

**ADMINISTRATION REPORT**  
OF THE  
**MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER**  
FOR THE  
**CITY OF BOMBAY**  
FOR THE YEAR  
**1948-49.**

**BOMBAY**  
**MUNICIPAL PRINTING PRESS**

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REVIEW OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE ADMINISTRATION REPORT  
OF THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER FOR THE CITY OF BOMBAY  
FOR THE YEAR 1948-49.

The Municipal Commissioner's Administration Report for the year 1948-49 gives in detail the working of the Municipal Departments for the year under review.

2. Dr. M. U. Mascarenhas was the Mayor of Bombay during the year. Mr. Ganpatishankar N. Desai was the Chairman of the Standing Committee; Mr. Narsingrao C. Corporation. Pupala was the Chairman of the Improvements Committee and Mr. V. R. Tulla was the Chairman of the Schools Committee during the year.

The personnel constituting these bodies at the end of the year is set forth at pages 2 and 3 of the report.

3. Mr. B. K. Patil, I.C.S., continued to hold the office of the Municipal Commissioner for the year.

4. There was no variation in the rates of taxation levied by the Corporation as compared with those in the preceding year. The heavy strain on the finances has in no way eased. Large balances of unspent expenditure are not savings. Due to difficulties of executing works of even urgent nature owing to non-availability, etc., of materials these large balances will have to be retained for expenditure in following years as that expenditure cannot be postponed *sine die*. Moreover, the Government subvention to the extent Rs. 80 lacs have enabled the Corporation to balance their budget to a considerable extent in the last two years. The Corporation will have to provide funds for a large number of amenities for which additional sources will have to be made available. The cost on the Municipal establishments has been steadily mounting and in order to cut it down without impairing efficiency the Corporation have engaged the services of Messrs. Ibcon, Ltd., for re-organizing the departments and retrenching the expenditure. The work of re-organizing the Water Works Department has been entrusted to them in the first instance.

5. In preparing the Budget Estimates for the year under report an Opening Cash Balance of Rs. 15.31 lacs was estimated but upon the closing of the account for the previous year, the actual opening balance was Rs. 104.87 lacs. It thus exceeded the actual of the previous year of Rs. 50.19 lacs by Rs. 54.68 lacs. The income was budgetted at Rs. 652.61 lacs but the actual realization amounted to Rs. 684.98 lacs, which showed an improvement to the extent of Rs. 32.37 lacs over the budgetted amount and of Rs. 23.29 lacs over the actuals of the previous year. To the actual income of Rs. 684.98 lacs of the year was added an amount of Rs. 28.88 lacs transferred from the Post-War Reconstruction Fund. Thus the total amount available for expenditure during the year, excluding the Opening Balance was Rs. 713.86 lacs. On the Expenditure Side, the budgetted amount was Rs. 662.83 lacs which was more by Rs. 96.70 lacs than the actual of Rs. 566.13 lacs of the previous year but the actual expenditure at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 688.79 lacs which was more than the original estimate by Rs. 25.96 lacs. These variations in the estimated and actual income and expenditure increased the anticipated surplus of Rs. 18.90 lacs to Rs. 25.07 lacs against the surplus of Rs. 103.93 lacs and Rs. 24.89 lacs in the previous two years. With the addition of the Opening Balance of Rs. 104.87 lacs and deduction of Rs. 24.99 lacs reserved for Advances, the financial transactions of the year ended with a Closing Balance of Rs. 104.95 lacs showing an improvement of Rs. 54.76 lacs over the actual Opening Balance at the commencement of preceding the year.

A detailed study of the Income Side reveals that the net increase of Rs. 32.13 lacs, compared with the original estimates, comprised of the gross increases under various heads amounting to Rs. 35.95 lacs which were counterbalanced by the decreases amounting to Rs. 3.82 lacs. The improvement in income was due to increases mainly under (i) General Tax by Rs. 7.91 lacs due partly to revision of rateable value of properties in the City, partly from Port Trust and Mills which brought an additional income of Rs. 5.37 lacs, Rs. 0.10 lac and Rs. 2.97 lacs, respectively, (ii) Roads, Drains and Sewers for Wheel Tax and Government Contribution in lieu of Tolls by Rs. 3.74 lacs due to increase in the number of motor vehicles and systematic taxing of vehicles, (iii) Licensing, etc., by Rs. 4.84 lacs due to revision of fees, the new levy of registration and notice fees under the new Shops and Establishments Act of 1948 and increased realization on account of advertisement fees; and (iv) Markets and Slaughter Houses by Rs. 3.23 lacs due to increase in stallage charges and squatters fees. Against the increases under the heads noted above, there were decreases in income, chiefly under Town Duties by Rs. 2.70 lacs partly due to larger amount of refunds paid during the year in respect of outstanding claims from previous years and partly to the discontinuance of the levy on loose butter from 13th May 1948 and one-thirds refund allowed thereon upto 12th May 1948.

During the year the sale proceeds of Municipal surplus land amounted to Rs. 2.12 lacs which fell short of the amount of Rs. 10 lacs to be annually credited to revenue account by Rs. 7.88 lacs. The balance to the credit of the Fund at the beginning of the year was Rs. 5.22 lacs and the interest realized was Rs. 0.07 lac. The total investment in the Fund thus amounted to Rs. 5.29 lacs, which was credited

to the revenue for meeting expenditure on Capital Works as required by the orders passed by the Corporation. All the balance in the Land Sales Reserve Fund has thus been exhausted as anticipated in the last year's review. The area of surplus Municipal land available for sale at the end of the year was about 21,586 square yards, the approximate value of which is estimated to be only Rs. 3.24 lacs.

6. Against the final sanctioned grants which aggregated to Rs. 865.56 lacs, the actuals as stated above amounted to Rs. 688.79 lacs leaving an unexpended balance of Rs. 176.77 lacs at the close of the year. Against this an amount of Rs. 102.81 lacs is to be renewed for expenditure in the following year and the balance of Rs. 73.96 lacs was treated as savings. Such a large saving in sanctioned grants under Revenue Budget indicates that the departments were not careful in determining their demands. Transfers from one Budget head to another without affecting the total Budget provisions amounted to Rs. 12.41 lacs. The percentages (i) of establishment charges including supervision and (ii) of labour establishment only, to total expenditure worked out to 14.17 and 9.25, respectively, against 14.5 and 10.10 in the preceding year.

7. The Opening Balance on 1st April 1948 on account of Loans excluding Trust Funds was Rs. 59.36 lacs against Rs. 13.65 lacs and Rs. 8.72 lacs in the preceding two years. With an amount of Rs. 31.11 lacs raised during the year the loan funds available for expenditure were Rs. 90.47 lacs against which the expenditure incurred amounted to Rs. 80.25 lacs of which an amount of Rs. 75.03 lacs was spent on works and discount and other charges. Rs. 5.22 lacs were repaid to the Land Sales Reserve Fund against the outstanding balance of Rs. 5.22 lacs out of the advance of Rs. 22.25 lacs taken from the Fund for financing capital expenditure in previous years. Thus at the close of the year the unspent balance stood at Rs. 10.22 lacs.

At the commencement of the year an ambitious programme of loan works was prepared and the Corporation had made a total provision of Rs. 252.78 lacs to be spent out of Loan and Trust Funds. At the time of preparing the Revised Estimates this amount (though highest in the quinquennium) was reduced to Rs. 246.53 lacs. But as usual the actual incurred expenditure amounted to only Rs. 74.60 lacs which fell short of the original estimates by 74 per cent. and the revised estimates by 69 per cent. Even making allowance for difficulties in obtaining materials for execution of works, it is to be noted with regret that the difference between the budget provisions and the unutilized funds is very high.

At the close of the preceding year the amount of Municipal loan outstanding was Rs. 12,93.90 lacs. This was reduced to Rs. 12,66.57 lacs at the close of the year under review. The total debt charges for payment of interest, sinking fund, etc., amounted to Rs. 131.19 lacs. During the year an amount of Rs. 58.44 lacs was repaid, Rs. 48.50 lacs to Government, Rs. 2.32 lacs to Debenture holders and Rs. 7.62 lacs to different Special Funds including Rs. 5.22 lacs to the Land Sales Reserve Fund.

8. The book value of investments of the Sinking Fund at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 409.37 lacs. Valuing the Municipal and Improvement Trust Debentures at par, the market value of Sinking Fund Investments at the end of the year stood at Rs. 428.86 lacs. This together with the amount of interest accrued upto 31st March 1949, viz., Rs. 2.71 lacs and cash of Rs. 1.19 brought the total amount of Sinking Fund to Rs. 431.57 lacs which more than covered the amount of Rs. 402.08 lacs to which the Fund should have accumulated at the close of the year. The excess in the Fund was Rs. 29.49 lacs against Rs. 28.99 lacs at the end of the previous year.

9. The total income on this account during the year amounted to Rs. 98.71 lacs against Rs. 112.95 lacs and Rs. 103.70 lacs in the preceding two years. The total expenditure for the year aggregated to Rs. 112.75 lacs against Rs. 105.68 lacs and Rs. 104.32 lacs in the previous two years.

Loan liabilities of the ex-Trust at the commencement of the year were Rs. 15,65.96 lacs against Rs. 15,71.77 lacs in the previous year. No new loan liability was incurred during the year while the debt was reduced by Rs. 6.25 lacs out of which an amount of Rs. 6.00 lacs was repaid to Government on the basis of equated payments and the outstanding loan liabilities at the close of the year stood at Rs. 15,59.71 lacs of which the liability to Government was Rs. 487.77 lacs.

The year began with a balance of Rs. 190.19 lacs. In the course of the year receipts of Rs. 13.02 lacs were credited to the Account by way of sale proceeds of lands and buildings. The total funds thus available were Rs. 203.21 lacs out of which an amount of Rs. 9.34 lacs was spent on different works and a further sum of Rs. 14.04 lacs was transferred to General Account to meet the deficit under that Account. There was thus left an unspent balance of Rs. 179.58 lacs.

The amount of Sinking Fund on 1st April 1948 was Rs. 415.65 lacs. With the addition of Rs. 18.51 lacs and Rs. 5.70 lacs by way of interest, etc., realizations and Sinking Fund Investments, respectively, the aggregate sum in the Fund at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 439.87 lacs. Valuing the Municipal and Trust debentures at par, the market value of Sinking Fund Investments at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 442.61 lacs. This together with interest accrued upto 31st March 1949 of Rs. 1.27 lacs and a cash of Rs. 1.41 brought the total amount of Sinking Fund to Rs. 443.89 lacs against

Rs. 373.88 lacs which should have accumulated in the Fund at the close of the year. The excess amount in the Fund is thus Rs. 70.00 lacs.

10. The rates of taxation remained the same as in the previous year, i.e., General Tax (including Fire tax) at 14½ per cent., Water Tax at 3½ per cent. and Halalkhore Tax at 3 per cent. On vehicles and animals, the maximum rates as prescribed in Schedule 'G' to the Municipal Act were levied. The rates for water supply by meter measurement were the same as in the previous year and varied between Annas 10 and Rs. 2 according to the nature of properties.

On the Assessment Register during the year there were 51,890 properties against 51,195 and 50,796 of the previous two years. Of the 51,890 properties, buildings for residential purposes were 32,400 against 31,440 in the previous year. Out of the total number of properties, 43,011 were assessed to General Tax, 1,540 were exempted and 1,113 Municipal properties were exempted; 2,998 were not taxed being small plots of waste land, etc., and 3,228 were Municipal plots.

Properties newly erected, enlarged and demolished during the year numbered 1,435; 1,778 and 265, respectively, against 1,182; 1,158 and 412 in the previous year. At the end of the year single-room and double-room tenements and flats or blocks in the City numbered 2,39,860; 54,594 and 41,620, respectively, against 2,39,280; 53,185 and 40,832 in the previous year.

The rateable values of properties in the City at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 19,38.47 lacs against Rs. 17,78.97 lacs and Rs. 17,14.41 lacs in the preceding two years. The rateable value per capita was Rs. 75-14-0 against Rs. 69-11-0 and Rs. 64-11-0 in the previous two years.

The total number of vehicles and animals taxed during the year including those taxed under the Public Conveyances Act, viz., 3,866, was 36,341 against 32,507 and 30,063 in the previous two years. Of this total number the maximum number 16,406 in any one group was for motor cars (including 1,022 taxis) and the smallest number was 12 for Ponies.

During the year 93,056 bills against 94,427 in the last year were issued for recovery of Property Taxes with a gross demand of Rs. 540.02 lacs against the gross demand of Rs. 495.95 lacs in the last year.

The collections during the year amounted to Rs. 440.36 lacs against Rs. 421.67 lacs in the previous year. This worked out to 82.59 of the demand against 86.21 per cent. in the previous year. The outstanding amount at the close of the year was Rs. 92.80 lacs against Rs. 67.43 lacs and Rs. 55.87 lacs in the previous two years, giving a percentage of 17.41 against 13.79 and 11.86 of the previous two years.

For recovery of wheel tax 1,32,648 bills were issued for a gross demand of Rs. 31.85 lacs against Rs. 25.56 lacs and Rs. 20.71 lacs of the previous two years. Against the gross demand, the collection amounted to Rs. 24.69 lacs against Rs. 19.87 lacs and Rs. 16.62 lacs in the previous two years. Percentage of recoveries to the demand thus worked out to 80.34 against 79.77 and 82.84 of the last two years.

The total outstanding of Rs. 98.84 lacs of both property and wheel taxes at the end of the year increased to Rs. 100.65 lacs after 1st April 1949 due to issue of bills amounting to Rs. 1.81 lacs for water supply by meter measurement to the Government and the Railway properties for the year 1948-49. The increased outstandings stood reduced to Rs. 82.29 lacs on 30th June 1949 as recoveries to the extent of Rs. 18.08 lacs were made by that date and bills for Rs. .28 lac were recalled and cancelled. The amount of the Municipal claim in respect of the Police and Military Hospitals disputed by Government continued to remain outstanding as the question is not still decided by the Court. A sum of Rs. 17.56 lacs was due from the Garrison Engineer (Hirings) and other Officers of the Government of India owing to the dispute about their liability to pay the rates on buildings, etc., requisitioned for Military purposes as the case has not yet been stated to the High Court for opinion as agreed to by Government. A sum of Rs. 19.92 lacs was outstanding due to the amended bills issued in the last month to rate payers on account of the variation in the rateable value of properties due to additions and alterations. The outstanding within the control of the staff amounted to Rs. 40.35 lacs against the demand of Rs. 375.71 lacs from private rate payers which came to only 8.08 per cent. It is hoped that barring cases under-dispute the outstandings will not be allowed to grow by exercising strict control.

During the year 6 claims for drawbacks against 49 each in the previous two years were received of which only 1 claim was admitted and the amount allowed for drawback was only Rs. 1,621-11-0.

Similarly 1,887 claims were received for refund against 1,921 and 1,905 in the previous two years. Of these 1,407 were admitted for a total amount of Rs. 5.24 lacs against 1,558 and 1,539 claims admitted in the previous two years when the amounts paid were Rs. 7.49 lacs and Rs. 1.41 lacs.

11. The net demand for the Tax during the year was Rs. 126.71 lacs against which the collection amounted to Rs. 98.18 lacs which came to 77.48 per cent. of the demand.

The Urban Immovable Property Tax.

12. During the year, town duties continued to be charged at maximum rates on articles mentioned in Schedule H except in the case of 'bunker coal for steamships' which was exempted. Legislation substituting the heading 'Edibles' for 'Tinned provisions' in Schedule H and other consequential amendments was enacted as it was held that such

Town Duties.

articles as 'Table butter packed in cartons', etc., were not within its scope. Town Duties are accordingly levied from 1st April 1949. With a view to recovering the cost on establishment for granting refunds, etc., Government have been requested to amend the Municipal Act so as to refund 93½ per cent. of the duties and to increase the minimum limit of refund on exports from Rs. 5 to Rs. 10.

The gross realization from town duties amounted to Rs. 122.26 lacs against Rs. 100.53 lacs in the previous year. The refund for the year under review being Rs. 55.15 lacs as against Rs. 7.32 lacs for the previous year. The total number of claims for refunds was 43,307 as against 28,377 last year. It is explained that the heavy increase in refund was due to the payment of outstanding claims of Government and others from the previous year amounting to over Rs. 20 lacs refunds on grains issued to Defence Services and general increase in exports.

The town duties collected at the Mahim, Sion and Chembur Causeways amounted to Rs. 7.61 lacs against Rs. 6.49 lacs and Rs. 2.04 lacs in the preceding two years.

13. With the publication of the Electoral Roll on the basis of Adult Franchise, it was no longer necessary to revise it annually. In the absence of the revision of the roll, there was no necessity of maintaining the permanent staff of the Election Department. It was therefore absorbed in the Town Duty Department with effect from 1st March 1949.

Supplementary list of the voters, as required by Section 21-B of the Municipal Act, was published on 30th October 1948. It contained 428 names. As contemplated by Section 21-A, the roll of delegates of the Registered Trade Unions was also prepared and published. It contained in all 51 names of delegates of 5 different Unions. During the year two casual vacancies were caused by the death of the Councillors from Wards Nos. 14 and 19 and they were filled in by holding by-elections which were contested.

14. The number of properties both Municipal and *ex-Trust*, maintained by the Architectural Branch during the year was 3,013 against 2,941 and 2,596 during the previous two years. The up-keep and maintenance of these buildings were carried out partly by contract and partly by departmental agency for which the total provision in the budget amounted to Rs. 53.48 lacs against which the expenditure incurred amounted to Rs. 18.56 lacs, *i.e.*, 34.69 per cent. of the total budget grant. Corresponding figures of the budget grant, expenditure and per centage for the last year were Rs. 29.32 lacs, Rs. 10.09 lacs and 34.32 per cent.

Out of the total expenditure of Rs. 18.56 lacs from revenue, the work done departmentally cost Rs. 11.96 lacs.

New Works and Special Repairs Works estimated to cost Rs. 4.05 lac and Rs. 2.33 lacs, respectively, were taken in hand and the total expenditure booked against these works during the year amounted to Rs. 0.77 lac and Rs. 0.72 lac, respectively. These disparities in the budget provision and actual expenditure are attributed to the extreme scarcity of materials, etc.

During the year 150 tenements at Wadala and 80 at Fergusson Road for housing the April 1944 dock explosion victims were constructed at a total cost of Rs. 6.70 lacs. Works for providing additional accommodation for 100 beds and for providing quarters, etc., for the staff at the Municipal Group of Hospitals, Sion, were carried out at a cost of Rs. 1.68 lacs approximately. Works for providing quarters for the staff at the R. P. T. B. Hospital were also carried out at an approximate cost of Rs. 1.90 lacs. The work of constructing a building for the Blood Bank at the K. E. M. Hospital was undertaken and it is reported that it is nearing completion. Revised cost of the work is estimated at Rs. 66,000 against the donation of Rs. 30,000.

During the year 25 sketch plans, 113 registered plans and 132 major estimates amounting to Rs. 129.91 lacs for different works were prepared. Besides, 2,432 estimates aggregating to Rs. 53.06 lacs for New Works, Special Repairs Works, etc., were prepared for different departments.

15. During the year 4,193 applications against 4,305 and 4,245 in the previous two years were received for the erection of new buildings or additions and alterations to the existing ones. The number of buildings covered by these applications was 2,615 against 2,359 and 2,293 in the preceding two years. The number of new tenements constructed during the year was 726 against 696 and 280 in the preceding two years. Of the 726 tenements 307 were one-room tenements, 252 two-room tenements and 167 larger tenements. The corresponding figures for last year were 256; 153 and 287 and for the year 1946-47 were 164, 42 and 74. Of the newly constructed tenements during the year the highest number was 422 in F Ward in which 115 one-room, 200 two-room and 107 larger tenements were constructed. The total number of buildings constructed during the year was 783 of which 201 were residential and provided an accommodation of 726 tenements mentioned above. Against the total of 726 newly constructed tenements, 180 one-room, 17 two-room and 13 larger tenements, *i.e.*, 210 tenements, were demolished during the year. As in the previous year want of building materials at reasonable rates and the high cost of labour have to a great extent deterred building activities in the City. During the year under report the working of the various orders and restrictions imposed by Government with regard to the construction of new buildings was considered by a Committee of the Corporation and a representation for stimulating construction of new buildings was submitted to Government.



16. *Dadar Purification Works*: The total volume of sewage reaching the plant as recorded during the year amounted to 3,443.49 million gallons, i.e., an average of 9.43 million gallons per day against the total quantities of 3,361.76 million gallons and 3,648.04 million gallons received by the Works in the previous two years, giving a daily average of 9.21 and 10 million gallons for the respective two years. The enclosed draft Pruss Filter was closed down from June 29th, 1948 to the end of the year for carrying out heavy repairs. Civil works in connection with the extension were practically complete and with the installation of the machinery, it was expected that the same would be in commission. The work on the Second Digestion Tank could not be completed during the year under report for want of required machinery. The work on the Third Extension of the Plant was continued and during the year civil engineering works were almost completed and most of the machinery was received and was being erected.

The sludge gas service to Municipal hospitals at Parel and Sewree was continued and the gas would also be supplied to other institutions in their neighbourhood if the supply of C. I. or G. I. pipes improved. Owing to non-availability of certain electrical parts, sludge gas engines for generating electricity could run for about 3 hours per day and that too on partial load. No lorry could be run on sludge gas. The wastage of gas was still unavoidable and the non-utilized quantity was burnt as in the preceding years. It was reported last year that a certain rubber compound was found to be fairly satisfactory in stopping the leaks from the digestion tank but it also had not lasting effect. A new compound manufactured in Bombay, it is reported, was found to be as good as the compound of foreign manufacture used in 1937.

*Love Grove*: The work of constructing new pumping station, etc., progressed satisfactorily during the year.

*Dharavi Purification Works*: The work of providing a purification plant capable of treating 5 million gallons per day forming part of the Scheme of treating 10 million gallons was started by the contractors.

*Remodelling existing sewerage system*: Detailed plans and estimates amounting to Rs. 119.08 lacs for making the system capable of dealing with the additional supply of water to be brought into the City were approved in August 1948. The work on the part of the main relief sewers from the new pumping station at Clerk Road was started during the year. The approximate cost of this work will be Rs. 14.83 lacs.

17. During the year 166 motor vehicles were in commission against 139 in the previous year. The expenditure incurred on the maintenance of the motor transport amounted to Rs. 9.08 lacs against Rs. 8.74 lacs in the previous year. The highest cost was on refuse lorries which numbered 86 and the expenditure incurred amounted to Rs. 6.54 lacs against Rs. 6.18 lacs in the previous year. Fordson Thames and G. M. C. trucks purchased for the removal of Refuse did not function satisfactorily. 1 G. M. C. truck was converted to run on sludge gas for experimental purposes and its working was under observation.

18. The total mileage of roads in the City during the year was 268.887 against 269.510 miles and 268.448 miles in the preceding two years. Out of the area acquired as set-backs 5,110 square yards were added to roads at a cost of Rs. 0.42 lac. In all 1.23 lac square yards were repaired during the year at a total cost of Rs. 2.54 lacs.

During the year about 42,941 square yards of area of road surfaces was treated with different methods of asphalt. The total area of roads treated with plant-mixed asphalt carpet was 10.82 lac square yards. In addition an area of 69,629 square yards of asphalt road surfaces was renewed by Recondo process in order to accelerate the renewal work. During the year as an experimental measure some of the old surfaces were treated with 'Precoated Chips' laid to a thickness of  $\frac{3}{4}$ " to 1" on the existing sheet asphalt roads in order to prolong their life.

During the year under report maintenance of road-side trees and benches was transferred to the Gardens Department. 2,110 trees were, however, uprooted by the cyclone that swept over the City in November 1948.

An expenditure of Rs. 13.42 lacs was incurred for lighting and maintenance of 11,051 street lamps including the cost of Rs. 0.39 lac on the erection of new lamps and repairs and maintenance of old ones.

19. As in the previous years two trains consisting on an average of 34 wagons each were used for the transport of refuse to Deonar. Total number of wagons thus used was 23,803 against 23,581 and 23,572 in the last two years. With an average of 12 tons per wagon, the quantity of refuse removed to Deonar was 2.86 lacs tons against 2.83 lacs tons and 2.83 lacs tons in the preceding two years. The total expenditure on account of removal and disposal of refuse amounted Rs. 5.69 lacs against Rs. 4.49 lacs and Rs. 4.13 lacs in the previous two years. The rate per ton worked out to Rs. 1-13-9 against Rs. 1-9-5 and Rs. 1-7-0 in the preceding two years. Due to the general rise in the cost of labour and materials the rate per ton showed an increase of 4 annas and 4 pies. Additional land admeasuring about 8 acres was reclaimed as in the previous year. Refuse was also dumped over the land already filled in to fill up the depressions caused by rain and fire. It is reported that out of 823 acres of low lying land acquired for dumping purpose about 408 acres have so far been reclaimed.

The rolling stock of Municipal wagons was 173 at the end of the year. During the year 1 wagon was condemned as it was found to be beyond repairs. The work of unloading the refuse wagons was carried out by departmental labour at a cost of Rs. 1.83 lacs against Rs. 1.60 lacs during the previous year.

20. The skeleton Master Plan prepared by the Special Engineer in consultation with two American Professional Town Planners was submitted to Government for their early acceptance which was awaited. In the absence of legislative control sporadic development continued, with the result that even the sites reserved for green belts or roads were partially built upon and residential quarters have sprung up on sites reserved for location of industries. It is reported that proposals for the establishment of a Planning Commission in order to check the frustration of the Master Plan were already before Government. The first Progress Report of the Master Plan has been prepared in consultation with the Professional Town Planner, Mr. Albert Mayer. During the year further details (such as preparation of the designs of the two express highways, etc.) were incorporated in the Master Plan and certain other works, such as, preparation of the detailed lay-outs of all areas to be included in the extension of the City of Bombay, etc., were in progress. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 2,16,999 to be shared equally by the Government and the Municipality.

21. The revised lay-out of Dharavi was approved by the Sub-Committee of the whole of the Estate and Land Management. Improvements Committee. A financial forecast of a portion of the scheme which could be immediately developed was asked for and the same was under preparation at the end of the year. The draft Town Planning Scheme for the Mandvi and Elphinstone Estate was sanctioned by Government and the Arbitrator has taken up his duties.

Out of the total area of 139.36 lac square yards (about 2,879 acres) vested in or acquired by the ex-Trust about 39.1 per cent. remained to be developed against 39.4 per cent. and 40.3 per cent. in the preceding two years. Of the developed area 4.1 per cent remained to be leased (out of which an area of 1,68,000 square yards was reserved for municipal purposes such as schools, markets, etc.) against 4.8 per cent. and 5.3 per cent. in the previous two years. At the commencement of the year the area of undeveloped land was 54.85 lacs square yards and the cost of its acquisition was estimated at Rs. 197.95 lacs while at the end of the year the corresponding figures were 54.46 lac square yards and Rs. 196.54 lacs, respectively.

During the year in all 56 plots were leased covering a total area of 82,813 square yards (about 17.1 acres) and valued at Rs. 28.28 lacs. The corresponding figures of the last two years were 93 and 148 plots covering total area of 1.48 lac square yards and 2.23 lac square yards, respectively, having a capital value of Rs. 36.36 lacs and Rs. 66.67 lacs. The total number of plots disposed of upto the end of the year of report was 4,136 with an area of 56.75 lac square yards (about 1,72.6 acres) and valued at Rs. 11,65.15 lacs yielding an annual rent of Rs. 41.30 lacs from plots for which premium or commutation amount has not been paid.

Of the 56 plots leased during the year, 48 were leased on rental basis and 8 on premium basis. The annual rental to be derived from 48 plots was estimated at Rs. 91,996. Of the plots leased during the year, the highest number (29) was in Sewri-Wadala Estate.

During the year under review an amount of Rs. 4.01 lacs was received by way of commutation of ground rents while an amount of Rs. 7.96 lacs was as premium. The corresponding figures for the last two years were Rs. 6.86 lacs and Rs. 15.96 lacs by way of commutation and Rs. 9.58 lacs and Rs. 4.71 lacs as premium.

At the commencement of the year, the Department was in charge of 597 buildings of which 13 were handed over to Government, 1 was demolished and 1 was transferred to the Vacant Land Register. There was thus 582 buildings and the same contained 4,980 tenements of which 3,703; 632 and 290 were one room, two room and larger tenements, respectively, the remaining being 234 shops, 116 godowns and 5 factories. Rent realized from these buildings totalled Rs. 6.73 lacs against Rs. 6.85 lac and Rs. 6.47 lacs in the previous two years.

The monthly rent charged for one-room, two-room and three-room tenements ranged, respectively, from Rs. 4-15-0 to Rs. 10-13-0, from Rs. 18-8-0 to Rs. 23-11-0, and from Rs. 30-15-0 to Rs. 36-11-0. The average population in the chawls during the year was 53,758 as against 53,807 and 50,144 in the previous two years. The death rate in ex-Trust chawls during the year was 6.9 per 1,000 against 7.6 and 6.1 in preceding two years.

Revised Building Rules relating to ex-Trust Estates and Shivaji Park Estate were approved by the Corporation during the year. The Corporation also accorded sanction to the lessees being permitted to construct an additional floor on their buildings to the extent of 50 per cent. of the building area on payment of extra ground rent or premium on the basis of extra income derived from it (additional floor).

22. Due to scanty and unevenly distributed rainfall in the catchment areas, Tansa and Vehar Lakes did not fill up to their overflow capacity, with the result that the automatic shutters on the crest of the waste weir of the Tansa dam did not function. Tulsi Lake overflowed for 7 days. Water supply system was threatened with water famine at the end of the monsoon. The water supply to the City was, therefore, curtailed to 98 million gallons per day from the middle of September 1948. The situation was, however, considerably eased by the cyclone on 22nd November 1948, as it was accompanied by heavy rainfall. An abnormal flood discharge increased the lake levels at Tansa, Vehar and Tulsi by 5.41 feet, 1.36 feet and 2.30 feet, respectively.

During the year, the quantity of water supplied to the City and suburbs was 40,679.00 million gallons against 41,115.00 million gallons in the previous year of which total quantity supplied to the City was 38,455.00 million gallons. Of the total supply a quantity of 25,178.36 million gallons or 61.94 per cent. was for domestic purposes. The average daily supply was 111.44 million gallons against 112.33 in the previous year. To the City the average daily supply was 105.37 million gallons which worked out to 41.52 gallons per head on the basis of the population as per the food census of 25.38 lacs. Percentage of total supply for domestic purposes was 61.94 while 38.06 per cent. was for other purposes. Total quantity of water supplied by meter measurement was 9,887.87 million gallons of which 2684.42 million gallons were consumed by Mills, i.e., 6.6 per cent. 2409.00 million gallons of water or 5.92 per cent. were wasted due to leaks and other unaccountable losses (i.e. through Municipal mains, etc.) There were 2 bursts and 66 heavy leaks in the Outside City Division and 28 bursts on mains in the City whereas in the preceding year there were 16 heavy leaks Outside the City and 10 bursts on mains in the City, the large increase in the leaks is attributed to the cyclone. Water was sterilized with chlorine treatment and extra dose of chlorine was injected in the City's Service Reservoirs. Bacteriological and Chemical tests show that the standard of purity as laid down by the Ministry of Health was continued.

To regulate the supply of water at scenes of fires, the Department attended 867 fire calls against 989 and 1,500 in the previous two years. The total quantity of water used on fires was about 5.36 million gallons.

82 Drinking fountains, 22 cattle troughs, 39 combined fountains and troughs, 2 dipping wells and 18 Municipal wells (of which water from only 3 was used for the public) were maintained by the department.

Gardens maintained by the department at Malabar Hill and Mazagaon are very popular and the number of visitors increased enormously. Public co-operation was requested by the executive to help them in keeping the gardens clean, as litter was found daily scattered all over the lawns. Hawkers selling goods were prosecuted.

With the rise in the population without corresponding increase in the quantity of water available for distribution and with the curtailment of the water supply there was a tremendous increase in short supply complaints during the year. There were 6,889 complaints as against 4,782 and 3,927 in the previous two years. 9,546 notices were issued on owners for defects in water fittings of private property. The hours of supply continued to be nine but towards the end of the year 1948 hours were staggered so as to give additional supply during the evening hours (9 to 11 P. M.). Morning hours were correspondingly reduced. The change of hours was generally appreciated by the public and the same has been continued. With a view to checking wastage of water in private premises, periodical house inspections were made and several cases of wastage were attended to. The campaign to put a stop to the wastage due to defective fittings, leaky taps, and taps left open needs to be intensified. Special staff appointed last year to rewasher leaky taps was continued during the year and 49,932 taps were re-washed.

2,859 meters of various sizes were maintained and the revenue derived from supply of water by meter measurement during the year amounted to Rs. 92.57 lacs as against Rs. 87.48 lacs in the last year.

The total number of water connections in the City was 54,041 as against 53,470 and 52,643 during the preceding two years. During the year 651 new connections were made, while 46 connections were cut off on account of demolition of old buildings, etc.

With a view to increasing the efficiency of the Municipal staff and eliminating wastage of effort and labour, Messrs. Ibcou, Ltd., a firm of experts, were engaged by the Corporation and in the first instance, the work of the reorganization of the Water Works Department was entrusted to them. After carrying out a preliminary survey of the whole department, the firm submitted two reports on the Distribution Branch and the Administrative Office of the department. The reports envisaged a reduction of 42 per cent. and 38 per cent. of the existing staff in the respective branches. The resultant savings are expected to be Rs. 73,400 and Rs. 36,000 per annum, respectively, after the methods indicated by them are completely adopted. For implementing the suggestions made by Messrs. Ibcou, Ltd., a Standards Branch headed by an Officer of the Department was created. It is expected that the Branch will keep a hold on any undue inflations of the staff and prevent deviations from the indicated methods. It is understood that when the department is completely reorganised as per the recommendations of the Company, it will ultimately effect a net total saving of Rs. 2,28,400 approximately per annum.

23. In order to obtain additional supply from the existing sources and tide over the period of emergency, an additional outlet of 50" in diameter was made at 375 T. H. D. as against 360 T. H. D. as originally proposed to enable additional supply being brought into the City by gravity instead of resorting to pumping as it would have been necessary with an outlet at 360 T. H. D. The new outlet was connected to the outlet well by a 57" pipeline. The work was completed before the break of the monsoon and the new outlet was put into commission on 5th June 1948. The effect of the new outlet was that it reduced the difference between the lake level and outlet well from 4 feet to 2 feet thereby improving the head in the outlet well and increasing to some extent the discharging capacity of the pipe lines. It will also enable the contents of the lake being drawn by gravity upto 385 T. H. D. against 387.5 T. H. D. before the construction of the additional outlet. In other words the storage capacity of Tansa Lake for the purpose of drawing water has been increased by 4½ feet provided the

Augmentation of the  
Water Supply: Existing  
sources.

Lake overflows (2 feet by the automatic shutters and 2½ feet by the new outlet). Another measure taken was to install a floating pump in the lake to enable contents below 385 T. H. D. being utilised by pumping to tide over the emergency.

24. The Final Report of the Special Engineer was approved by the Corporation on the 20th of August 1948.

Augmentation of the  
Water Supply: Vaitarna-  
cum-Tansa Scheme.

*Preliminary Works:* During the year preliminary works of constructing (i) Approach road to the Dam site just over a mile in length, (ii) Tembha-Tasu Road about 2¼ miles in length for giving access to Tunnel faces Nos. 4 and 5, (iii) Ramps for providing access for working on the Tunnel face No. 6 from the Tansa Lake, one near the Tansa dam and the second near the Bel Nalla and (iv) Staff quarters, etc., were taken in hand and it is reported that the same were proceeding fairly satisfactorily. The work of constructing a weir across the Kengri Nalla for obtaining additional quantity of about 60/70 million gallons of water required during the progress of the scheme was being carried out by Messrs. J. C. Gammon, Ltd., by 'Colcrete' process and was expected to be completed before the monsoon of 1949. So also the work of excavating the over-burden at the site of the main Dam to the extent of about 20,000 brass was practically completed. The work of removing the remaining 12,000 brass is still to be taken up in hand. Similarly, the work of asphaltting Khardi-Vaitarna Road of about 9½ miles in length is shortly to be taken up.

*Major Works:* The work of cutting, embankment and other civil works for accommodating new 96" steel pipe line from Tansa to Powai was entrusted to Messrs. The Hindustan Construction Co., Ltd., at a total cost of Rs. 72,59,394. It was, however, held up owing to the proceedings in the High Court by a rate-payer. The contention of the rate-payer, though upheld by the High Court, was dismissed by the Full Bench of the High Court. The work was ultimately started after the monsoon of 1948. The work of constructing the tunnel was entrusted to Messrs. Hind Constructions, Ltd., at a total cost of Rs. 1,64,00,000. It was also held up due to the Court Proceedings in respect of the contract for cutting embankment, etc. It was taken up in hand by the contractors in February 1949. The work of laying steel pipe line was entrusted to Messrs. Structural Engineering Works, Ltd., and Messrs. Hind Constructions, Ltd., at a total cost of Rs. 2,00,57,257. Due to acute scarcity of steel plates order to start work could not be given to the contractors during the year. Negotiations with Government for the supply of steel plates were proceeding during the year under report. The work of constructing two bridges for carrying 126" diameter steel pipe line between the tunnels across the Balwant and Tasu Nalla was entrusted to Messrs. S. B. Jishi & Co at a total cost of Rs 3,74,985 and it is reported that it is progressing satisfactorily.

*Dam across Vaitarna River:* Detailed specifications and design for constructing the main dam were prepared and tenders received were being scrutinized. Steps were also taken to obtain expert advice of the noted consultants, Messrs. Sir Alexander Gibbs and Partners (London) and Messrs. Justin and Courtney (U. S. A.).

The Vaitarna Camp was provided with a small dispensary and a food-grain shop with the help of Government. The area has been included in the Police Patrol rounds. The work for connecting Tansa with Vaitarna by telephone was taken in hand. Other amenities, such as, a canteen, a bus service between Khardi Railway Station and the Camp, grinding mills and a dairy for the supply of fresh milk have been provided through outside agencies for the benefit of the staff at the Camp.

The incidence of Malaria at the Camp, it is reported, was very small.

Two Assistant Engineers sent to U. K. and U. S. A. at the expense of the Corporation for studying modern methods of construction of dam and tunnels completed their tour and returned to India in March 1949.

25. During the year, the Fire Brigade received 1,177 calls against 1,200 and 1,473 calls during the preceding two years. Out of these calls, 11 were for fires outside the City limits against 18 and 6 in the previous two years, while 621 were for actual fires and 246 false alarms of which as many as 97 were due to malicious interference with fire alarms. There were also 153 calls for special services in respect of fallen buildings, etc. Total distance travelled by fire appliances to and from calls was 8,035 miles.

The City is served by 195 alarm posts (including private alarms) connected to 9 Fire Stations. The system transmitted 57 per cent. of the calls recorded.

The estimated loss on account of fire was Rs. 94.31 lacs as against Rs. 55.78 lacs and Rs. 67.50 lacs during the previous two years. Of this loss, Rs. 59.86 lacs represented insured properties and the total value of the property affected was Rs. 21,86.28 lacs. There were 6 big fires in which estimated loss involved in each case exceeded lacs of rupees. Hidden storage of goods of highly inflammable nature caused many fires. With a view to minimising the fire risk, rules regarding fire precautionary measures to be followed by stockists have been laid down and it is hoped that if properly followed fire risk will be greatly minimised.

Casualties by fire during the year were 6 persons burnt to death, 15 persons severely injured who died subsequently and 77 persons received minor injuries or burns. Corresponding figures of the last two years were 3,14 and 64 and 5,22 and 53, respectively.

The approximate quantity of water used for extinguishing fires was 53.51 lac gallons of which 15.17 lac gallons were drawn from Municipal mains.

Ambulance service conducted by the Department attended 1,469 street accidents calls, 2,011 maternity cases and 2,751 hire calls removing in all 6,108 persons against the corresponding figures of 1,388 ; 2,195; 2,738 and 6,390 in 1947-48.

The total mileage covered by ambulance vehicles during the year was 41,906 as against 40,904 in the previous year. The total receipts on account of hire cases amounted to Rs. 14,833 as against Rs. 13,984 and Rs. 19,322 in the preceding two years. The total expenditure incurred by the Fire Services including the Ambulance Service was Rs. 8.38 lacs.

26. In the year under report the Department managed 85 sites for public recreation, etc., consisting of 18 Gardens, 4 Fountains, 2 Band stands, 7 Traffic islands, 3 Open spaces, 47 Recreation grounds, 1 Statue and 3 Ornamental box hedges. During the year 1 more site measuring about 3,540 square yards at Bhu'abhai Desai Road was added to the list. It is being laid out into recreation ground. Maintenance of road-side trees was taken over from the Engineering Department and entrusted to the Garden Department since 1st November 1948. It is gratifying to note that the Department could arrange music programmes for the entertainment of the public during the year. There were 15 Band programmes, 14 Indian Vocal Music programmes and 141 Radiogram programmes at different places. Directed games, as in the previous years, were continued at 4 centres in the City.

*Victoria Gardens*: This year also the number of visitors to the Gardens has not been given in the report, as the recording machines were not working accurately, but it is stated that the number is on the increase. It is hoped that the machines will be thoroughly repaired or replaced and an accurate number given in the next year's report. The gardens were closed to the public for a period of 18 days due to the unprecedented cyclone that swept over the City in November 1948. Besides the destruction of a large number of rare ornamental plants and other valuable shrubs, nearly 600 big trees (old botanical specimens) were uprooted. Some of the cages and railings were severely damaged. The leopard cage was considerably damaged. The work of improving the gardens, renovating the lawns, providing flower beds and fernery, and repairing animals cages, etc., has been taken up. A portion of the premises of the Miratha Hospital at Connaught Road has been allotted for shifting the nursery and the necessary steps are being taken. Animal stock in the Zoo is being steadily augmented either by purchase or exchange by about 15 per cent. The ratio of increase to decrease was 1 to 0.6 as against 1 to 0.5 of the last year.

The Annual Vegetable, Fruit and Flower Show had to be abandoned as it was feared that suitable exhibits would not be forthcoming due to the widespread blighting effect of the storm on the fruit and flowering trees.

The dispute between the Municipality and the Gardens employees was settled by the Adjudicator's Award which has since been implemented.

The expenditure on the Garden Department amounted to Rs. 3.46 lacs as against Rs. 2.69 lacs of the last year whereas the income was Rs. 31,669 as against Rs. 16,529 during the last year.

27. The Museum was kept open to the public for 294 days against 275 and 287 in the preceding two years. It was closed for nearly a fortnight from 23rd November to 6th December 1948 due to damage caused to trees, etc., in the Victoria Gardens by the cyclone on 22nd November 1948.

The total number and the daily average of visitors far exceeded those of the last year, being 16.47 lacs and 5,602, respectively, against 9.74 lacs and 3,543 of the preceding year. During the year 7,365 pupils from the primary and secondary schools of the City visited the Museum as against 4,327 during the preceding year. The practice of keeping the Museum open on Wednesday for ladies and children only was continued but number of visitors of this category is not separately noted.

The Curator of the Jodhpur Museum paid a visit to the Museum and research students took advantage of the Reference Library. It is gratifying to note that two editions of the Museum Brochure were printed and sold out during the year and all other museum publications were completely sold out. It is suggested that income from the sale of books may be noted.

28. During the year under Report, 14 Libraries and Reading Rooms were maintained. In all 395 books on various subjects were purchased during the year as against 947 during the previous year. It is explained that more books could not be purchased due to objections raised by the Chief Accountant, firstly, for debiting the cost of reference books to the grant for purchase of books instead of Books and Dead stock and secondly, for want of formal sanction of the Book Selection Committee. It is hoped that in the coming year a large number of books will be added to the libraries. The part-time library in the Victoria Gardens Compound was also allowed to continue during the year. The total number of

visitors to the Reading Rooms and Libraries during the year was 2.92 lacs as against 3.08 lacs and 3.12 lacs during the preceding two years.

The cost of running the libraries amounted to about Rs. 31,851 while the income was about Rs. 820.

29. Tenders were invited for the purchase of stores during the year in 152 cases as against 80 and 87 cases in the previous two years. The number of contracts for the various scheduled articles entered into was 116 against 91 and 71 in the preceding two years. Besides these contracts, materials which could only be acquired under licenses granted by Government, were secured at controlled rates from authorized stockists. The value of stores and other materials purchased by the department during the year amounted to Rs. 32.91 lacs against Rs. 28.19 lacs and Rs. 17.68 lacs during the previous two years. The increase is due to the increased demand for the supply of C. I. and G. I. Pipes, iron materials, cement and cloth. Of the total purchase made, stock of the value of Rs. 31.82 lacs was of the Indian manufacture and the balance of Rs. 1.09 lacs represented the value of foreign goods. Against these purchases and stock on hand, the consuming departments submitted 28,740 indents and sales memos. 5,098 orders for the purchase of stores were placed with the contractors and other dealers against 4,405 and 4,221 in the preceding two years. The total turnover of the department during the year was Rs. 64.32 lacs against Rs. 51.52 lacs and Rs. 36.14 lacs in the preceding two years. At the close of the year, the department had on hand stores of the value of Rs. 15.99 lacs against Rs. 14.47 lacs, Rs. 9.60 lacs, Rs. 10.38 lacs, Rs. 9.99 lacs and Rs. 10.06 lacs in the preceding five years. The large stock in hand shows that more quantities are indented than they are required during the course of the year. During the year the department disposed of by public auction, C. I. and other scrap and unserviceable articles received from other departments of the value of Rs. 0.35 lac only against Rs. 0.31 lac and Rs. 0.57 lac in the last two years. The highest rate realized for C. I. scrap was Rs. 177 per ton.

30. Licences and permits issued during the year numbered 29,017 against 28,739 in 1947-48 and 28,596 in 1946-47 showing an increase of 278 over the figures of the last year. Fees realised therefrom amounted to Rs. 8.71 lacs during the year under report and Rs. 6.15 lacs and Rs. 2.56 lacs during the two preceding years. There was thus rise in income of Rs. 2.56 lacs as the Schedule of Licence Fees was further revised from 1st April 1948. At the end of the year, an amount of Rs. 53,690 was outstanding in respect of 1,147 notices of demand against an outstanding of Rs. 14,743 and Rs. 9,620 for 677 and 696 outstanding notices for the previous two years. There was an increase of 470 on the outstanding demands. It is, therefore, obvious that stringent measures should be adopted to reduce these outstandings to the minimum. The loss of revenue incidental to the non-renewal of old licenses upon disuse or demolition of old licensed places amounted to Rs. 0.33 lac against Rs. 0.23 lac and Rs. 0.17 lac in the preceding two years.

There was an increase both in the number of permits for advertisements and realizations therefrom. The total number and the amount being 2,528 and Rs. 2.38 lacs while the corresponding figures for the last two years were 2,028 and Rs. 2.08 lacs; and 1,930 and Rs. 1.54 lacs.

The number of squatter and hawker licenses issued during the year was 44,870 and the earnings from fees amounted to Rs. 3.38 lacs. Corresponding figures for the preceding two years were 43,352 and Rs. 2.79 lacs and 39,544 and Rs. 1.55 lacs. It may be noted that licences of roving hand-carts have been totally stopped in A Ward and their number has been reduced in other Wards to lessen traffic obstructions under instructions from the Commissioner of Police.

During the year the Licence Department instituted 3,023 prosecutions for offences under Sections 328, 328A, 394 and 412A of the Municipal Act as against 2,165 and 2,035 during the last two years. The total amount of fines inflicted in 951 convicted cases was Rs. 63,467.

The total revenue of the Department during the year was Rs. 15.34 lacs against Rs. 11.42 lacs in the previous year.

31. The Shops and Establishments Act of 1948 came into operation on the 11th January 1949 on which date the Act of 1939 was repealed. Except Court work the normal Administration of the Shops and Establishments work was suspended as the entire staff was occupied with the registration and Acts of 1939 and 1948. other preliminary work in connection with the new Act for about three months. During the year 429 complaints (including 54 received in the last year) were investigated and 5 remained to be investigated. 269 mass raids (131 by day and 138 by night) were carried out upto the end of the year against 126 raids (76 day and 50 night) in the preceding year. The number of visits and revisits to institutions was 53,362 of which 41,312 were to shops, 6,059 to commercial establishments, 126 to places of amusements and 5,865 to restaurants, while in the preceding year out of a total of 73,883 there were 57,246 to shops, 7,287 to commercial establishments, 116 to places of amusements and 9,234 to restaurants.

At the close of the last year there were 416 cases pending. During the year 7,168 new prosecutions were instituted, making up a total of 7,584. Of these, 7,437 were disposed of, 7,331 resulting in convictions, 5 ending in acquittals and 111 being withdrawn. The number of cases pending at the end of the year was 147. The total amount of fines inflicted was Rs. 1.38 lacs giving an average of Rs. 18-13-4 per case. In the preceding year the amount of fines was Rs. 1.11 lacs against 4,784 convictions.

Expenditure incurred in administering the Act was Rs. 1.62 lacs whereas Government grant-in-aid was Rs. 1.07 lacs, falling short of expenditure by Rs. 0.55 lacs. With the expansion of the scope of the Act, it is hoped Government will see their way to reimburse the Corporation fully to cover the expenditure.

32. The total receipts of the Department during the year amounted to Rs. 31.91 lacs against Rs. 29.88 lacs in the previous year. The revenue thus showed an increase of Rs. 2.03 lacs which was mainly due to the increase in receipts of stallage charges, squatters fees, etc.

The number of Municipal markets remained the same, viz., 17. Two temporary Open Air Markets (i) Khetwadi and (ii) Tulsi Pipe Line at Dadar were closed. In case of the former, the Hindu stall-holders from the Erskine Road Market, who were permitted to do business on the open space due to communal disturbances, returned to the market while the second was closed for want of patronage by vegetable squatters. The total receipts from stallage charges, squatters fees, license fees, etc., amounted to Rs. 19.83 lacs against Rs. 18.31 lacs in the previous year.

The number of private markets during the year was 20 and that of private slaughter house only 1. The department could collect license fees of Rs. 1.06 lacs from 18 markets and 1 slaughter house against Rs. 0.32 lac from 16 markets and 1 slaughter house. It is reported that the license fees in respect of 2 private markets were kept in deposit, but no reasons are given in the report for doing so. Last year the number of such private markets was 5. It appears that differences in respect of 3 markets were settled during the year under report but no information is given as to how the same were settled. The increase in receipts is attributed to the collection of arrears.

The number of outside meat shops was 182 and an amount of Rs. 12,001-12-0 was realized by way of fees. The last year's figures were 189 and Rs. 12,081-8-0.

During the year unwholesome articles of food, such as meat, fish, fruits, vegetables, etc., including contraband meat seized weighing 11,13,407 lbs. were destroyed, against 8,47,976 lbs. in the previous year.

The total number of animals brought to the Fair Ground at the Bandra Slaughter House during the year was 14,70,781 against 15,00,030 in the previous year. Of these animals 8,774 against 6,222 in the last year were rejected on *ante mortem* examination.

The approximate weight of dressed meat of buffaloes, cows and bullocks was 6,671 tons against 8,574 tons in the previous year, while that of sheep and goats was 9,102 tons against 9,247 tons in the last year. Of these, 49 tons and 25 tons, respectively, against 43 tons and 23 tons in the previous year were condemned, giving percentages of 0.73 and 0.27, respectively, against 0.5 and 0.25 of the previous years.

The total amount of slaughter fees realized was Rs. 5.72 lacs against Rs. 6 lacs and Rs. 5.01 lacs during the previous two years. The total number of animals slaughtered during the year was 12.88 lacs against 13.30 lacs and 12.13 lacs in the previous two years.

33. During the last 3 or 4 years the City's population has been abnormally high and overcrowding continued to prevail during the year under report. According to the Rationing Authorities the population of the City rose from 25.53 lacs to 27.41 lacs. The inadequacy of housing accommodation was not relieved to any extent. By the Census figures of 1941, the density of the population worked out to 89 per acre, but it is estimated at 152 per acre on the increased population. There was a partial strike of the municipal sweepers which ended in 2 days as the dispute was referred to Adjudication. Another calamity was the devastating cyclone in November 1948 which disorganized traffic and other services including routine conservancy service. Plague, Small-pox and Cholera kept the Health authorities anxious throughout the year. Despite these disturbing circumstances, health services were continued unwaveringly and the year passed off as a normal one and various statistical rates could be maintained very low. The rates of infant mortality and maternal mortality were the lowest ever recorded, viz., 165.7 and 1.7, respectively. It may be noted that these rates are based on actual population basis as per the figures reported by the Rationing Authorities at the end of the year 1947, viz., 25.53 lacs.

**Births and Birth Rate:** The number of live births recorded during the year was 54,629 which was more by 3,796 in the previous year (50,833) and more by 10,301 than the average of the last ten years, the highest number (6,461) was recorded in December against 5,512 in the same month of the previous year. Of these births 27,959 were males and 26,670 females which gives the ratio of 105 males to 100 females. Calculated on the Census of 1941 the birth rate was 36.7 per 1,000 while on the basis of actual population it was 21.4 as against 34.1 and 19.2, respectively, in the preceding year. The number of still births was 3,164 against 2,934 and 3,097 in the preceding two years. Out of 57,793 births including 3,164 still births recorded 48,324 took place in Maternity Homes which gives a percentage of 83.6 against 80.9 and 77.1 in the preceding two years.

**Deaths and Death Rate:** The total number of deaths registered from all causes during the year was 37,765 against 37,619 and 41,264 in the previous two years. It was less by 1,264 than the average annual mortality of the last five years and more by 3,062 than the average of the preceding 10 years. According to Census of 1941, the death rate per 1,000 living persons worked out to 25.3 against 25.2.



and 27.7 in the last two years, while according to the estimated population it was 14.8 against 14.2 and 16.5 in the preceding two years. Of the total (37,765) deaths, 20,929 were among males and 15,836 among females. Thus the male death rate was 22 and the female death rate 30. The rates for the males for the preceding two years were 22 and 24 and those for the females 31 and 33. The cause of larger number of deaths and lower percentage among males than among the females is due to the preponderance of males who constitute nearly 63 per cent. of the population. As in the previous years the diseases of the respiratory system claimed the highest number of deaths, viz., 9,958 which worked out 6.7 per 1,000 of the population. Congenital Debility and Diseases of early infancy constituted the next most fatal group which claimed 5,291 victims and a percentage of 3.8. The next group was old age with 3,715 deaths and a rate of 2.5. Tuberculosis claimed 2,157 deaths against 2,125 with a rate of 1.4 against that of 1.3 per 1000 in the last year.

Mortality amongst infants (under 1 year of age) was 9,052 as against 8,471 in the preceding year and the rate per 1,000 live births was 165.7 as against 166.6. The rate is the lowest recorded so far in the history of the Public Health Administration. An Enquiry into the bearing of premature and immature births to infant mortality begun in 1946 on behalf of the Indian Fund Research Association was completed during the year under report. It revealed that prematurity played a predominant role in swelling the infant mortality rate especially in the neonatal period. It also served to indicate the lines to be adopted for reducing the mortality by safeguarding the health of expectant mothers by giving every facility of adequate, sustained and expert pre-natal care and by improving social conditions, etc. It stressed the need of increasing the number of pre-natal clinics and pre-natal beds for observation and treatment of detected complications of pregnancy. The number of deaths in puerperal state during the year was 91 as against 106 in the previous year. The maternal mortality rate during the year was 1.7 as against 2.1 in the preceding year. It was the lowest ever recorded for the City.

**Maternity and Child Welfare :** During the year the Corporation maintained five Maternity Homes with a complement of 129 beds. The number of cases admitted in these Homes was 8,527 against 7,647 and 8,116 in the preceding two years, while the number of confinements was 7,481 against 6,596 and 7,005 in the last two years. Of the confined cases 1,631 were *prima parae* against 1,363 in the last year. As an adjunct to maternity service, pre and post natal services are essential in order to ensure proper care of expectant and nursing mothers and infants. To better serve the City in this field the Corporation have approved of a scheme of maternity and child welfare organization but have deferred its execution to more favourable time.

Ante and post natal clinics, started by the Corporation in 1939, were conducted by the Medical Officers in charge of the Maternity Homes, assisted by Health Visitors who during the year paid 41,107 visits in various districts against 54,744 and 47,382 in the previous two years. They also attended 53 cases of confinements.

2 Family Planning Clinics were started last year as an experimental measure especially for imparting instructions in spacing births to married women whose physical condition showed that their life would be endangered by pregnancy and to those attending Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases Clinics as pregnancy would be dangerous both to the health of the mothers and that of the children to be born. The Clinics were conducted by a Lady Medical Officer assisted by a Health Visitor. The total number of attendance was 315 and in all 219 women were supplied with appliances.

**Infectious Diseases :** The total number of cases reported during the year was 6,191 as against 4,282 in the previous year. Of these 5,982 or 96.6 per cent. were reported by the District Registrars and 209 or 3.4 by medical practitioners. As regards departmental action 2,754 cases were removed to hospitals. In 204 cases the occupants were made to vacate the premises and in 2,246 cases the premises were disinfected and 6,710 articles were sterilized. There were 19 cases of Plague (including 5 imported), 12 proving fatal, 42 of Cholera (including 31 imported), 9 proving fatal, 558 attacks of Small-pox (including 164 imported), 162 proving fatal and 3,156 attacks of Enteric fever (including 428 imported), 1,038 proving fatal.

**Rat Destruction :** It is reported that the total number of rats caught and destroyed during the year was 10.58 lacs as against 8.38 lacs and 6.79 lacs in the previous two years. The highest catch was recorded during the year under report since 1912. 44 rats were found infected with plague.

**Insecticidal Service:—**Fly control measures were continued under the Insecticide Officer in certain parts of the City at regular intervals and where both fly and mosquito nuisances were complained of by spraying D.D.T. emulsion. The staff was also employed to carry out anti-flea measures and on the disinfection work in areas threatened with plague.

**Malaria :** Malaria was registered as the cause of 118 deaths. Number of cases treated at the Municipal dispensaries was 810, whereas the number of cases treated in different institutions (other than Municipal dispensaries) in the City was 17,069. Out of 2,236 wells in the City 4 were filled in and 1 was completely covered during the year as an anti-malarial measure. As a result of the routine examination of water in wells, cisterns, etc., 152 were found breeding Anopheles mosquitoes. Mosquito breeding was also detected in 36 out of 89 mill tanks in the City during the year.



34. Free medical relief was rendered at 19 Municipal dispensaries throughout the year. The number of new cases treated was 1.96 lacs (1.26 lacs males and .70 lac females) against 1.67 lacs and 1.79 lacs in the preceding two years. The total attendance numbered 7.58 lacs against 6.01 lacs and 7.37 lacs in the past two years.

**Dispensaries.** In addition, women and children were treated at 6 Municipal dispensaries by 2 part time Lady Doctors and at 5 ante and post natal clinics by Lady Doctors in charge of 5 Maternity Homes. The total number of new cases treated was 23,909 (18,992 women and 4,917 children) as against 21,485 in the previous year. The total attendance was 1,32,298 including the visits to patients' homes by lady doctors.

Bai Lingubai Dispensary and B. P. Ashnel Free Ophthalmic Hospital attached to it treated 9,718 cases as against 5,835 in the previous year; the number of in-patients treated being 211 as against 125 in the previous year. Total attendance of patients was 72,331.

**Leprosy:**—The work of isolation and treatment of leprosy cases in the City has been done by the Acworth Leper Home at Matunga. An out-patients' clinic is conducted at the Home and the cost of its maintenance is mostly borne by the Corporation. The number of new patients treated during the year was 1,215 and the average daily attendance was 202.

35. Anti-Tuberculosis campaign is under the control of the Public Health Department. There are three clinics for out-patients and a group of hospitals at Sewree.

**Tuberculosis.** The total number of new admissions at the Princess Street, Foras Road and Lal Baug Clinics was 12,679 out of which only 55 cases were of the non-pulmonary T. B. Total number of attendances was 58,726. At the X-Ray Department at the Princess Street Clinic 410 skiagrams were taken and 43,394 screenings were done.

36. Venereal diseases are a social evil and for combating the same the Corporation provides free medical facilities both preventive and curative. The Clinic at Bellasis Road is fully equipped and during the year 16,904 cases were treated against 14,194 in the previous year. Of these 14,535 were males and 2,369 females. The average daily attendance for diagnosis or treatment was 599.3. For prophylaxis 12,964 attended the Clinic as against 8,131 in the previous year. The average daily attendance at the Clinic was 644.7 as against 545.3 in the previous year.

At the other prophylactic centres 1,381 persons received treatment. All these eight centres were kept open day and night.

37. During the year Health Exhibition activity was intensified and 26 exhibitions were organized; Health Exhibitions in schools were organized for rousing the health and sanitary consciousness of school going children. 273 Health Education Film Exhibitions were arranged in the City. 30 anti-small-pox, 65 anti-typhoid and 102 anti-plague campaigns were carried out. Along with the campaigns several thousand persons were inoculated or vaccinated on the spot. 2,137 pictorial posters, 5,635 leaflets and 10,000 folders on various health subjects were distributed to the public through the medium of various social and educational institutions in the City.

38. In all 45,470 children attending municipal schools and classes were examined of which 25,472 were boys and 19,998 girls. Some of the schools were re-visited. Of the total number of children examined, 34,202 were found suffering from one or more defects and information about the defects was sent to their parents and guardians. The number of new children treated at the School Clinic at the K. E. M. Hospital was 1,116 along with 6,692 old cases, while those treated at the Nair Hospital numbered 173. Out of 40 children suspected to have been infected with Leprosy 11 were debarred from attending any of the Municipal schools and 29 kept under observation. 64 children were supplied with spectacles free. And over 13,000 under-nourished children received each 6 ounces of pasteurised toned milk daily except on partial holidays, Sundays and holidays.

39. The hospital has a total accommodation of 314 beds of which 172 and in the Small-pox unit 128 in the general unit and 14 reserved for yellow fever cases. Except Tuberculosis and Leprosy patients suffering from other infectious diseases are admitted to the Hospital. The total number of patients admitted during the year was 8,550 which was the highest recorded in the history of the institution, the daily average was 239. The highest number of patients on one single day was 406. Of the total number of patients, those suffering Enteric fever, Cholera and Diarrhoea-Vomiting, and Food Poisoning were 2,486, 42 and 385, respectively, the number of patients under Enteric fever was the highest ever recorded. The rise in the admissions year by year stresses the need of increasing the number of beds to meet the growing demand.

40. The three units, viz., Turner Sanatorium, Maratha Hospital and Ramesh Premchand Tuberculosis Hospital are combined and worked as one unit of hospitals at Sewree. The total bed accommodation is 299 and with this strength it may probably be the largest tuberculosis institution run in India on most modern lines. Of these 119 are reserved for patients in early stages, 100 in middle stages and 80 for advanced cases. The Princess Street Tuberculosis Clinic serves as the Out-patient

Department of this Group. The Honoraries commenced to conduct the out-doors in the mornings since 20th May 1948. The number of new cases admitted during the year was 1,779 of which 1,132 were males and 647 females. The number of in-patients treated during the year was 1,929. Of these 1,174 patients were discharged, 474 died and 289 remained in the Hospital at the end of the year. Of the 1,174 cases discharged, 676 improved as a result of treatment, 408 did not improve and in case of 90 it was *status quo*. 341 discharged cases attended the Hospital for A. P. and P. P. treatment and in all 5,528 Refills were done. Total number of X-Ray Films taken was 696 and total number of screening examinations done was 1,326. The Poor Box Collections during the year amounted to Rs. 1,564-9-0 and a sum of Rs. 283-7-0 was spent out of it. The total expenditure incurred of on this Group amounted to Rs. 5.00 lacs.

The Committee invite the attention of the Commissioner to the inadequate number of full-fledged Honorary Medical Officers working at this Group of the Hospitals and request him to consider the desirability of increasing their number so that each of them would not have to attend to more than 40 beds and also of arranging for the teaching of the under-graduate Medical students at these institutions.

41. It is now five years that the Hospital has an accommodation of 510 beds distributed amongst men, women and children as 325, 145 and 40, respectively. The Hospital extension programme could not be proceeded with owing to unfavourable conditions during the year under report. The Hospital remained fully occupied throughout the year. The total number of in-patients admitted during the year was 20,843 against 18,152 and 17,096 in the previous two years. The daily average number of in-patients was 616.56 against 583.72 and 570.93 of the previous two years. The maximum number of in patients on a single day was 697 thus making their nursing and care extremely difficult. The average number of days each patient was resident was 10.82 against 11.74 and 11.08 of the last two years. The total number of operations performed on in-patients was 7,735 against 6,854 and 6,576 in the previous two years. The total number of in-patients treated during the year was 21,383 including the balance of 540 of the previous year. Of these in-patients 8,636 were cured, 7004 discharged and relieved, 3,046 left the hospital against medical advice or were otherwise discharged and 2,079 died, leaving a balance of 618 at the end of the year. The average cost per in-patient per day was Rs. 6-1-8 against Rs. 6 and Rs. 5-3-10 of the previous two years. Similarly, the average cost per in-patient admission amounted to Rs. 66-3-5 against Rs. 68-9-4 and Rs. 64-9-8 of the preceding two years.

The total number of new out-patients (including 34,962 casualty patients against 27,612 in the previous year) treated was 1.65 lacs against Rs. 1.22 lacs and 1.15 lacs of the preceding two years. The daily average number of new out-patients was 599.14 against 446.50 and 421.22 of the previous two years while the daily average number of out-patient attendance worked out to 1,965.01 against 1,446.60 and 1,557.19 of the previous two years. The total number of out-patient attendance during the year came to 5.91 lacs against 4.31 lacs and 4.67 lacs in the previous two years. The highest number of out-patients attendance on any one day was 3,090 while new out-patients admitted on a single day was 818. The total number of operations on out-patients during year was 11,711 against 11,669 and 11,188 in the previous two years. The average cost per out patient attendance during the year was Re. 0-10-2 against Re. 0-11-9 and Re. 0-10-11 of the previous two years; while the average cost per out-patient admission was Rs. 2-5-7 against Rs. 2-8-9 and Rs. 2-4-5 of the preceding two years.

The average cost of both in the case of in-patients and out-patients is exclusive of the cost of expensive drugs, blood transfusion, etc., met out of the Poor Box Charity Fund to the extent on Rs. 87,834. The total amount spent out of the Fund in giving relief which could not be ordinarily given out of the Municipal Fund came to Rs. 91,100 while contributions amounted to Rs. 18,600. During the year blood transfusion was provided to 933 cases against 828 cases in the previous year.

The total number of school children treated during the year was 6,333 against 5,310 in the previous year, while the total cost of the School Clinic at the Hospital was Rs. 11,560 against Rs. 11,270 in the previous year.

42. With the taking over of the Indian Military Hospital, Dharavi, in October 1946, Sion Group of Municipal Hospitals came into being. It will comprise in due course *inter alia* of 'The Annapurnabai Deshmukh Hospital for Women' and, 'Seth Lalji Dongarsee and Jadhavji Dongarsee Roopmal Hospital'. It started functioning with one ward of 50 beds from 24th April 1947. Another ward of 50 beds for surgical cases was added on 4th September 1948. Two wards of 50 beds each, one for female medical and surgical cases and the second for gynaec and maternity cases were opened, respectively, in August 1948 and January 1949. At the close of the year this group had 200 beds as against the scheduled strength of 300 beds. Last year patients transferred from the K. E. M. Hospital were treated but with the appointment of the medical staff during the year under report direct admissions were done. Total number of patients admitted was 1,145 whereas total number of patients received from the K.E.M. Hospital during the previous year was 444. The highest number of in-patients on a single day was 143 and the daily average number of in-patients was 99. Average number of days each patient was resident was 32. This high average was due to the transfer of Orthopaedic cases from the K. E. M. Hospital requiring prolonged stay. This arrangement, it is reported, has been discontinued and it is hoped it will reduce the average.

The total number of in-patients treated was 1,189 including 74 of the previous year's balance. Of these, 672 were cured, 207 were relieved, 150 left the hospital against medical advice or were other-

wise discharged, 31 died and 129 remained at the close of the year. The total number of operations performed on in-patients was 306. The cost per patient on diet per day was Rs. 1-3-9.

The total number of new out-patients was 11,342 with a daily average of 37. The total number of out-patients attendance was 29,232 with the daily average of 94. The highest number of out-patients attendance on a single day was 346 and new admissions 103 and that of old cases 243. The total number of operations performed on out-patients was 240.

Pathological and Bacteriological investigations on patients at the Hospital were carried out at the Bai Yamunabai L. Nair Hospital.

Poor Box Fund at the close of the last year was Rs. 111-8-0. During the year a sum of Rs. 2,140-14-9 was collected in the Charity Boxes. A Charity show in aid of the Fund yielded an amount of Rs. 1,760-4-9. A sum of Rs. 269-9-0 was spent, leaving a balance of Rs. 3,743-2-6 at the close of the year.

No comparative figures could be given as the Hospital started receiving admissions direct only during the year under report. This Group of Hospitals has met a long felt want of a general and maternity public hospital in the northern parts of the City.

43. During the year under report the number of beds was raised from 160 to 225 and the same was distributed amongst men, women and children as 120, 93 and 12, respectively. Additional 25 beds on an average were required to be put due to demand. The total number of in-patients admitted was 3,698 against 3,814 in the previous year. The daily average of admissions was 198 against 136 in the previous year. Total number of in-patients treated was 3,698 of whom 2,369 were cured, 765 were relieved, 170 died, 197 were otherwise discharged and 213 remained at the close of the year. The highest number of in-patients treated on a single day was 228. And on an average each patient was resident for 12.5 days. The average cost per patient per day was Rs. 4-9-11 against Rs. 4-7-8 during the last year.

The total number of out-patients treated was 71,364 against 55,908 in the previous year and the average number of out-patients per day was 259 against 153.2 in the previous year. The highest out-patients attendance on a single day was 543. The average cost per out-patient per day was Rs. 1-4-11 against Rs. 1-3-10 last year.

During the year 1,616 and 1,228 operations were performed, respectively, on in-patients and out-patients against 1,067 and 760, respectively, during the last year.

The total expenditure incurred on the maintenance of the hospital was Rs. 4.83 lacs as against Rs. 3.14 lacs in the year 1947-48.

44. During the year under report, 82 fresh admissions were made. Of the new admissions 81 were single and 1 betrothed. Of the 627 students on the roll against 632 in the previous year, 140 were lady students and 91 post-graduate and research students against 142 and 70, respectively, of the previous year. Out of 606 students sent up for various examinations, 387 passed the whole examination against the corresponding figures of 520 and 288 of the previous year. 167 male and 28 lady students were accommodated in their respective hostels. Besides, 18 more lady students were housed in the vacant rooms of the Nurses' Home of the K. E. M. Hospital. Revenue derived by way of tuition fees, hostel rents, etc., was Rs. 1.97 lacs against Rs. 1.58 lacs and Rs. 1.49 lacs in the previous two years. Total expenditure amounted to Rs. 4.28 lacs (including payment of dearness allowance) against Rs. 3.79 lacs and Rs. 3.28 lacs of the preceding two years. The gross and net cost per student worked out to Rs. 797.9 and Rs. 431.0. Clinical instructions in diseases of children continued to be given at the Bai Jerbai Wadia Hospital for Children.

45. The College was affiliated to the Bombay University in November 1946 for pre-clinical National courses and it has also secured further affiliation for clinical courses. Of the 98 students on the roll, 57 were lady students. In the previous year there were 325 students on the roll, of whom 55 were lady students. Of the total number of 298 students, 160 were studying for the University Degree course and 138 for other Diploma courses. Of the 160 students for the Degree Course against 117 in the previous year, 34 were lady students. Of the 138 students for the Diploma Courses against 208 in the previous year 23 were lady students. Of the 53 students who appeared for the 1st M.B., B.S. examination for the first time, 28 passed and a student of the College secured the distinction standing 1st. Of the 182 students who appeared for the Diploma Courses, 74 passed the Final L.C.P.S. examination and 22 Final L.M.P. examination 45 students were accommodated in the College Hospital. The total expenditure incurred on the maintenance of the College was Rs. 1.78 lacs against Rs. 1.01 lacs in the previous year. The tuition, etc., fees received amounted to Rs. 0.85 lac against Rs. 0.74 lac in the previous year.

46. The College has 26 dental chairs and 2 well equipped laboratories. It provides facilities for teaching dentistry and grants the Diploma of L.D.Sc. (Bom.) after a four years' course. The diploma is recognised by the Provincial and Central Governments and by many foreign Universities for graduate and post-graduate studies. There were 89 students including 16 lady students on the roll, and 5 students including 1 lady student passed the examination. The College also runs a dental clinic which treats

patients at a nominal cost. During the year 17,216 patients were treated. The total expenditure incurred was Rs. 71,889-8-9 as against Rs. 45,105-1-9 in the previous year; and the total revenue by way of fees from students and patients was Rs. 35,404-1-0 as against Rs. 33,400-13-0 during the previous year.

47. At the close of the year under review there were 1,20,175 pupils in all the Municipal schools and classes. During the previous year the number was 1,15,599.

**Education.** There was thus a rise of 4,576 in spite of the restriction of admission of new children below six years from 1st November 1948. The highest number on the rolls was 1,25,808 at the end of October 1948. In 1946-47 the number of pupils was 1,02,510. During the year of report the number of schools and classes, respectively, were 395 and 31; corresponding numbers for the previous two years were 399 and 29, and 397 and 25. There was thus fall of 4 in the number of schools and an increase of 2 in the number of classes. One school was added to the South Indian languages group whereas one Marathi Boys' school was closed. Four Urdu Schools had to be closed during the year under report due to the migration of the Muslim population to Pakistan. Similarly, four classes for Marathi speaking boys and two classes for Gujarati speaking boys were added whereas four Urdu Boys' classes were reduced, giving a rise of two only in the number of classes. The total number of teachers at the end of the year was 3,547 against 3,590 and 3,687 in the previous two years. Of this number 2,938 were ordinary permanent, 456 ordinary non-permanent and 153 special (including part-time).

The number of Aided Schools increased from 216 to 223 during the year but the number of pupils decreased from 49,363 to 48,989. The number of schools and pupils in 1946-47 were 216 and 47,451, respectively. The number of other recognised schools not receiving Municipal grants-in-aid was 18 with 3,864 pupils, whereas in the previous year the number was 16 with 4,489 pupils. The total number of teachers in Aided Schools including Special and part-time was 2,194 as against 2,091 of the previous year.

The census of compulsory school-going age children reached a figure of 17,350 as non-attending. Of this number 7,778 children were brought to schools. It is again stated in the report that no special efforts could be made to bring in a greater number of non-attending children for lack of sufficient funds but nothing is said of the new scheme of bringing in the maximum number of children that had been drawn up and was under the consideration of the Department. The system of holding schools in two sessions had to be continued during the year on account of the acute shortage of housing accommodation.

The Municipal grant during the year amounted to Rs. 98.10 lacs against Rs. 83.81 lacs and Rs. 69.29 lacs during the preceding two years. Against the ever increasing grant by the Corporation, Government grant-in-aid amounted to Rs. 9.73 lacs including Rs. 28,310 towards English-teaching Aided Schools.

The average cost per pupil calculated on the number of pupils on Rolls (1,20,175) was Rs. 78.3 as against of Rs. 69.8 and Rs. 64.01 in previous two years whereas the average cost worked on the average number of pupils on the Rolls (1,19,167) came to Rs. 79 as against of Rs. 71.5 and Rs. 58.04 in the preceding two years. If the expenditure of Rs. 0.96 lac met out of the Municipal General Fund on the Schools Committee's Head Office be taken into consideration then the two averages will increase to Rs. 79.1 and Rs. 79.8, respectively. The increase in the cost of per pupil is attributed to enhanced rates of Dearness Allowance, revision of grades to teachers according to qualifications and the removal of the fixed proportion of trained and un-trained teachers.

A net amount of Rs. 4.20 lacs was paid to Aided Schools as grants-in-aid against Rs. 3.54 lacs and Rs. 3.56 lacs in the previous two years. The amount was paid after applying a cut of 12½ per cent., on the total assessed amount Rs. 4.74 lacs against Rs. 4.27 and Rs. 3.78 lacs after applying cuts of 18½ per cent. and 6¼ per cent., respectively, in the preceding two years. The total expenditure incurred by these schools amounted to Rs. 33.02 lacs against Rs. 27.89 lacs and Rs. 23.72 lacs in the preceding two years. With the average number of 48,153 against 48,149 and 46,907 in the last two years of pupils on the rolls of the aided schools, the average cost per pupil worked out to Rs. 68.5 against Rs. 57.9 and Rs. 50.5 in the preceding two years. The cost per pupil to the Municipality by way of grant worked out to Rs. 8.7 against Rs. 7.7 and Rs. 8.2 in the previous two years.

The teaching of Hindustani in Municipal Marathi and Gujarati Schools was continued and during the year 35,575 pupils came within its scope as against 41,000 during the last year. Hitherto Hindustani was taught in Standards III to VII but the same was discontinued in Standard III.

857 pupils as against 803 in the last year received instructions in vocational subjects in 12 Central Schools against 13 of the last year. There was an increase of 54 in the number of pupils although one school was closed during the year under report. Out of 172 and 182 pupils who appeared for the Carpentry and the Tailoring Examinations 90 and 74, respectively, were successful. The results are rather distressing.

Marathi, Gujarati, Urdu and Hindi Training Classes were continued but only the Marathi training class had a full complement. Out of 150 teachers, who appeared at the final examination 91 were successful.

During the year a Special Officer was appointed by the Corporation to examine the constitution, powers and functions of the Schools Committee with a view to making its working more effective. The report of the Special Officer was submitted to the Corporation and was under their consideration at the close of the year.

48. The difficulty of obtaining paper experienced in the previous years continued during the year under review although full quota of both the Bleached and Badami varieties of paper was released by Government on various Paper Mills. But due to the shortage of bleaching materials, Mills could supply only 20 tons of Bleached variety against the demand and release order of 72 tons. 40 tons of foreign bleached paper had to be purchased at high rates in order to cope with the requirements of the Municipal departments. 30 tons of badami paper was received in full quantity of the demand. Total quantity of paper consumed was 82 tons against 75.50 tons and 60.75 tons during the previous two years.

The transactions of the Press closed with surplus of Rs. 2,848 on the total turnover of Rs. 4.11 lacs against 3.51 lacs and Rs. 3.04 lacs of previous two years when the surpluses were Rs. 1,817 and Rs. 3,617. The labour staff at the close of the year consisted of 152 workers against 159 and 148 in the previous two years.

49. The Department was created in 1931 and strengthened from time to time. During the year the department undertook to attend contested matters and other proceedings in the High Court and brief information as regards High Court and City Civil Courts suits is given in a statement. During the year, the department received 4,300 files, addressed 1,762 letters to outside parties or their legal advisers and gave advice on 133 documents. Corresponding figures in the preceding year were 3,500 files, 2,090 letters and 173 documents. The report contains figures of High Court suits, as well as number of documents, such as, conveyances, etc., that were completed.

The income by way of costs recovered amounted to about Rs. 36,358 and the expenditure to about Rs. 46,687.

50. The post of a Labour Officer was created by the Corporation mainly to look into the grievances of the labour staff and to maintain harmonious relations between that staff and the executive. With the appointment of the Labour Officer towards the end of the last year, the Department started functioning for the first time during the year under report. There were 9 Unions of the Municipal employees with a total membership of over 11,340 out of the total labour staff of 21,615 persons. Labour relations were no doubt strained but at no time did they seriously threaten the essential service. It may possibly be the consequence of a large number of individual disputes and general relations among all classes of labour due to economic hardship. Stoppages of work occurred in 26 cases and nearly all the disputes were quietly settled. Three disputes (1) Sweepers and Scavengers, (2) Victoria Gardens employees and (3) Hospital staff were referred to Adjudication. At the end of the year the Award in respect of the third dispute was pending while the Awards of the first disputes were implemented.

The Welfare Branch was transferred from the Health Department to the Labour Department during the year. Welfare activities were conducted at 12 centres for the benefit of about 4,550 employees and their dependents. The centres are located near the labour chawls. A small maternity home is conducted for the benefit of the employees working in the Chembur Labour Camp.

51. On account of an enormous increase in complaints and in order to co-ordinate the efforts of the different Municipal departments as also to get the complaints dealt with expeditiously, Ward Officers (one for the South and another for the North) were appointed during the year. They attend to complaints pertaining to Drainage, Conservancy, Water Supply, Buildings and Sanitation. On their usual rounds the complaints are verified and the needful done. It takes about 10 to 15 days to complete the round of the entire section. Reports as regards the nature of the work done are submitted to the Municipal Commissioner every week. No statistics about the number of complaints dealt with by the officers, general lines on which these complaints were disposed of, etc., are given in the report. It is desirable that such information is given in the report to enable the Corporation to know the activities of the Branch.

52. This year also the Municipal Chief Auditor's Report has not been included in the Municipal Commissioner's Administration Report as required by Section 137(4) of the Municipal Act, as it was not received in time. It will be readily admitted that the reading of the Municipal Chief Auditor's Report with that of the Municipal Commissioner would have been of great assistance to the Standing Committee. It is hoped that the Municipal Chief Auditor will submit his report in time in future. The report will be forwarded to the Corporation when received.

53. In conclusion, the Standing Committee desire to record their appreciation of the very valuable services rendered by Mr. B. K. Patel, I.C.S., whose high administrative ability and financial acumen were of great help to the Committee in the administration of the civic affairs of the Corporation. The Committee also place on record their appreciation of the services rendered by the Municipal Staff.

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OFFICE, }

Bombay, 30th September 1949. }

SALEBHOY ABDUL KADER,  
Chairman, Standing Committee.

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