Medical Officer's annual report [to] Durban Corporation.

Contributors

Durban (South Africa). Public Health Department.

Publication/Creation

[Durban] : [The Corporation], [1915]

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MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Municipal Buildings,

Durban. 1st August, 1915.

To His Worship the Mayor

and Town Councillors of the Borough of Durban.

Gentlemen,—

I have the honour to submit to you my Thirteenth Annual Report relating to the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Borough of Durban, for the year ended 31st July, 1915.

P. MURISON, M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Sub-Stations and Transformers for Year ending July 31st, 1914.

SUB STATIONS 3 PHASE.

July 31st, 1914. July 31st, 1915.

No.	Particulars of Buildings.	K. W. Installed.	K. W. Additions	K. W. Deductions	Locality.	K. W. Total.	No.
1	Brick ..	100	50	...	Dalton Road (temporary)	150	1
3	Wood and Iron	400	50	100	Greenwood Park	350	3
3	Combined with other Buildings	500	400	...	Briquette Co., Brand Road	900	5
7		1000				1400	9

SUB-STATIONS SINGLE PHASE.

10	Brick ...	1470	80	20	Leopold St., Gardens, Cato & Pine Streets	1530	10
3	Wood and Iron	140	40	...	Gillespie Street	180	3
16	Combined	695	...	22½	Lords Ground	672½	16
29		2305				2382½	29

BOXES.

9	Double 2/20 E.C.C.	360	40	80	Umbilo, Goble and Marriott Roads	320	8
7	Single 1/20 E.C.C.	140	...	...		140	7
16		500				460	15

PITS.

17	Pits (50 K.W.)	850	250	...	Claribel, Gordon, Goble, Marriott & McDonald Roads	1100	22
69		4655	910	222½		5342½	75

POPULATION.

The following table shows the estimated population for 1914-15, and previous Census of the Borough for comparison are shown.

	1910 Borough Census	1911 Government Census	1913 Borough Census	1915 Estimate
Europeans ...	30,030	31,896	33,428	34,540
Coloured ...	2,039	19,535	2,420	2,860
Indians	16,131		18,010	18,800
Natives	16,489	17,756	20,302	20,800
	64,689	69,187	74,160	77,000

For Public Health purposes the "Coloured" population is included with the European, and the Birth-rates, Death-rates, etc., shown in this Report as European are calculated on the combined figures.

BIRTHS.

1.—TABLE SHOWING MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION OF ALL BIRTHS FOR RACE AND SEX, 1914-15.

Months.	Males.			Females.			Totals.		
	Europeans	Natives	Asiatics	Europeans	Natives	Asiatics	Europeans	Natives	Asiatics
1914									
August	41	7	33	37	2	44	78	9	77
September ...	47	5	27	35	4	30	82	9	57
October ...	45	4	26	46	3	49	91	7	75
November ...	44	4	40	34	4	34	78	8	74
December ...	46	3	30	32	2	20	78	5	50
1915									
January ...	54	8	34	42	3	27	96	11	61
February ..	38	4	36	48	7	24	86	11	60
March	48	3	41	36	8	31	84	11	72
April	42	7	20	48	5	21	90	12	41
May	46	0	23	39	0	28	85	0	51
June	52	4	24	45	3	37	97	7	61
July	46	2	37	34	3	29	80	5	66
Totals ...	549	51	371	476	44	374	1,025	95	745

2.—TABLE OF BIRTHS OCCURRING AMONGST NON-RESIDENTS IN MONTHS.

1912-1913	106
1913-1914	111
1914-1915	108

1914										1915															
Aug.		Sept.		Oct.		Nov.		Dec.		Jan.		Feb.		Mar.		April.		May.		June.		July.		Total.	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
7	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	4	2	10	5	4	5	2	2	4	10	2	7	5	4	7	2	56	52

European Birth Rate (gross)	27.4 per 1,000.
European Birth Rate (corrected) for non-residents	24.5 per 1,000.
Asiatic Birth Rate	39.6 per 1,000.
Native Birth Rate	4.6 per 1,000.
Birth Rate England and Wales, 1914	23.6 per 1,000.

3.—TABLE SHOWING TOTAL REGISTERED EUROPEAN BIRTHS AND BIRTH RATES FOR THE PAST SEVEN YEARS.

	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	**1915**	**1915**
No of Births	919	907	952	1030	1015	1030	1025	917
Birth Rate	31·4	28 5	27 7	28·3	28·3	28.1	2 4	24.5 (Corrected

4.—TABLE SHOWING LEGITIMATE AND ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS, EXCLUDING IMPORTED BIRTHS, 1914-15.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	472	404	876
Illegitimate	21	20	41
	493	424	917

5.—MARRIAGES CONTRACTED IN DURBAN BOROUGH, 1914-15.

During the past Municipal Year 412 European marriages were contracted in Durban. The following table shows the distribution as to domicile of contracting parties:—

Of whom one party domiciled in Durban.		Of whom both parties domiciled in Durban.		Of whom neither party domiciled in Durban.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
14	49	300	300	49	49

Gross Marriage Rate for Durban	11.0 per 1,000.
Corrected Marriage Rate for Borough	9.7 per 1,000,

DEATHS.

1.—TABLE SHOWING RACE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS DURING THE PAST YEAR.

Race.	Male.	Female.	Total.
European	184	144	328
Native	91	36	127
Asiatic	99	78	177
Totals	374	258	632

2.—AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS (EUROPEANS).

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Under 1 year	51	31	82
1— 5 years	14	22	36
5—10 ,,	5	5	10
10—15 ,,	1	2	3
15—20 ,,	2	3	5
20—25 ,,	2	8	10
25—35 ,,	12	10	22
35—45 ,,	21	7	28
45—55 ,,	19	17	36
55—65 ,,	22	20	42
65—75 ,,	24	12	36
75—85 ,,	9	4	13
85 and over	2	3	5
Totals	184	144	328

3.—TABLE SHOWING CHIEF STATISTICS OF DEATHS OF ALL RACES IN THE BOROUGH DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

Race.	1910-11	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14	1914-15
European	301	362	311	314	328
Native	109	110	129	123	127
Asiatic	305	296	235	189	177
Totals	715	768	675	626	632
Rate per 1,000					
European	8.7	9.9	8.7	8.6	8.8
Native	6.1	6.0	6.4	5.9	6.2
Asiatic	17.9	16.9	13.0	10.3	9.4

4.—TABLE FOR COMPARISON SHOWING RECORDED DEATH RATES PER 1,000 IN ENGLAND AND WALES IN 1914.

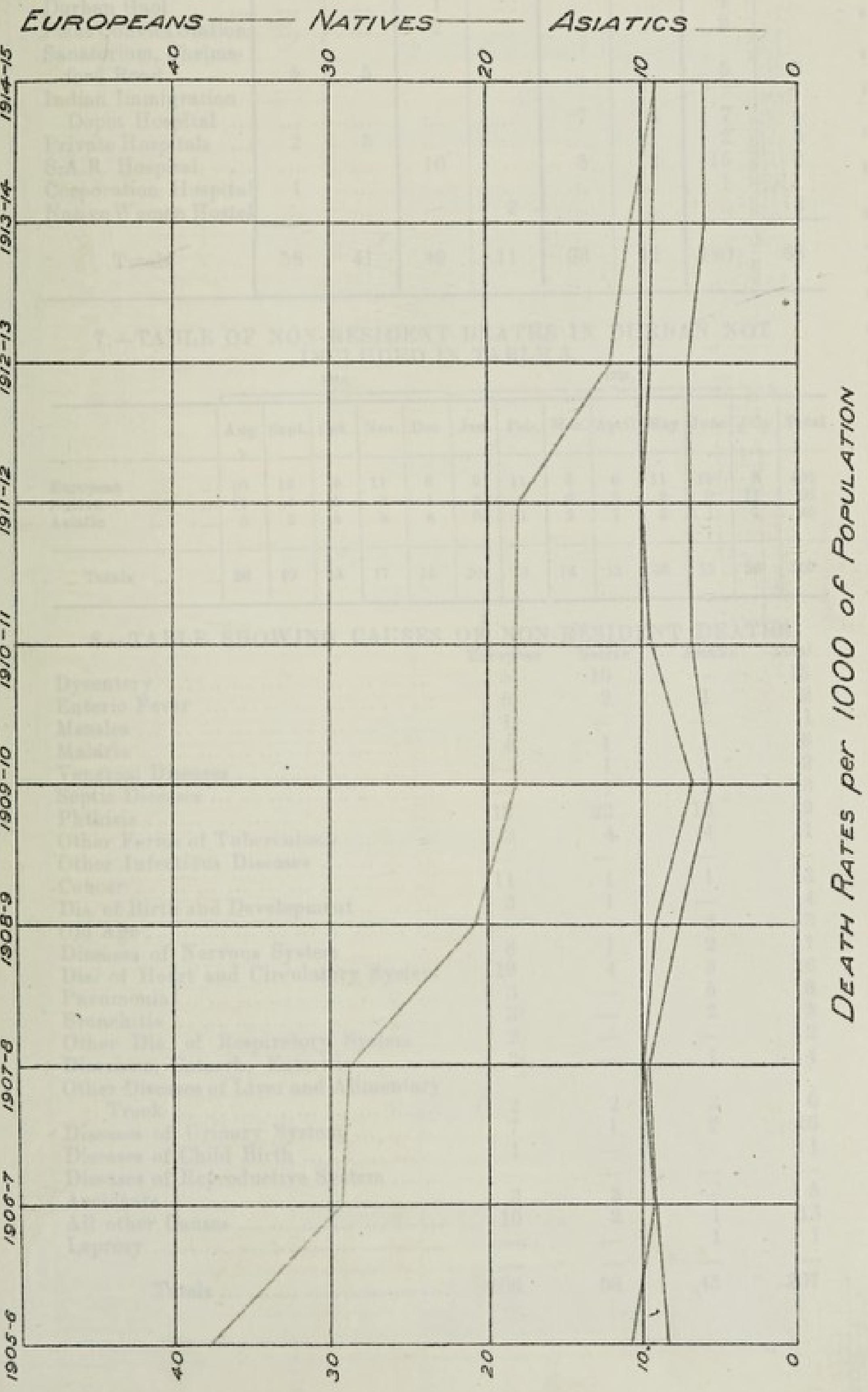
England and Wales	13.6	per 1,000 of pop.
96 Great Towns, including London	14.9	,,
145 Smaller Towns	12.9	,,
England and Wales, less the 241 Towns	12.2	,,
London	14.4	,,

5.—TABLE SHOWING MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS AMONGST RESIDENTS (EUROPEANS), 1914-15.

MONTHS.	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
1914.			
August	20	21	41
September ..	12	22	34
October	31	12	43
November ..	11	8	19
December ..	20	12	32
1915.			
January . ..	10	10	20
February	7	10	17
March	17	17	34
April	15	7	22
May	13	8	21
June ...	11	3	14
July	17	14	31
Totals ...	184	144	328

CHART 1.

Chart showing Death Rate of the different Races during the past ten years:



6.—TABLE OF DEATHS IN INSTITUTIONS OR NURSING HOMES, Etc.

	EUROPEAN.		NATIVE.		ASIATIC.		TOTAL.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Addington Hospital	50	31	36	9	21	6	107	46
Durban Gaol ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
Point Convict Station	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...
Sanatorium, Chelmsford Road ...	5	5	...	...	...	...	5	5
Indian Immigration Depot Hospital ...	...	...	...	...	7	4	7	4
Private Hospitals ...	2	5	...	...	...	...	2	5
S.A.R. Hospital ...	....	...	10	...	5	2	15	2
Corporation Hospital	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Native Women Hostel	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
Totals ...	58	41	49	11	33	12	140	64

7.—TABLE OF NON-RESIDENT DEATHS IN DURBAN NOT INCLUDED IN TABLE 3.

	1914.					1915.							
	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Total
European	10	12	4	11	6	9	11	6	6	11	12	8	106
Native	11	4	5	3	1	5	3	6	5	2	0	11	56
Asiatic	5	3	5	3	8	6	1	2	1	3	1	7	45
Totals	26	19	14	17	15	20	15	14	12	16	13	26	207

8.—TABLE SHOWING CAUSES OF NON-RESIDENT DEATHS.

	European	Native	Asiatic	Total.
Dysentery	5	10	—	15
Enteric Fever	5	2	1	8
Measles	1	—	—	1
Malaria	4	1	1	6
Venereal Diseases	—	1	1	2
Septic Diseases	—	1	2	3
Phthisis	13	23	13	49
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	3	4	4	11
Other Infectious Diseases	—	—	—	—
Cancer	11	1	1	13
Dis. of Birth and Development	3	1	—	4
Old Age	—	—	3	3
Diseases of Nervous System	8	1	2	11
Dis. of Heart and Circulatory System	19	4	3	26
Pneumonia	3	—	5	8
Bronchitis	3	—	2	5
Other Dis. of Respiratory System ...	2	—	—	2
Diarrhœa, Catarrh, Enteritis	3	—	1	4
Other Diseases of Liver and Alimentary Track	2	2	2	6
Diseases of Urinary System	7	1	2	10
Diseases of Child Birth	1	—	—	1
Diseases of Reproductive System	—	—	—	—
Accidents	3	2	—	5
All other Causes	10	2	1	13
Leprosy	—	—	1	1
Totals	106	56	45	207

CHART 2.

Table of Columns showing the European Monthly Deaths for past five years:—

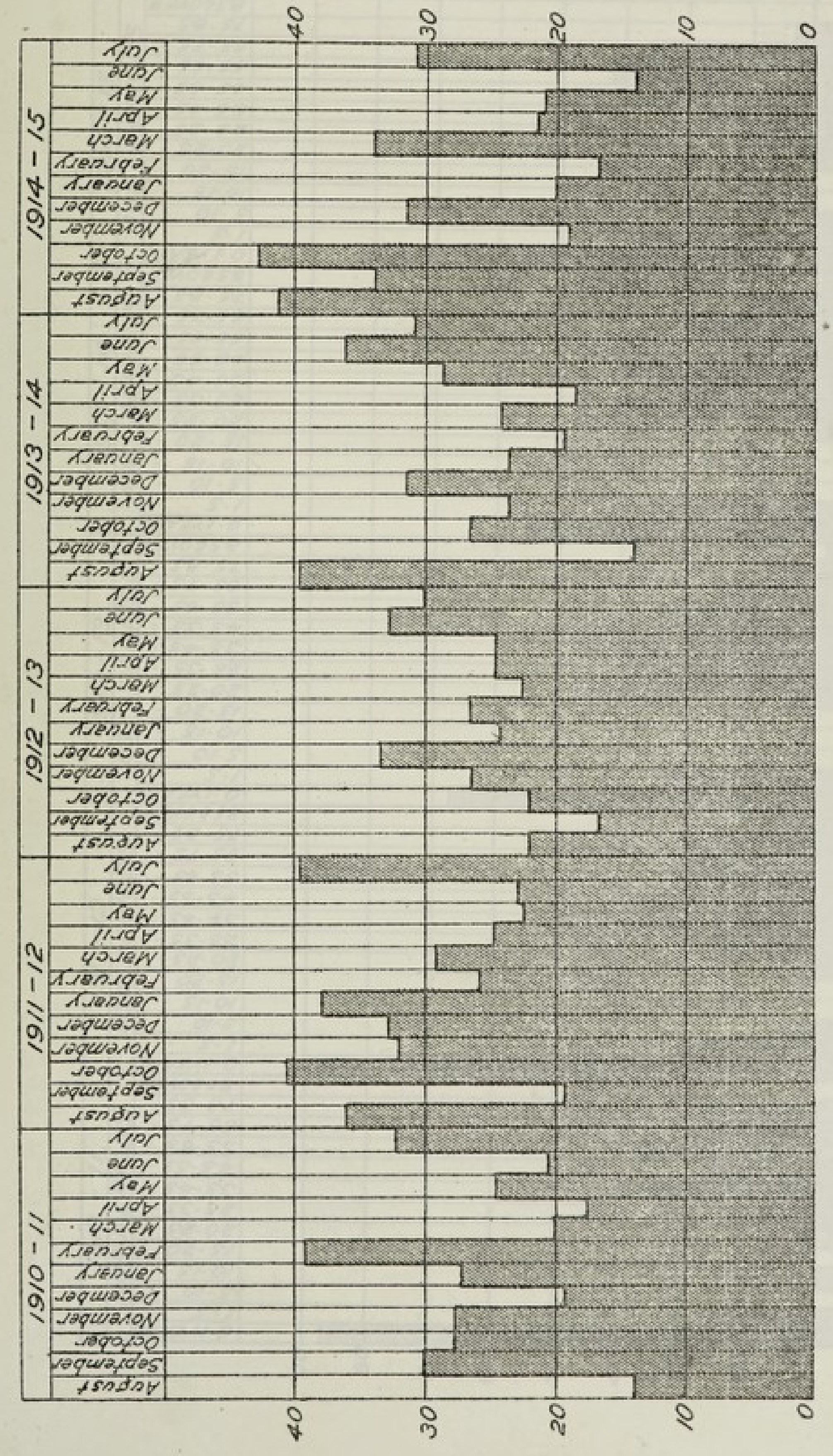
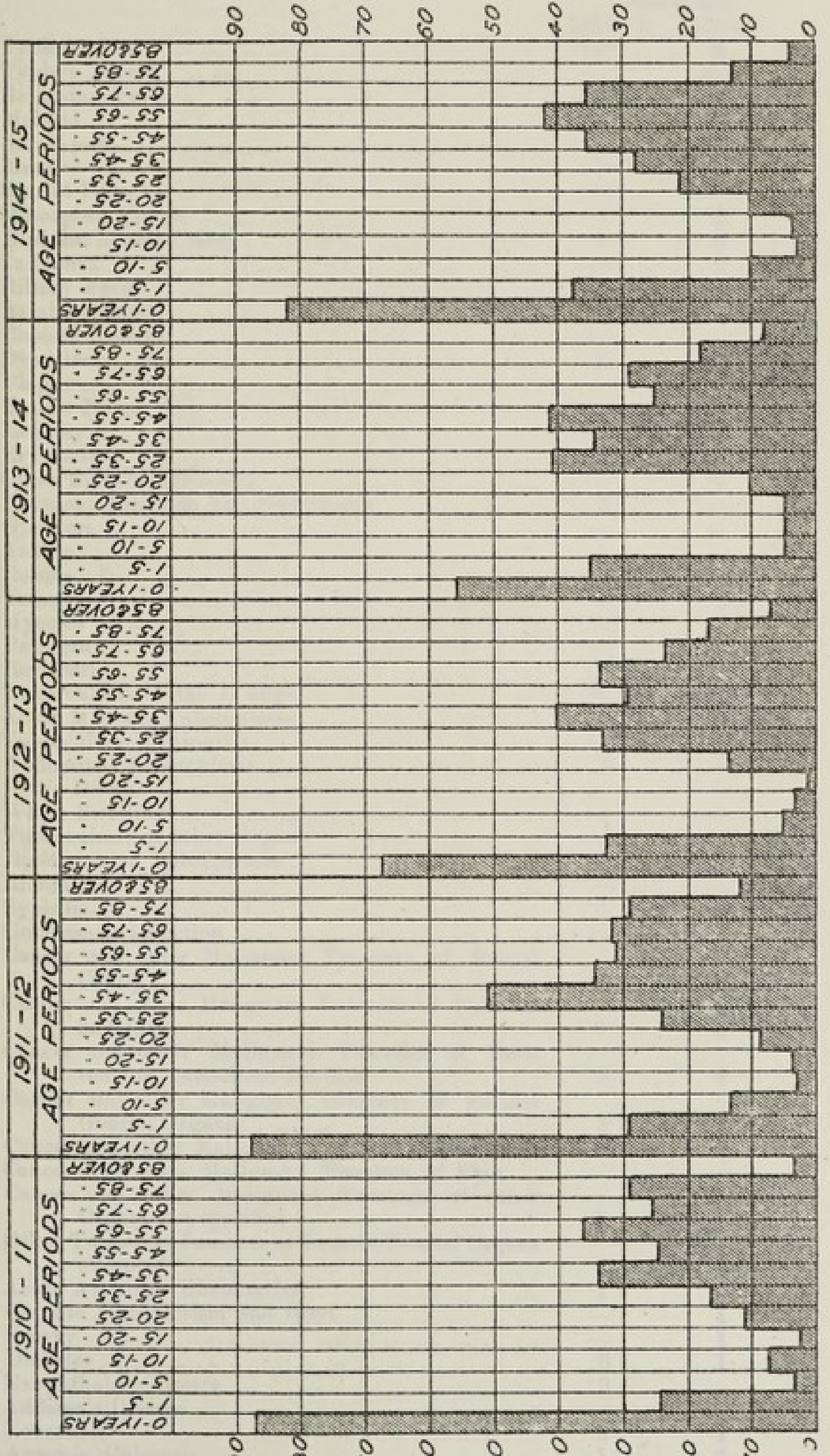


CHART 3.

Table of Columns showing the European Total Deaths occurring at various ages during the past five years:—



CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS.

Deaths classified according to the International Classification of Causes of Sickness and Death :—

		Europeans.	
		1913-14.	1914-15.
1.	Typhoid Fever	16	4
2.	Typhus Fever	—	—
3.	Relapsing Fever	—	—
4.	Malaria	—	2
5.	Small-pox	—	—
6.	Measles	2	—
7.	Scarlet Fever	—	—
8.	Whooping Cough	3	3
9.	Diphtheria and Croup	6	6
10.	Influenza	—	1
11.	Biliary Fever	—	—
12.	Asiatic Cholera	—	—
13.	Cholera Nostras	—	—
14.	Dysentery	2	6
15.	Plague	—	—
16.	Yellow Fever	—	—
17.	Leprosy	—	—
18.	Erysipelas	—	—
19.	Other Epidemic Diseases	—	—
20.	Purulent Infection and Septicæmia	2	—
21.	Glanders	—	—
22.	Anthrax	—	—
23.	Rabies	—	—
24.	Tetanus	1	1
25.	Mycoses	—	—
26.	Pellagra	—	—
27.	Beri-beri	—	—
28.	Tuberculosis of the Lungs	20	13
29.	Acute Military Tuberculosis	1	2
30.	Tuberculous Meningitis	—	1
31.	Abdominal Tuberculosis	1	—
32.	Pott's Disease	—	—
33.	White Swelling	—	—
34.	Tuberculosis of other Organs	—	—
35.	Disseminated Tuberculosis	—	—
36.	Rickets	—	—
37.	Syphilis	3	2
38.	Gonococcus Infection	—	—
39.	Cancer and other Malignant Tumours of Buccal Cavity	6	3
40.	Cancer and other Malignant Tumours of Stomach and Liver	5	4
41.	Cancer and other Malignant Tumours of Peritoneum, Intestines, Rectum	3	7
42.	Cancer and other Malignant Tumours of Female Genital Organs	4	5
43.	Cancer and other Malignant Tumours of Breast	4	2
44.	Cancer and other Malignant Tumours of Skin	—	—
45.	Cancer and other Malignant Tumours of other Organs not specified	1	4
46.	Other Tumours (Tumours of Female Genital Organs excepted)	1	1
47.	Acute Articular Rheumatism	1	2
48.	Chronic Rheumatism and Gout	—	1
50.	Scurvy	—	1
50.	Diabetes	6	1
51.	Exophthalmic Goitre	3	—
52.	Addison's Disease	—	—
53.	Leucæmia	1	1
54.	Anæmia, Chlorosis	1	2

		Europeans.	
		1913-14.	1914-15.
55.	Other General Diseases	3	7
56.	Alcoholism (Acute or Chronic)	2	—
57.	Chronic Lead Poisoning	—	—
58.	Other Chronic Occupation Poisonings	—	—
59.	Other Chronic Poisonings	—	—
60.	Encephalitis	1	1
61.	Simple Meningitis	8	6
61a.	(Including Cerebrospinal Fever)	—	—
62.	Locomotor Ataxia	2	1
63.	Other Diseases of Spinal Cord	2	1
64.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, Apoplexy	10	10
65.	Softening of Brain	—	1
66.	Paralysis without specified cause	1	3
67.	General Paralysis of Insane	—	—
68.	Other Forms Mental Alienation	—	—
69.	Epilepsy	—	—
70.	Convulsions (Non-Puerperal)	—	—
71.	Convulsions of Infants	1	4
72.	Chorea	—	—
73.	Neuralgia and Neuritis	—	—
74.	Other Diseases of Nervous System	—	2
75.	Diseases of Eyes and their Annexa	—	—
76.	Diseases of the Ears	—	1
77.	Pericarditis	—	—
78.	Acute Endocarditis	1	2
79.	Organic Diseases of Heart	19	19
80.	Angina Pectoris	—	1
81.	Diseases of Arteries, Atheroma, Aenurysm	5	3
82.	Embolism and Thrombosis	—	1
83.	Diseases of Veins (Varices, Hæmorrhoids, Phlebitis, etc.	—	—
84.	Diseases of Lymphatic System (Lymphangitis, etc.)	—	—
85.	Hæmorrhage: Other Diseases of Circulatory System	—	—
86.	Diseases of Nasal Fossæ	—	—
87.	Diseases of Larynx	1	1
88.	Diseases of Thyroid Body	—	1
89.	Acute Bronchitis	2	3
90.	Chronic Bronchitis	3	3
91.	Broncho-Pneumonia	7	6
92.	Pneumonia	6	12
93.	Pleurisy	2	—
94.	Pulmonary Congestion, Pulmonary Apoplexy	—	—
95.	Gangrene of the Lung	—	—
96.	Asthma	—	—
97.	Pulmonary Emphysema	—	—
98.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System (Tuberculosis excepted)	—	2
99.	Diseases of Mouth and Annexa	—	—
100.	Diseases of Pharynx	—	—
101.	Diseases of Œsophagus	—	—
102.	Ulcer of the Stomach	3	—
103.	Other Diseases of Stomach (Cancer excepted)	5	1
104.	Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years)	29	43
105.	Diarrhœa and Enteritis (over 2 years)	9	12
106.	Ankylostomiasis	—	—
107.	Intestinal Parasites	—	—
108.	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	—	4
109.	Hernias, Intestinal Obstructions	2	2
110.	Diseases of the Intestines	—	2
111.	Acute Yellow Atrophy of the Liver	—	—
112.	Hydatid Tumour of Liver	—	—
113.	Cirrhosis of Liver	3	1
114.	Biliary Calculi	2	1

		Europeans.	
		1913-14.	1914-15.
115.	Other Diseases of Liver	1	—
116.	Diseases of Spleen	—	—
117.	Simple Peritonitis (Non-Puerperal)	—	2
118.	Other Diseases of Digestive System (Cancer and Tuberculosis excepted)	—	—
118a.	Abscess of Liver	2	3
119.	Acute Nephritis	—	1
120.	Bright's Disease	14	11
121.	Chyluria	—	—
122.	Other Diseases of Kidneys and Annexa	1	1
123.	Calculi of Urinary Passages	—	2
124.	Diseases of Bladder	1	—
125.	Diseases of the Urethra, Urinary Abscess	—	1
126.	Diseases of Prostate	1	—
127.	Non-Venereal Diseases of Male Genital Organs	—	—
128.	Uterine Hæmorrhage (Non-Puerperal)	—	—
129.	Uterine Tumour (Non-Cancerous)	2	—
130.	Other Diseases of Uterus	—	—
131.	Cysts and other Tumours of Ovary	1	—
132.	Salpingitis and other Diseases of Female Genital Organs	2	—
133.	Non-Puerperal Diseases of Breast (Cancer excepted)	—	—
134.	Accidents of Pregnancy	1	—
135.	Puerperal Hæmorrhage	—	—
136.	Other Accidents of Labour	1	—
137.	Puerperal Septicæmia	—	1
138.	Puerperal Albuminuria and Convulsions	2	1
139.	Puerperal Phlegmasia, Alba Dolens, Embolus, Sudden Death	—	—
140.	Following Child-Birth (not otherwise defined)	—	—
141.	Puerperal Diseases of Breast	—	—
142.	Gangrene	1	—
143.	Furuncle		1
144.	Acute Abscess	—	1
145.	Other Diseases of Skin and Annexa	1	1
146.	Diseases of Bones (Tuberculosis excepted)	—	1
147.	Diseases of the Joints (Tuberculosis and Rheumatism excepted)	—	—
148.	Amputations	—	—
149.	Other Diseases of Organs of Locomotion	—	—
150.	Congenital Malformations (Still-Births not included)	1	3
151.	Congenital Debility, Icterus and Sclerema	20	22
152.	Other Diseases peculiar to Early Infancy	1	2
153.	Lack of Care	—	—
154.	Senility	11	14
155.	Suicide by Poison	2	1
156.	Suicide by Asphyxia	—	—
157.	Suicide by Hanging or Strangulation	—	1
158.	Suicide by Drowning	—	—
159.	Suicide by Firearms	4	2
160.	Suicide by Cutting or Piercing Instruments	—	1
161.	Suicide by Jumping from High Places	—	—
162.	Suicide by Crushing	—	—
163.	Other Suicides	—	1
164.	Poisoning by Food	—	—
165.	Other Acute Poisonings	2	4
166.	Conflagration	—	1
167.	Burns (Conflagration excepted)	4	—
168.	Absorption of Deleterious Gases (Conflagration excepted)	2	—
169.	Accidental Drowning	1	2
170.	Traumatism by Firearms	—	1

		Europeans.	
		1913-14.	1914-15.
171.	Traumatism by Cutting or Piercing Instruments	—	—
172.	Traumatism by Fall	1	—
173.	Traumatism in Mines or Quarries	—	—
174.	Traumatism by Machines	—	1
175.	Traumatism by other Crushing (Vehicles, Railways, Landslides, etc.)	3	5
176.	Injuries by Animals	—	—
177.	Starvation	—	—
178.	Excessive Cold	—	—
179.	Effects of Heat	—	—
180.	Lightning	—	1
181.	Electricity (Lightning excepted)	—	—
182.	Homicide by Firearms	—	—
183.	Homicide by Cutting or Piercing Instruments ...	—	—
184.	Homicide by other means	—	—
185.	Fractures (cause not specified)	1	—
186.	Other External Violence	—	—
187.	Ill-defined Organic Disease	—	—
188.	Sudden Death	1	—
189.	Cause of Death not specified or ill-defined	5	7
	Totals	314	**328**

EUROPEAN DEATHS—ARRANGED ACCORDING TO MONTHS AND CERTAIN DISEASES

Diseases.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Total 1914-15.	Total 1913.14
1. Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2. Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Dysentery	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	6	2
4. Enteric Fever	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	4	16
5. Diphtheria	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	6	6
6. Scarlet Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7. Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
8. Whooping Cough	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	3
9. Tetanus	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
10. Malaria	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0
11. Venereal Diseases	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3
12. Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
13. Septic Diseases	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	2
14. Phthisis ...	0	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	2	13	20
15. Other Forms of Tuberculosis ..	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2
16. Other Infectious Diseases ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17. Influenza	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
18. Cancer	4	1	1	0	3	4	0	7	1	0	2	2	25	24
19. Diseases of Birth and Development	6	0	5	0	1	1	0	7	1	3	1	2	27	22
20. Old Age	3	1	3	0	1	1	2	0	0	3	0	0	14	11
21. Diseases of Nervous System ...	3	1	3	1	2	1	2	2	6	1	2	3	27	25
22. Diseases of Heart and Circulatory System	1	1	5	0	4	4	4	3	2	0	0	2	26	25
23. Pneumonia	3	4	1	0	3	1	0	0	2	1	0	3	18	13
24. Bronchitis	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	6	5
25. Other Diseases Respiratory System	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	4	3
26. Diarrhœa, Catarrh, Enteritis ...	10	11	11	4	7	2	4	3	1	0	1	1	55	43
27. Other Diseases of Liver and Alimentary Track ...	0	4	2	1	2	0	0	2	2	2	0	1	16	14
28. Diseases of Urinary System ...	4	0	1	2	0	1	1	1	0	2	2	2	16	17
29. Diseases of Child-Birth ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	4
30. Diseases of Reproductive System	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
31. Accidents	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	2	0	3	15	14
32. Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33. Suicide	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	6	6
34. Execution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35. All other Causes	3	2	4	3	5	2	1	2	0	0	1	5	28	26
36. Leprosy...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	41	34	43	19	32	20	17	33	22	22	14	31	328	314

1.—NATIVE DEATHS ARRANGED ACCORDING TO MONTHS AND CERTAIN DISEASES.

Diseases.	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	Total 1914-15	Total 1913-14
1. Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2. Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Dysentery	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	3	1	0	9	7
4. Enteric Fever	0	1	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	7	9
5. Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6. Scarlet Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7. Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8. Whooping Cough	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
9. Tetanus	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
10. Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11. Venereal Disease	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2
12. Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13. Septic Diseases	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
14. Phthisis	1	2	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	9	2
15. Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	4	4
16. Other Infectious Diseases ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17. Influenza	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
18. Cancer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
19. Diseases of Birth and Development	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	5	8	6
20. Old Age	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21. Diseases of Nervous System ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	9
22. Dis. of Heart & Circulatory System	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	6	10
23. Pneumonia	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	0	1	1	5	19	17
24. Bronchitis	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	4
25. Other Dis. of Respiratory System	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1
26. Diarrhœa, Catarrh, Enteritis ..	0	2	1	3	3	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	15	7
27. Other Dis. of Liver and Alimentary Track	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	4	7
28. Diseases of Urinary System ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	0	6	5
29. Diseases of Child Birth ...	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
30. Diseases of Reproductive System...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31. Accident	0	1	1	1	0	3	2	2	1	1	0	2	14	13
32. Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
33. Suicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34. Execution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35. All Other Causes	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	5	10
36. Leprosy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	7	11	12	12	11	8	9	13	6	9	10	19	127	121

ASIATIC DEATHS ARRANGED ACCORDING TO MONTHS AND CERTAIN DISEASES.

	Diseases.	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	Total, 1914-15.	Total, 1913-14.
1.	Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.	Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Dysentery	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
4.	Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
5.	Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
6.	Scarlet Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	Whooping Cough... ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Tetanus	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
10.	Malaria	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
11.	Venereal Disease	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	5	3
12.	Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	3	0
13.	Septic Diseases	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	5	0
14.	Phthisis	1	1	1	0	2	1	1	3	1	2	1	1	15	19
15.	Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	4	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	8	8
16.	Other Infectious Diseases ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Influenza	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
18.	Cancer	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	4	3
19.	Diseases of Birth and Development	1	0	2	0	0	1	2	2	1	2	3	0	14	9
20.	Old Age	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	3	4
21.	Diseases of Nervous System ...	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	2	2	0	1	1	10	11
22.	Dis. of Heart and Circulatory System	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	3	0	1	1	1	11	12
23.	Pneumonia	4	2	2	2	5	1	4	1	1	1	0	2	25	28
24.	Bronchitis	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	3	2	3	0	1	13	16
25.	Other Dis. of Respiratory System	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	3	4
26.	Diarrhœa, Catarrh, Enteritis...	1	3	4	3	0	0	2	6	0	2	1	0	22	22
27.	Other Diseases of Liver and Alimentary Track ...	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	9	8
28.	Diseases of Urinary System ...	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	6	2
29.	Diseases of Child-Birth ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
30.	Dis. of Reproductive System ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Accidents	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	2	1	0	9	16
32.	Homicide	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
33.	Suicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
34.	Execution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	All other Causes	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	17
36.	Leprosy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Totals	21	7	14	12	16	10	16	27	12	18	13	11	177	190

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Infantile Deaths during 1914-15	51	31	82
Registered Births	493	424	917
Infantile Deaths	51	31	82

This equals 89.4 infantile deaths per 1,000 births and represents the "Infantile Mortality Figure" for Durban, 1914-15.

The following table shows the Infantile Mortality Figure for England and Wales during 1914:—

All England and Wales	105
97 Great Towns, including London	113
145 Smaller Towns	104
England and Wales, less the 242 Towns	93
LONDON	103

TABLE I.—INFANTILE DEATHS GROUPED ACCORDING TO AGES IN WEEKS AND MONTHS.

Months	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	Total under 1 year
Deaths	16	8	0	7	31	5	7	3	4	3	7	3	7	8	1	3	82
Previous Year	11	4	3	0	18	5	5	5	6	0	3	2	4	2	5	1	56

TABLE 2.—INFANTILE DEATHS GROUPED ACCORDING TO MONTHLY INCIDENCES.

	1914					1915							
Months	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Total
Deaths	15	11	11	4	11	4	3	7	4	4	3	5	82
Previous Year	5	2	5	6	6	4	2	2	6	4	9	5	56

TABLE 3.—MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION OF SOME OF THE MORE COMMON CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS.

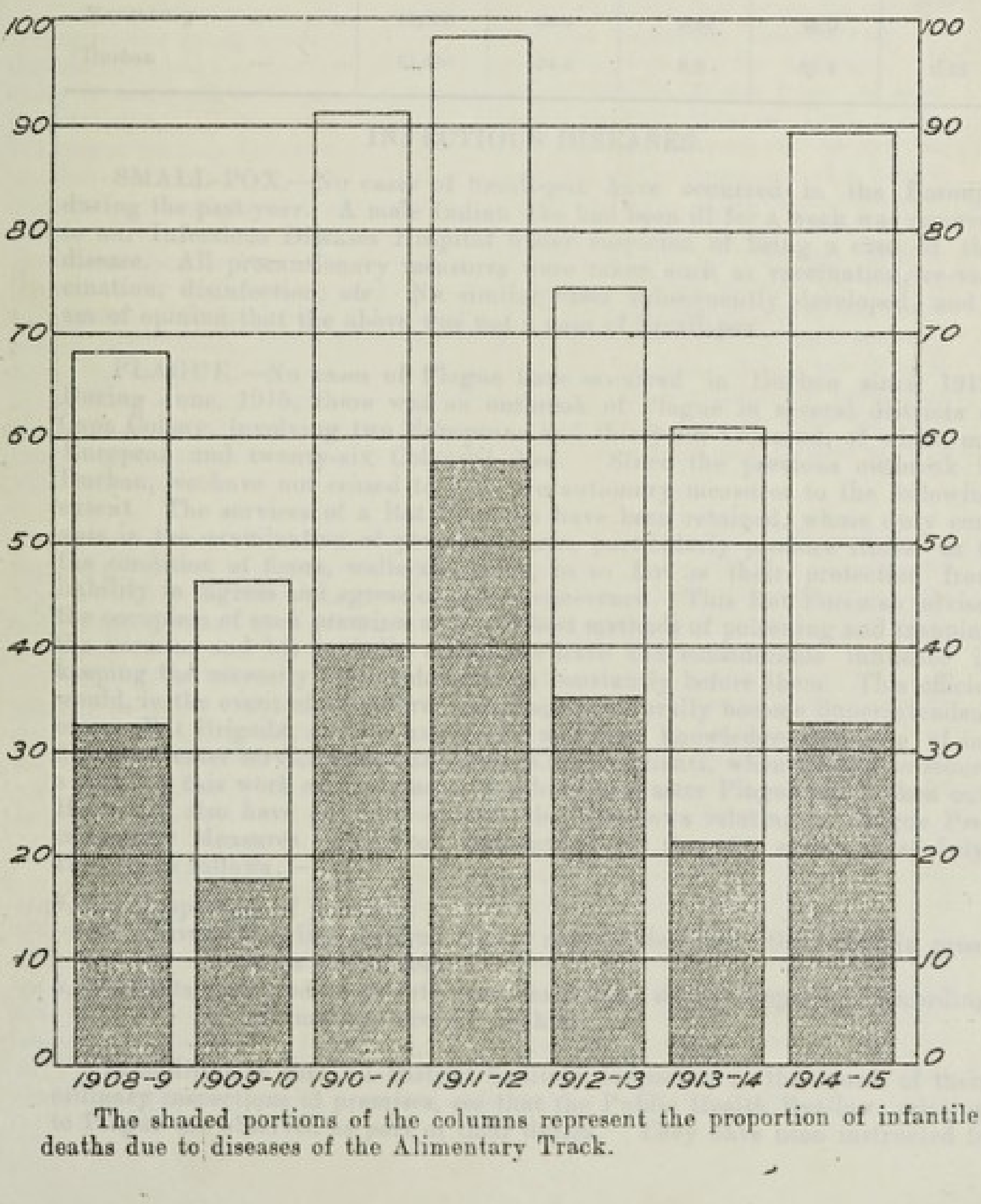
	1914					1915							
Months	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June	July	Total.
Premature Birth	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	2	12
Enteritis	7	7	4	0	6	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	29
Gastric Catarrh	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Marasmus	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

TABLE 4.—SHOWING INFANTILE DEATHS IN WARDS FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

YEARS.	WARDS.							TOTAL.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1910-11	12	13	9	16	11	9	16	86
1911-12	13	8	14	12	10	11	19	87
1912-13	6	5	8	16	10	10	13	68
1913-14	5	8	8	11	7	9	8	56
1914-15	13	7	10	17	12	11	12	82

INFANTILE MORTALITY.
CHART.

The following columns and table exhibit the Infantile Mortality Figure for the past seven years:—



The shaded portions of the columns represent the proportion of infantile deaths due to diseases of the Alimentary Track.

	Year.						
	1908-9	1909-10	1910-11	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14	1914-15
No. of Infant Deaths ...	62	41	86	87	68	56	82
Infantile Mortality Figure	67·3	45·4	90·3	98.5	74.8	60·9	89·4

The following table shows the comparative rates (Europeans) from the principal towns of South Africa:—

	Population	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infantile Mortality.	Phthisis Death Rate.
Johannesburg	...	...	10.84	111.38	...
Pretoria	29,440	29.5	8.1	94.0	...
Bloemfontein	13,500	30.06	8.29	97.0	0.15
Capetown, City	85,156	28.05	11.93	100.46	1.04
East London	...	32.94	11.8	98.4	...
Maritzburg	15,000	33.4	9.93	46.0	...
Durban	37,400	24.5	8.8	89.4	0.35

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

SMALL-POX.—No cases of Small-pox have occurred in the Borough during the past year. A male Indian who had been ill for a week was removed to our Infectious Diseases Hospital under suspicion of being a case of this disease. All precautionary measures were taken such as vaccination, re-vaccination, disinfection, etc. No similar cases subsequently developed, and I am of opinion that the above was not a case of Small-pox.

PLAGUE.—No cases of Plague have occurred in Durban since 1912. During June, 1915, there was an outbreak of Plague in several districts of Cape Colony, involving two Europeans and thirty-six Coloured, of whom one European and twenty-six Coloured died. Since the previous outbreak in Durban, we have not ceased to take precautionary measures to the following extent. The services of a Rat Foreman have been retained, whose duty consists in the examination of premises—more particularly produce stores—as to the condition of floors, walls and roofs, in so far as their protection from liability to ingress and egress of rats is concerned. This Rat Foreman advises the occupiers of such premises as to the best methods of poisoning and trapping the vermin, and his periodic visitations have had considerable influence in keeping the necessity for rat destruction constantly before them. This official would, in the event of an outbreak of Plague, naturally become Superintendent of any Rat Brigade, and his experience and local knowledge would be of infinitely greater service than our previous arrangements, when we had to secure a man for this work and commence teaching him after Plague has broken out. He would also have power to enforce the Bye-Laws relating to Plague Precautionary Measures. His work summarised for the year ending 31st July, 1915, is as follows:—

8,115	Inspection of premises.
457	Private premises repaired, at his request, to render them vermin proof as far as practicable.
5,559	Rats destroyed on private premises visited, stores, shops, etc., according to information received by him.

In addition to this, all District Sanitary Inspectors in the course of their ordinary inspections of premises, see that the Public Health Bye-laws relating to Plague are observed as part of their duties. They have been instructed to

take special note of any premises in the Borough which do not appear to be rat-proof. A reference to our Bye-laws will show that the occupiers of premises, where foodstuffs are manufactured, prepared or stored, must make such premises rat-proof, and that point is now always investigated prior to granting license.

Destruction of Rats.—After a somewhat lengthy personal experience, I have arrived at the conclusion that poison is the best practicable means to diminish rats in any area. I cannot unfortunately say that such a method will exterminate them, but, contrasted with their capture by traps and such appliances, poison is infintely superior for their diminution. The Corporation maintains a stock of "Extermino" Rat Poison sufficient to deal with the initial stages of any outbreak of Plague that may occur in the Borough.

The Bye-laws relating to new buildings include one providing that every person erecting a warehouse, store, manufactory or shop, or altering or adapting any building for such purpose, shall construct the same, as far as possible, inaccessible to rats and mice, and also that any new building of wood and iron shall be rendered inaccessible to such vermin.

During the last outbreak of Plague, considerable difficulty, delay and expense were experienced in dealing with wood and iron buildings, and the Corporation has now included the whole of the Point in the "brick area," so that no more wood and iron buildings can be erected in that district.

During the previous year I reported on the necessity that exists for definite arrangements being made as to the duties and liabilities, respectively, of Government and Corporation, should Plague be conveyed to the Borough. On every occasion when Plague has broken out in Durban, it was found as mentioned before, to have been imported through the shipping at Port Natal. Whenever such an invasion has taken place, negotiations were started between the Government and the Town Council, resulting in the formation of a Plague Committee composed of representatives from each body. This Committee controlled all executive matters connected with Plague and the prevention of the spread of the disease. The executive officers attended all meetings of such Committee to advise on any points raised, and to suggest schemes for dealing with plague-infected premises and areas. Where any measure, however, necessitated expenditure, particulars had to be supplied to Pretoria and sanction from Government obtained. A reference to the minutes of the last Plague Committee Meetings will show that this is scarcely a satisfactory method of conducting a campaign against Plague. It is in my opinion very desirable that a more executive authority be given to the Committee and officials dealing with this disease.

It appears to me that the delay which occurs before such a Committee is formed, approved and gazetted, might be avoided. There seems to be no reason why a Committee should not be *in posse*, ready at a moment's notice to deal with Plague affairs as soon as the officials of Government or Corporation have reason to believe that this disease threatens or has affected Durban, its port or environs. The Mayor and the Chairman of the Public Health Committee have usually been the Corporation representatives, and Government could similarly notify its members from its permanent official staff in Durban. I can even see a beneficial effect from a meeting of such Committee at considerable intervals in inter-plague times in order to be satisfied that everything possible was being done to limit extension of this disease if it should break out.

Another important point—although probably outside my Department—is that of expenditure. When the first Plague Committee was formed, the Natal Government decided to pay three-fourths of the expenses incurred within the Borough, the Corporation to pay the remaining one-fourth. During the last outbreak, the allocation of expenditure as between Government and Corporation was not arrived at until long after the disease had died out, and after lengthy correspondence which at times approached serious friction. There is therefore all the more necessity for this point to be determined in an inter-plague period, when a great deal can be discussed with engendering any ill-feeling.

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DYSENTERY.—Prior to 1902, Dysentery was a compulsory notifiable infectious disease in Durban, and as far as I know this is the only town in South Africa that includes this disease in the list of notifiable infectious diseases.

On several occasions I have brought before the Public Health Committee the unsatisfactory nature of this notification by giving instances where outbreaks of severe diarrhœa, due to the ingestion of irritating foods or unripe fruit, had been notified as cases of Dysentery. The Dysentery intended to be notified is an acute, specific disease due to particular organisms which produce very severe illness, usually attended by a fairly high death rate.

It may be mentioned that some of the leading practitioners in Durban have not notified more than one case of Dysentery during the past five or six years. In other cases we have had six or eight notifications a week from one practitioner. Some of these latter cases, on being visited by officials from my Department immediately on receipt of the notification, were found to be playing tennis, or would indignantly decline to have their premises examined or answer any enquiries made by the Inspector!

It may be pointed out that Dysentery is essentially a filth disease and occurs mostly in military encampments or where there is overcrowding under insanitary conditions. The existence and prevalence of Dysentery is one of the factors towards determining the sanitary conditions of a community.

Believing that real Dysentery is a negligible quantity in the public health of Durban, I recommended during the year that the notification of this disease should be discontinued. This was approved by the Town Council, and their resolution on being submitted to His Excellency the Governor-General was further approved, and the discontinuance of the notification of this disease sanctioned by him.

I need hardly add that the assistance of my Department will always be available to any medical practitioner attending a case of Dysentery.

From May, 1915, therefore, Dysentery has been struck off the list of compulsorily notifiable infectious diseases in this Borough.

MALARIA.—Two cases of Malaria were reported to have died in Durban during the past year. On enquiries being made, it was found that they were old standing cases of this disease, contracted elsewhere than in Durban.

During February and March, 1915, information was received in Durban to the effect that Malaria was causing a great mortality amongst natives in Zululand, in districts which in ordinary years had been scarcely affected. The European population in that area—sugar planters, etc.—appeared to be much alarmed, as the disease seemed to be moving like a wave and coming southwards as in 1905. The Stanger district was the most southerly point to be badly attacked, but the Medical Officer for the Umgeni Indian Circle reported to the Protector of Indian Immigrants, that there had been a death at Umgeni of a case which he believed to have been infected at Verulam, and that he had been attending Indians suffering from Malaria at Prospect Hall and the Umgeni Mouth. This courteous and valuable information from Mr. Polkinghorne caused extra precautions to be taken by the Municipal Mosquito Brigade in the region of the Umgeni River end of the Eastern Vlei. The Brigade was increased in numbers, and the filling in of pools and spraying of larvicide was maintained with energy. Not a single case is reported to have been infected in Durban Borough, though the climatic conditions of last year, namely, a long continued high temperature, were specially favourable for mosquito development.

TABLE OF CASES OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES ARRANGED ACCORDING TO RACES, 1914-15.

Disease.	Europeans.		Natives		Asiatics		Total	
	Boro'.	Imp.	Boro'.	Imp.	Boro'.	Imp.	Boro'.	Imp.
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
*Dysentery ...	53	11	16	12	5	3	74	26
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria ...	109	5	1	0	4	0	114	5
Erysipelas ...	8	1	0	1	0	0	8	2
Scarlet Fever ...	22	1	0	0	0	0	22	1
Enteric Fever ...	41	35	13	3	2	1	56	39
Puerperal Fever ...	1	1	0	0	3	0	4	1
Leprosy ...	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Phthisis	28	35	17	34	30	36	75	105
Totals ..	262	89	47	50	44	41	353	180
Treated in Hospital	74	61	29	36	14	32	117	129
Treated at home or privately ...	188	28	18	14	30	9	236	51

(*For nine months ending April, 1915.)

TABLE SIMILAR TO THE FOREGOING FOR COMPARISON CONTAINING NUMBER OF NOTIFICATIONS OF PREVIOUS YEAR, 1913-14.

Disease.	Europeans.		Natives.		Asiatics.		Total.	
	Boro'.	Imp.	Boro'.	Imp.	Boro'.	Imp.	Boro'.	Imp.
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dysentery ...	51	9	18	7	12	4	81	20
Smallpox ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria ...	113	11	2	0	1	0	116	11
Erysipelas ...	8	0	0	0	1	0	9	0
Scarlet Fever ...	57	7	1	0	0	0	58	7
Enteric Fever ...	89	48	21	11	3	2	113	61
Puerperal Fever ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leprosy	0	0	1	0	3	3	4	3
Phthisis	32	48	8	24	32	54	72	126
Totals ..	350	123	51	42	52	63	453	228
Treated in Hospital	138	75	38	33	34	54	210	162
Treated at home or privately ...	212	48	13	9	18	9	243	66

DYSENTERY.

The following table shows the cases notified and deaths registered during the past six years:—

Year.	1909-10.	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	(9 Months) 1914-15.	
						Borough	Imported
Cases	80	153	107	87	101	74	26
Deaths	15	27	28	20	18	16	15

RACE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION.

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Deaths.
European	27	26	53	6
Native	15	1	16	9
Asiatic	4	1	5	1
	46	28	74	16

WARD DISTRIBUTION OF CASES.

Wards	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Imported.	Total.
European ...	7	2	14	6	7	3	14	11	64
Native	6	0	1	3	1	5	0	12	28
Asiatic	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	3	8
Totals ...	13	2	15	9	8	13	14	26	100

ENTERIC FEVER.

The following table shows the total number of cases of Enteric Fever notified and deaths recorded during the past six years:—

Year	1909-10	1910-11	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14	1914-15	
						Borough	Imported
Cases	45	55	123	188	174	56	39
Deaths	4	4	18	19	34	12	8

Case Mortality: 21.428 per cent.
Case Incidence per 1,000 of Population = .727 (all Races).

RACE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION.

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Deaths.
European	23	18	41	4
Native	12	1	13	7
Asiatic	1	1	2	1
	6	20	56	12

WARD DISTRIBUTION.

Wards	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Impt.	Total.
Cases...	13	4	5	5	8	10	11	39	95

SIZE OF HOUSE.

Rooms	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Over 7	Institution.	Total.
European	3	2	2	5	8	12	3	2	4	41
Native	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
Asiatic	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	13
Totals	12	2	2	5	9	12	3	2	9	56

The houses of 55 cases were provided with water closets and in 1 case the pail system was in use.

WIDAL RE-ACTION.

During the year 44 specimens of blood from suspected cases of Enteric have been submitted to me for examination. Of these 5 were positive and 39 negative.

AGE DISTRIBUTION—EUROPEANS.

Age ...	0-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	Total.
Male ...	1	3	5	1	0	7	3	2	1	23
Female	0	3	2	3	1	4	2	1	2	18
Totals	1	6	7	4	1	11	5	3	3	41

SANITARY CONDITIONS.—The sanitary conditions existing at houses where cases resided were:—

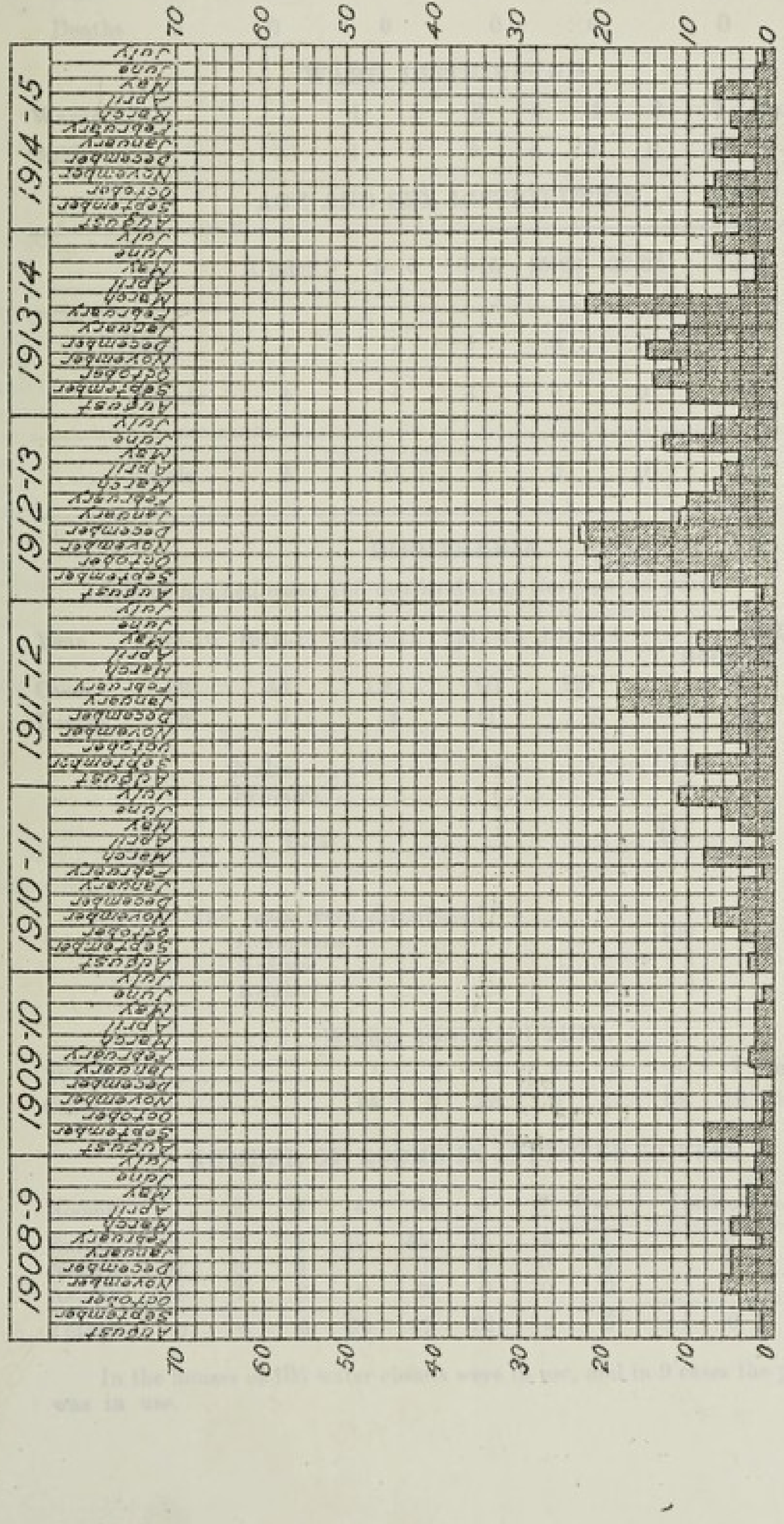
Good	Fair.	Poor.	Bad.	Total.
15	25	16	0	56

CLEANLINESS.—So far as cleanliness of the interior of the dwellings and their surroundings was concerned, they might be classed as:—

Clean.	Fair.	Dirty.	Total.
35	11	10	56

The subjoined Chart shows the Monthly Distribution of Enteric during the past seven years: —

ENTERIC FEVER NOTIFICATIONS.



SCARLET FEVER.

The following table shows the cases notified and deaths from Scarlet Fever registered during the past six years:—

Year.	1909-10	1910-11	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14	1914-15	
						Borough	**Imported**
Cases	10	14	12	27	65	22	1
Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

WARD DISTRIBUTION.

Wards	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Impt.	Total.
Cases	1	3	9	4	2	0	3	1	23

AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION.

Age	Under 5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	Total
Male	0	7	1	0	0	8
Female	4	4	4	2	0	14
Totals	4	11	5	2	0	22

DIPHTHERIA.

Table of notified cases and deaths during the past six years:—

Year	1909-10	1910-11	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14	1914-15	
						Borough	**Imported**
Cases	62	46	130	160	127	114	5
Deaths	6	2	11	11	6	8	0

Males	45
Females	69
Total	114

RACE.—The cases were distributed:—

Europeans	109
Natives	1
Asiatics	4

WARD DISTRIBUTION.

Wards	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Impt.	Total.
Cases	14	9	23	9	27	13	19	5	119

NUMBER OF ROOMS IN INFECTED HOUSES.

Rooms.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Over 7	Institution.	Total
European	4	3	5	19	45	22	4	7	0	109
Native	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Asiatic	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	4
Totals	5	4	5	20	47	22	4	7	0	114

In the houses of 105 water closets were in use, and in 9 cases the pail system was in use.

MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION OF CÁSES AND DEATHS.

	1914					1915							
	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Total.
Cases	8	9	7	4	6	2	1	4	12	9	34	18	114
Deaths	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	8

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF CASES.

Age	0—5	5-10	10—15	15—20	20—25	25—35	35—45	55—65	75—85	TOTAL
European Males	13	21	4	0	1	1	2	0	0	42
European Females	13	27	10	4	1	7	2	2	1	67
Native and Asiatic Males	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Native and Asiatic Females	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
TOTALS	31	48	14	4	2	8	4	2	1	114

SANITARY CONDITIONS.—The sanitary conditions existing at houses where cases resided were:—

Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Bad.	Total.
31	67	14	2	114

CLEANLINESS.—So far as cleanliness of the dwelling and surroundings was concerned they may be classed as:—

Clean.	Fair.	Dirty.	Total.
76	34	4	114

TUBERCULOSIS.

TABLE 1.

Year.	Europeans.				Natives				Asiatics.			
	All Tuberculosis.		Phthisis.		All Tuberculosis.		Phthisis.		All Tuberculosis.		Phthisis.	
	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 of Pop.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 of Pop.	Deaths,	Rate per 1,000 of Pop.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 of Pop.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000. of Pop.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 of Pop.
1908-09	20	·68	14	·48	20	1·25	13	·82	58	3·85	51	3·39
1909-10	19	·59	18	·56	8	·49	6	·36	34	2·11	31	1·92
1910-11	21	·61	18	·52	7	·40	2	.11	28	1·64	25	1·47
1911-12	26	·71	23	·63	5	·27	5	·27	54	3·09	49	2·8
1912-13	19	·53	18	·50	7	·34	5	·25	31	1·72	26	1·44
1913-14	22	·6	20	·55	6	·27	2	·1	27	1.47	19	1·03
1914-15	**16**	**·43**	**13**	**·35**	**13**	**·62**	**9**	**·43**	**23**	**1·22**	**15**	**·8**

TABLE 2.—DEATHS FROM ALL FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS SINCE 1908.

	1908-9	1909-10	1910-11	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14	1914-15	Total Deaths for 7 Years.	Annual Average Mortality.
European,	20	19	21	26	19	22	16	143	20
Native,	20	8	7	5	7	6	13	66	9
Asiatic,	58	34	28	54	31	27	23	255	36
Totals,	98	61	56	85	57	55	52	464	66

PHTHISIS.

EUROPEANS.

TABLE 3.—DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED CASES AND DEATHS IN WARDS.

Wards ...	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Imported.	Total
Cases ...	3	1	6	5	4	3	6	35	63
Deaths ...	2	2	4	0	2	0	3	13	26

TABLE 4.—AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED CASES AND DEATHS.

EUROPEANS.

	Under 1	1—5	5—10	10–15	15–20	20–25	25–35	35–45	45–55	55–65	65–85	Total.
	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F
Cases	0 0	0 0	0 0	2 1	0 1	2 3	2 3	8 1	2 0	1 2	0 0	17.11
Deaths	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 1	0 1	1 1	3 0	3 0	1 2	0 0	8.5

TABLE 5.—DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED CASES AND DEATHS IN WARDS.

NATIVES.

Wards	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Imported.	Total.
Cases	1	3	1	3	2	5	2	34	51
Deaths	6	0	0	1	0	2	0	23	32

TABLE 6.—DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED CASES AND DEATHS IN WARDS.

ASIATICS.

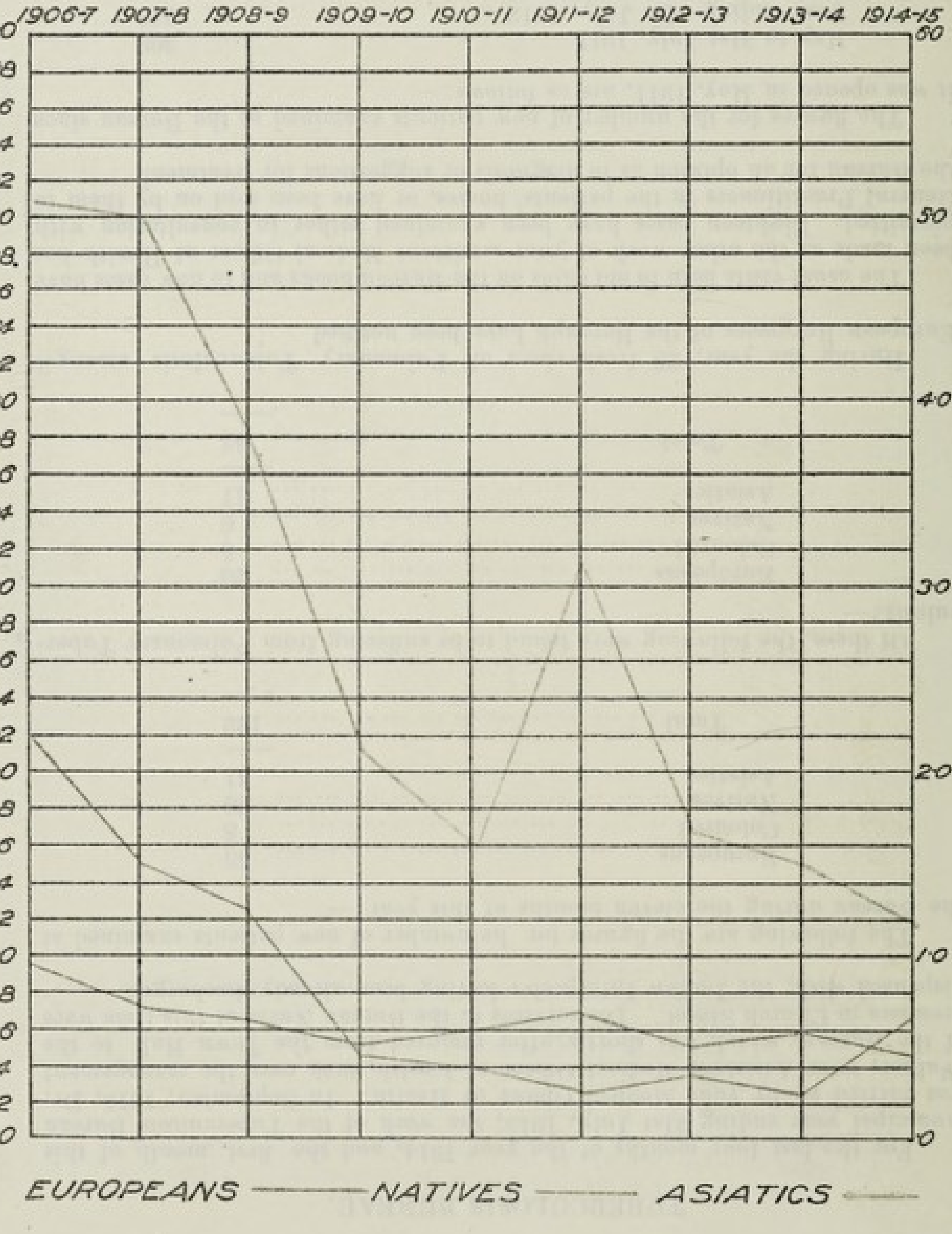
Wards	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Imported.	Total.
Cases	6	0	0	12	3	9	0	36	66
Deaths	3	0	1	4	2	5	0	13	28

TABLE OF NOTIFICATIONS OF TUBERCULOSIS ARRANGED IN MONTHS AND RACES.

	Europeans.		Natives.		Asiatics.		TOTAL.	
	Boro.	Imp.	Boro.	Imp.	Boro.	Imp.	Boro.	Imp.
1914								
August	0	4	1	3	5	1	6	8
September ...	1	1	4	4	2	0	7	5
October	2	4	2	2	1	7	5	13
November	0	2	1	4	1	2	2	8
December ...	4	3	1	0	1	8	6	11
1915								
January	4	4	0	3	4	5	8	12
February ...	1	3	2	3	2	4	5	10
March	5	0	1	1	3	4	9	5
April	4	3	1	5	2	1	7	9
May	5	3	0	1	4	0	9	4
June	2	5	2	3	3	2	7	10
July	0	3	2	5	2	2	4	10
Totals ...	28	35	17	34	30	36	75	105

DEATH RATE FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

Chart showing the Death Rate per 1,000 from Tuberculosis amongst Europeans, Asiatics and Natives during the past nine years:—



TUBERCULOSIS BUREAU.

For the last four months of the year 1914, and the first month of this municipal year ending 31st July, 1915, the work of the Tuberculosis Bureau was carried on by your Medical Officer of Health. In September, 1915, Dr. Walker, your Assistant Medical Officer of Health, took over the management of the Bureau, which was shortly after removed from the Town Hall to the premises in Church Street. The services of the Bureau Nurse at this time were dispensed with, the Indian Interpreter having been already discharged.

The following are the figures for the number of new patients examined at the Bureau during the eleven months of this year:—

Europeans	53
Coloured	8
Natives	20
Asiatics	41
Total	122

Of these, the following were found to be suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis:—

Europeans	20
Coloured	5
Natives	6
Asiatics	17
Total	48

During the year, 28 fresh cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis amongst European Burgesses of the Borough have been notified.

The usual visits both to old cases on the Bureau books and to new cases have been made as the other work of your Assistant Medical Officer of Health has permitted. Eighteen cases have been examined either in consultation with General Practitioners in the patients' homes, or have been sent on by them to the Bureau for an opinion as to diagnosis or suggestions for treatment.

The figures for the number of new patients examined at the Bureau since it was opened in May, 1911, are as follows:—

May to 31st July, 1911	302
Year ending 31st July, 1912	848
Year ending 31st July, 1913	673
8 Months ending 31st March, 1914	460
11 Months ending 31st July, 1915	122

The great diminution in the number of patients examined this year as compared with the preceding years has several contributing causes to account for it. When Dr. Adams left the Corporation service, the idea amongst the old patients seemed generally prevalent that the Bureau was to be closed up and the office of Tuberculosis Officer abolished. In addition to this, the moving of the Bureau premises as well as the reduction of the Bureau Staff (so that neither the Nurse nor the Indian Interpreter has been regularly visiting cases, and advising contacts to attend the Bureau), have both led to a falling off in numbers.

It has been found possible to do the work of the Bureau when it has been open for only four hours per week, instead of the twelve hours per week as formerly. As well as the reasons given above for the diminution of the numbers of new patients attending, it has been found that a strict adherence to the rule that no patient is examined at the Bureau unless a resident in Durban, or coming in daily to his work, has greatly reduced the tendency for outside cases to visit Durban for examination.

For the work of the Bureau to be satisfactorily carried out, a Lady Health Visitor to visit patients in their homes amongst her other duties is very desirable.

The need of a Sanatorium for early cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, where there is a reasonable hope of permanent arrest of the disease, is very marked; and the provision also of some institution is greatly needed where advanced cases, which after all are the most dangerous ones from a Public Health point of view, could be segregated.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

During the past year, 30 cases of infectious diseases have been isolated at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Congella, viz.:—

Diseases	European		Coloured		Native		Asiatic		Total	
	B.	I.	B.	I.	B.	I.	B.	I.	B.	I.
Scarlet Fever ...	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0
Diphtheria ...	15	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	2
Chicken Pox ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
Phthisis ...	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Smallpox (suspected)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Total ...	23	4	0	0	2	0	1	0	26	4

SCARLET FEVER.

AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION.

Ages.	0—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—25	Total
Male ...	0	0	1	0	0	1
Female ..	0	2	2	2	0	6
Total ...	0	2	3	2	0	7

DEATHS.—No deaths from Scarlet Fever have taken place during the year.

The average length of residence in hospital for six of the above cases was 35 days. One patient suffering from Otorrhea was under treatment for 152 days.

There were no cases of cross infection.

DIPHTHERIA.

AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION.

Ages.	0—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—25	35—40	Total
Male ...	2	5	0	0	1	1	9
Female ...	0	7	0	1	0	0	8
Total ...	2	12	0	1	1	1	17

DEATHS.—There were no deaths from Diphtheria during the year.

The average length of residence in hospital for the above cases of Diphtheria was 18 days. The various types of this disease from which the patients were found to be suffering were:—Faucial 13, Laryngeal 1, Nasal 2, and in 1 case it was necessary to perform Tracheotomy.

There were no cases of cross infection.

PHTHISIS.

DEATHS.—Of the three cases of Phthisis under treatment at the hospital, one patient died there, and the other two were discharged after 6 and 2½ months, respectively.

For 8 days during the year there were no patients under treatment at the hospital.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES OCCURRING AMONGST NATIVES.

Since the demolition of the old Infectious Diseases Hospital on the Ocean Beach, there has been no accommodation for the reception of cases of infectious disease occurring amongst Natives and Indians in the Borough. So far as Natives are concerned, this condition of affairs has now been satisfactorily arranged, and the Town Council have resolved that "all cases of infectious disease occuring amongst Natives in the Borough be removed for isolation to the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Congella, and that the expense of treatment and maintenance of such cases be defrayed from the Native Administration Fund." The Boer Prisoners of War Hospital has been allocated for the above purpose; alterations and repairs are now proceeding, and it is hoped that the hospital will be suitably equipped for the reception of native cases by September.

AMBULANCE WAGON.

The Horse Ambulance that has been in use for the past few years for the removal of cases of accident and sudden illness, having been replaced by an electric Motor Ambulance, has now been transferred to the Public Health Department for the removal of cases of infectious disease, and when suitably altered and repaired will be used for that purpose only.

PAYMENT OF FEES FOR HOSPITAL TREATMENT FOR NON-RESIDENTS.

The Corporation of Durban have always and still recognise the principle that the isolation of cases of infectious disease is as necessary in the interests of the community as that of the patient; they have accordingly resolved that no payment should be exacted in such cases. Within recent years, however, a considerable number of cases of infectious disease have been brought into the Borough through visitors, and in several of these instances it has been evident that ordinary care and thought for others had not been exercised. It is held that a hospital maintained by the burgesses should in equity be entitled to charge fees for such patients, and the Council accordingly resolved that a charge of Fifteen shillings per day be made for non-residents of the Borough, which includes medical attendance, nursing, medicines, etc.

PLAGUE.

During the past year negotiations were taken up by the Corporation with Government in reference to the advantages that would obtain by the formation of a Plague Committee "in posse," so that, should Plague invade the Borough, there would be no delay in dealing with it. It was also hoped that this executive organisation would determine certain matters as regards the methods of dealing with Plague, the responsibilities of Government and Corporation in such matters, and the financial relations as regards expenditure that would be incurred. Although nothing has as yet been definitely decided upon, the suggestion was welcomed and the Medical Officer of Health for the Union met the Town Council to discuss the subject.

DISINFECTING STATION.

The following is a summary of the work performed at the Disinfecting Station during the past year:—

DISINFECTIONS.

Months		Houses or Rooms	Mattresses	Blankets	Sheets	Articles of Clothing	General Articles	Totals
1914								
August	...	52	69	78	91	704	880	1874
September	...	62	87	130	210	960	1198	2647
October	...	74	85	335	184	728	1207	2613
November	...	31	42	243	113	641	816	1886
December	...	41	82	96	144	639	933	1935
1915								
January	...	34	52	48	85	591	834	1644
February	...	19	28	41	46	222	398	754
March	...	22	25	47	61	298	545	998
April	...	30	43	51	120	203	337	784
May	...	41	60	92	109	438	693	1433
June	...	46	57	98	169	1099	1218	2687
July	...	63	92	132	155	941	1116	2493
Totals	...	515	722	1391	1487	7464	10169	21748
Previous Year's Work	...	727	1242	2685	2025	7377	9968	24024

List of Articles washed and disinfected for various Corporation departments:—

	Towels	Blankets	Felts	Bandages	Coats	Cushion Covers	Totals
Main Police Station	105	265	321	...	...	...	691
Point Police Station	...	10	10	...	...	...	20
Sanitary Department	3999	...	...	...	...	...	3999
Borough Engineer's	239	...	...	...	...	...	239
Borough Electrical Engineer ...	256	...	...	...	...	...	256
Municipal Abattoir	120	...	...	...	81	...	201
Mayor's Motor Car	...	...	...	...	63	306	369
Accident Ambulance	14	231	...	50	...	...	295
Totals	4733	506	331	50	144	306	6070

The following tables show the Washing done during the past year in connection with the Public Baths, West Street, and the Beach Bathing Enclosure and Swimming Bath:—

PUBLIC BATHS, WEST STREET.

Months.		Towels.	Ladies' Costumes.	Drawers.	Ladies' Sheets	Plain Sheets.	Other Articles	Totals.
1914								
August	...	3280	76	25	52	29	15	3477
September	...	3320	73	3	48	45	13	3502
October	...	3080	23	0	42	21	62	3228
November	...	3220	44	30	45	26	55	3420
December	...	3050	21	0	24	21	28	3144
1915								
January	...	3500	47	20	29	45	34	3675
February	...	3920	55	0	33	14	44	4066
March	...	3100	44	0	30	13	41	3228
April	...	1760	34	0	28	26	96	1944
May ...	...	1680	58	0	23	2	27	1790
June ...	...	2960	54	0	72	9	51	3146
July ...	...	5420	90	0	73	12	36	5631
Totals	...	38290	619	78	499	263	502	40251

OCEAN BEACH BATHING ENCLOSURE AND OPEN AIR SWIMMING BATH.

Months.	Towels.	Ladies' Costumes.	Gent's Costumes	Drawers.	Totals.
1914					
August	12440	856	6380	860	20536
September	6460	680	3420	885	11445
October	7520	638	3856	1237	13251
November	7880	589	4430	1270	14169
December	12180	1506	8830	2884	25400
1915					
January	16905	2348	9441	3620	32314
February	10880	1568	7335	2830	22613
March	10530	1142	5537	2240	19449
April	10420	1777	3910	2235	18342
May	6260	1070	3105	1050	11485
June	6870	1240	3570	975	12655
July	12220	2415	6653	1729	23017
Totals	120565	15829	66467	21815	224676

BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY.

The following examinations have been made in the Laboratory attached to the Public Health Department during the past year:—

	Negative.	Positive.	Total.
Tubercle Bacilli	210	81	291
Diphtheria Bacilli	647	225	872
Widal Reaction for Enteric	39	5	44
Bilharzia	3	0	3
Serum Reaction for Paratyphoid Fever	4	0	4
Malaria	14	0	14
Gonococci	16	3	19
Ringworm	0	3	3
Plague	2	0	2
Blood for Organisms	1	1	2
Urine for Blood	0	3	3
Urine for Sugar	1	4	5
Leprosy	4	0	4
Totals	941	325	1,266

TOTAL EXAMINATIONS FOR THE PAST EIGHT YEARS.

1907-8	1908-9	1909-10	1910-11	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14	**1914-15**
137	187	226	323	*1,970	1,367	1,324	**1.266**

* Chiefly Plague Examinations.

DIPHTHERIA.

During this Municipal Year, the method of cultivating swabs in cases of suspected Diphtheria and contacts of cases of this disease, has been instituted. In a great many cases it has been found possible to demonstrate the presence of Diphtheria Bacilli by cultivation for sixteen hours, although direct examination on the previous day had given a negative result. In this way it is hoped that a more complete knowledge of cases of Diphtheria in the Borough will be obtained than was formerly the case, which will more than repay the additional work involved and time expended on the examinations.

SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

His Worship the Mayor

and Town Councillors of Durban.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your information the report of the Sanitary Department for the Municipal Year ending 31st July, 1915:—

INSPECTIONAL WORK.—66,826 inspections and re-inspections of premises were made by the District Inspectors, including 8,115 inspections made by the official specially responsible for the destruction of rats and mice.

NOTICES.—1,724 notices were served from the office referring to structural and sanitary imperfections of premises and conveniences; 4,986 verbal notices and intimations were given by District Inspectors; 2,115 applications for Licenses were reported on to the Licensing Officer; 1,141 reports were made, to the Departments concerned, of defective public works, sewer drain obstructions, leaky water taps and other matters requiring attention.

NUISANCES ABATED AND DEFECTS REMEDIED were as undermentioned:—Insanitary premises—including servants' quarters, outbuildings, stables, conveniences and yards—cleaned, 2,715; defective or broken water-closets, sinks, baths and drainage fittings and appliances, repaired, renewed or improved, 933; premises renovated, painted, colour-washed or lime-washed, 483; premises or portions of premises repaired, 331; inhabited rooms and buildings brought into disuse for habitable purposes, demolished or made fit for habitation, 153; works in connection with stormwater drainage, 116; vacant lands cleared of rank vegetation or burrweed, 236; house refuse and manure receptacles provided, renewed or repaired, 824; accumulations of refuse and debris specially removed from premises, 290; overcrowding of rooms discontinued, 46; shops, laundries and other buildings illegally used as sleeping rooms, discontinued for such purpose, 97; removals of conditions on private premises favourable to propagation of mosquitoes, 552; premises specially protected against rats and mice, 200.

COMPLAINTS.—518 complaints were received and investigated and attended to.

UNSOUND FOOD.—The following mentioned goods were destroyed:—Condensed milk equal to 419 cases, tinned fish about 50 tins, 772 sheeps livers, 160 lungs, 38 plucks, 7 carcases of mutton, 19 carcases goats, 28 lbs. sheeps intestines, 2 dozen trussed fowls, 6 guinea fowls, 5 bags potatoes, 5 bags mealies, 40 lbs. bacon, 600 tins anchovies, 19 tins meat, 7 tins jam, quantity of almonds, 2 cases salts and soda. Certain of the said goods were handed over by the owners for destruction.

ANALYSIS OF FOOD.—Analyses were made of samples of food as follows:—New milk, 119; tea, 3; jam, 2; butter, 5; milk blended butter, 2; and butter substitute, 1.

Fourteen of the samples of new milk were reported as being not genuine milk, one sample of tea was found to be largely spent tea leaves, two samples were not tea, but what is commonly known as Cape Bush Tea, and two samples of butter were margarine.

The quality of the new milk supply as represented by the said 119 samples was of an average of 3.84 per cent. butter fat and 8.68 per cent. solids other than fat (total solids 12.52 per cent.).

PROSECUTIONS.

Bye-Laws Relating to	Europeans	Asiatics	Natives	Total	Convictions	Dismissals	Bails Forfeited
Nuisances	24	55	9	88	71	2	15
Collection & Removal of Refuse	3	1	...	4	4	...	...
Laundries	...	4	...	4	1	...	3
Manufacture of Food	...	5	...	5	5	...	...
Examination of Meat and Food ...	2	3	...	5	4		1
Cowsheds and Dairies	4	...	...	4	2	...	2
Infectious Diseases & Quarantine	2	1		3	3	...	...
Building	6	3	...	9	8	...	1
General Borough	...	48	..	48	7	...	41
And also actions under Adulteration of Food Act	2	1	...	3	3	...	...
Totals	43	121	9	173	108	2	63

The fines recovered and bails forfeited amounted to £117.

SANITARY SERVICES AND OTHER WORKS.—69,402 cart and van loads of refuse and sweepings were collected and removed. This is exclusive of 6,796 cart loads of earth used for covering over refuse at tips where land reclamation has been continued by the use of town refuse; 137 trucks of manure were consigned to a sugar estate; 800 pails (average) were in use at houses receiving the usual alternate night service; all public sanitary conveniences received attention; 457 carcases of animals were removed and disposed of; 1,291 rats and mice were captured at the Barracks and Stables of this Department and there was information of; 5,559 of such rodents destroyed at private premises—stores and other work places; 3,383 gallons of larvaecides were used in spraying pools of water for preventing the propagation of mosquitoes, and ditches and water-courses were cleaned out whenever the anti-malaria gang was not employed in spraying operations; fly destruction at Stables, Barracks and tips was carried out as in former years.

The cultivated land—15 acres—is now entirely under sugar cane cultivation, the produce being used for feeding purposes.

WORKSHOPS.—The undermentioned works were completed:—New rubbish tip carts, 16; carts overhauled and repaired, 393; carts painted (new and old), 41; hand carts made, 1; hand carts repaired and painted, 4; wheels, new (pairs), 16; wheels repaired, 11; pails (new), 207; pails repaired, 516.

The shoeing of all horses, certain repairs to buildings and fences, and repairs to lamps, tools and implements were also carried out.

STAFF, LABOURERS, ANIMALS AND VEHICLES EMPLOYED.—1 inspector, 8 assistant inspectors, 2 clerks, 1 messenger, 8 overseers, 4 artisans, 6 attendants (Europeans) at public conveniences, 9 attendants (Indians) at public conveniences, 12 Indian sirdars, helps and interpreter, 384 labourers, 66 horses and mules, 61 rubbish and street cleaning carts and vans, 4 rubbish hand carts, 4 night soil tank carts, 3 tumbler tank carts, 1 trolley, 1 dog cart. One assistant inspector, one clerk, one overseer and one artisan were absent on active military service. In the case of the clerk and artisan men were engaged temporarily to fill their positions.

CORPORATION CEMETERIES.

GENERAL CEMETERY.—32 European and 71 Indian interments were made, a total of 103. At the public Mortuary situated at such Cemetery, the bodies of 83 persons were received for examination by the District Surgeon.

STELLAWOOD CEMETERY.—176 European, 186 Asiatic and 168 Native interments were made, a total of 530. Seventy-two grave lots were purchased in perpetuity. An extended area of land was cleared of bush, preparatory to a survey for an extension of the European portion of the Cemetery.

Ten Indian labourers were employed in the Cemeteries, under the superintendence of the Caretaker of the General, and the Curator, Stellawood Cemeteries, respectively.

The Curator of the Stellawood Cemetery, Mr. J. F. Irwin, was very unfortunately, fatally injured by a shot from an air-rifle on the 1st ulto.

I have the honour to be, Sirs,

Your obedient Servant,

W. C. DAUGHERTY,

Inspector of Nuisances.