

Annual report of the Medical Department / Colony of Seychelles.

Contributors

Seychelles. Medical Department.

Publication/Creation

Victoria, Seychelles : G.P.O., [1912]

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SEYCHELLES



ANNUAL REPORT



OF THE

MEDICAL AND QUARANTINE

DEPARTMENT

for the year

1912

VICTORIA.

PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.

1913.

WELLCOME INSTITUTE
MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
WELLCOME INSTITUTE
DEPARTMENT
for the year
1918

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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL AND QUARANTINE DEPARTMENT
FOR THE YEAR
1912.

CHAPTER I.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Estimated population.— The population of the Colony was at the end of 1912 estimated to be 23,507 made up of 11,983 males and 11,524 females an increase of 402 on that of the year 1911, when it was estimated at 23,105.

Annexure I shows the number of arrivals and departures from the Colony, the number of births and deaths during the year.

Birth rate.— The birth rate was 30·88 per thousand whereas in 1911 it was 31·94 per thousand.

Death rate.— The death rate was 14·76 per thousand lower than 1911 when it was 15·79 per thousand.

There were 118 deaths of children under 5 years of age and of these 34 were under one year of age.

CHAPTER II.

METEOROLOGICAL STATISTICS.

Mean temperature.— The mean temperature for the year was 80·2 higher than that of 1911 which was recorded as 79·3.

March was the hottest month of the year the mean temperature for that month was 82·5; July was the coolest month with a mean temperature of 78·1.

Rainfall.— The total rainfall of the year was 105 inches higher than last year which amounted to 77·31 inches. The year was a record; for the last 8 years the rainfall did not exceed 90 inches.

January, February and December were the wettest months having a rainfall between them of 61·90 inches.

The month of August was the driest month, only 0·76 inch of rain fell in that month.

Winds.— The monsoon blew early this year from May and lasted until late in November.

Annexure II shows the monthly temperature, rainfall and deaths.

CHAPTER III.

DISEASES PREVALENT DURING THE YEAR.

There was no outbreak of infectious or contagious disease during the year, the health of the population was good.

Beri-beri.— Beri-beri which formerly caused considerable trouble in the Outlying Islands seems to have practically disappeared. At Saint Pierre Island where there had been several severe outbreaks in former years, there were no cases. Bengal rice is still being used.

CHAPTER IV.

STATE OF THE TOWN OF VICTORIA.

The sanitary condition of the town of Victoria is on the whole satisfactory but there is considerable overcrowding in the Central parts of the town inhabited by the Indian shopkeepers, there are more and more of these people coming to Mahé every year and they for the most part crowd into the already circumscribed area where they carry on their trade.

Water supply.— The water supply is plentiful and good.

Scavenging, etc.— The cleaning of the streets and the night soil service were satisfactorily carried out.

CHAPTER V.

REPORTS OF THE ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICERS.

Praslin Hospital.— The Assistant Medical Officer, Praslin, again points out the necessity of a small hospital on that Island, there is no doubt whatever that such an institution would be of the greatest value, not only to the people of Praslin, but also to those of the neighbouring small islands.

In cases requiring urgent operation, e.g. strangulated hernia many valuable hours are lost in conveying the patients to Mahé, it being quite impossible for the Assistant Medical Officer to operate on, and look after such cases in their own homes.

Millions.— The Assistant Medical Officer, South Mahé, states that he had had an opportunity of seeing the fish known commonly as *Millions* and that this fish is identical with the fish known locally as the *Gudgeon* this is of considerable interest, I had understood that the two fish had many points of difference. The theory was put forward in Barbadoes some few years ago that it was the presence of great quantities of these *Millions* in the rivers which accounted for the non-existence of anophelines and malaria.

There is no doubt however that the local *Gudgeon* do feed greedily on mosquito larvæ, I have tried the experiment of putting a few of these fish into a kerosine tin of water in which there were many larvæ, and with astonishing rapidity these have disappeared, furthermore during the year a cement pond was made in the Government House grounds to be used as a lily-pond, a few days after the water was put in it was found teeming with larvæ, a few of the fish were introduced and the next morning no trace of larvæ could be found, I think people who have fountains in their gardens might be encouraged to introduce these fish into them.

An application was made during the year from the Health Department at Zanzibar for a supply of these fish, they were sent and arrived safely, but I have not heard if there has been any result.

Asthma.— The Assistant Medical Officer, South Mahé, puts forward a suggestion that the epidemics of Asthma so common in the Colony may be due to a pollen or seed of some plant in the Colony, in my experience the epidemics of Asthma walk hand in hand with the epidemics of common colds, I think the catarrhal condition of the air passages is the exciting cause of the Asthmatical attack, I think that one in five of the population is overstating the prevalence of the malady, or any rate in adults.

CHAPTER VI.

VACCINATION.

The results obtained from the lymph supplied by the Apothecaries Hall of London were most satisfactory. 440 children were vaccinated in the Central District and all were successful the first time, such a good result has never been obtained before.

CHAPTER VII.

QUARANTINE.

The Quarantine Station at Long Island was constantly used for the last half of the year the town of Mombasa was infected with Small Pox and all vessels having touched at that port before coming to Mahé were placed in Quarantine, and the passengers for this port were placed at Long Island for the full quarantine period.

Main House.— Great improvement was made in the accommodation for European passengers, an extra storey was added to the house giving four good airy bedrooms with a fine verandah in front and a balcony on each side, the necessary furniture for these new rooms was provided.

CHAPTER VIII.

HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES.

In-patients.— The total number of in-patients treated in the Victoria Hospital was 553.

Out-patients.— 2419 persons received treatment in the Out-patient department.

The female accommodation at the Hospital is insufficient and a private ward is badly needed. Provision is made to remedy this in 1913.

Maternity Home.— The Maternity Home was a signal success, the number of patients far surpassed what was anticipated, 156 patients were admitted to, and 135 babies were born in the Home.

The Home was full and overfull on several occasions, a house adjoining the Home was purchased during the year and will be used as nursing quarters, the present quarters being used as wards.

The institution seems to be thoroughly appreciated by women of all classes, this is undoubted in large measure due to the kindly and enlightened ministrations of the Matron.

New Midwives.— Two pupils were certificated during the year, and are both doing good work in the out districts.

New Nurse.— A new European Nurse to assist the Matron is expected early in 1913.

Staff.— There were no changes in the staff during the year.

Dr Bradley, the Assistant Medical Officer, South Mahé, was away on leave for four months, during his absence he was replaced by Dr Power, Assistant Medical Officer, Victoria.

Nursing staff.— The Nursing staff at the Victoria Hospital carried out their duties with their usual diligence and devotion.

J. B. ADDISON,

Chief Medical Officer.

Seychelles, 26th February, 1913.

Return of Diseases and Deaths in 1912 at the Victoria Hospital.

Diseases.	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1911.	Yearly Total.		Total Cases Treated.	Remaining in Hospital at the end of 1912.	Remarks.
		Admissions.	Deaths.			
Alcoholism	...	2	...	2	...	
Anæmia	...	7	...	9	1	
Beri-beri	...	4	...	5	...	
Debility	...	3	...	3	...	
Dysentery	...	25	2	28	...	
Erysipilis	...	1	...	1	...	
Febricula	...	10	...	10	1	
Fever, continued	...	1	...	1	...	
Gonorrhæal Rheumatism	...	8	...	8	1	
Influenza	...	8	...	8	1	
Old Age	...	14	5	15	...	
Phthisis	...	7	...	8	...	
Rheumatism	...	16	1	17	...	
Syphilis	...	7	...	8	2	
Tetanus	...	2	1	2	...	
<i>Diseases of the Nerves :—</i>						
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	1	...	1	...	
Convulsions	...	2	...	2	...	
Epileptic fit	...	1	...	1	...	
Epilepsy	...	1	...	1	...	
Headache	...	1	...	1	...	
Hemiplegia	...	5	...	5	...	
Hysteria	...	3	...	3	...	
Lumbago	...	1	...	1	...	
Lunacy	...	2	...	2	...	
Meningitis	...	3	...	3	...	
Neuritis	...	1	...	1	...	
Neuralgia	...	2	...	2	...	
Sciatica	...	1	...	1	...	
Syncope	...	1	...	1	...	
Tabes dorsalis	...	1	...	1	...	
<i>Diseases of the Eye :—</i>						
Blind	...	1	...	1	...	
Cataract	...	1	...	1	...	
Conjunctivitis	...	2	...	2	...	
Suppurating eye	...	1	...	1	...	
<i>Diseases of the Throat :—</i>						
Laryngitis	...	3	...	3	...	
Larynginal obstruction	...	1	...	1	...	
Retro-Pharyngeal tumour	...	1	...	1	...	
Tubercular Laryngitis	...	1	...	1	...	
Tonsillitis	...	1	...	1	...	
<i>Diseases of the Mouth :—</i>						
Cleft palate	...	1	...	1	...	
Stomatitis	...	1	...	1	...	
Ranula	...	3	...	3	...	
Carried forward	...	13	155	9	168	6

Return of Diseases and Deaths in 1912 at the Victoria Hospital.

Diseases.	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1911.	Yearly Total.		Total Cases Treated	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1912.	Remarks.
		Admissions.	Deaths.			
Brought forward	13	155	9	168	6	
<i>Diseases of the Circulatory System :—</i>						
Aneurism	...	2	...	2	1	
Cardiac	3	13	5	16	1	
<i>Diseases of the Respiratory System :—</i>						
Asthma	...	2	...	2	...	
Bronchitis	1	14	...	15	1	
Empyema	...	1	...	1	...	
Pleuro-Pneumonia	...	1	1	1	...	
Pneumonia	...	3	1	3	...	
Pleurisy	...	10	...	10	1	
<i>Diseases of the Digestive System :—</i>						
Abdominal tumour	...	1	...	1	...	
Appendicitis	...	1	...	1	...	
Ascites	...	1	...	1	...	
Constipation	...	10	...	10	...	
Dyspepsia	1	12	...	13	...	
Diarrhoea	...	4	...	4	...	
Gastric ulcer	...	1	1	1	...	
Gastritis	...	4	...	4	1	
Gastro-Enteritis	...	1	1	1	...	
Hæmorrhoids	...	4	...	4	...	
Hernia	...	4	...	4	...	
Hepatitis	...	3	...	3	...	
Indigestion	...	1	...	1	...	
Jaundice	...	1	...	1	...	
Liver Abscess	...	7	1	7	1	
Peritonitis	...	1	1	1	...	
Strangulated hernia	...	2	...	2	1	
<i>Diseases of the Lymphatic System :—</i>						
Glands in neck	...	1	...	1	...	
Lymphangitis	...	1	...	1	...	
<i>Diseases of the Urinary System :—</i>						
Cystitis	...	8	...	8	1	
Nephritis	1	...	...	1	...	
Retention of Urine	...	8	...	8	...	
Urinary fistula	...	2	...	2	...	
<i>Diseases of the Generative System :—</i>						
(MALE ORGANS)						
Hydrocele	1	7	...	8	...	
Orchitis	1	8	...	9	...	
Phimosi	...	1	...	1	..	
Carried forward	21	295	20	316	14	

Return of Diseases and Deaths in 1912 at the Victoria Hospital.

Diseases.	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1911.	Yearly Total.		Total Cases Treated.	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1912.	Remarks.
		Admissions	Deaths			
Brought forward	21	295	20	316	14	
<i>Diseases of the Generative System :— (Continued)</i>						
(FEMALE ORGANS)						
Carcinoma of cervix	...	3	...	3	...	
Chorea	...	1	...	1	...	
Endometritis	...	2	...	2	...	
Fibroids	...	8	1	8	...	
Menorrhagia	...	3	...	3	...	
Metritis	...	1	...	1	...	
Pregnancy	...	3	...	3	...	
Premature birth	...	1	...	1	...	
Prolapsus Uteri	...	1	...	1	...	
" Vagina	...	1	...	1	...	
Retained secundus	...	1	...	1	...	
Recto-vaginal fistula	...	1	...	1	...	
Salpingitis	...	3	...	3	...	
Vomiting of pregnancy	...	1	...	1	...	
<i>Diseases of Locomotion :—</i>						
Gangrene of toe	...	1	...	1	...	
Septic foot	1	12	...	13	...	
" toe	...	3	...	3	...	
Swollen foot	...	1	...	1	...	
Synovitis	...	1	...	1	..	
<i>Diseases of the Connective System :—</i>						
Abscesses	4	67	1	71	2	
Cyst	...	2	...	2	...	
Cellulitis	...	1	...	1	...	
Rodent ulcer	...	2	...	2	...	
Ulcers	...	10	...	10	1	
<i>Diseases of the Skin :—</i>						
Eczema	3	5	...	8	2	
Epidynitis	...	1	...	1	...	
Dermatitis	...	2	...	2	1	
Fibroma of scalp	...	1	...	1	...	
<i>Injuries :—</i>						
Bruise	1	23	...	24	...	
Bullet wound	...	2	1	2	...	
Burns	...	3	...	3	1	
Crushed finger	...	2	...	2	...	
" toe	...	1	...	1	...	
" foot	...	1	...	1	...	
Contracted fingers	...	1	...	1	...	
Various wounds	...	22	...	22	...	
Carried forward	30	489	23	519	21	

Returns of Diseases and deaths in 1912 at the Victoria Hospital.

Diseases.	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1911.	Yearly Total.		Total Cases Treated	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1912.	Remarks.
		Admissions.	Deaths.			
Brought forward	... 30	489	23	519	21	
<i>Injuries (local) :—</i>						
Dislocated finger	... 1	...	...	1	...	
" shoulder	... ..	2	...	2	...	
Dog bite	... ..	1	...	1	...	
Fish bone in throat	... ..	1	...	1	...	
Injury to eye	... 1	...	...	1	...	
Lemur bite	... ..	3	...	3	...	
Sprained wrist	... ..	1	...	1	...	
<i>Fractures :—</i>						
Fractured Calvicle	... ..	6	...	6	1	
" Femur	... ..	2	...	2	...	
" Humerus	... 1	...	...	1	...	
" Radius	... ..	2	...	2	...	
" Ribs	... 1	1	...	2	...	
" Scapula	... ..	1	...	1	...	
" Skull	... ..	1	...	1	...	
" Thigh	... ..	1	...	1	...	
" Tibia	... 1	...	...	1	...	
" Ulna	... ..	1	...	1	...	
<i>Parasites :—</i>						
Chiggers	... 1	4	...	5	...	
Worms	... ..	1	...	1	...	
TOTAL	... 36	517	23	553	22	

ANNEXURE I.

	Males	Females.	Total.	AGES AT WHICH DEATH HAS OCCURRED.										
				Under 1 year		1 to 5 years		6 to 70 years		70 to 100 years		Over 100 years		
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Estimated Population on 31st Dec. 1911	11,768	11,337	23,105	15	19	42	40	83	83	25	40	165	182	347
Births during 1912	352	374	726											
Arrival during 1912	140	43	183											
Decrease by deaths	165	182	347	15	19	42	40	83	83	25	40	165	182	347
Decrease by departures	112	48	160	34		82		166		65				
Estimated Population on 31st Dec. 1912	11,983	11,524	23,507											
Net increase during 1912	215	187	402											

Birth rate during 1912 per thousand 30.88
 Death rate " 1912 " 14.76

ANNEXURE II
 Meteorological returns for 1912.

1912 Months	TEMPERATURE							Rainfall		Winds		Deaths per month	Remarks
	Barometer	Solar Maximum	Minimum on grass	Shade Maximum	Shade Minimum	Range	Mean	Amount in Inches	Depth of Humi- dity	Direction of Wind	Average force		
January	30.10	113.4	73.5	82.5	76.2	6.3	79.3	29.69		NW.	4.3	40	
February	30.09	116.2	73.4	84.3	77.7	6.6	81.0	18.70		NW.	5.5	30	
March	30.09	120.3	74.0	85.0	79.4	5.6	82.5	3.19		NW.	7.2	34	
April	30.09	123.7	74.4	85.6	79.2	6.4	82.4	5.06		NE.	5.0	25	
May	30.09	121.4	73.8	85.9	78.9	7.0	82.4	9.18		SE.	6.0	32	
June	30.10	122.2	73.1	82.9	77.5	5.4	80.2	7.13		SE.	9.3	27	
July	30.10	120.4	72.7	80.5	75.8	4.7	78.1	4.05		S.	12.3	35	
August	30.12	122.7	72.8	80.6	76.0	4.6	79.1	0.76		SE.	13.1	31	
September	30.12	119.9	72.8	82.2	76.7	5.5	79.4	5.08		SE.	10.4	13	
October	30.15	132.5	73.1	82.9	76.5	6.4	79.7	4.37		SE.	7.6	31	
November	30.12	117.3	73.1	83.1	76.4	7.7	79.5	4.38		SE.	5.6	26	
December	30.11	114.1	73.4	82.9	75.7	7.2	79.3	13.51		NW.	5.3	23	

ANNEXURE III.

RESULT OF CASES TREATED AT THE VICTORIA HOSPITAL.

RETURN OF PATIENTS TREATED AT THE DISPENSARIES.

Month.	Victoria Hospital.		Anse Royale.		Anse Boileau.		Praslin.		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M & F	Total
January	38	92	8	12	1	2	8	12	174	174
February	32	133	5	14	1	1	15	6	207	207
March	43	155	9	18	...	2	8	9	244	244
April	42	104	11	9	1	...	9	8	184	184
May	42	103	17	21	1	...	3	6	198	198
June	45	130	14	10	...	4	4	6	213	213
July	47	123	26	21	...	2	10	17	246	246
August	28	71	9	36	...	1	17	8	170	170
September	43	124	13	23	...	5	6	6	220	220
October	37	110	21	37	...	10	14	12	241	241
November	22	93	12	22	1	5	11	8	174	174
December	33	77	15	14	...	1	10	3	153	153
Total	452	1315	160	237	5	33	114	101	2410	2410

Sexes.	Remaining in Hospital at the end of 1911.	Admitted during 1912.	Total treated.	Cured.	Relieved.	Unrelieved.	Died.	Remaining at the end of 1912.	Total.
Males ...	30	377	407	325	24	23	14	21	407
Females ...	6	140	146	107	19	10	9	1	146
	36	517	553	432	43	33	23	22	553

MEDICAL REPORT
OF THE
ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER
SOUTH MAHE
for 1912.

Tenth Annual Report.— I have the honour to forward my tenth annual report on South Mahé, First and Second Divisions.

Health of the District 1912.— The health of the District was good, there were no diseases of an infectious or contagious nature noted during the year. Pulmonary Tuberculosis caused four deaths during the year, and there were six deaths due to children dying soon after birth. Due to old age there were sixteen deaths, and the death rate was 12·88 per thousand.

General diseases of the district.— Ankylostomiasis with its attendant Anæmia is always common, especially with the poorer classes of white people that go barefooted. Tubercular disease holds ground but is not making the headway it did some years ago, diseases such as gastritis, constipation, and colic due to eating of food difficult to digest are common, and diarrhœa and dysentery are always prevalent after heavy rains. With regard to diseases of the respiratory system Asthma is very common, in fact twenty per cent of the coloured and white population are subject to the disease, it is rare with the blacks. When the disease starts it seems to go about as an epidemic, and this has often raised a suspicion with me that it may be Asthma due to a pollen or seed of some plant in the Colony.

Malarial Fever.— In my report for 1911 I drew attention to the fact that Anophelines were absent from the Colony and I attributed this to the presence of innumerable little *Gudgeon* in the rivers of the Colony. I had an opportunity while I was in London to see a fish called *Girardinus Pacciloides* or *Millions* and this little fish is identical in all respects with the little *Gudgeon* found in our rivers.

Hand Ambulance.— During the year a hand ambulance has been added to the Medical Department of this District and it has been found extremely useful, in transporting severe cases both to the General and Maternity Hospitals at Victoria.

Absence from the District.— I was absent on leave from the 8th July to the 3rd November my medical duties being performed by Dr Michael S. Power who carried on the work of the Department with much satisfaction to the people of the District.

PART II.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Comparative Tables.— As in past years I have attached tables showing a comparison of births, deaths, still-births, and marriages, for a period of five years (1908–1912). These tables show nothing abnormal and do not call for special comment. There is a slight diminution in the death rate but from the past five years it has always kept at or about 12 per thousand. The marriage rate is falling and I consider this an important index with regard to the prosperity of the Colony in prosperous years it goes up and in poor years it falls.

Principal diseases causing death.— The principal diseases causing death during 1912 were Senile Decay 16, Infantile Marasmus 6, Pulmonary Tuberculosis 4, Tetanus 3, Gastro Enteritis 3, Anæmia 3, Diseases of the heart 4.

Police Work.— There were the usual small cases of wounds and blows none of a serious nature, and none that call for special mention.

PART III.

DISPENSARIES.

The present Public Dispensary is now attached to the Lunatic Asylum and by this fact all the Medical Departments are now grouped under the same roof.

List of patients treated at the Anse Royale Dispensary during the year.

Months.	OLD.		NEW.		TOTAL.
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
January ...	7	10	1	2	20
February ...	4	10	1	4	19
March ...	7	13	2	5	27
April ...	7	8	4	1	20
May ...	13	12	5	9	39
June ...	10	12	4	2	28
July ...	21	16	5	7	49
August ...	6	28	3	9	46
September ...	7	18	6	10	41
October ...	15	36	6	11	68
November ...	6	17	7	10	40
December ...	14	14	1	1	30

VACCINATION.

Successful ...	1st time ...	157
„ ...	2nd time ...	1
„ ...	3rd time ...	0
		158

JOHN THOS : BRADLEY,
Asst : Med : Officer.

28th February, 1913.

TABLE OF DISEASES CAUSING DEATH IN SOUTH MAHÉ
1ST & 2ND DIVISIONS DURING 1912.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 year	Under 5 years	Under 20 years	Under 30 years	Under 40 years	Under 50 years	Under 60 years	Under 80 years	Under 90 years	Over 90 years	Total.	REMARKS.
	Anæmia	1	1	1	
Aneurism of the Aortic Arch..	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Ankylostomiasis	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Bright's Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	
Dysentery	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Drowning	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	Postmortem held in this case.
Endocarditis	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	
Uterine Fibroid	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Gastro Enteritis	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	3	
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	
Hemiplegia	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	
Hepatic Inflammation	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Infantile Diarrhœa	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
„ Marasmus	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	
Leprosy	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	4	
Pneumonia	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Rupture of Uterine	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Suffocation due to Ascaris Lumbricoides	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	Postmortem held in this case.
Senile Decay	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	7	...	15	
Senile Exhaustion	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	
Tetanus	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	3	
Tertiary Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	
Valvular disease of the heart.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	
Unknown	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	
Total...	9	2	5	7	7	3	2	15	8	...	58	

<i>Comparative Tables of the Ages at which death occurred during the years 1908 to 1912.</i>													<i>Comparative Tables of Births, Deaths and Still-births during the years 1908 to 1912.</i>					<i>Births, Deaths, Still-births and Marriages from 1908 to 1912.</i>				
Years.	Under 1 yr.	Under 5 yrs.	Under 20 yrs.	Under 30 yrs.	Under 40 yrs.	Under 50 yrs.	Under 60 yrs.	Under 80 yrs.	Under 90 yrs.	Over 90 years.	Total and Remarks.		Years.	Births per 1000.	Deaths per 1000.	Still-births per 1000.	Marriages per 1000.	Remarks.				
	Under 1 yr.	Under 5 yrs.	Under 20 yrs.	Under 30 yrs.	Under 40 yrs.	Under 50 yrs.	Under 60 yrs.	Under 80 yrs.	Under 90 yrs.	Over 90 years.	Births.	Deaths.							Still-births.	Remarks.		
1908	5	12	4	4	4	4	6	14	4	2	59	deaths during 1908	1908	32.52	12.32	1.25	3.75	18 marriages in 1908				
1909	13	7	4	7	7	3	3	9	1	...	54	"	1909	33.33	11.25	1.04	6.87	"				
1910	11	13	2	1	2	4	3	11	1	...	48	"	1910	28.28	9.81	2.04	5.11	"				
1911	11	8	5	2	3	10	3	12	3	...	59	"	1911	38.42	13.33	1.58	7.25	"				
1912	9	2	5	7	7	3	2	15	8	...	58	"	1912	32.00	12.88	1.77	5.55	"				

SEYCHELLES LUNATIC ASYLUM.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE YEAR 1912.

Sixth Annual Report.— I have the honour to forward my sixth annual report on the Anse Royale Lunatic Asylum.

New Porter's Lodge and Dispensary.— During the year there was built a porter's lodge which also serves as a Dispensary. By this means all the Medical Department of South Mahé is under the same roof, and the inconvenience of having the Dispensary in the office of the Justice of the Peace is done away with. The Head Attendant of the Male Department acts as Clerk and Dispenser in the pharmacy.

Upkeep of Asylum.— The average number of patients for the year was 20, the daily cost per patient was about fifty cents or Rs. 15, per month. We had as inmates an average of three paying patients who have contributed the sum of Rs. 802.50 towards their cost of maintenance. Attached to this report is a table showing the number of patients each month and their cost of maintenance.

Health of the inmates.— The inmates enjoyed good health during the year, there were no contagious or infectious diseases, two males and two females died during the year.

DiETING.— The contractor gave every satisfaction during the year, the food supplied was up to the standard of rations contracted for.

Admissions and discharges.— Seven new patients were admitted during the year, five males and two females. There were discharged three males and one female as recovered, one male as relieved and one male as not improved. There was no case of second admission during the year. Since the Asylum was opened in 1906 sixteen persons have been discharged as recovered, two as relieved and one as not improved. During that period the admittances were 52 and a recovery of 16 patients, works out a recovery rate of 30 per cent. Attached is a table showing the admissions, discharges, and deaths for each year from the opening of the Asylum.

Amusements.— Various means are taken to keep the patients amused, there is a weekly dance, also a magic lantern performance once a week in the wards, the usual games such as dominoes, draughts, and cards. On week days there is a walk to places in the neighbourhood, and all means are taken to keep up their physical health and condition.

Conduct of Attendants during the year.— One male Attendant was discharged, three male attendants resigned, one on account of ill-health. One female attendant was dismissed, one female attendant resigned, and one female attendant was transferred to the Maternity Home. A gate porter was appointed during the year this being a new appointment. There is a difficulty in getting Attendants as the rate of pay is small, and the emoluments are not large.

JOHN THOS. BRADLEY,
Med. Superintendent.

28th February, 1913.

Statistical Tables showing the Admissions, Readmissions, Discharges and Deaths, during the year ending 31st December 1912.

	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
In Asylum 1st January 1912,						
including those out on trial ...	...	...	...	11	11	22
<i>Cases admitted during 1912.</i>						
First admission ...	...	...	...	5	2	7
Not first admission ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total cases under care during the year ...	...	...	...	16	13	29
<i>Cases discharged during 1912.</i>						
Recovered ...	3	1	4	...	...	...
Relieved.. ...	1	...	1	...	...	...
Not improved ...	1	...	1	...	...	...
Died ...	2	2	4	...	...	...
Total cases discharged and died during the year ...	7	3	10	...	...	...
<i>Remaining in the Asylum</i>						
31st December 1912, including those out on trial ...	...	...	...	9	10	19

Table showing the Admissions, Discharges, Deaths from each year from the opening of the Asylum 13th March 1906.

Year.	ADMITTED.			DISCHARGED.									DIED.			Remaining in Asylum including those out on trial 31st Dec. in each year.			Remarks.
				Recovered.			Relieved.			Not improved.									
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	
1906	2	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	2	3	
1907	3	3	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5	9	
1908	7	1	8	2	...	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	3	1	4	5	5	10	
1909	12	2	14	4	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	7	20	
1910	3	3	6	2	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	13	9	22	
1911	4	3	7	2	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	4	11	11	22	
1912	5	2	7	3	1	4	1	...	1	1	...	1	2	2	4	9	10	19	

Table showing condition as to Marriage, probable cause of Insanity, Mental Disease and Occupation of Patients for the Year 1912.

Condition in reference to Marriage	Males	Females	Total	Probable causes of Insanity	Males	Females	Total	Form of Mental Disease	Males	Females	Total	Occupation	Males	Females	Total
Married	1	7	8	<i>Moral.</i>	1	2	3	<i>Congenital or Infantile Mental</i>	...	1	...	Clerk	1	...	1
Single	7	1	8	Domestic trouble	...	...	...	(a) with Epilepsy	...	...	...	Labourer	7	...	7
Widow	...	2	2	Adverse circumstances	1	...	1	(b) without Epilepsy	1	...	1	Planter	...	...	...
Widower	1	...	1	Mental anxiety and worry	...	1	1	Epilepsy acquired	...	...	...	Sailor	...	...	...
Unknown	Religious excitement	...	...	...	General paralysis of the Insane	...	...	...	Carpenter	...	...	...
	Love affairs	1	...	1	<i>Mania</i>	...	...	...	Tailor	...	...	...
	Fright and nervous shock	...	...	...	Acute	...	2	2	Proprietor	...	2	2
	<i>Physical.</i>	...	...	...	Chronic	4	3	7	Merchant	1	...	1
	Intemperance (in drink)	...	1	1	Recurrent	1	...	1	Washerwoman	...	5	5
	Intemperance (sexual)	...	...	...	A. Totu	...	...	...	Seamstress	...	...	...
	Veneral disease	...	...	...	Puerpural	...	...	1	Nurse	...	1	1
	Self abuse (sexual)	...	...	...	Senile	...	1	1	No profession...	...	2	2
	Over-exertion	...	...	...	<i>Melancholia</i>	...	...	...	Total	9	10	19
	Sunstroke	...	...	...	Acute	1	2	3				
	Accident or injury	...	...	...	Chronic	...	...	...	
	Pregnancy	...	1	1	Recurrent	...	...	...	
	Parturition and the puerperal state	...	...	...	Puerpural	...	...	...	
	Lactation	...	...	...	Senile	...	...	...	
	Urine and ovarian disorders	...	...	...	<i>Dementia</i>	...	...	...	
	Puberty	...	...	...	Primary	1	...	1				
	Change of life	...	...	...	Secondary	1	1	2				
	Fevers	...	3	3	Senile	...	...	...	
	Privation and starvation	2	...	2	Organic (coarse Brain, Disease, &c.)	...	...	...	
	Old age	...	...	...	<i>Not Insane.</i>	...	...	...	
	Other bodily diseases and disorders	1	...	1		...	...	...	
	Previous attacks	...	...	...		...	...	...
	Hereditary influences	1	...	1		...	...	...	
	Congenital defect	...	1	1		...	...	...	
	Other ascertained causes	...	1	1		...	...	...	
	Unknown	2	1	3		...	...	...	
Total	9	10	19	Total	9	10	19		9	10	19	Total	9	10	19

Table showing the number of patients for each month in the Asylum, their cost, and the amount contributed by paying patients towards maintenance for 1912.

Month.	No. of patients.		Cost.				Cost of washing per month for a patient.		No. of paying patients.		Total amount contributed by paying patients.		Classes of paying patients.		REMARKS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per head		Patient per month		Rs.	c.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Rs.	c.		1st Class	2nd Class
				Total daily		Per month											
				Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.											Rs.	c.
January	11	10	21	10	15	48	14	98	...	71	1	2	50	00	1	1	
February	11	11	22	10	67	48	14	07	...	88	1	3	52	30	1	2	
March	11	9	20	10	39	52	16	12	...	80	1	3	66	50	1	2	
April	10	9	19	10	04	53	15	86	...	84	1	3	65	00	1	2	
May	10	9	19	9	63	51	15	72	1	03	1	3	66	50	1	2	
June	9	9	18	9	62	53	16	08	...	94	1	3	65	00	1	2	
July	8	9	17	9	13	54	16	65	1	12	1	3	66	50	1	2	
August	9	9	18	9	23	51	15	89	...	89	2	4	90	70	2	2	
September	9	9	18	9	35	52	15	58	...	79	2	4	82	00	2	2	
October	9	9	18	8	81	49	15	18	...	96	1	3	66	50	1	2	
November	9	10	19	9	29	49	14	67	...	78	1	3	65	00	1	2	
December	9	10	19	9	89	43	13	33	...	73	1	3	66	50	1	2	

Medical Report

PRASLIN DISTRICT 1912.

Third Annual Report.— I have the honour to forward my third annual report of this district.

PRASLIN.

Praslin; Epidemics.— This, the main island, has been very healthy during the year, the death-rate being exceptionally low. There was a small outbreak of chicken pox at Grand'Anse, which was confined to a single family, each member being affected in turn. All possible precautions were taken to prevent the disease from spreading, the family being confined to their own house and the surrounding courtyard until such time as the infective period was over. One case was reported from Anse Boudin and one from Anse Marie Louise, each being similarly quarantined to prevent the possible spread of the disease.

Dispensaries.— The Baie St Anne dispensary, as usual, was not much used, except for minor accidents to the cantonniers and for some chronic skin cases which were dressed regularly. The number of patients attending was 78, the male patients preponderating by 68 to 10.

The Grand'Anse dispensary was well attended, but mainly by chronic cases such as Anæmia, Syphilis and Rheumatism. There was one case of fractured base of the skull a boy who fell from a tree. He made a good recovery. The number of patients was 118,—31 males and 82 females.

There was no cases of strangulated hernia during the year, but a very acute case of liver abscess again drew attention to the urgent necessity for a small hospital in Praslin.

Veneral disease was, as usual, very common especially gonorrhœa and its complications.

Vaccination.— The vaccine supplied during the year kept up its reputation and only failed in a few cases when it was rather stale. Ninety-one children were vaccinated, 79 cases being successful the first time and eight on revaccination, while four still await revaccination, fresh vaccine not being available at the moment.

Vital Statistics.— During 1912 there were 94 births in Praslin, of which 8 were still-births, giving a birth-rate of 45.06, and there were 33 deaths, giving a death-rate of 15.81. Of these deaths 11 took place on Round Island so that, excluding Round Island, the death rate of Praslin for the year has been but 10.54 per thousand, a very low figure for the tropics.

Details of Deaths; Numbers.—The particulars of the deaths are as follow :—

Age	Numbers
Under one year	8
Between one and five years	2
" five " fifteen "	0
" fifteen " twenty "	0
" twenty " fifty "	6
" fifty " sixty "	1
" sixty " eighty "	7
" eighty " ninety "	7
over ninety years	2
Total :	33

Causes.— Causes of death assigned :—

Senile decay	12
Marasmus	3
Gastritis	1
Enteritis	1
Leprosy	1
Fever	1
Died just after birth	2
Apoplexy	2
Heart failure	2
Infantile scurvy	1
Debility (infant 11 hours old)	1
Paralysis	2
Cystitis	1
Acute rheumatism	1
Ankylostomiasis	1
Vomiting	1

Total : 33

Population.— The census of 2nd April 1911 gave, on the amended sheets, the population of Praslin as 1985. Between that date and the 31st December 1911 there were 61 births, 24 deaths, giving a population of 2022 on the first day of 1912. This is very nearly accurate as there is practically no immigration and no emigration. Similarly on the 31st December 1912, the population was 2086.

The following short table shows the comparison of birth-rates, death-rates and still-births for the years 1911-12 :—

	1911	1912
Birth-rate	43·50	45·06
Death-rate	17·80	15·81
Still-births	6·0	8·0

ROUND ISLAND.

Round Island Improvements.— This island has been the scene of many improvements during the past year. The road from the beach to the Pauper Camp has been completed and a new coast road to the Leper Camp begun. The boat shed has been made longer to accommodate the new pirogue, and a new kitchen has been made for the Overseer.

In the Leper Camp an attempt is being made to make the huts further apart and it is hoped that, during the present year, the hall where the male lepers formerly slept may be rebuilt for use as a recreation room in rainy weather.

Deaths, etc.— As usual many deaths have taken place in the Pauper Camp, but many of the younger inmates have been greatly relieved by treatment and some have gone away from the island and are now once more earning their own living. There was one death in the Leper Camp, that of an old African woman.

Complaints.— The Camps have been kept clean and orderly throughout the year the only complaint being that there was no fish obtainable during many days in the South monsoon. However, a contract has recently been made for the local supply of fish to the island and, up to date, the scheme has worked well and there have been no further complaints.

Staff.— The Overseer and his men have done their work well and conscientiously and have done their best to make the lot of the paupers and lepers as happy as possible.

"Nastin".— In the Leper Camp the Nastin treatment was continued during the year, but the good results obtained at the commencement of the treatment unfortunately have not been maintained except in one case, that of a fairly young man who acts as dresser in the Camp.

In this case the drug has certainly done much good, and at present he has no open sores and feels greatly improved in health. In all the patients bacilli are to be found either in the nasal mucus or in the sores.

LA DIGUE.

La Digue ; Deaths.— During the past year the number of deaths on this Island was much smaller than usual, being 23 as compared with 31 in the preceding year in spite of increased population, while the number of deaths among children under a year old has fallen from 10 to 8.

Diseases.— The diseases most prevalent were, as usual, Ankylostomiasis and venereal affections. The Dispensary, as in previous years, was poorly attended, the people of La Digue, on account of the richness of the soil, being mostly well-to-do. Only 8 paupers attended during the year. Seven males and one female.

Details of Deaths ; Causes.— The causes of deaths assigned are as follow :—

Causes.	Number
Retention of Urine	1
Inanition	3
Senile decay	3
Enteritis	5
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1
Gastritis	1
Ankylostomiasis	2
Infantile Diarrhoea	2
Debility	1
Marasmus	1
Cystitis	1
Pneumonia	1
Apoplexy	1
Total	23

This list however, is necessarily compiled from the declaration of the relatives of the deceased, so, too much reliance cannot be placed upon its accuracy.

The number of deaths under one year was	8
" " " between 1 and 15 years	3
" " " " 5 " 15 "	0
" " " " 15 " 20 "	2
" " " " 20 " 50 "	4
" " " " 50 " 60 "	0
" " " " 60 " 80 "	4
" " " " 80 " 90 "	2
" " " Over 90 "	0
Total	23

The population of La Digue for last year, worked out on the same lines as that of Praslin, was 1396.

Vital Statistics.— There were 42 births and 3 still-births during the year and, as before mentioned, 23 deaths. This gives a birth-rate of 32.23 and a death-rate of 16.47 per thousand.

The following short table shows the comparison with the previous year :—

	1911	1912
Birth-rate ...	37·03*	32·23
Death-rate ...	22·78*	16·47
Still-births ...	5·0 *	3·0

Vaccination.— Fifty-six children were vaccinated during the year. Of these, 55 vaccinations were successful the first time and the fifty-sixth failed to return for examination.

OUTLYING ISLANDS.

Outlying Islands.— The Outlying Islands included in this district are Curieuse, Marianne, The Sisters, Cousin, Cousine, Aride and so me small uninhabited atolls. From a medical point of view there has been nothing of interest to report concerning them during the year, if we except a birth which took place in a pirogue between Marianne and Félicité Islands and three births on Curieuse. There was also one death on the latter island.

POLICE WORK DURING 1912.

Police work in its medical aspect.— There were no serious police cases during the year and no post-mortem examinations were made. There were some cases of assaults, two or three of which were prosecuted at Mahé before the Supreme Court under the Wounds and Blows Ordinance, but none of the injuries were of serious moment.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Vital Statistics.— Taking the district as a whole, both the birth-rate and death-rate have decreased, the birth-rate being 39·71 for 1912 as compared with 40·26 in 1911. This deficit—less than one per thousand—is not of any serious moment. The death-rate, on the other hand, has decreased considerably, having fallen from 20·29 in 1911 to 16·14 in 1912, a very satisfactory difference. The deaths in the district among children under one year have also been less numerous 16 in 1912 as opposed to 18 in 1911.

Necessity for hospital.— I would once again like to draw attention to the urgent necessity for a small hospital in Praslin where urgent cases, such as strangulated hernia, might be attended to, and also for such cases as require more attention than can be had in their own homes, and yet are not in a fit state to make the journey to the hospital at Mahé. Very often patients live far away from Bay Ste Anne in parts of the islands which are difficult of access, when it is impossible to make more than one or two visits a week without interfering seriously with the other duties of the A. M. O. Such cases could be properly looked after if there were a small hospital on the island. Nothing large or elaborately fitted is required, but a small hospital, which would not be at all expensive, would be an inestimable boon to the district.

N. P. JEWELL,
M. D., B. A. (T. C. D.).
A. M. O., Praslin District.

* These figures for 1911 are compiled from the finished Census report of that year and are not, therefore, quite the same as those given in my Medical Report for 1911.

The following table shows the comparison with the

1912	1911
...	...
...	...
...	...

Examination. The following table shows the comparison with the year. Of these, 25 specimens were associated with the time and the length of time for examination.

OUTLYING ISLANDS

Outlying Islands. The Outlying Islands include the Hawaiian Islands, Johnston, Phoenix, and French Frigate Shoals. A list of the islands and their approximate positions is given in the following table. It is noted that the islands are situated in a general north-south line, and that the distance between them is approximately 1,000 miles.

LONG WORK DURING YEAR

Long work during the year. There were no long work during the year. The following table shows the results of the work done during the year. It is noted that the work was done in a general north-south line, and that the distance between them is approximately 1,000 miles.

GENERAL REMARKS

General remarks. The following table shows the results of the work done during the year. It is noted that the work was done in a general north-south line, and that the distance between them is approximately 1,000 miles.

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