rs. 27.61 lacs in the previous year.

41. The bed accommodation in the Hospital was raised from 300 to 350 in May 1955 and continued to be the same throughout the remaining part of the year. 16,926 patients were admitted during the year as against 15,528, 14,018 and 12,002 during the preceding three years. The highest number of inpatients on a single day was 435. The daily average number of in-patients was 387.6 as against 372.2, 350.5 and 339 in the preceding three years which shows an encouraging increase in the popularity of this institution. The average number of days each patient was resident was 8.35 days as against 8.7, 9.5 and 10.3 in the preceding three year.

The total number of in-patients treated was 17,308 including 382 of the previous year. Of the 17,308 in-patients, 10,673 were treated for medical and surgical complaints and 6,635 for maternity and gynaec complaints.

The total number of operations performed on in-patients was 5,190 as against 4,518, 4,013 and 2,641 in the preceding three years. The average cost per in-patient on diet per diem was Re. 0-15-6 as against Re. 0-14-6, Re. 0-15-5 and Re. 0-15-6 in the preceding three years.

The total number of new out-patients was 90,611 with a daily average of 292.29 as against 77,718 and 249.8 respectively, in the preceding year and 70,014 and 228.8 in the year preceding the last. The total number of out-patients attendance was 3.89 lacs with a daily average of 1,235.35 as against 4.26 lacs and a daily average of 1,369.2 in the preceding year and 3.26 lacs and a daily average of 1,065.5, respectively, in the year preceding the last. The largest number of out-patients attendance on a single day was 2,442 as against 2,452, 2,297 and 1,940 in the preceding three years. The total number of operations performed on out-patients was 6,223, as against 7,489, 4,499 and 3,220 in the preceding three years. 18,299 accident and other emergency cases were treated in the Casualty Department as against 17,300, 16,931 and 10,560 in the preceding three years.

The Paying Bed Scheme was started from 1st September 1951 and is working satisfactorily. The number of patients admitted in the General and Special rooms during the year was 1,329 as against 1,413, 1,337 and 921 in the previous three years. 267 major and 164 minor operations were performed on paying patients, as against 175 and 298, respectively, in the previous years.

The Pathological and Bacteriological investigations in respect of 35,075 in-patients and 12,632 out-patients were carried out in the Laboratory of the Hospital as against 44,791 and 27,215; 31,520 and 17,730; and 12,172, and 9,784, respectively, in the previous three years. 281 autopsies were also performed during the year.

The Research Department started in 1951 continued to work upto 31st December 1955 during which period enquiries with the problem of Anaemiamene period continued and 648 patients were investigated in that disease.

The Hospital has an up-to-date library with latest publications of modern medical science. 21 additional books on various subjects were purchased bringing the total to 443 books.

The Poor Box Fund at the close of the last year was Rs. 84,949 as against Rs. 74,804 in the previous year. During the year, a sum of Rs. 35,297 was collected in the Charity Boxes and by way of donations and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 21,414. A balance of Rs. 98,832 remained in the Poor Box Fund at the close of the year.

Nurses Training School.—14 students were admitted for training in midwifery course and all were declared successful.

This Hospital has been attached to the Topiwala National Medical College for clinic instructions to under-graduate students. The Hospital is also affiliated to the University of Bombay for post-graduate as well as under-graduate students. Post-graduate students are admitted for hospital practice on payment of a fee of Rs. 15 per mensem.

The Department of Anesthesia working in close collaboration with the other departments of Surgery, Midwifery-Gynaecology, etc., gave anesthesia in 7,417 cases during the year under report.

42. The Hospital has an accommodation for 330 beds distributed among men, women and children as in the last year. The accommodation was fully occupied throughout the year. There were often extra patients over the scheduled number in the Hospital. This placed extra pressure of work on the nursing staff and others, but it helped to afford the much needed relief to several urgent cases. The total number of in-patients admitted was 13,444, against 12,767, 12,113 and 11,450 in the previous three years. The daily average number of in-patients was 347.96 against 348.13, 322.27 and 295.22 in the previous three years. The highest number of in-patients treated on a single day was 395 against 394 in the previous year. On an average, each patient was resident for 9.45 days against 9.69 and 9.7 in the previous years. The total number of in-patients treated was 13,791 including the balance of 347 of the previous year of whom 6,971 were cured, 2,779 left the hospital against medical advice or were otherwise discharged, 938 died and 332 remained at the close of the year. The average cost per in-patient per day was Rs. 7-11-7 against Rs. 7-8-9, Rs. 8-6-4 and Rs. 8-2-10 during the preceding three years.

The total number of out-patients treated was 2,66,039 against 2,63,107, 2,43,429 and 2,15,259 in the previous three years and the average number of out-patients' attendance per day was 891.42 against 882.38, 814.87 and 719.36 in the previous three years. The highest out-patients attendance on a single day was 1,366 against 1,394, 1,250 and 1,078 in the previous three years. The highest number of new patients admitted on a single day was 480 and of the old cases treated was 906 during the year under report. The average cost per out-patient per day was Re. 0-13-4 against Rs. 0-11-7, Rs. 1-4-9 and Re. 1-0-0 during the preceding three years. During the year 4,582 and 5,197 operations were performed, respectively, on in-patients and out-patients against 4,849 and 4,820, respectively, during the last year.

The total expenditure incurred on the maintenance of the hospital amounted approximately to Rs. 13.71 lacs against Rs. 13.69 lacs, Rs. 12.29 lacs and Rs. 13.01 lacs in the preceding three years.

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. 25,507-0-6 while the total receipts amounted to Rs. 34,249-0-6, Rs. 2,124-8-0 were by way of donations and Rs. 13,916 by way of collections from the boxes kept in wards and out-door patients' departments.

Equipment required for the Blood Bank has been already purchased and staff for the Blood Bank appointed from July 1954. During the year under report all arrangements for collecting blood from donors and for typing of blood into groups and sub-groups have been completed.

During the year blood transfusion was provided for 1,217 cases, out of which in 404 cases blood transfusions were paid for from the Poor Patients' Fund.

During the year 88 student nurses were undergoing training at the Hospital. The Midwifery Class continued to function with the strength of 10 student nurses undergoing training. The Gastro-Enterology Department started functioning during the year. The Psychiatry Department which was started sometime back worked very satisfactorily and 2,188 patients were treated in that Department as against 1,222 in previous year. The Equipment worth Rs. 62,550 sanctioned for the second stage of the Cardiology Department by the Corporation was purchased during the year under report. The Corporation sanctioned during the year under report Rs. 77,500 for starting the Cardiac Surgery Department at this Hospital in stages, first stage of which will be taken in hand next year. The Occupational Therapy Department was started at the Hospital during the year under report and it is reported that it is progressing well.

During the year under report, various pharmaceutical firms offered donations for research on their products. During the year a Patient Welfare Committee was formed to devise ways and means for providing facilities to the patients in the Hospital.

43. During the year under report, 82 fresh admissions were made of students all of whom were single; out of these 2 came from outside India. They were nominated by the Government of India in the two Reserved Seats. Besides, 1 Licentiate was admitted for the condensed M.B. B.S., course. Of the 632 students on the roll against 666 in the previous year, 145 were lady students and 1.67 post-graduate and research students, against 133 and 171, respectively, in the previous year. Out of 554 students sent up for various examinations, 347 passed the whole examination against the corresponding figure of 593 and 355 of the previous year.

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. 1.69 lacs against Rs. 1.77 lacs, Rs. 1.90 lacs and Rs. 1.78 lacs in the previous three years, while the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 5.45 lacs (including payment of Dearness Allowance of Rs. 0.87 lac) against Rs. 5.03 lacs, Rs. 5.06 and Rs. 4.83 lacs in the preceding three years. The income derived from and the expenditure incurred on the Hostels were Rs. 20,656 and Rs. 33,713, respectively, as against Rs. 21,324 and Rs. 35,043 in the previous year. The gross and net cost per student worked out at Rs. 1,172.5 and Rs. 808.1, respectively, as against Rs. 1,015.8 and Rs. 658.2 in the previous year. The amount of fees received from the post-graduate students was Rs. 22,480 as against Rs. 23,870 in the previous year.

The Co-operative Society carried on its work satisfactorily with a share capital of Rs. 1.58 lacs.

The different departments of the College and the Hospital had, in addition to their normal teaching and departmental work, made some investigations. The K. E. M. Hospital and the Seth G. S. Medical College Research Society also started functioning during the year under report.

It is gratifying to note that the World Health Organization donated equipment worth 7,900 U.S.A. Dollars for the Physio Therapy Centre. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research gave a substantial grant for continuing the Pharmacological Research Unit.

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

44. The College had 346 under-graduate students on the roll at the close of the year, out of whom 68 were lady students. Besides, there were 75 post-graduate students including 10 lady students. During the year, 60 students were admitted. 7 students were admitted for condensed M.B., B.S., course. Out of 344 students sent up for various examinations, 199 passed during the year under report as against 389 and 228 students, respectively, for the preceding year. The number of male students residing in the College Hostel was 63. For want of accommodation, admission to the Hostel had to be refused to a large number of students. To overcome the shortage of hostel accommodation, plans and estimates for a new hostel building at Haji Ali Park with accommodation for 120 students were passed by the Corporation. Tender for the work was approved during the year under report. The construction work was held up for want of cement and is expected to be taken up shortly. Arrangements were made to accommodate female students at the Grant Medical College Hostel as no facility is available for them at this College.

The total expenditure incurred on the maintenance of the College amounted to Rs. 3.96 lacs against Rs. 3.59 lacs and Rs. 3.78 lacs in the preceding two years. A sum of Rs. 1.14 lacs was received from the State Government as a grant-in-aid for the year 1953-54 as against

Rs. 2.02 lacs for the year 1952-53 and Rs. 2.18 lacs for 1951-52. Government paid grant to this Institution from 1946 to 1950-51. The Government have, however, decided that the grant should be reduced progressively by 1/5 per annum so that after the next five years, *i.e.*, from the year 1955-56 no grant would be paid to the College. Thus during the year under report the College did not receive any grant from the Government and the Corporation will have to foot the bill *in toto*. The total income by way of tuition fees, hostel rent, etc., received amounted to Rs. 1.69 lacs against 1.77 and 1.90 lacs in the previous two years.

A new Department of Preventive and Social Medicine was started in January 1956. Dr. V. N. Panse, M.D., M.P.H., was temporarily appointed as Assistant Professor under whose guidance a survey of the labour quarters at Worli and Arthur Road was made to initiate Comprehensive Medical Care and Family Health Advice Schemes.

45. During the year under report, the College had 76 Dental Chairs, 52 Dental Units, 2 Dental X-Ray Machines as against 87 Chairs, 46 Dental Units and X-Ray Machines in the previous year. Besides, the College had other equipment to give dental treatment and tuition in dentistry on modern lines. There were 138 students including 22 lady students on the roll as against 137 and 19, respectively, in the previous year. 24 students including 3 lady students appeared and passed the Diploma Examination as against 22 and 3, respectively, in the preceding year. The College Diploma is recognised not only by the State and the Union Governments but also by leading Institutions in the line in the U.S.A., the U.K., and other foreign countries. The College also runs a Dental Clinic where all types of dental treatment—silver, gold and cement-fillings, artificial sets of teeth, regulation of teeth, etc., is done by charging nominal fees. During the year 62,944 patients (35,945 males, 16,924 females, 10,075 children) were treated as against 64,154, 62,283 and 51,247 in the preceding three years. The total expenditure incurred was Rs. 2.15 lacs as against Rs. 1.17 lacs, Rs. 1.64 lacs and Rs. 1.52 lacs in the previous three years and the total realisations by way of fees from students and patients were Rs. 76,881-10-0 against Rs. 78,824, Rs. 73,226 and Rs. 63,015, during the previous three years.

The Academic Council looked after the academic affairs of the College and the Advisory Board which conducts Final L.D.Sc. Diploma Examination, etc., continued to function during the year under report, as before. Since June 1954, the College is affiliated to the Bombay University for B.D.S. Degree in Dentistry. Almoner service was rendered from the Poor Box Fund to poor deserving patients in the shape of supplying sets of artificial teeth, vitamins and penicilin injections, etc.

46. At the close of the year there were 2,12,605 pupils in 450 schools and 79 classes in Greater Bombay, the number in the City being 1,74,537 pupils in 352 schools and 45 classes and in the Suburbs, 38,068 pupils in 98 schools and 34 classes. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 1,96,862 pupils in 447 schools and 64 classes in Greater Bombay, which was made up of 1,63,718 pupils in 351 schools and 40 classes in the City and 33,144 pupils in 96 schools and 24 classes in the Suburbs. Thus, during the year, there was a net increase of 15,743 pupils in Municipal schools. The highest number on roll was 2,27,934 at the end of September 1955. The number came down to 2,12,605 at the end of March 1956. The average number of pupils throughout the year was 2,09,301, 1,72,333 in the City Schools and 36,968 in Suburban Schools. The total number of teachers (permanent and non-permanent) in Greater Bombay at the end of the year was 5,783 of whom 5,532 were ordinary and 251 special teachers, as against 5,289 teachers of whom 5,040 were ordinary and 249 special teachers in the preceding year. Out of 5,532 ordinary teachers, 4,445 were permanent and 1,087 were temporary, as against 5,040 ordinary teachers, of whom 4,260 were permanent and 780 temporary in the previous year. The percentage of trained teachers was 88.9 in the City and 85.3 in the Suburbs, as against 87.8 in the City and 83.2 in the Suburbs in the preceding year.

The 'Class Room Formula' to determine the number of teachers which was adopted in the preceding year was continued during the year under report. It was decided to fix the number of teachers according to number of class rooms in actual use (including rooms used twice in double session schools) so as to ensure one teacher for each class. The prevailing basis of granting additional teachers to larger schools was also revised, so that only one additional teacher was given to a school having an average attendance of 500 or more pupils. The provision of leave reserves which was formerly 10 per cent. was reduced to 7½ per cent.

The 'Class Room Formula' was still under the examination of the Sub-Committee of the whole of the Education Committee at the close of the year.

This scheme, it may be recalled, was introduced temporarily and on an experimental basis for the improvement of a group of schools, at the suggestion of Shri H. D. Gaokar, *ex-Chairman* of the Education Committee for the preceding year. The Worli area was selected and 8 Marathi schools with a total of 5,397 pupils and 117 teachers were covered. The Scheme which was prepared

and implemented as an experiment envisaged an overall improvement in pupils and teachers of the schools covered. The Schools were put in charge of an Inspector guided by a General Committee and assisted by a Consultative Committee of Head Teachers of the schools concerned for its implementation. A close check on the day to day work of the categorized teachers of the schools was kept and a record of their work was also maintained. Regular guidance was given to the teachers showing low efficiency by planning 'model lessons' and arranging 'Teachers' meetings' for discussing problems of division of syllabus, class management, methods of questioning, use of text books, rapid readers, etc. Special attention was given to all pupils grouped below normal. With a view to co-operatively tackling the problem of discipline and inculcating habits of obedience, order, cleanliness, courtesy, etc., Prefect System, First Aid and *Safai* (Cleanliness) Corps were introduced in all the schools. School debating societies, inter-school debates, cooperative stores, school magazines, planned excursions and nature study visits, scouting and games were continued to be encouraged and were followed up by follow up work in oral or written composition. For fostering healthy competition amongst students of these selected schools, 'School Parliament' and 'House' systems were introduced. As a result of the implementation of the Scheme, the schools remained very busy in their creative activities throughout the year.

As in the past, the syllabus of studies was divided up month by month and distributed to the schools. Teaching aids were supplied to Schools and additional teaching aids, such as, maps, charts and models were prepared by the teachers themselves. Instead of Fortnightly tests, monthly tests were continued to be taken of pupils of Standards IV to VII and weekly tests of those of Standards I to III. The rules for Double Promotion examination were revised this year, so as to encourage really extraordinarily bright pupils. In a Double Promotion examination in all 589, *i.e.*, 92.9 per cent. pupils out of the total of 634 who appeared, were successful and promoted from 1st August 1954.

In all 10,083 pupils (8,902 from City and 1,181 from Suburbs) from Municipal schools, appeared for the Primary School Certificate Examination 1955 and 46 per cent. of them (45 per cent. from City Schools and 46 per cent. from Suburban Schools) were declared successful.

Some of the main factors which hampered *inter alia* the progress of pupils were largeness of certain classes, lack of suitable buildings, inadequate facilities to pupils to study at home and economic conditions of the parents, resulting in irregular attendance of their wards.

Schools with big-class rooms sometimes had 60 to 65 pupils in a class rendering it unwieldy and unmanageable for the teacher. The standard of education suffers and especially it is so in case of schools run in hired residential premises. The evils of double shifts, etc., raise the question of adequate accommodation for schools and it is hoped that an exhaustive programme of new school building construction which has now been taken up will go a long way in improving the situation to a considerable extent in the next few years.

The existing curriculum for Standards I to VII recently revised by Government came into force this year and is being followed in Municipal Schools from June 1955. No new text books were prescribed by Government for teaching subjects of Drawing and Copy Book Writing and teachers found it difficult to do justice in their work.

The Rahimtoola Currimbhoy Urdu Training Institute for Lady Teachers continued to function as usual with 42 pupil teachers under training in the I Year and 39 in the II Year. 37 Trainees of the I Year Class were promoted to the II Year Class. Out of 39 Trainees of the II Year Class, 30 (*i.e.*, 76.9 per cent.) were successful at the Primary Teachers' Certificate Examination, failures being due to the regional language.

The number of Municipal owned buildings at the end of the year was 70 of which 35 were in the City and 35 in the merged areas, the respective figures at the beginning of the year being 65 (31 in the City and 34 in the Suburbs). The new buildings at Sion, Naigaum, Shantinagar and Mahalaxmi in the City and those of the Village Municipal Marathi School, Kurla, and on the reclaimed Tank land at Juhu were completed and brought into use during the year under report. The rest were housed in rented buildings.

The unsatisfactory condition of rented buildings costing the Corporation Rs. 7,00,000 by way of annual rent continued to be a great handicap especially for want of proper and timely repairs on the part of the reluctant landlords thereof. Though the Department is alive to the urgency of the problem, much still requires to be done in this direction and the Standing Committee hopes that better results will be shown in this matter in the next few years.

The Corporation continued to impart vocational education. There were 23 Municipal Vocational Upper Primary Schools, as against 22 in the previous year preparing pupils for 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 are sewing, embroidery, tailoring, printing, repairing of clocks, sign-board painting, carpet weaving, book-binding, etc. In all 3,281 pupils were attending these classes, out of whom 2,901 received instruction in Carpentry and Tailoring.

At the close of the year there were 293 Aided Schools in Greater Bombay (227 in the City and 66 in the Suburbs) as against 290 and 291 in the previous two years. The number of pupils in these aided schools was 70,182 as against 67,344 and 73,771 in the previous two years. The number of recognized schools not receiving grant-in-aid was 43 with about 7,946 pupils as against 43 and 29 with 8,452 and 6,082 pupils in the previous two years.

The total number of teachers in Aided Schools including 441 special teachers was 2,698 as against 2,862 in the previous year. The rate of maximum admissible expenditure per pupil per annum in respect of the Aided Schools continued to Rs. 47. The total amounts of grants assessed as per Rules in favour of the Aided Schools (including four Special Institutions of Primary Section of the English Teaching Schools) for the year under report amounted to Rs. 7,19,069 for the City Schools and Rs. 1,92,534 for the Suburban Schools as against the corresponding figures of Rs. 5,95,411 and Rs. 1,50,665 of the previous year. The grants assessed were subjected to suitable cuts in respect of certain Schools, as per the 'means' test as was done in previous years taking into consideration their sources of income by way of fees, etc. The amount of grants sanctioned to be paid to the Aided Schools exceeded the amount for the previous year by Rs. 82,549.

The average cost per pupil calculated on the total number of pupils on the rolls in the Aided Schools worked out to Rs. 75.6 in the City and Rs. 55.3 in the Suburbs, as against Rs. 71.5 and Rs. 65.7 in the last year. The average cost per pupil to the Corporation by way of grant was Rs. 7.7 and Rs. 7.2 for the City and Suburbs, respectively, as against Rs. 7.5 and Rs. 9.1 respectively, in the preceding year. Grants-in-aid for 1955-56 in favour of English Teaching Schools were assessed on the basis of expenditure on all the pupils of English Teaching Schools on those Indian Christian public children only who claimed English to be their mother tongue.

A revised Grant-in-Aid Code has been prepared and is under the consideration of the Education Committee.

As required by Rule 5 of the Rules framed by Government under Section 18 of the City of Bombay Primary Education Act of 1920, as amended up-to-date, a Census of non-attending children of school-going age was taken early in 1955. The census revealed 33,500 non-attending children of compulsory age and 12,623 children below 6 years of age.

Physical Education was imparted in almost all schools on the lines of the curriculum laid down by Government with suitable adaptations. The number of pupils taking physical education was 2,05,332 out of 2,12,605 as against 1,88,987 and 1,96,862 in the previous year. Mass Drill displays were also held and about 1 lac children from Municipal schools participated in a mammoth rally in honour of the arrival of Marshal Bulganin and Shri Khrushchev, Soviet Leaders. Annual sport were also held as usual.

The Municipal Boy Scout and Girl Guide Associations functioned vigorously as heretofore. The usual activities, such as, week-end camps, social work, etc., were carried out during the year. The Bharat Scouts and Guides have after a protracted negotiations since 1951 agreed to the formation of a separate Divisional Organization of Municipal scouts and guides. This still no doubt gives an added filip to the progress of the movement. The National Scout Week and the Annual Scouts Sports and Rally were also held as usual.

A unique feature of the Education Department is the Central Library for City teachers. During the year the library contained 18,359 books as against 18,029 in the previous year and a good number of teachers took advantage of the same. The daily average attendance in the library was satisfactory.

The School Health Service under the Executive Health Officer was continued as before for the benefit of the children of Municipal Primary Schools. Medical examination of 56,114 pupils reading in Standards I and III as well as those from Standards II and IV not examined in the previous year, was taken by the Medical Inspection Department during the year. Free medical treatment was given at the Municipal Dispensaries and at the Central School Clinic at the K. E. M. Hospital and at the various vaccination centres. Free milk was supplied to about 45,000 undernourished children in the year. The Milk Scheme was extended to the children of suburban schools during the year and 8,880 children of suburban schools received their supplies of milk and snacks in Suburbs during the year under report.

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

The average annual cost per pupil in the City Schools calculated on the number of pupils on rolls was Rs. 73.06 as against Rs. 72.1 and Rs. 73.8 in the previous two years and the average cost per pupil on rolls in the suburban schools was Rs. 58.3 as against Rs. 55.9 and Rs. 62.1 in the previous two years.

The Income Side of the Education Fund is more or less fixed. The Corporation's contribution is restricted and also the Government grant. Other sources contribute a very negligible amount to the total receipts of the Education Fund. Hence, with inelastic sources of revenue on one hand and ever increasing demands for more and better equipped schools and educational facilities for the increasing population on the other, 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 contributions either from the Corporation or the Government, there will be no alternative but to consider seriously the proposal of levying an Educational Cess for effecting a substantial increase in the revenue.

An experiment in teaching on progressive lines was started during the year under report, in the Municipal Ghatla Marathi School, situated in a small village in Trombay. The teachers are encouraged and given a free hand to employ any method they think good and effective and to organise the school on any lines they think best, provided inspection and careful evaluation prove the result satisfactory. This has resulted in the teachers preparing their own teaching aids, charts and cards through which Language and Arithmetic are taught. There is a library and a Nature Corner at the School.

The Research Unit started functioning from 6th July 1955 for implementing the suggestions contained in Shri R. V. Parulekar's Report on the Bombay City Education System. Problems bearing on non-attendance of children of compulsory age in Primary Schools are being studied and investigated into with this end in view. It is difficult to study intensively a vast area like Greater Bombay but to begin with, a sample survey of the compulsory group of children in a population of 10,000 persons in the Worli area was undertaken during the year under report. The object of the survey seeks to estimate the percentage of compulsory school-going age children to the population in the area and other co-related problems. An Advisory Committee consisting of eminent educationists was appointed to guide the Research Unit. An *interim* report has already been made to the Education Committee and it is hoped the Commissioner will submit a comprehensive report of its findings as they would give necessary data to the Corporation to go ahead in this nation building activity on scientific lines.

47. During the year under report 84 tons of paper were purchased from Messrs. The Municipal Printing Press. Deccan Paper Mills Co., Ltd., at Government controlled rates. In addition to this, 40 tons of foreign bleached and Indian Paper were purchased locally. Besides execution of the increasing printing work of all Municipal Departments, the Press also undertook numerous printing jobs of the B. E. S. & T. Undertaking, the total number of jobs being 8,622 and number of pages printed being 35,925 as against 8,538 and 33,993 in the preceding year, those for the B. E. S. & T. Undertaking accounting for 51 and 2,842 and 209 and 2,591, respectively. The total quantity of paper consumed during the year under report was 191½ tons as against 176½ tons and 174½ tons in the preceding two years.

The transactions of the Press for the year closed with a surplus of Rs. 6,543 lacs, on the total turnover of Rs. 9.63 lacs, against the surplus of Rs. 3,043 and the turnover of Rs. 8.39 lacs and Rs. 8.33 lacs for the previous two years. The labour staff as on 29th February 1956 consisted of 237 workers against 236 and 220 on the same date in the last two years. The work of implementing the recommendation of Messrs. Ibcn, Ltd., on the reorganisation of the Press continued during the year under report.

48. During the year under report the department continued to attend to contested matters and other legal proceedings in the High Court, City Civil Court, Legal Department. Small Causes Court and Police Courts as also to other legal matters. During the year, the department received 7,280 files, against 7,406 and 7,791 files in the previous two years, addressed 1,678 letters against 1,390 and 3,050 letters in the previous two years to outside parties or their legal advisers and gave opinions on different departmental matters and advices on 158 documents against 162 and 136 documents, in the last two years. The report contains figures of High Court and City Civil Court suits as well as number of documents, such as conveyances, leases, etc. that were completed.

The income by way of costs recovered amounted to Rs. 26,513-10-6 and expenditure to Rs. 79,877-8-1 as against Rs. 28,124-3-0 and Rs. 77,247-14-0, respectively, in the preceding year.

49. As in the previous year, 10 Trade Unions represented Municipal employees with a total membership of 13,817 against 12,892 in the preceding year. The total number of labour staff employed was 27,246 as against 26,302 persons in the previous year.

The Standing Committee is pleased to note that during the year under report, labour relations remained quite congenial and there was no appreciable dislocation of work at any time. During the year under report in all eleven Joint Councils functioned satisfactorily more or less on the lines of the Whitley Councils of Great Britain. The sphere of work of these Councils was elastic enough to allow discussions and recommendations on all matters pertaining to conditions of service.

The Labour Officer dealt with 1,627 complaints as against 1,773 in the previous year, regarding service conditions, promotions, transfers, etc. Of these complaints, 1,021 were redressed, 497 found not genuine and 109 were pending at the close of the year.

The recreational, educational, hygienic and other cultural activities, indoor as well as out-door, organized by the Welfare Branch of the Department for the benefit of about 6,000 Municipal workers and their dependents were conducted vigorously at 22 Labour Welfare Centres and 2 sub-centres. The maternity unit attached to the Chembur Welfare Centre continued to do its useful work and medical treatment, wherever necessary was given by the Welfare Organization. 4,380 cases were treated at the Unit during the year under report as against 4,717, 2,848 and 3,626 in the preceding three years.

Implementation of the two Labour Welfare Schemes in the shape of granting (i) scholarships to children of Municipal employees and (ii) medical assistance to them, sanctioned by the Corporation, continued to be entrusted to the Labour Department. Out of 188 applications received for scholarships, 143 eligible scholars were awarded scholarships at a total cost of Rs. 18,000. 244 applications were received for medical assistance and help aggregating to Rs. 13,270 was given in 235 deserving cases. The Labour Officer also made arrangements to get the applicants admitted whenever necessary in different Municipal Hospitals for treatment.

In addition, the Labour Officer also attended the hearing of day-to-day offence reports of the Municipal Hospitals, Conservancy Department and Fire Brigade Staff.

50. The Public Relations Department under the administrative control of the Municipal Commissioner came into existence from 6th February 1956 in pursuance of Corporation Resolution No. 402, dated the 25th June 1956. Its work covered to a certain respect that handled by the Propaganda Section and the Ward Officers, dealing with publicity and propaganda and liason work, respectively. Both the above Sections were integrated into the Public Relations Department with certain additions and alterations made in the new set-up.

The Publicity Section disseminated knowledge on health, hygiene and clean living among the citizens through posters, leaflets, health exhibitions, film shows, meetings, etc. The Section also helped the Vaccination and Inoculation work of the Public Health Department and organized Health Weeks and cleanliness campaigns. This Section prepared and distributed health education material by posters, leaflets, show-cards, models, etc., and maintained a Public Health Museum at Princess Street and Health Stalls and Civic Sense Gallery at Victoria and Albert Museum. The Publicity Section also carried out special activities like sending Itinerary Exhibits to Municipal schools, producing documentary films on health and displaying hoardings on Civic sense on public conveniences and tram cars, in addition to other normal activities. The complaints from the public about Municipal administration were dealt with by Ward Officers, which with the inauguration of the new Department are handled by Assistant Public Relations Officers on their daily rounds and are followed up to see that they are attended to by the departments concerned.

51. The Bombay Civic Journal, accredited organ of the Corporation, completed two years at the end of February 1956.

The Journal has been publishing regular features as also special articles from prominent citizens and authorities on various topical subjects in pursuance of its policy of promoting civic progress and enlightenment and the ideal of active, intelligent and creative citizenship. During

the year under report, changes calculated to give better appearance, layout and typography were introduced. The title design was modified along with the adoption of the new civic emblem. The earlier 2 column display was replaced by one of three columns for better eye-appeal and the use of photographs to greater advantage. A slightly smaller series of type came to be chosen to accord with the new display which enabled a larger bulk of matter to be taken on each page.

The main features of the material published in the Journal are objective recording of deliberations and activities of the Corporation and its Departments as also of the B. E. S. & T. Undertaking and associated institutions, citizens' view point on subjects of civic interest and on current issues before the Corporation, new plans or projects sponsored by the Corporation, glimpses of old Bombay and a summary of activities of local bodies all over the country, etc.

The first annual number, was published in April 1955. In November 1955, a special issue of the Journal was brought out on the occasion of Diwali. The Journal has come to establish itself as a useful medium for the dissemination of information on civic matters.

It is hoped the financial aspect of the publication will be given greater thought and the present deficit will be wiped out within a few years, efforts to increase its circulation being the *sine quo non* to achieve the objective with which the Journal was started.

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OFFICE, }
BOMBAY, 16th January 1957. }

P. G. KHER,
Chairman,
Standing Committee.

* Paragraphs 52 to 66 of the Review of the Standing Committee relate to the Administration Report of the Suburbs.

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