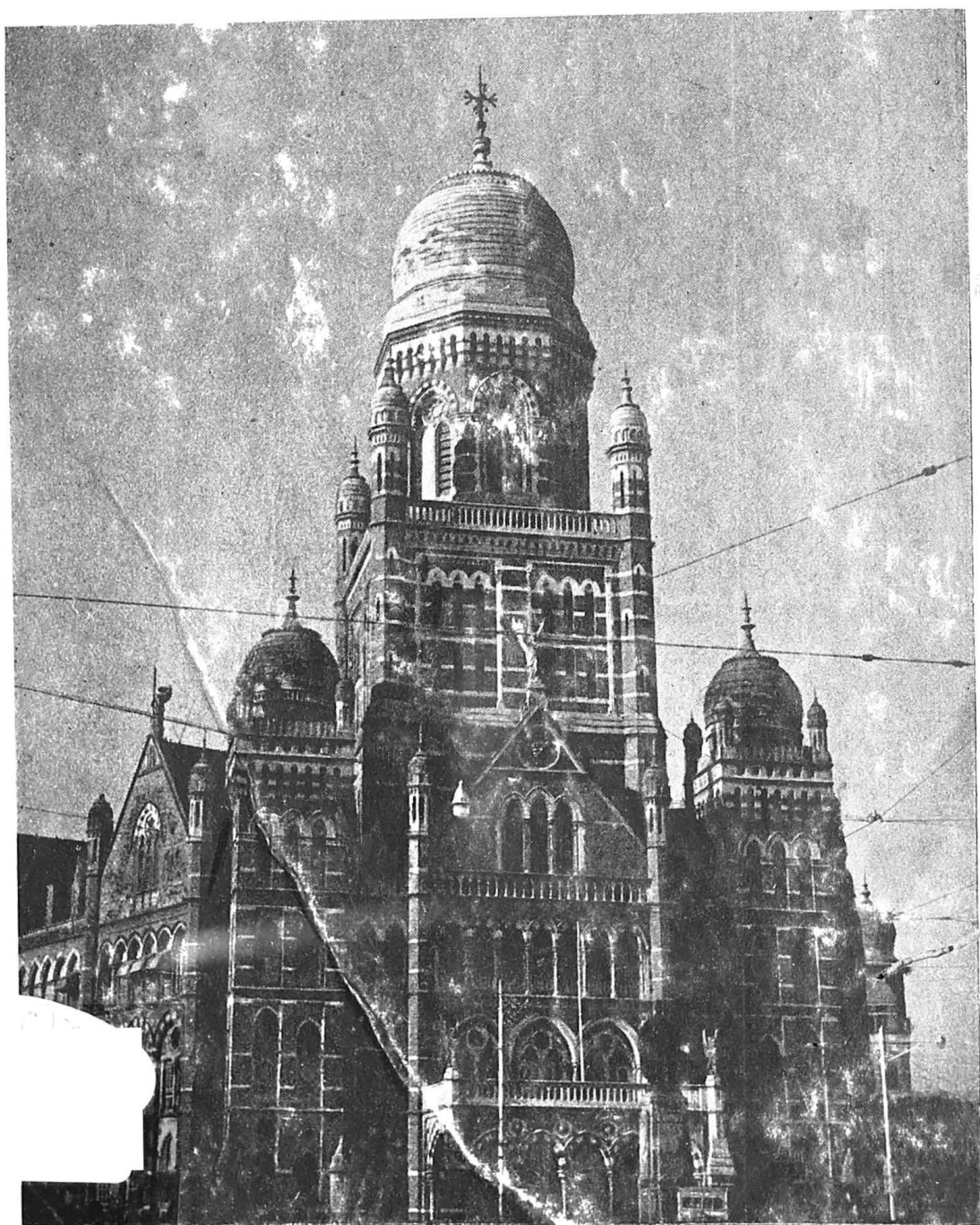


ADMINISTRATION REPORT
OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER
FOR
GREATER BOMBAY
FOR THE YEAR
1952-53



BOMBAY
PRINTED AT THE MUNICIPAL PRINTING PRESS
1953

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REVIEW OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER FOR GREATER BOMBAY FOR THE YEAR 1952-53

The Administration Report, submitted by the Municipal Commissioner, gives in detail the working of the Municipal Departments for the year 1952-53.

2. Shri Ganpatishankar N. Desai, J.P., was elected Mayor of Bombay for the year under report. Shri N. C. Pupala, J.P., was the Chairman of the Standing Corporation Committee; Dr. N. N. Shah, L.C.P.S., J.P., was the Chairman of the Improvements Committee; and Shri R. K. Achrekar, J.P., was the Chairman of the Education Committee up to the end of March 1953.

3. Shri B. K. Patel, I.C.S., J.P., continued to hold the office of the Municipal Commissioner till 20th September 1952, except for the period from 3rd September 1952 to 20th September 1952, when he was on leave. During his absence on leave Shri P. R. Nayak, I.C.S., J.P., was appointed to act as Municipal Commissioner up to 20th September 1952. Shri Nayak was appointed as Municipal Commissioner *vice* Shri B. K. Patel for a period of three years from 21st September 1952 and held that office during the remaining period of the year.

4. The financial position of the Corporation during recent years has given rise to considerable anxiety due to income not keeping pace with the mounting expenditure, with the result that the Corporation have had to face deficit budgets successively for the previous three years. This necessitated the Corporation to increase the rate of General Tax by 3 per cent. in the year under report and also to resort to other measures to give relief to the surplus cash balance which then stood at Rs. 87.70 lacs, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 52.82 lacs at the end of the year under report. The major source of the Municipal Revenue is the General Tax. The rate of General Tax now stands at 17 per cent. against the statutory maximum of 21 per cent. leaving a bare margin of 4 per cent. only. It is, however, gratifying to note that after 3 continuous years of actual deficits, the year under report had shown progress in that it ended with a surplus of Rs. 22.96 lacs. This has been achieved largely due to the increase made in the General Tax and to partly on account of a determined policy of rigidly controlling the expenditure on staff and keeping down demands for additional grants. The sources available to the Corporation are limited and none too elastic. It is, therefore, necessary to curtail certain demands, to find out ways and means to reduce expenditure wherever possible without affecting efficiency and to explore additional sources of revenue. With a view to effecting economy, the Corporation have engaged the services of Messrs. Ibcon, Ltd., who have so far made their recommendations for the re-organization of several Municipal Departments, and the implementation of some of their recommendations has resulted in a considerable saving up to 31st March 1953. Further appreciable savings are expected to accrue as the implementations of their other recommendations, will be carried on in future. It is hoped that the Commissioner will follow the policy of effecting economy till the financial position shows a marked improvement in the working of the Municipal administration without affecting the efficiency of the Departments.

5. In preparing the Budget Estimates for the year under report an Opening Cash Balance of Rs. 35.88 lacs was estimated. On the final closing of the Variation in Income. accounts for the year 1951-52 the actual Opening Balance was Rs. 15.75 lacs, which was less by Rs. 37.74 lacs than the actual Opening Balance of the previous year, viz., Rs. 53.49 lacs. The total income was budgetted at Rs. 856.93 lacs, but the actual realization amounted to Rs. 910.56 lacs, showing an increase of Rs. 53.63 lacs over the budgetted amount and also an increase of Rs. 139.05 lacs over the actuals of the previous year, viz., Rs. 771.51 lacs. On the Expenditure Side, the budgetted amount was Rs. 880.86 lacs which exceeded by Rs. 88.6 lacs the actual of Rs. 792.80 lacs of the previous year. However, the actual expenditure at the close of the year was reduced to Rs. 822.86 lacs which was less than the budget estimate (Rs. 880.86 lacs) by Rs. 58.00 lacs. The anticipated deficit of Rs. 23.93 lacs was thus turned into a surplus amounting to Rs. 87.70 lacs. In the preceding year the deficit amounted to Rs. 21.29 lacs and in the year before, it was Rs. 28.49 lacs. The financial transactions of the year ended with a Closing Balance of Rs. 52.82 lacs.

A detailed study of the Income Side reveals a net increase of Rs. 23.74 lacs, compared with the original estimates, comprising of gross increases amounting to Rs. 42.72 lacs counter-balanced by decreases to the extent of Rs. 18.98 lacs. The main increases were under I.—General Tax, etc., (i) Interest and Profit on Investment, etc., Rs. 3.78 lacs, (ii) Miscellaneous Rs. 1.75 lacs, 2.—Water Works Rs. 18.43 lacs; 3.—Education Primary Rs. 4.88 lacs (due

to receipt of arrears for last year) ; 9.—Mechanical Rs. 1.05 lacs; Buildings Rs. 1.54 lacs ; 12.—Licensing, etc., Rs. 5.92 lacs ; 14.—Markets, etc., Rs. 3.39 lacs and minor increases under certain other heads Rs. 1.98 lacs.

The main decreases in income were under General Tax proper Rs. 13.40 lacs, Grant-in-aid in respect of fines Rs. 1.23 lacs, Roads, etc., Rs. 0.86 lac, Contribution from Capital funds Rs. 2.80 lacs and miscellaneous decreases under certain other heads Rs. 0.69 lac.

6. As against the final sanctioned grants (including Renewed and Additional grants) which aggregated to Rs. 958.63 lacs, the actuals amounted to Rs. 822.86 lacs, leaving an unexpended balance of Rs. 135.77 lacs at the close of the year. Against this, an amount of Rs. 48.61 lacs was required to be renewed for expenditure in the following year and the balance of Rs.87.16 lacs was allowed to lapse as savings.

The actual expenditure for the year, viz., Rs. 822.86 lacs compared with that of the previous year viz., Rs. 792.80 lacs showed a net increase of Rs. 30.06 lacs, i.e., gross increases Rs. 60.74 lacs less decreases Rs. 30.68 lacs, the main increases being under Water Works Rs. 13.78 lacs ; Public Health Rs. 7.09 lacs, Medical Relief, etc., Rs. 7.52 lacs ; Street Cleansing, etc., Rs. 14.93 lacs, Roads, etc., Rs. 1.96 lacs, Markets, etc., Rs. 1.97 lacs, Dearness Allowance Rs. 5.50 lacs, Contribution to Budget 'D' Rs. 2.96 lacs, Cyclone Damage Rs. 3.13 lacs and minor increases under certain other heads Rs. 1.90 lacs. The main decreases were under Education(Primary) Rs. 23.41 lacs, Mechanical Rs. 4.94 lacs and under certain other heads Rs. 2.33 lacs. Additional grants sanctioned during the year aggregated to Rs. 30.77 lacs against Rs. 34.64 lacs in the previous year.

7. The Opening Balance on 1st April 1952, on account of Loan Funds (excluding the Trust Fund) was Rs. 5.99 lacs. Loans aggregating to Rs. 374.83 lacs were raised during the year. The total Loan Funds available for expenditure during the year were Rs. 380.82 lacs. Out of this an amount of Rs. 64.74 lacs was reserved for the purchase of Capital Stock. The net amount available for expenditure during the year was Rs. 316.08 lacs. The total expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 361.72 lacs. The expenditure of Rs. 45.64 lacs incurred in excess of funds available was met out of an advance of an equivalent amount from the Surplus monies, which would be adjusted in the loans to be raised in the following year.

At the close of the preceding year the total amount of Municipal Loan outstanding including advances from the various Special Funds was Rs. 17,38.54 lacs. This was increased to Rs. 20,08.83 lacs at the close of the year under review. An amount of Rs. 104.54 lacs was repaid during the year under report. Total Debt Charges for payment of interest, Sinking Fund, etc., amounted to Rs. 188.49 lacs.

8. The book value of investments of the Sinking Fund at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 452.16 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. 453.14 lacs. This, together with the amount of interest accrued upto 31st March 1953, viz., Rs. 2.06 lacs, and cash of Rs. .86 brought the total amount of Sinking Fund to Rs. 455.20 lacs, which more than covered the amount of Rs. 431.42 lacs to which the Fund should have accumulated at the close of the year under review. The excess in the Fund was thus Rs. 23.78 lacs against Rs. 9.74 lacs at the end of the previous year.

9. The total income for the year, viz., Rs. 112.89 lacs, showed a net decrease of Rs. 0.60 lac over that of the preceding year, viz., Rs. 113.49 lacs. This was made up of decreases in (i) contribution from Municipal Corporation Rs. 0.45 lac, (ii) Receipts on account of Tobacco Duty Rs. 2.58 lacs, and (iii) Interest and Profit on Investments Rs. 0.47 lac counter-balanced by increases in (i) Rents and other proceeds of properties Rs. 2.83 lacs and (ii) Miscellaneous Receipts Rs. 0.07 lac.

The total expenditure for the year, viz., Rs. 118.79 lacs showed an increase of Rs.7.88 lacs, over that of the previous year, viz., Rs. 110.91 lacs. This was due to increase on account of Maintenance of Properties and Streets Rs. 8.46 lacs counter-balanced by decrease of Rs. 0.58 lac under Debt Charges.

Loan Liabilities of the ex-Trust at the commencement of the year were Rs. 15,40.46 lacs against Rs. 15,47.09 lacs in the previous year. No new loan liability was incurred during the year, while the debt was reduced by Rs. 6.86 lacs, which was repaid to Government on the basis of equated payments. The outstanding loan liabilities at the close of the year thus stood at Rs. 15,33.60 lacs of which the actual liability to Government was Rs. 375.66 lacs.

The year began with an Opening Balance of Rs. 140.03 lacs. In the course of the year receipts on account of Sale Proceeds of Lands and Buildings amounting to Rs. 12.28 lacs were credited to this Account. The total funds thus available were Rs. 152.31 lacs, out of which an amount of Rs. 21.86 lacs was spent on different works. The deficit in the General Account for the year amounted to Rs. 5.90 lacs and was transferred to the Capital Account. There was thus left an unspent balance of Rs. 124.55 lacs at the close of the year.

The amount of Sinking Fund on 31st March 1953 was Rs. 492.31 lacs including an amount of Rs. 211 with the Imperial Bank of India. Valuing the Municipal and Trust debentures at par, the market value of Sinking Fund Investments at the end of the year under review amounted to Rs. 492.90 lacs. This, together with interest accrued upto 31st March 1953 of Rs. 1.11 lacs and cash of Rs. 211 with the Imperial Bank of India brought the total amount of Sinking Fund to Rs. 494.02 lacs against Rs. 458.13 lacs, at which the Sinking Fund should have accumulated at the close of the year. The excess in the fund thus amounted to Rs. 35.89 lacs.

The total amount of loans raised for Improvement Schemes and outstanding on 31st March 1953, was Rs. 15.34 lacs. Out of this Rs. 3.24 lacs were borrowed from Government, and the balance of Rs. 12.10 lacs represented loans raised by issue of debentures. Out of Rs. 12.10 lacs a sum of Rs. 4.76 lacs was borrowed from Government and Rs. 7.34 lacs from the public.

The gross Capital liabilities of the Improvement Schemes stood at Rs. 1,581.18 lacs at the close of the year under review and the assets at Rs. 2,755.76 lacs including the book value of lands comprised in Schedule 'W' and 'X' which has resulted in a surplus of Rs. 11.34 lacs.

The total income for the year amounted to Rs. 136.41 lacs (including Rs. 99.38 lacs being the contribution from Budgets 'A' and 'D') against the Budget Estimates of Rs. 145.97 lacs and the Revised estimates of Rs. 136.54 lacs showing a decrease of Rs. 9.56 lacs on Budget Estimates and Rs. 0.13 lac on the Revised Estimates. The decrease of Rs. 9.56 lacs was made up of a decrease of Rs. 9.80 lacs in contribution from Budgets 'A' and 'D' and Rs. 1.17 lacs in contribution from Government on account of grants on Expenditure on Sindhi Schools counter-balanced by an increase of Rs. 1.01 lacs in fees from Municipal Schools and Rs. 0.40 lac in other miscellaneous revenue. The final sanctioned grants amounted in aggregate to Rs. 159.37 lacs (including the unexpended grant for the previous year and the Additional Grants).

The total expenditure booked was Rs. 132.88 lacs and the total unexpended grants amounted to Rs. 26.49 lacs. Out of this, grants to be renewed in 1953-54 aggregate to Rs. 9.43 lacs leaving a balance of Rs. 17.06 lacs to be lapsed as savings.

The expenditure booked during the year on the Capital Works was Rs. 1.35 lacs and that on discount and other charges on the new loan amounted to Rs. 0.28 lac leaving a balance of Rs. 8.37 lacs to be carried forward for the next year.

The opening balance of the Education Fund at the beginning of the year was Rs. 13.67 lacs. The transactions for the year resulted in a surplus of Rs. 3.52 lacs. The balance at the close of the year was Rs. 17.19 lacs. Out of this an amount of Rs. 9.43 lacs was reserved for meeting the revenue expenditure for 1952-53 and the previous years to be incurred during 1953-54. The balance at the close of the year stood at Rs. 7.77 lacs.

10. The rates of taxation other than of General Tax remained the same as in the previous year, *i.e.*, Water Tax at $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. and Halalkhore Tax at 3 per cent. The rate of General Tax (including Fire Tax) was raised from $14\frac{3}{4}$ to $17\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. The rate of tax on vehicles and animals remained the same as in the preceding year. The rate charged for the supply of water by meter measurement was enhanced from Rs. 2 to Rs. 2-4-0 per 1,000 gallons in case of the Race Course premises and in respect of premises of the Trustees of the Port of Bombay excluding their residential ones. The rates in respect of other premises remained the same as in the previous year.

On the Assessment Register, at the close of the year there were 54,079 properties against 53,865 during the previous year. Out of the total number of properties, 46,190 were assessed to General Tax ; 1,812 were exempted from the General Tax ; 2,408 were not taxed being very small plots, and 2,560 were Municipal plots.

Properties newly erected, enlarged and demolished during the year numbered 841, 1,206 and 627, respectively, against 991, 1,127 and 406 in the previous year. At the end of the year single-room tenements, double room tenements and flats or blocks numbered 2,73,704, 69,288 and 47,346, respectively, against 2,49,403, 57,198 and 42,734 in the previous year.

The rateable values of properties in the City at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 2,199.09 lacs against Rs. 2,100.54 lacs in the preceding year. The rateable value *per capita* was Rs. 94-8-0 against Rs. 90-5-0 in the previous year.

The total number of vehicles and animals taxed during the year (including those taxed under the Public Conveyances Act, *viz.*, 2,412) was 37,224 as against 35,072 in the previous year. Of this total number, the maximum number in any one group was of 19,569 for motor cars (including 2,452 taxis) and the smallest numbers were 10 for trollies and 17 for ponies.

During the year under report bills numbering 1,11,437 and 1,38,504 were issued, respectively, for Property and Wheel Tax. The amounts collected against gross total demands of Rs. 673.10 lacs and Rs. 52.33 lacs, were Rs. 567.71 lacs and Rs. 38.63 lacs which worked out to 84.34 and 73.82 per cent. of the net demands, respectively. The percentage of the total recovery to the total gross demand worked out to 83.58. The total outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 119.09 lacs. Outstandings against private rate payers stood at Rs. 54.26 lacs at the end of the year. This figure is exclusive of the amount of Rs. 23.15 lacs involved in complaints against rateable values, which were pending at the end of the year and Rs. 23.52 lacs being taxes for new proposals for revision under Section 167 of the Act issued in the last month of the year due to new constructions, additions, alterations, etc.

The total amount of exemption from General Tax allowed in respect of different properties during the year was Rs. 28.58 lacs as against Rs. 23.44 lacs in the previous year. The increase was mainly due to exemption allowed to Government Hospitals and Central Government properties.

The number of claims received for drawback and refund was 21 and 2,972 respectively, against 18 and 2,462 in the previous year. Of these only 2,377 refund claims were admitted involving an amount of Rs. 3.50 lacs. 2 drawback claims only were admitted in the year under report and the amount of drawback allowed was Rs. 115 only.

During the year 1,977 complaints were received against change of assessment involving an assessment amounting to Rs. 179.94 lacs against 1,914 complaints involving an assessment amounting to Rs. 2,66.91 lacs. 56 appeals for rateable values were received in the year. Of these 22 were settled out of Court, 3 were withdrawn, 1 was dismissed and 30 were pending.

19 suits were filed against ratepayers for recovery of taxes and decrees in 3 cases were obtained.

An amount of Rs. 95,333-1-6 was collected as Riot taxes in the year under report.

11. The rate of taxation for the first half of the year 1952-53, *i.e.*, from 1st April to 30th September 1952, continued to be the same as in the previous year, *viz.*, 7 per cent. in the case of buildings and lands, the rateable values of which were above Rs. 2,000 in each case and 3½ per cent. in the case of buildings and lands the rateable values of which were Rs. 2,000 and below but not less than Rs. 500. From 1st October 1952, these rates were reduced to 5 per cent. and 2½ per cent., respectively. Properties having rateable value of less than Rs. 500 per annum continued to be exempted. During the year under review, the demand in respect of this tax was Rs. 131.61 lacs, as against this demand, the collection amounted to Rs. 108.81 lacs; refund Rs. 1.02 lacs and drawback Rs. 40-7-0 only. The collection of the Tax during the year amounted to about 82.67 per cent. of the demand as against 86.40 per cent. in the preceding year.

In the classification of properties according to user, it is found that out of 54,079 properties, with an approximate rateable value of Rs. 2,199.09 lacs, 35,324 properties only are used for residential purposes with an approximate rateable value of Rs. 1,166.17 lacs.

From the classification of properties according to rateable values it is found that as many as 46,632 properties come within the rateable value of Rs. 20,000, leaving only 1,587 properties having rateable value between Rs. 20,001 and Rs. 3,50,000 and above.

12. During the year, rates of Town Duties continued to be the same as those in the previous year. The gross realization from Town Duties amounted to Rs. 92.95 lacs as against Rs. 96.23 lacs in the previous year. There was an increase in the net receipts from Grain and Sugar with a corresponding decrease in Timber and Plywood, Tea and Edibles. The refund for the year under review was Rs. 20.19 lacs as against Rs. 24.52 lacs for the previous year. The decrease in refunds is due to the fact that no arrears of old claims were disposed of during the year. Town Duties gave a net revenue of Rs. 72.76 lacs as against Rs. 71.71 lacs in the previous year. The total number of claims for refunds was 34,564 as against 29,379 last year. Though the number of claims for refund during the year was more by 5,185 than in the preceding year, the amount of refund was less by Rs. 4.33 lacs.

The fees for stamping sugar bags, tea-cases, etc., amounted to Rs. 1.01 lacs as against Rs. 0.83 lac in the preceding year.

Town Duties collected at Bhandup and Jogeshwari amounted to Rs. 6.92 lacs as against Rs. 7.19 lacs and Rs. 5.60 lacs in the preceding two years. The Town Duties on dutiable parcels imported by air amounted to Rs. 5,872 during the year under report.

13. After the results of the General Elections were declared in March 1952, 4 appeals were filed in the Small Causes Court by the defeated candidates. Two of these appeals were allowed to be withdrawn after some hearing and two were dismissed by the Chief Judge, Small Causes Court.

The Supplementary Election Roll was published on 20th December 1952, in accordance with the provisions of Section 21-B of the Bombay Municipal Corporation Act and the number of voters enrolled was 96.

14. The total number of properties, both Municipal and *ex-Trust* maintained by the Maintenance Branch during the year was 3,156 which showed an increase by 15 from the previous year's 3,141. This increase was due to new buildings having been handed over for maintenance. The work of up-keep and maintenance of these buildings was carried out partly by contract and partly by departmental agency for which the total provision in the Budget for the year amounted to Rs. 22.64 lacs against which the expenditure incurred amounted to Rs. 11.39 lacs. Corresponding figures of the Budget grant and expenditure for the last year were Rs. 24.56 lacs and Rs. 9.74 lacs. In addition, repairs to school buildings under Budget 'E' were also carried out in the year under report. Out of the total expenditure, works to the extent of Rs. 8.22 lacs were carried out departmentally and of Rs. 2.63 lacs through the Pety Works contractors.

New Works and Special Repairs Works were carried out during the year at a total expenditure of Rs. 4.02 lacs. The total Budget grants for carrying out Special Repairs to Municipal properties and *ex-Trust* chawls and properties were Rs. 3.22 lacs and Rs. 9.05 lacs, respectively against which the actual expenditure incurred during the year amounted to Rs. 1.88 lacs and Rs. 1.43 lacs, respectively.

The work on the five years' programme of heavy repairs and the improvement of water supply to the *ex-Trust* Chawls was continued. The work of the improvement of the water supply at Love Lane Chawls, Imamwada Chawls and some Chawls at Chandanwadi was completed and the works at the remaining Chawls at Chandanwadi and at Princess Street were in progress. The work of renewal of electric wiring in *ex-Trust* Buildings was also in progress.

The cost of maintenance of Municipal and *ex-Trust* buildings continued to be on the upward trend. This increase was largely due to the continuously deteriorating condition of the properties consequent upon their old age. The total funds available for the repairs being inadequate, many of the works, had to be deferred.

Although the position regarding the availability of building materials has considerably eased during the year, the programme of construction of new buildings could not be accelerated due to paucity of Loan funds therefor. The following major works were completed during the year :

(1) Fire Brigade Station at Worli, (2) Additional floor over Ward Pavilion No. 2 at the K. E. M. Hospital, (3) Additional floor over the School Building at DeLisle Road.

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

(1) The work of extension to the X-Ray Therapy Block at the K. E. M. Hospital was completed, (2) Building work for an electrically operated crematorium at Chandanwadi was in progress, (3) The work of providing an additional floor over the J. R. Municipal School building at Sandhurst Road (East) was completed and (4) The work of constructing a school building at Laxmi Narayan Lane, Matunga, was in progress.

The construction of a building for an electrically operated Crematorium, which is the first of its kind in India, was sponsored by the Lotus Trust which contributed Rs. 1 lac towards its construction. The total cost of the work was estimated at Rs. 5.54 lacs. The balance of cost was therefore provided from Municipal funds. Two electric furnaces, have been installed and the work was nearing completion at the close of the year.

A majority of Municipal schools are located in private buildings which are not suitable for the purpose. The necessity of constructing Municipal owned buildings for housing primary schools has been greatly felt. A programme of constructing school buildings in different parts of the City was framed and the same was being pursued according to the availability of funds and suitable sites. A tentative decision to set apart at least Rs. 10 lacs per year to implement this programme was taken.

There was no relief from the housing shortage in the City during the year. On account of unsatisfactory condition of Loan Funds, the Municipal activities for providing housing accommodation for poorer classes had to be restricted to 140 tenements, 6 godowns and 4 shops, which were completed during the year. The work of constructing another 170 tenements was also taken in hand during the year and was nearing completion at the end of the year. During the year the following new works were carried out :

(1) Squatters' colony at Jogeshwari, (2) Extension of Squatters' Colony at Mankhurd, (3) 48 tenements at Rajwadkar street, Colaba, (4) 3rd Chawl at Palton Road, (5) 64 temporary tenements at Dharavi and (6) temporary tenements at Wadala.

No experimental houses were constructed during the year. It is understood that the Engineering Department has under its serious scrutiny some proposals for cheap model houses. When a decision in this direction is taken it is hoped the work of providing such model houses both for Municipal employees and others will greatly relieve the present strain of housing shortage.

15. During the year 5,437 applications against 4,391 in the previous year were received for the construction of new buildings or additions and alterations to the existing ones. The number of buildings covered by these applications was 1,689 against 1,990 in the preceding year. The number of new tenements constructed during the year was 2,565 against 2,568 in the preceding year. Of the 2,565 tenements, 303 were one-room tenements, 597 two-room tenements and 1,665 larger tenements. The corresponding figures for the last year were 492, 634, and 1,442, respectively. Of the newly constructed tenements during the year, the highest number was 843 in F Ward in which 68 one-room, 356 two-room and 419 larger tenements were constructed. The total number of buildings constructed by private enterprise during the year was 520 of which 158 were residential and 343 non-residential. 15 buildings were constructed by Co-operative Societies and 4 by employers for their employees.

The number of tenements demolished during the year was 535. Of these 439 were one-room tenements, 16 two-room tenements and 70 were larger tenements. Of the demolished buildings the highest number was 196 in F Ward in which 183 one-room tenements, 12 two-room tenements and 1 larger tenement were demolished.

During the year under report, action for removal of unauthorised works was taken vigorously to check the growing tendency on the part of the law breakers to put up such structures without permission and in contravention of the provisions of the Act. Most of such structures were inadequately lighted and ventilated and were deficient as regards open spaces required under the Building Bye-laws. Sanction of the Standing Committee was obtained in 156 cases for the removal of unauthorised works and such works in 50 cases were removed by the parties and/or departmentally.

Action for the removal of stall-board projections and show cases on public streets was continued through the stall-board removal staff. In all 3,856 notices were issued. Out of these, 2,574 notices were complied with and 1,282 were pending at the close of the year. During the year 879 projections were removed by the parties of their own accord and 1,248 were removed departmentally. 1,207 stall-board projections and 848 weather frame projections were allowed to be retained on payment of fees. The net income derived during the year from temporary projections, such as, stall-boards, etc., amounted to Rs. 2.32 lacs as against Rs. 2.76 lacs in the preceding year while the expenditure incurred on the establishment, etc., for the removal or control of such projections was Rs. 0.90 lac against Rs. 0.83 lac in the preceding year. The Corporation have modified the policy in respect of stall-board projections and show cases in the City so as to enforce control instead of elimination thereof till such time as conditions return to normal and the overcrowding in the City is relieved.

The Corporation had sanctioned enhanced rates of fees from April 1952 charging the stall-board projections on roads without footpaths at double the then existing rates with a proviso to double the fees every year thereafter and the cup-board, etc., projections on cubical measurements. The stall-holders represented through their Association that due to the general trade depression, they were finding it difficult to carry on their business and

as such the enhanced fees should be again revised. Most of the stall-board holders were reluctant to pay the fees at enhanced rates. However, negotiations with the Association were carried on and the final results had not concluded in the year under report.

There was hardly any improvement in the scarcity of housing accommodation for the over-crowded and homeless population of the City in the year under report due to the fact that there was no response from private enterprise for construction of one-room and two-room tenements to cater for the requirements of low income group families as the return from such investment would not be remunerative. Unless, therefore, Government and the Corporation with the help of industrialists move in the matter of providing housing at rents within the reach of lower income groups at an early date, it is doubtful whether any progress can be made in this direction and in the meanwhile the housing condition is likely to deteriorate further.

In the case of dilapidated houses, the owners were reluctant to comply with the Municipal requisitions on the ground of heavy cost on repairs which the owners cannot recoup under the existing provisions of the Rent Act. The Municipality had, therefore, to be satisfied with the issue of notices and launching of prosecutions for non-compliance with the requisitions. In some cases where the owners failed to comply with the requisitions and the tenants showed their willingness to carry out the repairs, they were authorized to do so under Section 499 of the Act. Departmental action was taken in some cases for pulling down dangerous portions or structures meeting the cost from the provision made in the Budget for the purpose pending recoveries from house-owners.

The work of the improvement and widening of narrow streets in congested localities was hampered for want of alternative accommodation for persons affected by acquisition of set-backs. Unless some alternative accommodation is made available for the dishoused persons, no effective action is possible in this behalf.

16. *Dadar Purification Works.*—The sewage Purification Works at Dadar functioned satisfactorily throughout the year under report. The total volume of sewage received at the Plant during the year amounted to 4,073.53 million gallons, *i.e.*, an average of 11.16 million gallons per day, against the total quantity of 3,952.6 million gallons received at the Works in the previous year giving a daily average of 10.8 million gallons. The total quantity of sludge gas generated during the year was 38.85 million cu. ft. almost 5.85 million cu. ft. more than the last year's average, while the production was 1,06,400 cu. ft. per day. During the year under report sludge gas supply was extended to five Hotels and Restaurants in the Dadar Bazar area through the newly laid 4" pipe line, and to sixty new tenements of the Dadar Co-operative Housing Society bringing a revenue of about Rs. 1,700 per month. Similarly, the gas supply was extended to 4 kitchens of the Male Students' Hostel of the G. S. M. College as also to the newly opened Cancer Research Laboratory. The income derived from these extensions amounted to Rs. 100 per month. The total revenue realised during the year by sale of gas amounted to Rs. 78,490 as against Rs. 62,690 in the last year. The total expenditure on power, stores, laboratory, establishment, etc., charges for the purification plant, Digestion tanks, Sewerage Pumping Station, etc., amounted to Rs. 2,30,780.

This installation worked satisfactorily throughout the year. The average quantity of sewage pumped during the year amounted to about 57.95 million gallons per day. The total expenditure on the maintenance of the station was Rs. 2,46,138 as against Rs. 1,84,220 incurred during the previous year.

The electrical and mechanical machinery for the work of providing a purification plant capable of treating 5 million gallons per day forming part of the scheme of treating 10 million gallons was installed during the year, and the work of installing new pumps at the Mahim Pumping Station, sewage from which will be carried to the Dharavi Purification Works was completed. The plant was ready for operation during the year.

The sewerage system of the City depends upon the satisfactory working of the pumping and compressor stations. Sewage from the sewerage system of the City was pumped through 13 pumping stations, 5 of which, *viz.*, Love Grove, Dadar, Matunga, Mahim and Jacob Circle, are major stations and the remaining are secondary ones. The number of major stations is to be increased by two, one at Tulsi Pipe Line Road and the other at Dharavi. The number of secondary stations will be also increased when the schemes of Pumping Stations at Chowpatty, Chinchpokli and at the Globe Mill Passage are ready for operations. All the pumping stations worked satisfactorily during the year.

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

17. During the year 454 motor vehicles were in commission against 344 in the previous year. The increase in the number of vehicles was mainly due to the implementation of the three year programme for improving the methods of collection and removal of refuse in the City. The expenditure incurred on the maintenance of the motor transport amounted to Rs. 10.58 lacs against Rs. 9.57 lacs in the previous year.

Transport.

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

18. The total mileage of roads in the City limits at the end of the year was 280.891 against 270.717 in the preceding year. Excepting the concreting of Sleater Road from Nana's Chowk to Grant Road Railway Station, no road for permanent construction of which the expenditure is debited to Loan Works, was taken in hand during the year due to paucity of funds. For the same reason the scheme of Footpaths was also not pursued.

Repairs and Maintenance of Roads and Foot-paths.

During the year, about 36,132 sq. yds. of area of road surfaces was renewed with 3" sheet asphalt and 'Recondo' process at a total cost of Rs. 3.68 lacs. The work of maintenance of the roads was generally satisfactory throughout the year. A total area of 7,37,010 sq. yds. of the different types of the road surfaces was improved during the year. The work of asphalt-ing footpaths was continued during the year and footpaths of 18 roads covering an area of 46,148 sq. yds. were asphalted at a cost of Rs. 1,42,764.

Total number of street lamps in the City at the end of the year was 11,638 as against 11,619 in the previous year. An expenditure of Rs. 19.64 lacs was incurred for lighting and maintenance of street lamps and erecting new lamps.

The work of constructing a Swimming Pool at Shivaji Park to commemorate the memory of Mahatma Gandhi was completed during the year and the Pool was formally opened to public on 27th April 1952.

Swimming Pool.

19. The major portion of refuse was as usual transported to Deonar in Railway Wagons. The remaining refuse was dumped into low-lying lands in the City, viz., Hornby Vellard, Haines Road Cemetery and near Love Grove Pumping Station.

Removal of Town Refuse.

Three trains consisting of an average of 25 wagons each were used for the transport of refuse to Deonar every day as in the preceding year. Total number of wagons sent to Deonar during the year under report was 26,433 as against 25,421 during the previous year. The total quantity of refuse removed to Deonar was about 4,49,361 tons as against 4,06,736 tons during the previous year. The total expenditure on account of removal and disposal of refuse amounted to Rs. 8.90 lacs against Rs. 8.87 lacs of the preceding year. The total cost of unloading refuse wagons amounted to Rs. 4.06 lacs as against Rs. 3.98 lacs in the previous year. The work of unloading refuse wagons was carried out wholly by contract. The total cost of haulage and unloading per ton amounted to Rs. 2 approximately as against Rs. 2-7-10 per ton in the previous year.

The position of the rolling stock required for work was not satisfactory. The rolling stock including stock lying sick in the Railway Workshop at Mahalaxmi siding and at Deonar is 122 only. As it was found necessary to increase the rolling stock, a provision of Rs. 3,00,000 for the purchase of 30 wagons was made in the Budget but the same was not utilized for want of under-frames of the wagons. It was therefore decided to construct 20 refuse wagons by contract.

20. The Master Plan for the Greater Bombay Region is still under the consideration of Government.

Master Plan for the Greater Bombay Region.

The work of filling in the details of the plan was continued during the year under report. 'Zoning Code' has been prepared and sent to the Municipal Solicitors for their scrutiny and advice from view point of law. As there was some doubt about the interpretation of the provisions of the Section, the Solicitors after obtaining Counsel's opinion, have advised that

the section required to be substantially redrafted so as to make it a useful instrument for enforcing the principles of Zoning. A revised draft Section has accordingly been forwarded to Government and as per Government instructions, opinion of the Counsel General as to the legality of the proposed draft section *vis a vis* the Indian Constitution is being obtained.

A thorough inventory with all details as regards various industries in the Suburbs was made with a view to evolving a workable Zoning Plan, and checking the unplanned and sporadic establishment of industries in the Suburban area. Each case was considered on its merits and wherever it was not possible to retain a particular industry at its original place it was proposed to give sufficient time to shift that industry to some industrial zone. The matter was being investigated further.

The data for the planning of the Municipal Slaughter House to be established at Deonar was collected for preparing a preliminary scheme. It was also proposed to shift the existing tanneries at Dharavi to a site near Deonar, but the progress made in that behalf has been little, as no co-operation was forthcoming from the owners of the tanneries. The question of providing road access to the proposed Oil Refineries in Trombay was under consideration with the P. W. D. and the Railway authorities.

The work of the aerial survey of the Greater Bombay Region was carried out through the agency of the Surveyor General of the Government of India. A part of the work was completed and two sets of contact prints were received, delivery of the remaining prints, etc., was awaited.

The total expenditure booked for preparation of the Master Plan work from the commencement, viz., 1st June 1947 upto 31st March 1953, amounted to Rs. 2.15 lacs.

21. The Department continued to look after the work of acquisition of lands and preparation of layouts, etc. Government sanction to the revised layout for the Haji Ali Park area prepared in the preceding year for allotting a few plots for building purposes and reserving some area for housing the middle and the working classes and for constructing a hostel and staff quarters for the Topiwala National Medical College after allowing a sufficient area for a Public Park was awaited. The proposal to extend Fitwala Road at right angles to Tulsi Pipe Road was dropped. Instead, the area of the proposed extension was reserved for a public garden and for laying out four plots for building purposes to the south of the proposed garden. A proposal was made to extend Chaktyachiwadi and divert Arthur Road to meet the lane exactly at right angles so as to be suitable for traffic and to lay out into 4 plots the Municipal land admeasuring 3,340 sq. yds. at their junction for building purposes. The dividing boundary line of Scheme 59, Sewri Koliwada Estate, and the adjoining Port Trust land being irregular it was considered expedient to have a regular straight boundary line by exchange of lands having equivalent area in each case. The proposal was approved by the Corporation.

Out of the total area of 139.36 lacs sq. yds. (about 2,879 acres) vested in or acquired by the *ex-Trust*, about 37.4 per cent. remained to be developed and out of the developed area 3.5 per cent. remained to be leased, including an area of 1,69,332 sq. yds. reserved for municipal purposes, such as, schools, markets, etc. At the end of the year the area of undeveloped land was the same as in the preceding year, viz., 52.15 lacs of sq. yds. the cost of acquisition of which was Rs. 187.74 lacs.

The area of the land leased permanently increased during the year from 57.43 lacs square yards to 57.58 lacs square yards and the rent in respect thereof consequently increased from Rs. 41.94 lacs to Rs. 42.21 lacs. The area of the developed land which remained to be leased was 2.18 lacs square yards as against 2.23 lacs square yards in the preceding year.

During the year, in all 11 plots covering a total area of 14,923 square yards and valued at Rs. 5.87 lacs were leased. The corresponding figures of the last year were 32 plots covering a total area of 23,092 square yards, having a capital value of Rs. 5.03 lacs. The total number of plots disposed of upto the end of the year of report was 4,213 with an area of 59,53,705 square yards valued at Rs. 12,24.30 lacs.

Of the 11 plots leased during the year, 9 were leased on rental basis and 2 on premium basis. The annual rental to be derived from 9 plots, was estimated at Rs. 21,697. Of the plots leased during the year, the highest number was 6 in Scheme 52, Worli.

During the year under review an amount of Rs. 9.68 lacs was received by way of commutation of ground rent and premium, etc. The corresponding figure for the preceding year was Rs. 10.12 lacs. The area of the land disposed of during the year under report shows decrease over the figure of the last year, while the value realized thereon was rather more than that of the previous year.

At the commencement of the year, the Department had in its charge 571 acquired or surrendered buildings of which 8 buildings in Scheme 57 and 1 in each of the Schemes Nos. 52 and 32 were demolished, while 5 buildings were acquired during the year. There were thus 568 buildings in charge of the Department at the close of the year. These contained 5,008 tenements of which 3,734, 627 and 285 were one-room, two-room and larger tenements, respectively, the remaining being 253 shops, 99 godowns and 10 factories. Rent realized from these buildings totalled Rs. 7.98 lacs.

The monthly rent charged for one-room, two-room and three-room tenements in permanent *ex-Trust* Chawls ranged, respectively, from Rs. 4-15-0 to Rs. 10-13-0, from Rs. 18-8-0 to Rs. 25-0-0 and from Rs. 30-13-0 to Rs. 36-1-0 and Rs. 8 for larger rooms with partition. These rents were about 30 per cent. less than the economic rent and were in fact still lower when compared with the existing trend of rents of private premises, while the maintenance cost on account of sanitation and repairs was far higher. The average population in the chawls during the year was 61,217 against 61,130 in the previous year. The death rate in the chawls during the year was 4.5 per 1,000 against 5.1 in the preceding year.

With a view to relieving housing shortage in the City, the Corporation have permitted the construction of an additional floor on buildings on plots in the *ex-Trust* and Shivaji Park Estates. In accordance with this policy, additional floors on 45 buildings were sanctioned during the year on payment of extra premium of Rs. 2.59 lacs. Construction of 32 motor garages on the compulsory open spaces of plots in these Estates was also sanctioned during the year on payment of extra premium amounting to Rs. 0.85 lac.

With the object of maintaining sanitation, etc., at the Municipal Chawls and buildings, the enforcement of Bye-laws framed by the Corporation was continued during the year, as a result of which fines amounting to over Rs. 1,128 were recovered. The amount of fines realised is to be utilized for providing First Aid sets and sick-room requisites, such as thermometers, etc., at the various Chawl Centres.

During the year under Report, 30 properties comprising the land formerly occupied by Milch Cattle stables in the City were notified for acquisition for public Municipal purposes. In two cases awards were declared and in 14 cases awards were awaited. Proceedings in other cases were in progress.

During the year a new chawl at Palton Road was constructed and let out to Municipal staff who were housed in requisitioned buildings. Besides, 64 rooms at Dharavi were newly constructed and let out during the year.

During the year under report an area of 51 acres of land in Manbudruk Village was requisitioned for housing the squatters and about 1,200 families were shifted there. An additional area of 7 acres was requisitioned during the year. In all about 2,800 squatter families were accommodated at Mankhurd Colony. In furtherance of the scheme for the removal of squatters from the City, another Colony at Jogeshwari was opened by taking 37½ acres of land and additional 15¼ acres of land were requisitioned. The accommodation in this colony is for 1,500 families.

22. The rainfall this year was normal but as the monsoon was practically over by the beginning of September the period of the dry season was extended by almost a month and consequently quantity of water available in different lakes had to be made to last through a longer period of dry season than usual. The Tansa Lake, the principal source of City's Water Supply, over-flowed twice during the monsoon. Tulsi Lake also continuously overflowed for more than a month. Vehar Lake did not overflow but the lake level registered was higher than in the previous two years. The average daily supply to the City during the year under report was about 119.31 million gallons against 119.98 million gallons in the previous year.

During the year, the quantity of water supplied to the City and the Suburbs was 43,553.00 million gallons against 43,926.00 million gallons in the previous year, of which the quantity supplied to the Thana Municipality was 156.60 million gallons and to bodies outside the limits of Greater Bombay was 309.00 million gallons. Of the total supply, a quantity of 24,584.65 million gallons or 56.45 per cent. was for domestic purposes. The average daily supply (for all purposes) per head on the basis of the population of 28.42 lacs as per the Census Report of 1951 was 41.87 million gallons. Percentage of total supply for domestic purposes was 56.45 and 43.55 for other purposes. Total quantity of water supplied by meter measurement was 12,920.43 million gallons of which 3,145.75 million gallons were consumed by mills, i.e., 7.223 per cent., 2,874.00 million gallons of water or 6.60 per cent. were wasted due to leaks and other unaccountable losses (i.e., through Municipal mains, etc.). There was no major burst on the trunk mains. There were 18 heavy leaks and 1,222 minor leaks on the

trunk mains and 19 leaks on the direct and syphon lines. All leaks were promptly repaired. Water was sterilized with Chloramine treatment and an extra dose of chlorine was injected in the City's Service Reservoirs.

The total calls received from the Fire Brigade Department was 986 as against 1,071 in the last year. They were promptly attended to. The total quantity of water used on fires by the Fire Brigade was about 3.25 million gallons.

75 drinking fountains, 24 cattle troughs, 37 combined fountains and troughs, 73 stand post pipes, 4 dipping wells and 14 Municipal wells (of which water from only 4 was used by the public) were maintained during the year by the department as in the previous year.

With the rise in the population without corresponding increase in the quantity of water available for distribution, the number of complaints about short supply of water increased during the year. There were 16,461 complaints as against 15,711 in the previous year. 4,559 notices were issued on the owners of houses for defects in water fittings in their premises.

As the monsoon season had retarded earlier than usual, the general hours of supply had to be reduced to about 6 hours per day. The demand in the City and the Suburbs had increased considerably and as the quantity available for distribution could not be augmented, there was a gradual fall in pressure throughout the City. The early advent of hot season from the beginning of February resulted in very great increase in complaints.

With a view to checking wastage of water in private premises, periodical house inspections were made and 32,092 houses and 3,49,588 taps were inspected and 46,533 leaky taps were re-washed by the special staff appointed for this work.

7,241 meters of various sizes were maintained and the revenue derived from the supply of water by meter measurement during the year amounted to Rs. 106.67 lacs as against Rs. 94.11 lacs in the last year for the City only.

The total number of water connections in the City was 58,595 as against 57,402 during the preceding year. During the year 1,369 new connections were made, while 176 connections were cut off on account of demolition of old buildings, etc.

The Anti-waste Campaign was intensified during the year. 2,000 Litho posters in Marathi were got printed for being displayed in schools and on other public sites. Posters were also displayed in the Citytrams and buses. 1,00,000 stamps were got printed by litho process for affixing to the correspondence with the various parties. The stationery forms used for official correspondence were also printed with the 'How water is wasted' slogans. All these measures were adopted in the campaign to minimise the wastage so as to conserve water supply for useful purposes.

With a view to stopping undue wastage of water and complaints of shortage of water on upper floors, it was decided to supply meters to hotels and restaurants. Water supply to about 2,600 hotels and restaurants was metered and the total revenue derived on account of sale of water to these concerns was Rs. 3 lacs including meter higher charges. Thus, the Department was able to secure extra revenue out of a measure to check wastage.

The work of maintenance of gardens along the slopes of Gibbs and Ridge Roads (known as Hanging Gardens), Sir Pherozeshah Mehta Gardens on the top of the Malabar Hill Reservoir, Joseph Baptista Gardens, on the top of the Bhandarwada Hill Reservoir and Ladies and Children's Gardens at Ridge Road, was in the control of this department.

During the year the plot of land known as the Bishop's Lodge on Malabar Hill was converted into a well laid out park and was named as 'Kamla Nehru Park.'

23. *Progress.*—During the year under report the work of opening the foundation was continued. The work of major excavation was completed in the first week of December 1952. The Dam has been founded for a minimum depth of 5' into solid rock with a 2 per cent. grade rising upstream to downstream. In order to consolidate the foundation rock and fill-up all fissures, cavities, etc., 9,300 R.ft. of holes were drilled and grouted with cement at 40 lbs. per sq. inch. 38 thermometers and 4 strainmeters were installed to study temperature gradients. Successful experiments were made to reduce cement contents in various classes of concrete and the compressive strengths were found to be higher than those required. The laying of concrete for the construction of the Dam was started in May and 46.24 lacs cubic feet of concrete cooled down to 60° F laid during the year. The maximum quantity of concrete placed in a day was about 53,500 cubic feet or about 9,07,800 cubic feet in a month. The total work done up to the end of the year measured about 47.42 lacs cubic feet.

Vaterna-cum-Tansa Scheme.

The Municipal owned Power House was in operation. The set shifted from Tansa was also erected and put in commission. Most of the electric energy was supplied to the contractors for the construction work, the remaining being used by Municipal employees and petty establishments in the Camp.

Excavation of the remaining length of 700 feet of the tunnel was carried out and the concrete line of the whole tunnel was completed. The work of laying 126" pipe line between Tunnel Faces Nos. 2-3 and 4-5 was commenced by the contractors and an aggregate length of 99 feet was completed. The works from Tansa to Powai and Powai to Mahim were completed. About $5\frac{1}{4}$ miles of pipe shells were fabricated and about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles were laid in position out of the total length of 20 miles. The supply of steel plates was satisfactory.

Land Acquisition.—Awards of compensation were declared in respect of about 1,595 acres out of 3,991 acres of land acquired for the purpose of the scheme. Moreover, 193 acres out of 214 acres acquired temporarily for camps, quarry sites, etc., have been restored to the land owners. The jungle in the water spread of the lake was cleared in the year under report.

Various amenities provided at the Vaitarna Camp functioned satisfactorily. A direct telephone line was laid at a cost of Rs. 60,000, a part of the cost being borne by the two contractors.

The work of strengthening the Tansa Dam by the 'Coyne' method was started in the month of December 1952 and some work was done in the year. Shri Andre Coyne has expressed satisfaction after inspecting the work.

Total Expenditure.—The total expenditure booked up to the end of 31st March 1953 for the various items of the scheme was Rs. 675.68 lacs.

24. The total number of Fire Stations during the year was 11. A new Fire Station was opened at Worli in October 1952. As the newly merged suburban areas had no arrangements for protecting life and property from fire, all calls for fire in those areas were attended to by the Fire Brigade by sending fire engines from the nearest fire stations situated within the city limits. This difficulty will be removed after the work of constructing the Fire Station at Andheri is completed.

During the year, the Fire Brigade received 1,154 calls against 1,729 and 1,366 calls during the preceding two years. Out of these calls, 608 calls were for actual fires as against 634 calls during the preceding year. During the year there were 316 false calls of which as many as 105 were due to malicious interference with fire alarms as against 362 and 140 calls, respectively, in the preceding year. 83 calls were for special services in respect of fallen buildings, etc., as against 101 in the preceding year. Total distance travelled by fire appliances to and from calls to seat of fire was 11,470 miles as against 10,714 miles in the preceding year.

The City was served by 204 fire alarm posts (including private ones) and these were connected to 9 Fire Stations. About 57 per cent. of the total calls received for fires, etc., were transmitted through this system.

The estimated loss to property damaged or destroyed on account of fire was about Rs. 53.17 lacs as against Rs. 59.32 lacs and Rs. 31.15 lacs during the previous two years. Although there was a slight decrease in the fire loss, during the year under report, it was comparatively high in comparison with the losses in the year 1950-51. This was mainly due to a serious fire in Jam Mills, Tokersey Jivraj Road, which alone caused a damage to the extent of Rs. 25 lacs and to other fires in cinematograph film vaults. Of this loss, Rs. 20.40 lacs represented insured properties. The total value of the property involved was Rs. 36,48.26 lacs against Rs. 20,05.43 lacs in the preceding year. There were 10 major fires in which estimated loss involved in each case exceeded Rs. 75,000.

Casualties by fire, during the year under report, included 9 persons who were burnt to death, 19 persons who were severely injured and died subsequently in hospitals and 61 persons who received minor injuries or burns recovered ultimately. Corresponding figures of the last two years were 6, 15 and 73 and 8, 12 and 43, respectively.

The approximate quantity of water used in extinguishing fires was 32.47 lacs gallons of which 27.53 lacs gallons were drawn from Municipal mains as against 32.54 lacs gallons and 25.75 lacs gallons, respectively, for the preceding year and the rest from the sea, tanks and wells.

The issue of licences for storage of cinematograph films with nitrate base continued to be controlled by the Government of India but all cases of such storages, however, continued

to be referred to this department to ascertain the suitability or otherwise of premises for the proposed storages. This department had also to inspect storages of dangerous petroleum before licences were issued by the Explosive Department. 108 such storages were inspected before licences were issued by the department during the year.

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

The total number of calls within the limits of Greater Bombay received during the year was 1,360 for accidents, 2,053 for maternity cases and 3,311 for hire cases, removing in all 6,640 persons as against the corresponding figures of 1,442, 1,824, 3,268 and 6,394 in the preceding year.

The total mileage covered by ambulance vehicles during the year was 46,790 as against 47,271 in the previous year. The total receipts on account of hire cases amounted to Rs. 18,778 including the arrears of the previous year as against Rs. 18,296 and Rs. 17,221 in the preceding two years.

25. During the year under report the Department maintained 90 sites for public recreation, etc., consisting of 19 Gardens, 4 Fountains, 3 Band-stands, 7 Traffic Islands, 4 Open Spaces, 49 Recreation Grounds, 1 Statue and 3 Ornamental Box Hedges. During the year one playground situated opposite the Y.M.C.A. Proctor Branch, Byculla, and a Box Hedge at Mahim Causeway were placed under the charge of the department. A large number of music programmes for the entertainment of the public was arranged during the year as in the past. There were 27 Band Programmes, 30 Indian Vocal Music programmes, 22 Orchestra programmes and 234 Radiogram music programmes at different places. Directed games, as in the previous years, continued to be popular at the different centres in the City. The play centre at 2nd Peerkhan Street, which was resumed last year under the supervision of the Nagpada Neighbourhood House, proved to be very popular.

Victoria Gardens.—During the year the number of visitors to the Gardens increased to 55,12,299 as against 32,83,277 in the previous year. The appreciable increase in the visitors is due to the additions of several new varieties of birds and animals, daily Radio music programmes, etc., and the addition of a Rhinoceros to the Zoo. This shows an average of 15,102 visitors per day during the year under report. In addition to the Rhinoceros, the Hullock Gibbon presented by Shri Peter Rhiner proved to be a great attraction to visitors. One King Hornbill was also purchased during the year under report.

During the year, the animal stock in the Zoo increased by about 26 per cent. which included new births, purchases or exchanges made and presents received.

1,347 Road-side trees were planted and maintained on the roads and in the Gardens during the year.

Some important discoveries of parasitic infestation of the pythons and the Rhino were made and these are still under investigation. These discoveries have created great interest among international workers. Various schemes for the improvement of the present Zoo and also for starting a bigger Zoo garden in the Suburbs are still under consideration.

Maintenance of the laboratory animals in the Victoria Gardens for medical research purposes proved highly satisfactory. Being encouraged by the results, the Dean, G. S. M. College intends to expand the Section so as to meet the increased demand for these animals for research work undertaken by the various departments of Municipal Medical Colleges.

The expenditure on the Garden Department amounted during the year to Rs. 4.79 lacs as against Rs. 6.02 lacs during the last year, while the income by sale of flowers and plants etc., was Rs. 25,356-12-9 as against Rs. 19,683-2-3 during the last year.

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

The total number and the daily average of visitors during the year was 10.51 lacs and 3,444, respectively, against 9.01 lacs and 3,014 of the preceding year. During the year 15,520 pupils from Primary and Secondary Schools in the City visited the Museum as against 11,565 during the preceding year. The practice of keeping the Museum open on Wednesdays, for ladies, children and parties of students only, was continued during the year.

Reference service to scholars, Museums and business men on an average of 35 per month was rendered by the Curator with the help of the specimens and the books in the Museum. Useful information was supplied to some Indian Shipping Companies for the Railway Centenary Exhibition held at New Delhi.

The amounts realized by the levy of an admission fee of half anna per visitor above 12 years of age on Fridays, Sundays and public holidays (except Wednesdays) and by sale of the Victoria and Albert Museum Brochure were Rs. 9,233-5-6 and Rs. 406-4-0, respectively, which were credited to the Special Fund called Victoria and Albert Museum Fund.

27. During the year under report, 14 Libraries and Reading Rooms were maintained. In all 521 books on various subjects and in different languages were purchased at an aggregate cost of Rs. 1,572-4-0 during the year with the approval of the Books Selection Committee as against 721 books at a cost of Rs. 2,048-11-0 during the previous year. More books could not be purchased for want of accommodation and also because only a few good books were available. The total number of visitors to the Reading Rooms and Libraries during the year was 2.49 lacs as against 2.56 lacs during the preceding year.

The cost of running the libraries during the year amounted to about Rs. 48,003 and the income was about Rs. 1,890 as against Rs. 42,077 and Rs. 1,425 during the preceding year.

28. Tenders were invited for the purchase of stores during the year in 169 cases against 157 and 145 cases in the previous two years. The number of contracts entered into for the various scheduled articles was 141 against 143 and 135 in the preceding two years. Besides these contracts, materials, which could only be acquired under licences 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. 68.30 lacs against Rs. 59.15 lacs and Rs. 57.21 lacs during the previous two years. The increase was mainly due to the purchase of G. I. pipes, iron material, cement, etc., from the Contractors and the Government, during the period under report. Of the total purchases made, stock of the value of Rs. 63.28 lacs was of Indian manufacture and the balance of Rs. 5.02 lacs represented the value of foreign goods.

Against these purchases and stock, on hand, the consuming departments submitted 44,418 indents and sales memos, as against 46,061 in the preceding year. 5,279 orders for the purchase of stores were placed with the Contractors and other dealers against 5,311 and 5,440 in the preceding two years. The total turnover of the department, viz., receipts and issue of stores during the year was Rs. 125 lacs against Rs. 114.35 lacs and Rs. 114.71 lacs in the preceding two years. At the close of the year, the department had on hand stores of the value of Rs. 38.49 lacs against Rs. 26.88 lacs in the preceding year.

Mixed scrap received from different departments was sold by public auction and cast iron scrap was retained, being under control and had to be reserved for the new foundry at the Municipal Workshop. Brass and other non-ferrous scraps were also reserved for the Municipal Foundry. Other unserviceable articles including mixed scrap were disposed of by the department by public auction and the total amount realized therefrom came to Rs. 0.34 lac as against Rs. 0.49 lac and Rs. 0.27 lac in the last two years.

Apart from the scarcity of materials, and the cancellation of schedules due to high rates, the various control orders aggravated the difficulties of the department and increased its work enormously.

This department is under reorganization by Messrs. Ibcons, Ltd. According to their recommendations the potential reduction in the staff comes to 32 per cent. of which a reduction of about 7 per cent. has already been given effect to.

29. Licences and permits issued and transferred during the year numbered 36,649 against 34,946 in the previous year showing an increase of 1,703 over the figure of the last year. Fees realized therefrom amounted to Rs. 10.25 lacs during the year under report as against Rs. 9.75 lacs in the preceding year. At the end of the year, an amount of Rs. 1,20,310 was outstanding in respect of 1,959 notices of demand against an outstanding of Rs. 9,177 for 274 notices for the previous year. The loss of revenue incidental to disuse or demolition of old licensed places amounted to Rs. 0.52 lac as against Rs. 0.38 lac in the preceding year.

The total number of permits issued for exhibiting sky-signs and advertisements was 2,908 which realized Rs. 2.91 lacs as revenue while the corresponding figures for the last year were 3,358 and Rs. 4.13 lacs.

The number of squatters and hawkers licences issued during the year was 35,985 and the earnings from fees amounted to Rs. 3.89 lacs. Corresponding figures for the preceding year were 43,761 and Rs. 3.47 lacs, respectively.

During the year the Licence Department instituted 2,535 prosecutions for offences under Sections 328, 328-A, 394 and 412-A of the Bombay Municipal Corporation Act as against 2,802 during the last year. The total amount of fines inflicted was Rs. 27,914 as against Rs. 83,728 in the previous year.

The total revenue of the Department during the year was Rs. 18.89 lacs against Rs. 18.92 lacs in the previous year.

On going through the report it is observed that the amount outstanding as licence fees on 31st March 1953 was more than a lac of rupees and the loss of revenue incidental to the disuse or demolition of old licensed places, etc., was Rs. 52,028. It is expected that necessary steps will be taken early to recover the outstandings.

30. The Shops and Establishments Section under the control of the Chief Inspector, Administration of Shops and Establishments continued to work as an independent unit as before during the year.

During the year 2,385 complaints were received in addition to 104 pending from the preceding year, out of which 2,379 were investigated, leaving 110 pending at the close of the year. 270 mass raids against 185 in the preceding year were carried out up to the end of the year. The number of visits and revisits paid to different types of establishments was 67,894 of which 50,285 were to shops, 9,590 to commercial establishments, 7,538 to restaurants, 324 to residential hotels and 157 to theatres, etc.

At the beginning of the year there were 502 prosecutions pending. During the year, 2,888 new prosecutions were instituted, making up a total of 3,390. In all 2,369 cases were disposed of, out of which 2,282 resulted in convictions, 7 were withdrawn and 80 resulted in acquittals. The number of cases pending at the end of the year was 1,021. The total amount of fines realised was Rs. 85,414-8-0 giving an approximate average of Rs. 37-7-0 per case.

The total expenditure incurred in administering the Act in 1951-52 was Rs. 2,78,374, against which the Government grant-in-aid was Rs. 79,862. Government had been approached to give an increased grant-in-aid to the Department in view of the strained finances of the Corporation. They have, however, intimated that in view of the amendments to Sections 60 and 61 of the Act, the Municipality will be able to launch more prosecutions, thereby becoming eligible for larger grants-in-aid. It is doubtful whether prosecutions will increase for the reasons advanced by Government. The total income from the Registration fees and fines realised during the year under report was Rs. 15,564 and Rs. 85,414-8-0, respectively.

The Theatre Tax section continued to function under the control and supervision of the Chief Inspector, Shops and Establishments for purposes of recovery of the Theatre Tax.

The rates sanctioned by the Corporation for the levy of Theatre Tax for the year 1952-53 were the same as for the previous year. A rebate of 12½ per cent. and 20 per cent. for Class I and Class II Cinema Theatres, respectively, was allowed on certain conditions, as before. Similarly, the tax was recovered in respect of Dramas, Dances, Variety entertainment programmes, etc., held at different Halls, Theatres, etc., where admissions were on payments. The total income derived during the year was Rs. 6.89 lacs against Rs. 4.66 lacs in the previous year.

31. The total receipts of the department during the year amounted to Rs. 36.16 lacs against Rs. 34.12 lacs in the previous year, which showed an increase of Rs. 2.04 lacs. This was mainly due to increase in receipts in slaughter and removal fees, squatter fees, Arthur Crawford Scale-shed fees, etc.

The number of Municipal Markets during the year was 21 including three squatters' areas at Sandhurst Road, Nowroji Hill Road and Parel Village. The net receipts from the above amounted to Rs. 17.98 lacs as against Rs. 16.95 lacs in the preceding year, thus showing an increase of Rs. 1.02 lacs. The average percentage of vacant stalls per quarter was 7.07 against 6.45 in the preceding year. The total receipts from stallage charges, squatter fees, licence fees, etc., in respect of all the Municipal Markets amounted to Rs. 25.23 lacs as against Rs. 23.24 lacs in the preceding year. During the year under report works of repairs, improvements, extensions, etc., to the several Municipal Markets were carried out. The work of collecting fees at the Arthur Crawford Market Scale-shed was carried out departmentally and the revenue collected therefrom amounted to Rs. 4.66 lacs as against Rs. 3.25 lacs realized in the preceding year by sale of the right.

The number of private markets during the year was 21 including the newly opened full-fledged private market at Grant Road and one Private Slaughter House and the licence fees realised therefrom was Rs. 72,860-6-0 as against Rs. 77,605-11-0, in the preceding year.

The number of outside meat shops was 185 as against 186 in the previous year. An amount of Rs. 11,984 was realized by way of fees. The previous year's figures were 186 and Rs. 12,006, respectively.

During the year unwholesome articles of food, such as, meat, fish, fruits, vegetables, etc., including contraband meat seized and destroyed was 6,81,088 lbs. as against 6,36,451 lbs. in the previous year.

The total number of animals brought to the fair ground at the Bandra Slaughter Houses during the year was 14,31,403 as against 14,65,911 in the previous year. Of these animals, 9,605 against 8,027 in the last year were rejected as unfit on *anti-mortem* examination.

The approximate weight of dressed meat of buffaloes, cows and bullocks was 8,064½ tons as against 7,275 tons in the previous year, while that of sheep and goats was 8,947½ tons as against 8,800 tons in the last year. Of these 20½ tons and 14 tons, respectively, against 20 tons and 11 tons in the previous year were condemned, giving percentage of 0.25 and 0.15, respectively, against 0.21 and 0.127 of the previous year.

The total amount of slaughter and removal fees realized was Rs. 5.96 lacs as against Rs. 6.02 lacs and Rs. 5.81 lacs during the previous two years.

The total number of animals slaughtered during the year was 13.27 lacs against 13.47 lacs and 13.14 lacs in the previous two years.

32. During the year under report the work of reorganisation of this Department was completed and a potential reduction of 65 persons from the reference period staff of 1,467 persons was indicated. Eight new free Family Planning Clinics were added during the year bringing the total number of such clinics in the City to 15.

Births and birth Rate.—The number of live-births recorded during the year was 66,125 which was more by 446 than the number for the previous year (65,679) and 1,233 above the average of the decennium (1942-1951). Of these registered births, 34,255 were males and 31,870 females, giving a proportion of 107 males to 100 females. The birth rate was 28.2 per 1,000 of the population as against 28.2 in the preceding year. The number of still-births was 3,151 or 4.7 of live-births.

Deaths and death Rate.—The total number of deaths registered from all causes during the year was 34,337 as against 33,841 in the previous year. It was less by 2,278 than the average annual mortality of the last ten years and by 2,352 than the mean mortality of the preceding five years. According to the Census population, the death rate per 1,000 living persons worked out to 14.8 against 14.5 in the last year. Of the total 34,337 deaths, 19,185 were among males and 15,152 among females. The death rate among females was, however, actually higher than among males, the male death rate being 13.0 and the female death rate 17.8 as against 12.5 and 18, respectively, in the preceding year. As in the previous years the diseases of the Respiratory system were responsible for the highest death rate of 3.5 per 1,000 of the population. A large proportion of deaths from respiratory diseases occurred among children and infants under 5 years of age. Congenital debility and diseases of early infancy constituted the next most fatal group giving a rate of 2.2. The causes coming next on the list for the year were Tuberculosis (1.1) and old age (1.3).

Mortality amongst infants (under 1 year of age) was 9,335 as against 9,746 in the preceding year and the rate per 1,000 live-births was 141.2 which was the lowest ever recorded for this City, as against 148.1 in the previous year. Diseases of the respiratory system, infantile debility and premature births caused 7,392 or nearly 79.2 per cent. of the total deaths amongst infants, as against 7,768 deaths or 79.7 per cent. in the previous year.

Maternity and Child Welfare.—During the year under report, the Maternal and the Child Welfare Services were continued in all their aspects at the Municipal Maternity Homes with the help of the Health Visitors attached to 5 main clinics and 10 subsidiary ones. Relief to the poor and needy women during confinements was rendered. The number of cases admitted in these Homes was 10,697 against 10,189 in the preceding year, while the number of confinements was 9,188 as against 8,895 in the previous year. Of the confined cases 1,709 were *prima parae*, against 1,823 in the last year.

Ten subsidiary Maternity and Children Welfare Clinics in addition to the main clinics at the 5 Municipal Maternity Homes were conducted by the Municipal Medical Officers of those Homes. The Maternity Unit at Dharavi was conducted as before by two trained Health Visitors under the Supervision of one of the Medical Officers.

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 58,072 visits in various districts against 72,647 in the previous year. They also attended 50 cases of confinements at homes while the Medical Officers personally visited 3,430 cases.

With a view to saving maternal and infant mortality, advice and instructions in spacing births were given free by qualified lady Doctors to married women strictly on medical grounds at the 15 Family Planning Clinics. The total number of attendance at the Clinics was 4,306 as against 2,074 in the preceding year and in all 1939 women as against 783 women in the preceding year were supplied with appliances free.

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

Infectious Diseases.—The total number of cases of infectious diseases reported during the year was 4,925 as against 5,024 in the previous year. Of these 4,774 (96.9) were from the District Registrars and 151 (3.1) from Medical Practitioners. 2 Cases of Plague were reported which proved fatal. Cholera caused 14 attacks (including 12 imported) and 6 deaths. Small-pox caused 378 attacks (including 53 imported) and 120 deaths and Enteric fever caused 1,567 attacks (including 102 imported) and 428 deaths. Diphtheria caused 698 attacks and 101 deaths. Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis caused 116 attacks (22 imported) and 19 deaths.

During the year 32,338 persons were inoculated against Plague, 14,167 against Cholera and 3,30,859 against Enteric Fever. Primary Vaccination and revaccination against small-pox done during the year were 71,885 and 4,26,351, respectively, as against 74,434 and 6,49,353, respectively, in the preceding year.

General Sanitation.—the principal causes contributing towards the insanitary conditions in some parts of the City were insufficiency of sewers and continuance of the basket privy system, high density of population per acre. There are some practical difficulties in the way of rendering adequate conservancy service both as regards removal and disposal of refuse and also of shortage of water supply. Sooner the conversion of the basket privies is made into water-closets the better it will be for the health of the citizens. The work of providing sewerage in the North of the Island has not yet been completed. The routine inspection of dwellings with sanitary defects was made by the Medical Assistants and Inspectors under the general supervision of the Assistant Health Officers. During the year under report 2,923 insanitary huts were demolished.

Rat Destruction.—During the year rat killing operations were intensified. Different methods like trapping by 'Wonder' traps, flooding rat-holes with water and killing them when they come out, etc., were employed. Live rats were sent to the Haffkine Institute for examination. With a view to intensifying rat destruction work and to educate the public, anti-rat campaigns were organised in B, F and G Wards, where special "Anti-Rat exhibitions" were put up. There were displays of posters, distribution of leaflets, processions of gangs carrying rat destruction placards and special anti-rat film shows. It is reported that the total number of rats caught and destroyed during the year was 11,25,200 and rats examined were 5,802. Three rats were found infected with Plague during the year.

Control of Stray Dogs.—Improved and humane methods were introduced in catching and destroying stray and ownerless dogs. The work of destroying stray dogs and licensing of dogs was carried out as in the previous year. 11,114 stray dogs were caught as against 8,072 in the previous year. Out of those stray and ownerless dogs caught 8,532 were destroyed, 730 were returned to the owners, 81 sent to Hospitals for experimental purposes, 160 escaped and 23 detained at the Kennel at the Mahalaxmi Refuse siding. 10,380 dogbite cases were reported during the year as against 8,146 in the preceding year. 7,893 dogs were licensed under the Dog Licensing Act, as against 7,978 in the preceding year. The total income by way of dog licensing fees, etc., was Rs. 44,655-4-0. No reason has been given in the report for a reduction in the number of dogs licensed during the year.

Health Education and Propaganda.—Health Education was carried out among children by Medical Officers and School Health Nurses which aimed at inculcating healthy habits among children. Routine health talks on simple personal hygiene were often given to the children in schools. Regular health education procedure was formulated and teachers were

trained in Health Education, while the children were instructed by the school Health Nurses so that after some time the teachers themselves could manage Health Education work efficiently in their schools. During the year, 366 talks were given by Medical Officers and 996 by School Health Nurses.

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

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

Domestic refuse was collected in galvanised iron receptacles with proper covers provided by the owners. The owners were called upon to arrange for removal of refuse from their premises through their private servants either to the Municipal travelling carts, lorries or to the nearest dust-bin sheds. The system of house to house collection of refuse was continued in A, D, F and G Wards.

Insecticidal Service.—Due to vigorous steps taken to control fly-nuisance by regular spraying and dusting of the actual and potential fly-breeding places, the nuisance from flies was reduced to a great extent. The use of 'Tifa' Unit was continued during the year and the insecticide fogging operations were carried out in about 2,257 lanes and by-lanes in the City. Insecticides worth Rs. 74,799-11-0 were purchased during the year as against Rs. 67,858-9-9 during the last year.

Malaria.—Malaria was registered as the cause of 41 deaths as against 59 in the preceding year. 18 deaths were ascribed to Ague and Remittent fevers. The number of cases treated at the Municipal dispensaries was 276 as against 474 in the previous year. Out of 2,143 wells in the City, 5 were filled in and 3 were covered completely. Campaign against stegomyia mosquitoes, the vector of Yellow Fever, was continued throughout the year, on account of heavy rains. The stegomyia index was continuously kept far below the fixed safety standard of 2 per cent.

33. The 22 Municipal Free Dispensaries (excluding those at Worli and at Chembur) were open throughout the year to render, as before, free medical relief to the sick poor in the City. The number of new cases treated at these dispensaries was 2,88,047 (1,66,872 males and 1,21,175 females) as against 2,55,835 in the previous year. In addition to the above dispensary work, Women's and Children's Clinics were conducted by three part-time lady doctors at 6 Municipal Dispensaries in the City, thrice a week. The number of new cases treated at these dispensaries was 31,473 (24,832 women and 6,641 children) as against 28,109 in the previous year.

The Municipal Eye Dispensary and Hospital at Kamathipura were kept under two Honorary Medical Surgeons by turn. The Hospital has an accommodation of 6 beds each for males and females with an operation theatre. The total attendance of patients was 84,430 as against 83,350 in the preceding year. The total number of new cases treated was 11,704 as against 10,703 in the previous year. The number of indoor patients treated was 210. The Hospital had a full time Resident Nurse.

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

The average daily attendance of patients was 214 and the total number of new cases treated at the clinic was 1812. The Home has an accommodation of 396 beds (284 for males and 112 for females) for the isolation of leprosy patients.

34. There were three T. B. Clinics for outdoor patients and a group of T. B. Hospitals at Sewri where cases in primary and advanced stages received institutional treatment. The total number of beds at these Hospitals was 299. The staff at each clinic was qualified. Besides the indoor staff, Health Visitors paid domiciliary visits. Well equipped X-Ray installations were provided at the Princess Street and the

Foras Road Clinics. Patients from Municipal T. B. Clinic at Lalbaug were referred to either of these clinics for radiography and screening. After a careful diagnosis at the clinics, patients were directed to the group of Tuberculosis Hospitals at Sewri for hospitalization. The sputum examination of specimens sent by the medical practitioners was undertaken free of charge at the Municipal Laboratory. These hospitals and its various departments were almost completely equipped with the most modern and up-to-date apparatus and equipments. There were 3 X-Ray plants in this department, viz., one portable machine for taking X-Ray of freshly operated cases, as well as acute cases, one screening machine for routine screening of in-patients and out-patients coming for A. P. and P. P. Refills and a third high powered machine for Radiography with facilities for Tomography.

The follow up of discharged patients and giving them A. P. and P. P. Refills were continued as before. The total number of such A. P. and P. P. refills given were 4,073 and 24,047, respectively. Patients had attended the hospitals for follow up continuously for over 3 years in some cases. There were 859 new admissions to the out-door A. P. and P. P. Refill Department during the year. 1956 patients suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis in various stages of the disease were treated at the Group of Hospitals for Tuberculosis. Total Skiagrams taken during the year was 3,066 and the total number of screening done was 25,340.

35. For combating Venereal Diseases, free medical facilities both preventive and curative were continued as in the preceding year at the Clinic at Bellasis Road. During the year 17,838 cases were treated at the Clinics as against 16,072 in the previous year. Of these 15,160 were males and 2,678 females. For prophylaxis 16,457 attended the Clinic as against 15,567 in the previous year. The average daily attendance at the Clinic was 671.3 as against 683.7 in the previous year.

Propaganda through posters, leaflets, lectures, etc., emphasizing the importance of avoiding exposure to infection, similarly, the free service available at the Prophylactic treatment centres in different parts of the city was vigorously published by the Propaganda Section. One room was specially reserved for exhibiting educative pictures which were specially prepared through the Publicity Section.

Under the advice and guidance of the World Health Organization expectant mothers attending the Municipal Ante-Natal Clinics were subjected to the Kahn or Meinick's blood tests for syphilis and out of 613 blood specimens examined, 94 gave positive results, and out of these 94 cases, 63 attended the clinic for treatment during the year.

Men, women and children were treated by modern methods. The examination and treatment of the patients at the clinics were carried out very secretly. Results of treatment were assessed from time to time by the latest laboratory methods.

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

36. The Health Propaganda drive was intensified both in the City and the Suburbs under the Expansion Scheme. During the year Health Exhibition activity was continued vigorously and 16 Health Exhibitions and Talks, and 263 Health Education film shows on various health subjects were arranged in the City. Special features of the year were (1) expansion and reconstruction of the Public Health Museum at the Bombay Sanitary Institute Hall at Princess Street and (2) Ward-wise anti-rat campaign and intensification of rat destruction work by the Conservancy Branch. Besides these activities, the section arranged 15 lectures, 142 sanitation campaigns, 3 special anti-rat exhibitions, meetings and talks on environmental sanitation and preventive aspects of some communicable diseases. The unique feature was the arrangement of mass vaccination, mass T. A. B. Innoculation and anti-plague campaign with the help of the propaganda vans in different localities in the City and the Suburbs. Besides, the section aided several welfare organisations in organising Health weeks, co-operated with the Government in the celebration of the world Health Day, arranged group visits to the Public Health Museum and prepared a special propaganda room at the Municipal Anti-Venereal Diseases Clinic.

37. In all 39,383 children (24,680 boys and 14,703 girls) attending Municipal Schools and Classes were medically examined of which 31,495 were found suffering from one or more physical ailments and reports about their ailments were sent to their parents or guardians. The number of new children treated at the School Clinic at the K. E. M. Hospital was 778 along with 5,789 old cases, while those treated at the schools for minor skin diseases, such as, scabies, ring-worm, etc., numbered 706. Out of 113 children suspected to have been infected with Leprosy, 12 were found positive and, therefore, were prevented from attending any of the Municipal Schools and 3 were kept under observation. Over 32,640 under-nourished children were given each 6 ounces of pasteurised toned milk daily except on Sundays, holidays and half holidays at 301 centres.

For the first time in the history of the school clinic 'Blalock and Tanssiq' operation for Fallots Tetralogy on the heart of a Municipal school girl aged 7 years was successfully carried out at the K. E. M. Hospital. She is quite hale and hearty now.

38. The Hospitals have a total accommodation for 314 beds, of which 172 are in the small-pox unit, 128 in the general unit, while 14 constructed mosquito proof are reserved for Yellow Fever cases. Except Tuberculosis and Leprosy, patients suffering from other infectious diseases are admitted to the Hospitals. The total number of patients admitted during the year was 6,883 as against 6,726 in the preceding year, the daily average admission being 229 as against 218 in the preceding year. Of the total number of patients, 1,554, 394 and 756, respectively, suffered from Enteric fever, Small-pox and Diphtheria. The cost per patient per day was Rs. 9-7-2.

Looking to the present population of the City, the present bed accommodation and other facilities at these Hospitals fell far too short of the demand. Sooner the number of beds is increased the better it will be in the interest of the public. The Commissioner is requested to take into consideration the paucity of beds in these Hospitals and to try to do the needful in the matter very early. It is also suggested that the Commissioner should consider the desirability of establishing one more Hospital on this line in the Suburban areas for the use of the people residing in the merged parts of Greater Bombay.

The Commissioner is also further requested to find out ways and means to equip and expand the Hospital Laboratory suitably so as to avoid delay in getting results of the materials sent for investigation to the Haffkine Institute.

39. The three units, viz., Turner Sanatorium, Ramesh Premchand Tuberculosis Hospital and the extension blocks worked as one unit of T. B. hospitals at Sewri designated as the Group of Hospitals for Tuberculosis. The total bed accommodation was 295. The Princess Street Tuberculosis Clinic which is regularly attended by Honoraries of this group of Hospitals serves as the Out-patients' Department of this Group. The number of new cases admitted during the year was 1,956 of which 1,152 were males and 804 females as against 1,960 of which 1,158 were males and 802 females in the preceding year. The largest number of admissions was from the age group 20-25 years. The number of in-patients treated at the Hospitals during the year was 2,208. Of these 1,642 patients were discharged, 280 died and 286 remained in the Hospital at the end of the year as against 1,662, 311 and 252, respectively, in the preceding year. 895 discharged cases attended the Hospital for A. P. and P. P. treatment and in all 28,120 A. P. and P. P. refills were given to discharged patients during the year under report. The Poor Box Collections including fees for medical certificates during the year amounted to Rs. 6,704-13-9 and a sum of Rs. 2,040-15-6 was spent on medicines, injections, etc. The total expenditure incurred on this Group of Hospitals amounted to Rs. 8.16 lacs as against Rs. 8.84 lacs in the preceding year.

40. The Hospital has an accommodation of 510 beds distributed amongst men, women and children patients as 325, 145 and 40, respectively. The accommodation was fully occupied during the year. The construction of an additional Ward out of the donation received from the Reserve Bank of India was completed but could not be utilised for want of equipment. The total number of in-patients admitted during the year was 19,674 against 19,148 and 19,792 in the previous two years. The daily average number of in-patients was 610.25 against 603.16 and 582.50 of the previous two years. The maximum number of in-patients on a single day was 663. The average number of days each patient was resident was 11.02 against 11.50 and 10.65 in the last two years. The total number of operations performed on in-patients was 8,955 against 8,874 and 9,717 in the previous two years. The total number of in-patients treated during the year was 20,264 including the balance of 590 of the previous year as against 19,706 including the balance of 558 in the previous year. Of these in-patients, 7,247 were cured, 7,353 were discharged as relieved, 3,187 left the hospital against medical advice or were otherwise discharged and 1,863 died (exclusive of 2 still born) leaving a balance of 614 at the end of the year. The average cost per in-patient per day rose to Rs. 8-15-11 as against Rs. 8-4-11 in the previous year. Similarly, the average cost per in-patient admission also showed a rise, being Rs. 102-1-2 as against Rs. 95-12-4 in the preceding year.

The total number of new out-patients treated was 1,66,812 against 1,56,888 of the preceding year showing an increase of 9,924 patients. The daily average number of new out-patients was 620.5 against 590.2 in the previous year, while the daily average number of out-patients attendance worked out to 1919.3 against 1890.2 in the previous year. The total number of out-patients attendance including casualty patients during the year came to 5,70,742 against 5,59,901 in the previous year. The highest number of out-patients attendance on any one day was 2,601 as against 2,649 in the previous year while new out-patients admitted on a

single day was 691 as against 692 in the previous year. The total number of operations on out-patients during the year was 23,147 against 20,347 in the previous year. The average cost per out-patient attendance during the year was Rs. 1-5-8 against Re. 0-14-9 in the previous year while the average cost per out-patient admission was Rs. 3-4-10 against Rs. 3-4-6 in the preceding year.

The Poor Box Charity Fund from which relief was rendered to poor patients in the form of spectacles, artificial limbs, travelling expenses, etc., received steady support from the public as well as from the patients of the Hospital. An amount of Rs. 36,547-9-0 was spent for affording relief to poor patients out of the Charity Fund. The total amount spent during the year was Rs. 38,383 while the contributions were Rs. 41,700-6-9.

The Gift Shop started for the convenience of the patients worked well. Similarly, the Occupational Therapy Centre and School, Prophylactic Immunization centre, Family Health Centre and the Co-operative Credit Society, carried on their work in their respective spheres satisfactorily.

41. During the year under report bed accommodation in the Hospital continued to be the same as in the last year *i.e.*, 300 beds. The total number of patients admitted during the year was 12,002 as against 9,426 during the preceding year. The highest number of in-patients on a single day was 380 and the daily average number of in-patients was 339 as against 326 and 291, respectively, in the preceding year. Average number of days each patient was resident was 10.3 days as against 12.06 days in the preceding year.

The total number of in-patients treated was 12,301 including 229 of the previous year. The number of maternity and gynaec cases was 5,014 as against 4,010 in the preceding year.

The total number of operations performed on in-patients was 2,641 as against 2,139 in the preceding year. The average cost per in-patient on diet per day was Re. 0-15-6 against Re. 0-14-0 in the preceding year.

The total number of new out-patients was 62,195 with a daily average of 212.7 as against 51,431 and 164.3, respectively, in the preceding year. The total number of out-patients attendance was 2,55,000 with a daily average of 825.2 as against 1,98,572 and 634.4, respectively in the preceding year. The highest number of out-patients attendance on a single day was 1,940 as against 1,739 in the preceding year. The total number of operations performed on out-patients was 3,220 as against 2,348 in the preceding year.

Paying bed scheme started from September 1951 is working satisfactorily as more and more patients are taking advantage of the same. 921 patients were admitted in the General and Special rooms as against 390 in the previous year. 119 major and 177 minor operations were performed on paying patients, as against 60 and 69, respectively, in the previous year.

Pathological and Bacteriological investigations in respect of 17,730 in-patients and 9,784 out-patients were carried out in the Laboratory of the Hospital.

The Research Department started in 1951 was working very satisfactorily. During the year enquiries with the problem of anaemia and diabetes were taken. 4,435 patients for Anaemia and 404 patients for Diabetes were investigated.

The Hospital has a most upto date library having all the recent text books and other books on Anaesthesia and most of the Journals on the subject and Analgesia.

The Poor Box Fund at the close of the last year was Rs. 35,337-8-6. During the year a sum of Rs. 57,823-10-3 was collected in the Charity Boxes and by way of donations, etc., and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 37,641-8-0. A balance of Rs. 55,519-10-9 remained in the Poor Box Fund at the close of the year. It can be seen that the Hospital has made very rapid progress during the last 5 years.

42. The Hospital has an accommodation of 330 beds distributed among men, women and children patients as 171, 126 and 33, respectively. The accommodation was fully occupied during the year. The total number of in-patients admitted was 11,450 against 10,036 in the previous year. The daily average of admissions was 295.52 against 240.41 in the previous year. The total number of in-patients treated was 11,679 including the balance of 229 of the previous year of whom 5,405 were cured, 3,779 were relieved, 647 died, 1,561 were otherwise discharged and 287 remained at the close of the year. The highest number of in-patients treated on a single day was 346 and the daily average worked out to 295.52. On an average each patient was resident for 9.25 days against 8.95 in the previous year. The average cost per in-patient per day was Rs. 8-2-10 against Rs. 8-3-6 during the preceding year.

Bai Yamunabai L. Nair
Charitable Hospital.

The total number of out-patients treated was 2,15,259 against 1,86,437 in the previous year and the average number of out-patients attendance per day was 719.36 against 601.41 in the previous year. The highest out-patients attendance on a single day was 1,078 against 940 in the previous year. The average cost per out-patient per day was Rs. 1-0-10 against Re. 0-15-4 during the preceding year.

During the year 4,449 and 4,665 operations were performed, respectively, on in-patients and out-patients against 4,114 and 7,435, respectively, during the last year.

The total expenditure incurred on the maintenance of the hospital amounted approximately to Rs. 13.01 lacs against Rs. 9.75 lacs in the preceding year.

The total amount spent out of the Poor Patients' Fund in giving relief, which could not ordinarily be given out of the Municipal fund, came to Rs. 8,042-3-6 while the contributions amounted to Rs. 2,385 by way of donations and Rs. 10,511-7-9 by way of collection from the boxes kept in wards and out-door departments.

The proposal for the formation of a Blood Bank was sanctioned by the Corporation and the Blood Bank is expected to be opened in due course of time.

During the year under report a midwifery training class was started in this Hospital and 6 student nurses were undergoing training.

43. During the year under report, 82 fresh admissions were made. Of the new admissions 79 students were single and 3 married. Of the 584 students on the roll against 592 in the previous year, 131 were lady students and 121 post-graduate and research students against 132 and 105, respectively in the previous year. Out of 517 students sent up for various examinations, 331 passed the whole examination against the corresponding figures of 572 and 322 of the previous year. Clinical instructions in diseases of children continued to be given at the Bai Jerbai Wadia Hospital for Children. Number of male students residing in the Hostel during the year was 147, while the number of lady students accommodated in the Lady students Hostel was 28. Income derived from the College and the Hostels by way of tuition fees, hostel rent, etc., was Rs. 1.78 lacs against Rs. 1.74 lacs in the previous year, while the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 4.83 lacs (including payment of dearness allowance of Rs. 0.83 lac) against Rs. 4.41 lacs in the preceding year. The income derived from and the expenditure incurred on the Hostels were Rs. 16,142 and Rs. 21,503, respectively as against Rs. 21,537 and Rs. 20,882 in the previous year. The gross and net cost per student worked out at Rs. 1,043.6 and Rs. 659.2 as against Rs. 904.9 and Rs. 548.4 in the previous year. The amount of fees received from the post-graduate students was Rs. 22,110. The Co-operative Society continued to serve the needs of the students and also showed a large profit which is proposed to be utilized for helping needy patients and students.

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

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

44. The College had 367 students on the roll at the close of the year out of whom 58 were lady students. Besides, there were 34 post-graduate students including 8 lady students. Out of 306 students sent up for various examinations 164 passed during the year under report. The number of male students residing in the College Hostel was 57. For want of accommodation admissions to the Hostel had to be refused to a large number of students. Arrangements were made to accommodate the female students at the Grant Medical College Hostel as there was no Hostel for them at this College. The total expenditure incurred on the maintenance of the College amounted to Rs. 3.72 lacs against Rs. 2.71 lacs in the previous year. The total income by way of tuition fees, etc., received amounted to Rs. 1.24 lacs against Rs. 1.19 lacs in the previous year. A total sum of Rs. 2,18,631-0-9 was received from the Government as Grant-in-Aid for the year 1950-51.

45. The College has 59 dental chairs, 4 well equipped laboratories, 1 Dental X-Ray unit, 1 Micro-Surgical unit, 1 Nitrous Oxide apparatus, 5 Microscopes, 1 Cinema Projector, 1 Epidioscope, 1 Infrared and 1 Ultra violet lamp and other equipment to give dental treatment on modern lines and also provides facilities for teaching dentistry. There were 123 students including 21 lady students on the roll. 20 students including 5 lady students appeared and passed the Diploma Examination. The admission standard for the students is Inter Science (B Group) Examination of the Bombay University or an examination equivalent to it and the course extends over four years.

The College also runs a Dental Clinic which treats patients at a nominal cost and supplies artificial teeth. During the year 51,247 patients were treated as against 31,183 in the preceding year. The total expenditure incurred was Rs. 1,51,710 as against Rs. 1,40,379 in the previous year ; and the total revenue by way of fees from students and patients was Rs. 63,015 as against Rs. 48,133 during the previous year.

The College has an Academic Council to look after the Academic affairs. There is also an Advisory Board which conducts Final L.D.Sc. Diploma Examination and advises the Dean and the Municipal Commissioner in the policy to be followed by the College and in matters of administration referred to them by the Dean or the Municipal Commissioner.

46. At the close of the year there were 1,75,104 pupils in 444 schools and 43 classes in Greater Bombay, the number in the City being 1,48,131 pupils in 351 schools and 29 classes and in the Suburbs 26,973 pupils in 93 schools and 14 classes. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 1,70,089 pupils in 458 schools and 25 classes in Greater Bombay, representing 1,44,680 pupils in 357 schools and 23 classes in the City and 25,409 pupils in 101 schools and 2 classes in the Suburbs. Thus there was a net increase of 5,015 pupils in Municipal Schools during the year. The highest number on roll in Municipal schools in Greater Bombay was 1,90,990 at the end of July 1952. The number fell down to 1,75,104 at the end of March 1953. The total number of teachers in Greater Bombay at the end of the year was 4,879 of whom 4,050 were permanent, 650 were non-permanent and 179 were special teachers including part-timers. The percentage of trained teachers was 88 in the City and 79.3 in the Suburbs.

The Byculla Educational Centre was opened in the year 1949 with a view to devote entirely to find out ways and means of keeping the Municipal Primary teachers acquainted with the latest methods and thoughts in the field of education and with the new teaching devices, Instruction in method of Education, Geography and Science were imparted at this centre. The Centre organized about 50 lectures on various educational topics for the benefit of the Municipal teachers with the help of eminent educationists in the City. 62 programmes of film shows were also arranged by the centre for the benefit of school children.

The two schools converted into Basic schools in 1949 continued to work as before and imparted education in spinning and weaving as the Basic craft with kitchen gardening as an additional subject. From the experience it is found that the conversion of Primary Schools into Basic schools will not be of any practical use in the City like Bombay.

Besides the education in 3 Rs the Municipality also imparts vocational education. There are 22 Municipal Vocational Upper Primary Schools which prepare pupils for the Primary School Certificate Examination with the subject of craft as one of the compulsory subjects. Carpentry and tailoring is also taught in these schools. Other subjects taught in these schools are Sewing, Embroidery, Tailoring, Printing and Binding, Clock repairing, sign-board painting and card board modelling.

At present there are 61 Municipal owned school buildings in Greater Bombay. One school building at Andheri was constructed during the year partly out of donations from the public and partly from the Corporation funds. The programme of constructing new school buildings is taken in hand by the Commissioner earnestly. During the year under report loan of Rs. 5 lacs was raised for constructing new school buildings.

At the close of the year there were 283 Aided Schools in Greater Bombay (224 in the City and 59 in the Suburbs) as against 285 in the previous year. The number of pupils in these schools was 69,552 as against 69,100 in the previous year. The number of recognized schools not receiving grant-in-aids was 31 with 4,805 pupils as against 23 with 3,179 pupils in the previous year.

The total number of teachers in Aided Schools including special and part-time teachers was 2,663 as against 2,721 in the previous year. The total amount of grants recommended for payment to Aided Schools was Rs. 3,57,793 for City Schools and Rs. 1,06,829 for the Suburban Schools. The grants were paid after applying varying cuts between 20 and 85 per cent. to the assessed grants. The average cost per pupil calculated on the total number of pupils on the rolls in the Aided Schools worked out to Rs. 67.2 in the City and Rs. 59.9 in the Suburbs. The average cost per pupil to the Corporation by way of grant was Rs. 6.5 and Rs. 7.7 for the City and Suburbs, respectively.

The census of non-attending children taken in the year under report revealed that 16,820 and 5,414 children of Compulsory Age were not attending schools in the City and Suburbs, respectively. Of these 12,932 and 3,265 children were enrolled in the City and Suburban Schools, respectively. The system of holding the schools in two sessions was continued during the year on account of shortage of housing accommodation.

Physical Education was imparted in almost all the schools on the lines of the curriculum laid down by Government. Three mass drill displays were held in Greater Bombay in which more than 8,200 children from 101 schools took part.

The Municipal Boy Scout and Girl Guide Associations continued their activities vigorously as before. The usual activities, such as Week-end Camps, Social Work, help at all departmental and public functions, etc., were carried out during the year. It is to be noted that during the year under report the Municipal Scouts and Clubs took part in the Grand Provincial State Rally held under the auspices of the Bharat Scouts and Guides Bombay State at the Brabourne Stadium on the 24th February 1953. The Municipal Boy Scouts and Girl Guides had staged certain items and they were highly appreciated by the guests who were present at the function.

This activity is very much appreciated by the public as well as the guests who attended the functions.

The School Health Service under the Executive Health Officer was continued as before for the benefit of the children of the Municipal Primary Schools. Detailed medical examination of 38,383 children reading in standards I and III was taken by the medical inspection department. Free medical treatment was given to the pupils at the Municipal Dispensaries and the Central School Clinic at the K. E. M. Hospital and the various Vaccination Centres. Free milk was supplied to about 32,640 under-nourished children, in the year.

The unique feature of the department is a Central Library specially meant for teachers only. The library contains over 17,418 books in different languages and a good number of teachers on all sides take advantage of the library.

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

The average cost per pupil in the City schools calculated on the number of pupils on rolls was Rs. 74.9 as against Rs. 72.2 in the previous year and the average cost per pupil in the Suburban Schools was 60.4 as against 43.9 in the previous year.

The review will not be complete unless a reference is made to the item of Finance. The income side of the Education Fund consists of Municipal Contribution, Government Grant, Fees from Municipal Schools and miscellaneous receipts. As compared to the expenditure incurred on this department the income derived from the last two items is very meagre. The Corporation's Contribution is restricted and so also the Government Grant, as it is based on the Shroff Committee's Report. On account of these restrictions it is very difficult to meet the demands of the ever growing department like this. With the ever-increasing number of pupils in Municipal schools and the higher cost of educational aids, unless some sort of agreement is made with Government in connection with the conduct of Upper Primary Schools, there will be no alternative but to go in for the Educational Cess.

47. The Printing Press was, since its inception, under the Test Audit Officer, upto 31st July 1952. From 1st August 1952 the press was given exclusively in charge of a Manager assisted by two Deputy Managers and two Assistant Managers.

The difficulty in obtaining paper experienced in the previous years continued during the year under report and out of 200 tons of both the bleached and unbleached paper for which orders were placed with the Government, only 108½ tons were received from the mills with the result that to make up the shortage, 62½ tons of foreign bleached paper had to be purchased locally at high rates in order to cope up with the increased requirements of the Municipal Departments including those in Greater Bombay the work in respect of which was undertaken and carried out at the Press during the year. Over and above this the Budget Estimates and Establishment Schedules and several other jobs from the B.E. S. & T. Undertaking were also printed at the Press. Total quantity of paper consumed was 153½ tons against 142 tons in the previous year.

The transactions of the Press for the year closed with a surplus of Rs. 2,895 on the total turnover of Rs. 8.12 lacs against the surplus of Rs. 4,437 over the turnover of Rs. 7.35 lacs for the previous year. The labour staff at the close of the year consisted of 223 workers against 234 and 165 in the previous two years.

During the year under review the Government of Bombay as well as that of Saurashtra State requested the Corporation to allow them to entrust the work of printing of their District Census Handbooks which were urgently required and which could not be carried out by their

press—to the Municipal Printing Press. It is very gratifying to note that the work was carried out satisfactorily and an amount of Rs. 14,175 was credited to the Press account.

48. During the year under report the department continued to attend to contested matters and other proceedings in the High Court, City Civil Court, Small Causes Court and Police Courts and also to other legal matters. **Legal Department.** During the year, the department received 6,945 files, addressed 1,719 letters to outside parties or their legal advisers and gave opinions on different departmental matters and advices on 165 documents. Corresponding figures in the preceding year were 5,904 files, 891 letters and 90 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 Rs. 41,971-15-6 and the expenditure to Rs. 70,162-15-3 as against Rs. 26,404-6-9 and Rs. 65,194-4-6, respectively, for the preceding year.

Thus, it will be seen from the increasing work that the necessity of this department is very keenly felt by all the departments of the Corporation.

49. During the year under report there were 10 Unions of Municipal employees of which 8 were registered with a total membership of 8,953 and 3 unregistered. **Labour Department.** The total number of labour staff employed in 11 main departments was 27,182 persons.

In consonance with the Trade Union Movement the Municipal Commissioner was kind enough to establish Joint Councils on the lines of the Whitley Councils in Great Britain. In all 9 Joint Councils were functioning during the year under report. The scope of the work of these councils was elastic enough to allow discussions and recommendations on all matters pertaining to conditions of services. They helped to promote cordial relations between the employers and the employees.

The Labour Officer dealt with among other things complaints regarding Service conditions, promotions, transfers, etc. During the year under report 1,434 such complaints were received by the Labour Officer out of which 143 were not genuine, 157 were found unjustified. The grievances of 1,021 cases were redressed by the Labour Officer and 113 were kept pending without taking any decision.

The recreational, educational and other cultural activities organized by the Welfare Branch of the Department for the benefit of the Municipal Workers and their dependents continued more vigorously in the year under report. The maternity unit attached to the Chembur Welfare Centre continued to do its useful work under a qualified lady Doctor and medical treatment, wherever necessary, was given by the Welfare Organisation.

50. Labour relations during the year were smooth and there was no dislocation of work. **Labour Relations.** The staff of the Nair Hospital was a little restive and the Bombay Municipal Hospital Employees' Union had served a notice of strike on their behalf. The matter was, however, settled amicably and the strike notice was withdrawn.

51. The two Ward Officers (one for the South and the other for the North) during the year under report, attended to and dealt with complaints pertaining to drainage, conservancy, water supply, buildings, sanitation as also other complaints in connection with encroachments, markets, gardens, fires, etc. **Ward Officers.** On their usual rounds the complaints were verified and the needful done and also sanitary and other defects noticed by them in the course of their rounds were reported to the respective heads of departments for necessary action. The number of such references in respect of buildings was 1,405 drainage 359, sanitation 2,106, water supply 1,562 and miscellaneous 239, the corresponding figures for the preceding year being 1,478, 398, 1,871, 1,767 and 319.

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

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OFFICE, }
BOMBAY, 24th February 1954. }

V. N. DESAI,
Chairman,
Standing Committee.

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