

## **Annual report of the Medical Department / Colony of Seychelles.**

### **Contributors**

Seychelles. Medical Department.

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COLONY OF SEYCHELLES.

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL and HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR

1938

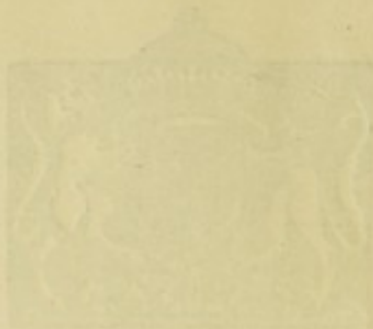
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Published by Command of His Excellency the Administrator

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PRINTED BY THE HEAD PRINTER,  
AT THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE,  
Victoria, Mahé—Seychelles.

1939.



GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL AND HEALTH

DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR

1898

Printed by Government at the College Press, Madras.

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**1938**

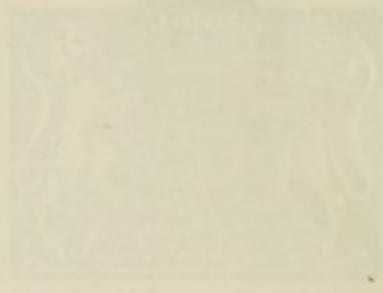
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Victoria, Mahé—Seychelles.

1939.



COLONY OF NEW ZEALAND

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL AND HEALTH

DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR

1930

Published by the printer of the Government at Wellington

Printed and Published by the Government Printer, Wellington

1930

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Medical Department,  
Seychelles, 31st May, 1939.

**Annual Medical and Health Report for the year  
ending 31st December, 1938.**

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I have the honour to submit for the information of His Excellency the Administrator, and for transmission to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, the Medical Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Seychelles for the year 1938, together with Returns, etc. appended thereto.

I have the honour to be,

**Sir,**

Your obedient servant,

E. M. LANIER,

*Senior Medical Officer.*

**To**

The Secretary to Government,

Victoria.

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Medical Department,  
Eschscholtz, 8th May, 1852.

Annual Medical and Health Report for the year  
ending 31st December, 1852.

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COLONY OF SEYCHELLES.

ANNUAL REPORT

On the Medical and Health Department

1st January to 31st December 1938.

1. ADMINISTRATION.

(A) STAFF.

The establishment of the Department on 31st December 1938 was as follows :—

PROFESSIONAL STAFF.

- The Senior Medical Officer.
- 2 Medical Officers Victoria.
- 1 Medical Officer South Mahé.
- 1 Medical Officer Praslin (temporary appointment).

HOSPITAL STAFF.

- 1 Matron.
- 2 Nursing Sisters.
- 1 Nurse.
- 6 Probationer Nurses.
- 1 Midwife.
- 1 Ward Maid Maternity.
- 6 Male Attendants at Hospital (4 for day duty, 2 for night).
- 4 Ward Maids (3 for day duty, 1 for night).
- 1 Cook.
- 1 Cook's mate.
- 1 Kitchen boy.
- 2 Washerwomen.

PHARMACY AND CLERICAL STAFF.

- 1 Dispenser and Chief Clerk.
- 1 Assistant Dispenser.
- 1 Storekeeper and Second Clerk.
- 1 Laboratory Assistant.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITARY STAFF.

- 1 Sanitary Inspector.
- 2 Assistant Sanitary Inspectors.
- 3 Probationer Sanitary Inspectors.
- 1 Lady Health Visitor.
- 4 Labourers.
- 1 Keeper Guardian Station.

ASYLUM FOR MALE LEPERS CURIEUSE.

- 1 Guardian.
- 2 Labourers.
- 1 Cook.
- 1 Assistant Cook.
- 1 Washerman (inmate).

ASYLUM FOR FEMALE LEPERS ROUND ISLAND MAHÉ.

- 1 Female Guardian.
- 1 Labourer.
- 1 Cook (inmate).

## LUNATIC ASYLUM ANSE ROYALE.

Officer in charge Medical Officer South Mahé.  
 1 Head Male Attendant.  
 1 Assistant Male Attendant.  
 1 Assistant Female Attendant.  
 1 Male Attendant.  
 2 Female Attendants.  
 1 Cook.

## COTTAGE HOSPITAL PRASLIN.

Officer in charge Medical Officer Praslin.  
 1 Nurse.  
 1 Attendant and Cook.

## STAFF CHANGES.

## APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS AND TRANSFERS.

		Date
R. de Lacoudraye	Harter L.D.S. to be Dental Surgeon	1.1.38
G. d'Offay	to be Assistant Sanitary Inspector	1.1.38
G. Barallon	to be Laboratory Assistant	1.1.38
Sister Perpetua	to be Hospital Sister	25.1.38
G. Barallon	to be Assistant Dispenser	1.4.38
E. Christianson	to be Medical Officer	19.4.38
T. R. R. Pai	to be Medical Officer	29.12.38
Probationer Sanitary Inspectors	3	
Probationer Nurses	3	
S. N. Young	Midwife Seychelles Hospital to be Lady Health Visitor	1.7.38
C. Collie	Lady Health Visitor to be Midwife Seychelles Hospital	1.7.38

*Resignation and Termination of Appointments.*

P. J. Gonsalves	Medical Officer	16.1.38
M. Adam	Assistant Dispenser	31.3.38
G. d'Offay	Assistant Sanitary Inspector	30.4.38
Probationer nurses	3	

## LEAVE.

Sister Philomela left of 25.1.38 on six months sick leave.  
 Dr. K. C. Mathew left on 11.9.39 on 2½ months leave on the grounds of urgent private affairs, and returned on 29.11.38.  
 Dr. Christianson 15 days casual leave from 27.9.38 to 7.10.38 sick leave from 8 to 28th October 1938.

## (B) LEGISLATION AFFECTING PUBLIC HEALTH ENACTED DURING THE YEAR.

The following legislation were enacted during the year :—

1. An Ordinance to control leprosy Ordinance 17 of 1938.
2. Proclaiming part of Curieuse as a Leprosy Asylum Proclamation 11 of 1938.
3. Proclaiming part of Curieuse and Round Island a Leprosy Hospital Proc. 16 of 1938.
4. Legal Notices 36,55,56,65, and 66 Fixing washing limits in Rivers.

## (C) FINANCIAL.

## MEDICAL AND SANITARY REVENUE.

Hospital and Maternity Fees	Rs 7,588.36
Lunatic Asylum Fees	" 1,385.25
Quarantine Fees	" 197.50
X. Ray Fees	" 75.00
Sale of Medicines	" 2,216.57
Registration Fees	" 20.00
Total	Rs. 11,482.68

## MEDICAL AND SANITARY EXPENDITURE.

The estimated expenditure for 1938 was in Personal emoluments	Rs 52,158
Other charges	" 43,170
Total	Rs. 95,328
The actual expenditure for 1938 was in Personal emoluments	" 47,657.37
Other charges	" 41,562.16
Total	Rs. 89,219.53

Balance in favour at end of the year Rs. 6,108.47.

## II. PUBLIC HEALTH.

### (A) GENERAL REMARKS.

The health of the population showed no special features and was, on the whole, good. Outbreaks of tonsillitis and influenza appeared as usual at the change of the monsoons and were perhaps more prevalent than in previous years but no serious epidemic diseases occurred.

#### I. GENERAL DISEASES.

The incidence of deaths from cancer and other malignant tumours was about the same as last year, 20 against 19 in 1937.

Diseases of the circulatory system are common. Deaths from circulatory diseases were on the increase, 72 against 55 last year — but only 25 deaths from cerebral hæmorrhage were recorded against 35 in 1937. Many of these were of syphilitic origin.

101 cases of diseases of the respiratory tract were treated in Hospital in 1938 including 12 cases of broncho-pneumonia (one death) and 3 cases of lobar pneumonia (no-deaths). 40 cases of asthma were also admitted to Hospital.

A form hepatitis characterised by fever, pain and tenderness over the liver is prevalent. There is usually no previous history of amœbic dysentery and the disease quickly reacts to emetine treatment, the fever gradually coming down and the other signs and symptoms disappearing generally after a few injections of emetine hydrochloride. 76 such cases were treated in Hospital during the year.

There is a high incidence of diseases of the digestive system, chronic constipation being probably the cause of many. 68 cases of appendicitis, acute and chronic, were admitted to Hospital in 1938.

#### 2. COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.

*Malaria* :—Two imported cases were treated in Hospital. There is no malaria in the Colony owing to the absence of the anophelin mosquitoes.

*Small-pox* :—No case was imported or occurred in 1938.

*Influenza* :—The number of cases treated in Hospital was higher than in the previous year 85 against 62 but only 4 deaths were registered for the whole island against 5 in 1937.

*Dysentery* : 35 cases (one death) all of the amœbic type were admitted to Hospital against 20 in 1937.

*Tetanus* :—Three deaths were recorded.

*Leprosy* :—There are altogether about 100 known lepers in the Colony. There was a very slight decrease in the incidence of leprosy, i. e. in the number of leper per thousand population 3.11% against 3.17% in 1937.

*Tuberculosis* : 10 deaths from Pulmonary tuberculosis and 5 from other form of tuberculosis were registered during the year against 18 and 3 for the preceding year.

*Veneral Diseases* : These diseases are very prevalent and though facilities for treatment are provided at the Venereal Disease Clinics in Victoria and in the Districts many cases come up for advice and treatment only in the latter stages of the disease when complications have already developed. 40 cases were treated as in-patients in 1938.

*Helminthic Diseases* :—Infestation with ascaris and hookworm remains widespread especially amongst children. 15,916 patients were treated during the year, oil of chenopodium being the anthelmintic generally employed in mass treatments.

### (B) VITAL STATISTICS.

#### (1) GENERAL POPULATION.

The estimated population on 31st December 1938 was 31,486 (Males 15,462, Females 16,024) showing an increase of 546 over the preceding year.

*Marriages* :—197 marriages were celebrated in 1938 as compared with 199 in 1937.

*Births* :—The total number of births for the year was 831 (396 males, 435 females). The crude birth rate was 26.39 per thousand against 26.72 per thousand in 1937.

The proportion of legitimate to illegitimate births is given below :—

Year.	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Total.
1936	540	337	877
1937	524	303	827
1938	509	322	831

*Deaths* :—During the year the number of deaths was 397 as compared with 410 in 1937. The crude death rate was 12.61 per thousand against 14.22 per thousand in 1937. The table below gives the crude death rate in the Colony for the last ten years.

Year	Rate	Year	Rate
1929	17.94%	1934	10.78%
1930	13.99%	1935	14.09%
1931	13.53%	1936	11.62%
1932	12.86%	1937	14.22%
1933	12.14%	1938	12.61%

The average death rate for the period 1929—1933 was 14.09 per thousand while the average death rate for the following period 1934—1938 was 12.65 per thousand. The next table shows the causes of death registered during the year.

<i>Title.</i>	<i>Corresponding title number in International list of causes of deaths (1929 Revision)</i>	<i>Number of deaths.</i>	<i>Rate per 1000 population.</i>
Influenza	(11)	4	.13
Dysentery	(18)	1	.03
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	(23)	10	.32
Other tuberculosis	(24-32)	5	.16
Leprosy	(35)	5	.16
Venereal diseases	(34-35)	19	.60
Helminthic infections	(40, 41, 42)	2	.06
Tetanus	(22)	3	.09
Other infectious and/or parasitic diseases	(39, 43, 44)	5	.16
Cancer and other tumours	(45-55)	20	.64
Rheumatic conditions	(56-57)	1	.03
Other general diseases	(58, 60, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 69)	1	.03
Diseases of the blood	(70-74)	7	.22
Cerebral hæmorrhage and apoplexy etc.	(82)	25	.80
Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	(78-89)	9	.29
Diseases of the circulatory system	(90-103)	72	2.29
Bronchitis	(106)	2	.06
Pneumonia	(107-109)	15	.48
Other diseases of the respiratory system	(104, 105, 110, 114)	7	.22
Diarrhoea and enteritis	(119-120)	10	.32
Hernia and intestinal obstruction	(122)	1	.03
Appendicitis	(121)	1	.03
Diseases of the digestive system	(115-129)	9	.29
Nephritis	(130, 131, 132)	10	.32
Other non-venereal diseases of the genito-urinary system	(133-139)	2	.06
Childbirth and puerperium	(140-150)	1	.03
Diseases of skin, cellular tissues etc.	(151-156)	1	.03
Congenital malformation and conditions of early infancy	(157, 158, 161)	22	.69
Other forms of violence	(172-198)	5	.16
Senility	(162)	50	1.59
Ill-defined	(199-200)	72	2.29
<b>Total</b>		<b>397</b>	

*Infantile Mortality* :—76 children under one year and 32 aged from one to five years died in 1938 as compared with 67 (under one year) and 62 (from one to five years) in 1937.

The infantile mortality rate is the number of deaths of infants under one year occurring in any year for every thousand live births registered during the same year.

The rates for the last four years are given below :—

1935	91.57
1936	55.87
1937	81.02
1938	91.46

The infantile mortality rate for 1938 was 91.46 o/oo.

The number of deaths under 5 years of age occurring during the last three years were distributed as follows :—

	1936			1937			1938		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Under one year	22	27	49	39	28	67	39	37	76
One year to under 2 years	10	5	15	13	14	27	5	3	8
Two years to under 3 years	7	3	10	7	13	20	4	8	12
Three years to under 4 years	1	2	3	4	4	8	6	3	9
Four years to under 5 years		1	1	5	2	7	1	2	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>108</b>

In the table below the deaths have been grouped according to the causes registered on the death certificates.

#### Under one year.

#### One year to under five years.

Ill defined causes	29	Ill defined causes	9
Congenital syphilis	9	Broncho pneumonia	6
Infantile hæmatemesis	1	Asthma	3
Premature birth	7	Lobar pneumonia	1
Lobar pneumonia	1	Hæmolytic jaundice	1
Acute gastro-enteritis	7	Generalised peritonitis	1
Infantile marasmus	8	Toxoemia secondary to acute enteritis	1
Influenza	2	Anaemia	1
Pneumonia	1	Nephritis	1
Meningitis	2	Marasmus	3
Gastritis	1	Tubercular peritonitis	2
Acute bronchitis	2	Meningo encephalitis	1
Broncho pneumonia	2	Gastro enteritis and perforation of stomach	1
Endocarditis	1	Paralysis	1
Pulmonary congestion	1		
Spina bifida	1		
Congenital endocarditis	1		
<b>Total</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

*Still-births* :—52 still-births were registered in 1938 (29 males, 23 females) as compared with 37 in 1937.

This is equivalent to 62.57 o/oo of live births for same period as compared with 44.74 o/oo for 1937.

*Registration* :—Registration of births, still-births and deaths is compulsory and these returns can be taken as correct. When a death has occurred and a medical certificate cannot be produced a police enquiry is held. The result of the enquiry are then submitted to the Police Magistrate who either orders that a post-mortem examination be performed or, in the absence of any evidence of foul play, directs that the body be buried and the death registered under "Ill-defined" causes. 52 deaths were registered under this heading in 1938.

Eleven post mortem examinations were carried out by order of the Police Magistrate during 1938 and the causes of death revealed are given below :—

Shock secondary to post-partum hæmorrhage	1
Gastro-enteritis and perforation of stomach	1
Myocarditis	1
Congenital syphilis and pulmonary congestion	1
Tuberculosis of intestines and advanced anæmia	1
Toxæmia secondary to acute enteritis	1
Fracture of atlas	1
Rupture aneurysm of descending aorta	1
Hæmorrhage due to wounds of femoral vessel by a sharp instrument	1
Hydrocephalus	1
Pericarditis and pulmonary congestion	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>

#### (2) EUROPEAN POPULATION.

During the year under review the health of the European population was good. 2 Europeans died during the year and the deaths were registered as follows :—

Influenza and Senility	2
Cerebral Hæmorrhage.	

## (3) OFFICIALS.

The number of officials from various Government Department treated at Headquarters in Victoria during the year is given hereunder. Officials treated in the districts by the Medical Officers are not included in this list. The total number was 1,051 against 845 in 1937.

Agriculture	157
Audit	3
Ecclesiastical	15
Medical	41
Legal	58
Police	181
Port	44
Post Office	29
Printing	23
Public Works	389
Secretariat	15
Treasury	5
Victoria Town Board	94
Education	2
Total	1,051

## III. HYGIENE AND SANITATION.

## A. GENERAL REVIEW OF WORK DONE AND PROGRESS MADE.

## (1) PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

## (a) MOSQUITO AND INSECT BORNE DISEASES.

The old method of fumigating cargo has, in 1938, been superseded by a more scientific and reliable one. A small Clayton apparatus is now installed at the cargo shed where the necessary alterations and repairs have been carried out to make such fumigation as effective as possible. This is an event of public health importance for this Colony where the potential danger of introduction of the anopheline mosquitoes is a real one and where the importation of infected fleas or rats from surrounding plague infected countries might easily occur.

Fumigation of cargo landed from the British India steamers and other large vessels was carried out on 39 occasions.

Local vessels trading between the Seychelles and neighbouring malarial countries (Africa, Madagascar, Mauritius) are themselves fumigated or disinfected before they are allowed to enter the inner harbour. During the year five sailing or auxiliary vessels from Daressalaam and Mauritius and six from Mombassa were so treated.

## (b) EPIDEMIC AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

*Small-pox and vaccination.*

Under Ordinance 23 of 1899 every child must be vaccinated before the age of nine months.

758 children were vaccinated during 1938 by the Government Medical Officers against 781 in 1937. The results are given hereunder:—

	Central District	South Mahé District	Praslin and La Digue.
Successful vaccinations on first attendance	432	193	94
Successful vaccinations on second and subsequent attendance	12	18	8
Unsuccessful			1
Total	444	211	103

Primary vaccination of children is now a well established custom amongst the whole population but revaccination is not so general.

Passengers arriving in Seychelles from a country where small-pox is endemic must produce satisfactory evidence that they are protected by recent vaccination. Revaccination is also necessary for all persons going on board a steamer coming from a port infected with epidemic small-pox.

*Leprosy.*

The following summarises the situation in the Colony during the past five years :—

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Number of known lepers on 1st January ...	87	87	93	97	98
New cases detected during the year	5	10	6	6	6
Number of deaths during the year	5	4	1	3	4
Number segregated in Asylums ...	36	42	47	45	52
Number segregated at Home ...	51	51	50	53	46
Number discharged on parole ...		2	1	2	2
Total population of Colony ...	29,406	29,803	30,461	30,940	31,486
Incidence of Leprosy i.e. number of lepers per thousand population.	2.95	3.12	3.14	3.17	3.11

The incidence though the lowest since 1934, is still too high for this small Colony.

Six new cases were discovered in 1938, all of the cutaneous type. Two more cases were discharged on parole during the year bringing the total number of cases thus discharged to seven. They are re-examined every three months and so far there has been only one relapse.

The main treatment consists in injections of hydnocreol and in local applications of trichlor acetic acid.

Lepers undergoing home isolation come for advice and treatment to the small leprosy clinics held weekly in Victoria, in the district of South Mahé, Praslin and La Digue.

Towards the end of the year the new Medical Officer of Praslin and La Digue, who is also the Medical Superintendent of the new Leper Settlement at Curieuse arrived from India after having taken up post graduate course in leprology at the Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine.

The percentage of open (infective) and closed (non-infective) cases undergoing home isolation and segregation on leper islands is given below :—

	Home isolation		Segregation on leper islands.	
	1937	1938	1937	1938
Open cases	32.66	27.55	27.55	30.61
Closed cases	20.40	19.39	19.39	22.45

It is satisfactory to see that the percentage of open cases undergoing home isolation has decreased from 32.66% in 1937 to 27.55% in 1938. The system of home isolation being unsuitable for this Colony, segregation of infective cases on pleasant and well organized leper islands where early cases will themselves seek admission will in the long run be the most efficient means at our disposal to check the spread of leprosy in the Seychelles.

The outstanding event of the year has been the opening in November of the new Leper Settlement for male lepers on the Island of Curieuse. There was originally accommodation for thirty lepers but all the huts were occupied soon after the opening of the settlement new ones are now being constructed to accommodate about fifteen more patients. The camp is well laid out in pleasant and attractive surroundings. There is a good deal of flat land where all inmates can walk about and the supply of fresh water is ample. The huts are airy and bright with a thatched roof and white masonry walls. Each hut has a small verandah overlooking the gardens and the sea. A large recreation room for the male settlement has been built from funds supplied for that purpose to the Seychelles Fellowship of Service by the Indian merchants of the Colony, while the Chinese community has, through the same channel, provided the necessary funds for the construction of a similar recreation room for the female settlement. The latter settlement will, it is hoped, be completed and opened towards the end of next year.

A new Leprosy Ordinance modelled on the British Guiana Ordinance has been enacted in 1938.

## HELMINTHIC DISEASES.

*Ankylostomiasis* :—Ordinance 9 of 1917 makes it compulsory for all premises to be provided with a latrine but many natives, especially in the rural districts, make little use of them and prefer to persist in their habit of polluting the soil. It is not surprising therefore that hookworm infection remains widespread, though for many years now, mass treatments have been regularly carried out in the central as well as in outlying districts. In 1933 a total of 15,916 treatments were given at the following centres :—

Centres.	Number of patients treated.
Seychelles Hospital	4,930
Beau Vallon	255
Anse Etoile	391
Glacis	586
Bel Ombre	385
Port Glaud	159
Grand Anse	143
Anse Boileau	1,438
Baie Lazare	1,336
Quatre Bornes	1,416
Anse Royale	949
Anse aux Pins	1,153
Cascade	831
La Misere	87
Praslin and La Digue	1,857

**Total 15,916**



The following prosecutions were entered during the year :

For having no latrines :—

57 householders were prosecuted in 1938 against 6 in 1937 and 44 fined, the aggregate of fines amounting to Rs. 100.50. Ten of the prosecuted householders were ordered to pay costs and 3 were discharged.

For having unsanitary yards :—

30 householders were prosecuted in 1938 against 1 in 1937. 18 were fined, 10 ordered to pay costs and 3 were discharged.

## (2) GENERAL MEASURES OF SANITATION.

The Victoria Town Board of which the Senior Medical Officer is a member is the principal Authority for the enforcement of the various sanitary laws in the town of Victoria. In the country districts the local Boards of Health are entrusted with the same duties.

### SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

In the rural district, and outside the limits of the town, the pit latrine is in use. In the town of Victoria there is a pail night soil service carried out by a private contractor but supervised by a Sanitary Inspector attached to the Victoria Town Board. The service is now worked by a motor lorry, an improvement over the conveyance by carts and bullocks as previously.

Disposal of the night soil is effected by trenching. The present trenching ground lies outside the centre of the town and the trenches are laid out in accordance with the instructions of the Sanitary Department.

Several private houses are now provided with septic tanks and it is hoped that this system of sanitation will soon become generalised.

### COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

In the Central District a private contractor is responsible for the cleaning of the town. In the country districts the local Boards undertake this work.

### DRAINAGE.

Drainage of surface water is effected by means of open gutters or small rivulets acting as natural drains, but such a system of drainage is often inadequate, especially after heavy rains, when swamps are formed which become good breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

### WATER SUPPLY.

The Colony has a good water supply. Three Reservoirs Le Niol, Rochon and English River Reservoirs supply the principal sections of the town and suburbs.

Le Niol Reservoir receives its water from the Grand St. Louis River, the source of which starts at Delanos on Crown land; after supplying the reservoir the Grand St. Louis River flows out to sea at Eel Ombre. Le Niol Reservoir supplies about 540,000 gallons of water a day to the central parts of the town, its main pipe being 12,871 feet long.

The Rochon Reservoir receives its water from the source of River Rochon which starts at the peak of Perard and Exil, both on Crown lands. The reservoir supplies approximately 290,000 gallons of water a day to the southern sections of the town through a main pipe of 10,756 feet long.

The English River Reservoir receives its water from English River the source of which starts at Mount Signal. The Reservoir supplies the Northern districts and sends in approximately 15,600 gallons of water per day.

The water supply coming directly from the mountains is pure and free from pathogenic organisms but after heavy rains the water though remaining clear has a slight brownish tinge and should always be boiled and filtered. It is after such rains that the incidence of amoebic dysentery and gastro enteritis rises each year.

It can be realised however that such a system of water supply is vulnerable and that the catchment areas and open reservoirs require careful supervision.

The following prosecutions were entered during the year for pollution of rivers :—

16 offenders were prosecuted. 8 were fined, 6 ordered to pay costs and 2 discharged.

### SCHOOL HYGIENE.

The main progress under this heading in 1938, has been the appointment of a qualified Dental Surgeon whose principal duty was to attend to the teeth of school children, a measure of real public health importance in a Colony where the percentage of dental caries is very high.

Such dental care must in time bring great benefit to the general health of these school children. The Dental Surgeon's report is given in full under Appendix C.

Periodical examinations of the grant-in-aid or government controlled schools in Mahé were carried out during the year by the Medical Officers of the Department.

About 80 per cent of the children attending these schools showed signs of deficient nutrition and development. Over 75 per cent had clinical signs of intestinal parasites, while the proportion of enlarged or infected tonsils and adenoids was also high. A few cases of scabies and ringworms were seen but no case of leprosy was detected.

The schools are well ventilated and have sufficient floor space for the number of pupils attending.

Most of the schools are kept in a clean condition and have adequate latrine accommodation.

Certain defects observed in a few of them were notified to the respective Managers or Head teachers who promised to have these rectified.

Drill and physical exercises are taught in many of the grant-in-aid schools.

An account of the Medical inspection of the schools of Praslin and La Digue will be found in the report of the Medical Officer of that district (Appendix B).

#### LABOUR CONDITIONS.

Labourers in Mahé are mostly employed in agricultural work on coconuts and cinnamon estates. A certain number have recently found employment in road construction, under the Colonial Development Fund scheme of road development. On the outlying islands they are engaged for work on coconut plantation and in the guano and fishing industries. The floating population on those outlying islands is estimated at about 1,200 a year. The physique and general state of health of the labourers on the outlying islands is excellent, in fact considerably better than that of the average labourer in Mahé. This I was able to observe myself during a tour of inspection of the outlying islands begun in December. On the islands the labourers live a regular and healthy life under some form of camp discipline. They have regular hours for work, for rest and for meals. Under the supervision of the Manager they have to keep their houses and yards clean. On the islands their huts are often better than those they have in Mahé, and overcrowding is not permissible. They are compelled to use latrines - infringement of this regulation would soon be detected - and thus the spread of hookworm and other intestinal parasitic diseases is checked. Although some form of illicit fermentation (lentils) does occasionally occur, the practice does not appear, at least at present, to be sufficiently widespread or frequent to affect their health. Their daily food requirements are assured by the supply of a scale of rations which yield an adequate amount of protein, fats, carbohydrates, minerals and vitamins. A recommendation has been made for some modification to this scale of rations so as to increase the daily amount of protein, and the calorie value of the diets of male servants under 15 years of age who are still in the period of growth.

Labourers on the outlying islands are generally engaged for a period of two years but their contract of service may be extended, if they so desire, and renewed monthly.

On all islands I visited I interviewed each labourer whose contract of service had expired and ascertained by exhaustive enquiries if he was remaining on the island of his own free will and if his contract was being renewed monthly. In each case the answer was in the affirmative. I found that some of the older servants are remaining on their own accord for several years on the same island with an occasional brief holiday to Mahé in the interval. They like the place and are amongst the most industrious servants on the island. On the whole I was much struck by the general air of contentment of the labourers on the islands I visited.

No outbreak of disease occurred in the outlying islands in 1938.

#### FOOD IN RELATION TO HEALTH AND DISEASE.

All articles of food in the public market have to be inspected by a Sanitary Inspector before being sold. A Sanitary Inspector also attends daily at the public abattoir to inspect the meat before it is sent to the markets.

Meat inspection at abattoir by Sanitary Inspector.

Number of oxen slaughtered during the year	394
Number of pig- do do	300
Number of green turtles do	253
2 green turtles were in putrid condition and were destroyed.	

The following prosecutions were entered during the year for breach of food or markets regulations :—

Exposing food for sale unprotected from flies and dusts :—  
3 offenders were prosecuted and fined Rs. 17.

Rice is the staple article of diet. Breadfruit when in season, cassava, yam, sweet potatoes and bananas are also largely consumed. There is generally an abundant supply of fresh fish and this forms an important addition to the diet of all classes. Pork is the variety of meat more generally consumed while green turtle is also a favourite - and highly nutritious - local food. The native dietary is more deficient in protective foods (foods rich in minerals and vitamins) than in energy giving foods (food rich in calories). The consumption of milk, green vegetables and fruits is not general, many natives having no natural liking for these articles of diet even when they can obtain them.

During my recent tour of inspection of the outlying islands, I observed that the Management was encouraging their labourers to grow such vegetables and fruits as could be grown there, seeds being supplied freely and no restrictions being placed on the amount of land desired for cultivation; yet there was very little response to this encouragement. So, in order to compensate for the lack of fresh green vegetables and fruits in the diet of these labourers, chillies, a vegetable which they like, and which contain appreciable quantities of vitamin A and large amount of vitamin C will henceforth be issued with their rations to all servants on the outlying islands.

In order to encourage a greater consumption of milk amongst the poorer classes, the prohibitive duties which were levied on skimmed milk were reduced in 1938 to the level of that imposed on ordinary full cream milk. Skimmed milk being considerably cheaper it is hoped that more people of the poorer classes will thus be able to procure a valuable food.

#### B. MEASURES TAKEN TO SPREAD THE KNOWLEDGE OF HYGIENE AND SANITATION.

School children receive instructions in elementary hygiene. In the course of their routine duties the Lady Health Visitor and the Sanitary Inspectors give advice to the public on matters of sanitation and hygiene.

#### C. TRAINING OF SANITARY PERSONNEL.

Courses of instructions in Hygiene and Sanitation are given by the Medical Officers of the Department.

During 1938 three new probationer sanitary inspectors were engaged. It is hoped that it will be possible next year to post a Sanitary Inspector in the district of South Mahé and one in Praslin and La Digue to help the Medical Officers who are in charge of the health and sanitation of these districts numbering each about 4,000 inhabitants.

#### D. RECOMMENDATIONS.

Accommodation at the Quarantine station at Long Island has become inadequate and the buildings need extensive repairs and improvements. This work of enlarging and improving the accommodation at the Quarantine station is one of urgency in view of the increasing number of passengers now arriving in Seychelles and who may have to be quarantined there.

### IV. PORT HEALTH WORK AND ADMINISTRATION.

Matters relating to quarantine and port health administration are dealt with by a Quarantine Committee composed of the Senior Medical Officer, the Director of Agriculture, the Superintendent of Police and three other members appointed annually by the Governor. The Senior Medical Officer carries out the duties of Port Health Officer.

During 1938 the ships that called at Mahé included 1 British man of war, 1 German man of war, 46 merchant steamers, 13 sailing vessels including dhows.

From	Mombassa	25
"	Bombay	13
"	Madagascar	5
"	Zanzibar	3
"	Mauritius	2
"	Aden	2
"	Dutch	2
"	Durban	1
"	Diego Suarez	1
"	Reunion	1
"	Cochin	1
"	Daressalaam	1
"	Colombo	1
"	Beira	1
"	Djibouti	1
"	Bremen	1
	Total	61

Free pratique was given to 48 vessels.

Partial pratique was given to 13 vessels.

Fumigation was carried out on 5 sailing and auxiliary vessels coming from Madagascar, Daressalaam, Mauritius etc.; disinsectisation was carried out on 6 sailing and auxiliary vessels from Mombassa etc.

Five deratisation certificates were issued.

Number of dead rats found 27.

Fees amounting to Rs. 125 were collected.

Number of passengers who arrived in the Colony :—

Saloon	441
Deck	180

Total 621

Number of passengers who left the Colony :—

Saloon	344
Deck	266
	610

No ship was placed in full quarantine during the year.

The number of ships placed in full quarantine during the past ten years is given below :—

1929	1	1984	1
1930	3	1935	1
1931	0	1936	0
1932	1	1937	1
1933	4	1938	0

Full Quarantine was thus imposed on 9 ships during the five year period 1929 - 1933 and on 3 ships during the period 1934 - 1938.

The Colony is a signatory of the International Agreement signed at Brussels in 1934 providing facilities for the free treatment of venereal diseases to all merchant seamen irrespective of nationality. The treatment centre is at the Seychelles Hospital.

#### V. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Ante natal and infant welfare clinics are held at the Seychelles Hospital three times a week. There is a certified Midwife and Nurse who acts as Lady Health Visitor, carrying out periodical visits to the houses of the expectant mothers and children in the central and rural districts. Alone, however she is unable to cope with the amount of work needed in this field.

1,130 children received treatment at the infant welfare clinic against 536 in 1937.

92 women attended the ante natal clinic against 114 in 1937.

361 patients were admitted to the Maternity section in 1938 against 295 in 1937; in addition there were 13 remaining from 1937.

There were 244 live births, against 224 in 1937 and 4 cases of twins against 6 in 1937.

2 cases had to be delivered with forceps.

There were 11 still-births, and three deaths of new born children.

There were no maternal deaths.

There were 10 cases of miscarriages or abortion against 16 in 1937.

#### VI. HOSPITALS, DISPENSARIES, AND VENEREAL CLINICS.

The main institution is the Seychelles Hospital. It has 90 beds, including the Maternity Section, and is sufficiently vast to accommodate a larger number in case of emergency.

1,747 patients (789 males, 958 females) were admitted during the year, against 1,385 in 1937.

There were in addition 38 patients (15 males, 23 females) remaining in Hospital on the 1st January 1938.

The total number of inpatients treated in 1938 was 1,785, against 1,413 in 1937.

703 males and 889 females were discharged as cured.

51 males and 47 females were discharged as relieved.

15 males and 12 females were discharged as unrelieved.

There were 27 deaths in Hospital in 1938 against 19 in 1937.

In Baie St. Anne Praslin a new masonry building is being put up to replace the old wooden huts now used as the Cottage Hospital. Towards the end of 1938 the work was well advanced and it is hoped that it will be completed, and the Hospital opened, early next year. A report of the work carried out at the Cottage Hospital during 1938 will be found in Appendix B.

There are Dispensaries for outpatients at South Mahé, Grand'Anse, Baie Ste. Anne (Praslin) and La Digue.

At the Dispensary of the Seychelles Hospital at Victoria 5,144 outpatients were treated in 1938.

Venereal clinics are held at the Seychelles Hospital twice a week. In addition, patients requiring irrigations and lavages come daily for their treatment. In view of the very high incidence of Venereal Diseases in the Colony, this centre is not adequately equipped to cope with the large amount of preventive and curative work that could be undertaken in that branch. A separate building in the Hospital grounds, properly equipped and staffed, would first be required.

Venereal clinics are also held at South Mahé, Praslin and La Digue and are referred to in their report by the Medical Officers of those districts.

#### X-RAY AND ELECTRO-MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

In this Department gratuitous treatment is provided for pauper patients and for all Government servants entitled to free treatment in the 3rd class wards of the Hospital, viz : police constables, port office boatmen, postmen, Government House servants and all labourers employed in any Department of the Government or by Local Boards.

Diathermy treatment and Ultra-Violet irradiation with the quartz mercury vapour lamp is also available.

SURGICAL OPERATIONS PERFORMED AT THE  
SEYCHELLES HOSPITAL.

Operations performed in 1938 numbered 515 against 602 in 1937, 538 were cured, 4 were relieved and 3 died.

LIST OF OPERATIONS.

Operations.	No.	Cured.	Relieved.	Died.	Remarks.
(1) ABDOMINAL.					
Herniotomy-inguinal ...	26	26	...	...	
femoral ...	1	1	...	...	
ventral ...	1	1	...	...	
strangulated...	4	4	...	...	
For acute appendicitis ...	12	16	...	1	
For chronic appendicitis ...	56	56	...	...	
Laparotomy ...	4	2	...	2	One case operated upon for intraperitoneal rupture of liver abscess and one for generalised peritonitis died.
(2) ANO-RECTAL.					
Excision of hæmorrhoids ..	7	7	...	...	
Excision of fistula in ano...	2	2	...	...	
Stricture of rectum ...	1	1	...	...	
(3) EAR, NOSE AND THROAT					
Removal of nasal polypi ...	2	2	...	...	
Mastoidectomy ...	2	2	...	...	
Removal of tonsils and adenoids ...	18	18	...	...	
(4) EYES.					
Extraction of cataract ...	1	1	...	...	
Excision of eyeball ...	1	1	...	...	
Melbonian cyst ...	5	5	...	...	
(5) GENITO-URINARY.					
Radical cure for hydrocele..	7	7	...	...	
Urethral strictures ...	49	49	...	...	
Circumcision ...	13	13	...	...	
Orchidectomy ...	2	2	...	...	
Orchidopexy ...	1	1	...	...	
(6) GYNAECOLOGICAL AND OBSTETRICAL.					
Cæsarian section ...	1	1	...	...	
Salpingo-cophorectomy ...	1	1	...	...	
Dilatation and curettage ...	5	5	...	...	
Colpo-perinneorrhaphy ...	1	1	...	...	
(7) ORTHOPOEDICS.					
Reduction of fractures ...	17	17	...	...	
Reduction of dislocations...	3	3	...	...	
Drainage and sequestrectomy ...	2	2	...	...	
Plaster for tuberculosis of hip ...	1	1	...	...	
Plaster for talipes equinovarus ...	2	2	...	...	
Amputation of thigh ...	2	2	...	...	
Amputation of leg ...	2	2	...	...	
Amputation of foot ...	1	1	...	...	
Amputation of toe ...	3	3	...	...	
Amputation of arm ...	2	2	...	...	
Amputation of finger ...	5	5	...	...	
Carried forward ...	263	260	...	3	

## LIST OF OPERATIONS. (Continued).

Operations.	No.	Cured.	Relieved.	Died.	Remarks.
Brought forward ...	253	260	...	3	
(8) MISCELLANEOUS.					
Tapping of liver abscess ...	10	10	...	...	
Drainage of septic conditions ...	128	128	...	...	
Suture of wounds ...	101	101	...	...	
Excision cyst ...	7	7	...	...	
Excision of non-malignant tumours ...	5	5	...	...	
Excision of malignant tumours ...	4	4	...	...	
Excision of ingrowing nails ...	6	6	...	...	
Plastic operations ...	5	5	...	...	
Removal of foreign bodies..	6	6	...	...	
Ascites ...	4	...	4	...	
Paracentesis hydrocele ...	6	6	...	...	
Total ...	535	538	4	3	

## PRISONS AND ASYLUMS.

The Senior Medical Officer carries out the duties of Police Surgeon and of Prison Medical Officer.

During the year the health of the prisoners was satisfactory. The rations supplied are adequate and of good quality. No signs of nutritional disorders were observed.

The minimum number of prisoners during the year was 24, the maximum 91, the daily average 50.

At the Seychelles Hospital there is a ward specially prepared to receive male prisoners. The sanitary condition of the prison remained, throughout the year, satisfactory.

## LUNATIC ASYLUM ANSE ROYALE.

The Medical Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum is the Medical Officer of South Mahé. Statistical Reports on the Asylum will be found in Appendix A.

## PAUPER ASYLUM OF FIENNES INSTITUTE.

The Institute is situated at Plaisance about two miles from Victoria. It has accommodation for about 130 paupers. It is visited by a medical officer three times a week and at other times if necessary.

The daily average number of paupers in 1938 was 87, against 88 in 1937.

There were 35 deaths during the year, mainly from cardiac diseases, syphilis and senile decay, against 42 in 1937.

The actual expenditure for maintenance of paupers was Rs. 8,181.13, against Rs. 9,275.50 in 1937.

The number of patients admitted during the year was 61.

The health of the inmates considering their advanced age was fair. Most of them occupy themselves in making mats, baskets and brooms. The cost of materials for these industries was Rs. 64.95 and the sale of the finished articles realised Rs. 118.78.

## VIII. METEOROLOGY.

This has been supplied by the Port Officer and is given in tabular form in table IV.

In concluding this report it is my pleasant duty to thank all members of the Department for their willing co-operation and assistance during the year.

E. M. LANIER,  
Senior Medical Officer.

TABLE I.

Return showing the Medical staff and the principal members of the Subordinate staff.

Names.	Rank of appointment.	Where stationed on 31st December 1938.
E. M. Lanier M. D., M. R. C. S., L. R. C. P. ...	Senior Medical Officer	Victoria
K. C. Mathew M. B., B. S., D. P. H., D. T. M. ...	Medical Officer	do
P. M. Joseph M. B., B. S. ...	do	South Mahé
E. Christianson M. B., B. Ch. ...	do	Victoria
T. R. R. Fai M. B., B. S., D. P. H. ...	do	Praslin & La Digue
<i>Dr. de L. Harter L.D.S.</i>	(temporary appointment) <i>Dental Surgeon</i>	<i>Victoria</i>
J. E. Houareau ...	Dispenser	Victoria
G. Barallon ...	Assistant Dispenser	do
F. Hoarau ...	Clerk & Storekeeper	do
Sister Catherine ...	Matron Hospital	do
Sister Laure ...	Sister do	do
Sister Perpetua ...	Sister do	do
J. Camille ...	Nurse do	do
C. Collie ...	Midwife do	do
6 Probationer nurses ...	Probationers	do
H. Barallon ...	Sanitary Inspector	do
D. Morel ...	Assistant do	do
G. d'Offay ...	Assistant do	Praslin
3 Probationer Sanitary Inspectors ...	Probationers	Victoria
S. N. Young ...	Lady Health Visitor	do
E. Forte ...	Master Fiennes Institute	Plaisance
G. Hodoul ...	Nurse do do	do
M. Payet ...	Head Male Attendant	Lunatic Asylum South Mahé
O. Gendron. ...	Midwife & Nurse Cottage Hospital	Praslin

TABLE II.

A return of Medical and Sanitary Revenue and Expenditure has been given at the beginning of this report under (C) Financial.

TABLE III.

## RETURN OF STATISTICS OF POPULATION FOR THE YEAR.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number of inhabitants in 1938 ...	15,462	16,024	31,486
Number of births in 1938 ...	396	435	831
Number of deaths in 1938 ...	424	236	660
Number of immigrants during 1938 ...	206	191	397
Number of emigrants during 1938 ...	306	242	548
Number of inhabitants in 1937 ...	15,154	15,786	30,940
Increase ...	308	238	546



TABLE IV.  
METEOROLOGICAL RETURNS FOR 1938.

1938. Months	Temperature						Rainfall		Winds		Deaths per month	Remarks.
	Barometer	Solar Maximum	Shade Maximum	Shade Minimum	Range	Mean	Amount in Inches	Relative Humidity %	Direction of Wind	Average force.		
January	30.053	119	82.7	74.2	8.5	78.4	6.96	83	NW	5	31	
February	30.055	110	83.7	76.0	7.7	79.8	5.75	74	NW	5	27	
March	30.002	120	84.2	75.9	8.3	80.0	3.42	73	NW	5	40	
April	30.045	109	86.1	75.3	10.8	80.7	5.19	75	Var.	2	35	
May	29.994	106	85.0	75.9	9.1	80.4	8.48	78	ESE	6	32	
June	30.084	101	81.0	75.0	6.0	78.0	1.67	78	SE	10	31	
July	30.081	106	82.0	74.0	8.0	78.0	1.19	74	SE	9	24	
August	30.065	103	80.0	74.0	6.0	77.0	.63	75	ESE	12	37	
September	30.093	108	81.0	74.0	7.0	77.5	3.68	76	ESE	11	30	
October	30.014	106	82.0	74.0	8.0	78.0	10.89	75	ESE	8	33	
November	30.082	98	83.0	73.0	10.0	78.0	16.63	76	Var.	4	37	
December	30.041	104	82.0	73.0	9.0	77.5	13.11	80	NW	5	40	

## Hospital.

Return of Diseases and Deaths (In-Patients) in 1938 at the Seychelles Hospital.

Diseases.	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1937.	Yearly Total.		Total Cases Treated.	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1938.	Remarks.
		Admissions.	Deaths.			
<i>I. Epidemic, Endemic and Infectious Diseases.</i>						
Malaria (imported)	...	2	...	2	...	
Chicken pox	...	1	...	1	...	
Influenza	...	85	1	85	4	
Dysentery (amœbic)	...	35	1	35	5	
Tetanus	...	2	...	2	...	
Tuberculosis of lungs	...	5	1	5	...	
hip	...	1	...	1	...	
abdomen	...	1	...	1	...	
Syphilis congenital	...	3	...	3	...	
tertiary	...	15	...	15	...	
nervous	...	1	...	1	...	
Gonorrhœa and its complications	1	15	...	16	1	
Gonococcal ophthalmia	...	3	...	3	...	
Lymphogranuloma inguinale	...	2	...	2	...	
Septicæmia	...	5	1	5	1	
<i>II. General Diseases not mentioned above.</i>						
Carcinoma of stomach	...	1	...	1	...	
pancreas	...	1	1	1	...	
iliac region	...	1	...	1	...	
colon	...	1	...	1	...	
Other malignant tumours	...	3	...	3	...	
Tumours non-malignant	1	8	...	9	1	
Lumbago	...	1	...	1	...	
Rheumatism acute and sub-acute	...	16	...	16	...	
chronic	1	12	...	13	...	
Diabetes	...	2	...	2	...	
Anæmias	...	...	...	...	...	
Pernicious anæmia	...	3	1	3	...	
Other anæmias	1	27	...	28	...	
Alcoholism	...	1	...	1	...	
Asthenia	...	4	...	4	...	
<i>III Affections of the Nervous System and     organs of Senses.</i>						
Meningitis (not including tuberculous or cerebro-spinal meningitis)	...	4	1	4	...	
Meningo-encephalitis	...	1	1	1	...	
Concussion	...	2	...	2	...	
Apoplexy	...	...	...	...	...	
Hæmorrhage	...	6	...	6	...	
Thrombosis	...	2	...	2	...	
Myelitis	...	1	...	1	...	
Paralysis	...	...	...	...	...	
Paresis of leg	...	1	...	1	...	
Hysteria	...	2	...	2	...	
Delirium tremens	...	2	...	2	...	
Sciatica	...	2	...	2	...	
Neuritis	...	3	...	3	1	
Neuralgias	...	11	...	11	...	
Nervous exhaustion	...	1	...	1	...	
Carried forward	4	295	8	299	13	

## Hospital.

Return of Diseases and Deaths (In-Patients) in 1938 at the Seychelles Hospital.

Diseases.	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1937.	Yearly Total.		Total Cases Treated.	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1938.	Remarks.
		Admissions.	Deaths			
Brought forward	4	295	8	299	13	
<i>Affections of the organs of vision.</i>						
Conjunctivitis	1	1	...	2	...	
Corneal ulcer	...	1	...	1	...	
Cataract	...	1	...	1	...	
Iritis	...	2	...	2	...	
Cyst of eye	...	2	...	2	...	
Tumour of eye ball	...	1	...	1	...	
<i>Affections of the Ear or Mastoid Sinus.</i>						
Abscess mastoid	...	4	...	4	...	
Otorrhœa	...	9	...	9	...	
Otalgia	...	1	...	1	...	
Otitis media	...	1	...	1	...	
<i>IV. Affections of the Circulatory System.</i>						
Adherent pericardium	...	1	...	1	...	
Auricular fibrillation	...	1	...	1	...	
Myocarditis acute	...	2	1	2	...	
chronic	...	29	2	29	...	
Endocarditis	...	2	...	2	...	
Cardiac failure	...	3	3	3	...	
Tachycardia	...	1	...	1	...	
<i>Diseases of the Arteries.</i>						
Arteriosclerosis	...	3	...	3	...	
<i>Diseases of the Veins.</i>						
Hæmorrhoids	...	7	...	7	...	
Phlebitis	1	6	...	7	...	
<i>Diseases of the Lymphatic System.</i>						
Adenitis	...	9	...	9	...	
Lymphangitis	...	5	...	5	...	
<i>V. Diseases of the Respiratory System.</i>						
Sinusitis	1	6	...	7	...	
Bronchitis acute	...	6	1	6	...	
chronic	1	17	...	18	1	
Bronchial catarrh	...	7	...	7	...	
Broncho pneumonia	...	12	1	12	...	
Pneumonia lobar	...	3	...	3	1	
Pleurisy	...	6	...	6	...	
Phthisis	1	...	...	1	...	
Asthma	...	40	...	40	1	
Enlargement of inferior turbinate	...	1	...	1	...	
Carried forward	9	485	16	494	16	

## Hospital.

Return of Diseases and Deaths (In-Patients) in 1938 at the Seychelles Hospital.

Diseases.	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1937.	Yearly Total.		Total Cases Treated.	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1938.	Rem rks.
		Admissions	Deaths			
Brought forward	9	485	16	494	16	
<i>VI. Diseases of the Digestive System.</i>						
<i>Affections of the Mouth.</i>						
Dental abscess	...	9	...	9	...	
caries	...	4	...	4	...	
hæmorrhage	...	3	...	3	...	
Papilloma of tongue	...	1	...	1	...	
Gingivitis	...	4	...	4	...	
Stomatitis	...	3	...	3	...	
Fistula parotid gland	...	1	...	1	...	
<i>Affections of the Pharynx or Tonsils.</i>						
Tonsillitis	...	32	1	32	...	
Peritonsilar abscess	...	3	...	3	...	
Pharyngitis	...	2	...	2	...	
Laryngitis	...	1	...	1	...	
<i>Affections of the Stomach.</i>						
Gastritis including vomiting	... 1	27	...	28	...	
Gastro enteritis	...	7	...	7	...	
Gastro intestinal toxæmia	...	1	...	1	...	
Gastric influenza	...	2	...	2	...	
Gastralgia	...	2	...	2	...	
Enteritis including diarrhœa	... 1	22	...	23	...	
Helminthiasis	...	7	...	7	...	
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	
Acute or sub-acute	...	12	1	12	...	
Chronic	...	56	...	56	...	
Appendicular abscess	...	1	...	1	...	
Hernia inguinal	... 1	32	...	33	1	
strangulated	...	4	...	4	...	
umbilical	...	1	...	1	...	
<i>Affections of the Anus</i>						
Perineal abscess	...	11	...	11	...	
fistulæ etc.	...	8	...	8	...	
Abscess Ischio-rectal	...	6	...	6	...	
<i>Affections of the Intestines.</i>						
Constipation	...	14	...	14	...	
Intestinal stasis	...	2	...	2	...	
<i>Affections of the Liver.</i>						
Liver abscess	...	6	1	6	2	
Hepatitis	... 3	73	...	76	3	
Jaundice (catarrhal)	...	5	...	5	...	
<i>Other Affections.</i>						
Peritonitis	...	3	2	3	...	
Abdominal colic	...	43	...	43	...	
Melæna	...	3	...	2	...	
Carried forward	... 15	896	21	911	22	

## Hospital.

Return of Diseases and Deaths (In-Patients) in 1933 at the Seychelles Hospital.

Diseases.	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1937.	Yearly Total		Total Cases Treated.	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1938.	Remarks
		Admissions	Deaths			
Brought forward	15	896	21	911	22	
<i>VII. Diseases of the Genito Urinary System (non-venereal).</i>						
Cystitis	...	9	...	9	...	
Urethral stricture	...	23	...	23	1	
Prostatitis	...	2	...	2	...	
Epididymitis	...	1	...	1	...	
Orchitis	...	19	...	19	...	
Orchidopexy	...	1	...	1	...	
Hydrocele	...	6	...	6	...	
Phagedema of penis	...	1	...	1	...	
Phimosis	...	12	...	12	...	
Cervicitis	...	1	...	1	...	
Polypus cervix uteri	...	1	...	1	...	
Salpingitis	...	39	...	39	1	
Uterine fibroid	...	2	...	2	...	
Urethral caruncle	...	2	...	2	...	
Hæmaturia	...	2	...	2	...	
Metritis	...	7	...	8	...	
Menorrhagia	...	10	...	10	1	
Ovaritis	...	4	...	4	...	
Vaginitis	...	2	...	2	...	
Extravasation of urine	...	1	...	1	...	
Renal lithiasis	...	4	...	4	...	
Uræmia	...	4	2	4	...	
Nephritis	...	5	1	5	...	
<i>VIII. Puerperal State.</i>						
Normal labour	12	244	...	256	9	
Accidents of pregnancy	...	...	...	...	...	
Abortion	1	15	...	16	...	
Threatened abortion	1	5	...	6	...	
Premature delivery	...	15	...	15	...	
Ectopic gestation	...	1	...	1	...	
Generally contracted pelvis (Cæsarian section)	...	1	...	1	...	
Other accidents of pregnancy	...	85	...	85	...	
Accidents of parturition	...	...	...	...	...	
Post partum hæmorrhage	...	2	...	2	...	
<i>IX. Affections of the Skin.</i>						
Gangrene	...	6	...	6	1	
Cellulitis	1	25	...	26	...	
Carbuncle	...	3	...	3	...	
Furunculosis	...	4	...	4	...	
Abscess	2	62	...	64	...	
Eczema	...	12	...	12	...	
Impetigo	...	1	...	1	...	
Ulcers	...	48	...	48	...	
Septic wounds	...	26	...	26	...	
Cysts	...	3	...	3	...	
Jiggers	...	1	...	1	...	
Elephantiasis	...	3	...	3	...	
Carried forward	33	1613	24	1649	35	

## Hospital.

Return of Diseases and Deaths (In-Patients) in 1938 at the Seychelles Hospital.

Diseases.	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1937.	Yearly Total		Total Cases Treated.	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1938.	Remarks.
		Admissions.	Deaths.			
Brought forward ...	33	1616	24	1649	35	
<i>X. Diseases of Bones and Organs of Locomotion.</i>						
Periostitis ...	...	4	...	4	...	
Osteomyelitis ...	...	1	...	1	...	
Arthritis acute ...	1	2	...	3	...	
chronic ...	...	5	...	5	...	
Synovitis ...	1	2	...	3	...	
<i>XI. Malformation.</i>						
Talipes equino varus ...	...	3	...	3	...	
<i>XII. Diseases of Infancy.</i>						
Marasmus ...	...	3	...	3	...	
Infantile chorea ...	...	1	...	1	...	
<i>XIII. Affections of Old Age.</i>						
Senile decay. ...	...	1	...	1	...	
<i>XIV. Affections produced by external causes.</i>						
Burns ...	...	14	...	14	...	
Injuries and wounds ...	2	37	...	39	3	
Fractures ...	2	28	3	30	2	
Dislocations ...	...	3	...	3	...	
Sprains ...	...	4	...	4	...	
Foreign bodies ...	...	9	...	9	1	
Poisoning (paraffin) ...	...	1	...	1	...	
Drowning ...	...	1	...	1	...	
<i>XV. Ill-defined Diseases.</i>						
Ascites ...	...	1	...	1	...	
Observation ...	...	10	...	10	...	
Total ...	39	1746	27	1785	41	

TABLE VI.

## RETURN OF PATIENTS TREATED AT THE DISPENSARIES.

Month.	Seychelles Hospital.		Anse Royale.		Praslin & La Digue		Total.
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M. & F.
January	116	357	67	132	84	91	849
February	96	352	36	107	68	74	733
March	139	402	61	124	229	191	1146
April	101	379	51	121	119	82	853
May	86	542	67	100	89	73	957
June	114	353	64	66	75	73	745
July	107	321	79	83	74	65	729
August	84	204	74	90	90	82	684
September	62	277	95	142	97	70	743
October	52	205	52	98	97	60	564
November	87	265	43	96	65	62	618
December	96	287	66	84	61	84	678
Total	1,140	4,004	757	1,243	1,148	1,007	9,299

## APPENDIX A.

## ANSE ROYALE.

Vaccination :—Successful.	1st	193
do	2nd	16
do	3rd	2
	Total	211

Venereal Clinic. 146 patients.

## RETURN OF OUT PATIENTS TREATED AT SOUTH MAHÉ DISPENSARY.

Month.	Old.		New.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M. & F.
January	52	89	17	43	201
February	24	81	12	26	143
March	47	101	14	23	185
April	44	100	7	21	172
May	58	83	9	17	167
June	43	51	21	15	130
July	55	67	24	16	162
August	56	78	18	12	164
September	79	117	16	25	237
October	46	76	6	22	150
November	32	78	11	18	139
December	51	63	15	21	150
Total	587	984	170	259	2,000



TABLE SHOWING THE ADMISSIONS, RE-ADMISSION, DISCHARGES, AND DEATHS DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 1938.

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Patients staying in the Asylum on the 1st January 1938 ...	17	15	32	...	...	...
Those out on trial ...	1	2	3	...	...	...
Patients in the Asylum including those out on trial on 1st January 1938 ...	18	17	35	...	...	...
ADMISSION DURING 1938						
First admission ...	4	1	5	...	...	...
Re-admission ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Number of patients under care during 1938 ...	22	18	40	22	18	40
PATIENTS DISCHARGED DURING 1938.						
Recovered ...	3	2	5	...	...	...
Relieved ...	1	1	2	...	...	...
Not Improved ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Died ...	4	...	4	...	...	...
Patients discharged died during 1938 ...	8	3	11	8	3	11
Number of patients staying in the Asylum on 31st December 1938 ...	14	15	29	14	15	29
Number of patients out on trial on the 31st of December 1938 ...	2	1	3	2	1	3
Total number of patients in the Asylum including those out on trial on the 31st of Dec. 1938 ...	...	...	...	16	16	32

## LUNATIC ASYLUM,

## Financial

Fees payable by patients	Rs. 1,385.25.
APPROVED EXPENDITURE.	Rs. 6,635.00
Upkeep of Asylum, and Asylum grounds	68.92
Salaries of attendants and cook	2,265.00
Maintenance of Lunatics	4,178.03
ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	6,511.95
Balance in favour on 31.12.38.	124.05

APPENDIX A. (1)

TABLES SHOWING THE ADMISSIONS, DISCHARGES, DEATHS FOR EACH YEAR FROM 1929 TO 1938.

Years	Admitted.			Discharged.									Died.			Remaining in Asylum including those out on trial.			Remarks
				Recovered.			Relieved.			Not improved.									
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	
1929	4	3	7	1	—	1	1	3	4	—	—	—	3	3	6	12	7	19	
1930	4	3	7	1	—	1	2	1	3	—	—	—	2	—	2	11	9	20	
1931	3	3	6	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	4	—	4	9	11	20	
1932	5	4	9	2	1	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	11	13	24	
1933	6	4	10	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	5	15	13	28	
1934	2	2	4	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	2	1	3	14	13	27	
1935	4	1	5	2	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	14	14	28	
1936	5	1	6	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	2	17	14	31	
1937	3	3	6	1	2	3	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	15	32	
1938	4	1	5	3	2	5	1	1	2	—	—	—	4	—	4	16	16	32	

ON 67 1938 FOR THE YEAR 1938

JUSTICE EDUCATING COMMISSION BY REVISION '38' CHARGE D. CHURCHILL '38'

to practice in reference Committee

APPENDIX A (2).

TABLE SHOWING CONDITION AS MARRIAGE, PROBABLE CAUSE OF INSANITY, MENTAL DISEASE AND OCCUPATION OF PATIENTS FOR THE YEAR 1938.

Condition in reference to Marriage.	Probable Cause of Insanity.		Form of Mental Disease.		Occupation.		Total.			
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		
Married	7	4	11	...	...	...	Proprietor	1	2	3
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Single	13	10	23	3	3	1	Clerk	2	...	2
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Widow	...	4	4	...	...	...	Labourer	9	2	11
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Widower	2	...	2	3	3	2	Mason	1	...	1
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	22	18	40	22	18	40	...	22	18	40
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

## APPENDIX A. (3).

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF PATIENTS FOR EACH MONTH IN THE ASYLUM, THEIR COST AND THE AMOUNT CONTRIBUTED BY PAYING PATIENTS TOWARDS MAINTENANCE FOR 1938.

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	Total daily		Per Head		Patient per month	Rupees	cents	Males	Females	Total	Rupees	cents	1st Class		2nd Class	
				Rs	c.	Rs	c.												Rs
January	17	15	32	9	59	..	25	7	75	..	38	3	3	6	114	50	1	5	
February	17	15	32	11	00	..	30	9	04	..	28	3	3	6	104	00	1	5	
March	17	14	31	16	71	..	44	13	64	..	26	3	3	6	114	50	1	5	
April	18	14	32	10	16	..	26	8	32	..	26	3	3	6	112	00	1	5	
May	18	14	32	9	98	..	26	8	32	..	34	3	3	6	114	50	1	5	
June	18	14	32	10	50	..	27	7	10	..	27	3	3	6	111	00	1	5	
July	18	15	33	10	21	..	25	8	20	..	26	4	3	7	129	00	2	5	
August	16	15	31	11	95	..	31	9	61	..	36	4	3	7	119	00	1	6	
September	15	15	30	10	98	..	30	9	00	..	31	4	3	7	127	00	1	6	
October	15	15	30	10	25	..	28	8	40	..	39	4	3	7	127	00	1	6	
November	14	15	29	10	10	..	28	8	40	..	29	3	3	6	111	00	1	5	
December	14	15	29	12	64	..	35	10	85	..	30	3	3	6	101	25	1	5	

## APPENDIX B.

**ANNUAL MEDICAL REPORT  
OF THE ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER,  
PRASLIN AND LA DIGUE,  
For the Year  
1938.**

Except for a few sporadic cases of chicken pox in the beginning of the year and 2 sporadic cases of mumps in December there was no outbreak of any epidemic disease in this district and the general health of the population was fair during the year.

The district had the services of an Assistant Sanitary Inspector from February to March at the end of which period the Sanitary Inspector D'Offay resigned. In the beginning of November Assistant Sanitary Inspector Morel was transferred to Praslin.

<i>Vaccination &amp; Revaccination</i> :—	No. of persons revaccinated	...	73
	Primary Vaccination Successful 1st time		94
	do 2nd time		8
	Unsuccessful	...	1
	Total vaccinated		176

*Venereal Clinic* :— This was held once a week both at the Cottage Hospital Praslin and La Digue. The attendance of some of the patients at these clinics was far from satisfactory as they discontinued treatment as soon as they got a little better even though in the middle of the course of treatment.

*Ankylostomiasis* :— Treatment for intestinal worms with *Ol. Chenopodium* was regularly given in the different dispensaries of the district throughout the year. On the whole 1,857 persons took the vermifuge. The latrines of the district were inspected by the Sanitary Inspector when his services were available.

*School Inspection* :— The schools of the district were inspected during the year and each child present was examined individually. The result of examination of each child is recorded in a separate sheet and all the sheets are forwarded to the Office. On the whole 453 children were examined this year, 289 of them being in Praslin and 164 in La Digue. From the results of the examination of the children is prepared the following table which shows the different conditions noticed in the children and the per centage of school children manifesting each condition both in the Praslin and La Digue schools separately.

Conditions noticed.	Praslin School.	La Digue School.
Lack of cleanliness	41 %	42.6%
Defective Nutrition and Development	41.8%	39.5%
Defective teeth and Dental Caries	12.5%	9 %
Intestinal worms	37 %	42 %
Eye defects	1 %	1 %
Tonsils and Adenoids	10.4%	5 %
Diseases of the Respiratory system	2.1%	0.6%
Diseases of the Circulatory system	0.3%	1 %
Anaemia (secondary)	23 %	25.6%
Skin diseases	5.1%	5.5%
Jiggers	2.4%	6 %
Other conditions	2.4%	0.6%

Though on the whole, the general health of the children examined can be stated as fair there are a good many children in each school showing lack of cleanliness and signs of nutritional deficiency, intestinal worms and secondary anaemia. Defective teeth and dental caries are the next common condition met with among the children.

*Anti-leprosy Campaign* :—

(a) HOME ISOLATION.

In the beginning of the year under review there were 18 cases of leprosy isolated in separate huts in Praslin and 4 cases in La Digue. Three of the infectious cases of Praslin were admitted into the Curieuse Settlement during the year and 2 arrested cases of N type were discharged on parole. 3 more cases had to be added on to the number this year 2 being new cases discovered and the 3rd a patient who was out on parole in whom signs of activity of the disease recurred. So there are 16 cases in home isolation in Praslin.

There were 4 cases in home isolation in La Digue at the beginning of the year. As one of them was admitted into the Curieuse Settlement there remains only 3 cases in La Digue now.

They were all given weekly injections of hydnocreol at the dispensary of Bay Ste. Anne and La Digue.

(b) *Isolation in Institution.*

The year began with 24 inmates in the leper camp at Round Island Praslin, and later another case from Mahé was admitted. The inmates continued to escape from the camp this year also though only on fewer occasions than before, because each time they escaped they were prosecuted before the J. P's. Court at Praslin according to the new leprosy regulation.

The rebellious and lawless nature of the inmates was further shown this year by what happened on the 16th of April this year. In the course of a short discussion one of the inmates wounded another on his right arm with a hatchet with the result that he sustained a compound complicated fracture of his humerus and the arm had to be amputated as a life saving measure. The patient made an uneventful recovery.

To try this case there was a sitting of the Supreme Court on this island on the 10th of June when the culprit was sentenced to one year's imprisonment with hard labour.

On the 16th of November the male patients from the Round Island Camp was transferred to the Curieuse Settlement where are provided comfortable houses and patches of land for flower and vegetable gardens for the patients. Besides there is a plentiful supply of water.

It is worthy of note that a recreation room with furnitures is provided for the male patients at Curieuse by the Seychelles Fellowship of Service and this spacious, cool and airy building near the beach was erected by contributions from the Indian merchants and traders of this Colony.

After the opening of the Curieuse Settlement 7 more infectious cases were admitted for institutional isolation. One patient, an advanced lepromatous case which remained resistant to the hydnocreol treatment died this year. So this year closed with 30 patients in the institution. All the patients in the settlement were given weekly injections of hydnocreol.

*Public dispensaries* :—The public dispensary of Grand Anse Praslin was shifted to the newly constructed masonry building belonging to the Government in February this year. I recommend that the consultation room be provided with a ceiling to ensure sufficient privacy.

On the whole 2,155 patients received free treatment in the public dispensaries of Bay Ste. Anne, Grand Anse and La Digue this year. The return of patients treated in these dispensaries in the different months of the year is appended herewith.

COTTAGE HOSPITAL PRASLIN :—

*Buildings* :—A new masonry building for the Cottage Hospital Praslin is nearing completion to replace the old wooden building.

*Staff* :—The probationer midwife Miss L. Gendron working at the hospital resigned in October and Miss A. Maillet was appointed to replace her.

*Distinguished visitors* :—This year the hospital was honoured by the visits of His Excellency The Governor, His Lordship The Bishop of Victoria, His Lordship The Bishop of Mauritius, His Honour the Chief Justice and Hon. Senior Medical Officer.

*Statistics* :—The statistics of the hospital is appended herewith.

P. M. JOSEPH,  
Assistant Medical Officer.

## RETURN OF PATIENTS TREATED AT PRASLIN AND LA DIGUE DISPENSARIES.

Month.	Bay St. Anne.		Grand Anse.		La Digue.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M. & F.
January ...	50	44	13	21	21	26	175
February ...	41	27	9	16	18	31	142
March ...	104	73	43	35	82	83	420
April ...	52	26	26	27	41	29	201
May ...	52	34	19	17	18	22	162
June ...	35	27	15	15	25	31	148
July ...	34	27	23	13	17	25	139
August ...	68	32	9	28	13	22	172
September ...	72	25	17	38	8	7	167
October ...	54	18	33	28	10	14	157
November ...	44	16	14	25	7	21	127
December ..	20	24	12	23	29	32	145
Total ...	626	373	233	291	289	343	2,155

## STATISTICS OF COTTAGE HOSPITAL.

No. of cases admitted.	No. of cases cured.	No. of cases relieved.	Cases transferred to Seychelles Hospital.	No. of deaths.
106	91	9	3	3

List of cases which surgical aid was given at the Cottage Hospital (intern and extern patient inclusive).

Nature of cases.	Number of cases.	Nature of interference.	Anæsthetic used.
Abscesses of various type ...	44	Incision	nil
Accessory finger ...	1	Excision	Planocain
Carbuncle ...	1	Crucial incision	nil
Carious teeth ...	33	Extraction	6 Planocain rest nil
Dislocations ...	3	Reduction	2 Chloroform 1 nil
Fractures ...	16	Reduction and 1 Amputation	8 Chloroform rest nil
Fibroma ...	1	Excision	Chloroform
Foreign body ...	12	Removal	7 planocain rest nil
Hæmatoma ...	3	Aspiration	nil
Hydrocele ...	1	Tapping	nil
Keloid ...	1	Excision	Planocain
Phimosis ...	2	Circumcision	1 Chloroform
Para phimosis ...	1	do	do
Retention of urine ...	1	Catheterisation	nil
Stricture urethral ...	2	Sounding	nil
Strangulated hernia ...	1	Reduction	C. E. Mixture
Synovitis knee ...	1	Aspiration	nil
Umbilical polypus ...	1	Excision	nil
Warts ...	1	do	nil
Wounds ...	23	Sutured	nil
Sebaceous cyst ...	7	Enucleation	Planocain

#### ANALYSIS OF CASES IN THE INPATIENT DEPARTMENT.

##### 1. Alimentary System.

16

Dysentery ...	4
Intestinal colic ...	4
Amœbic hepatitis ...	3
Chronic gastritis ...	1
Gastro enteritis ...	1
Strangulated hernia ...	1
Ankylostomiasis ...	1
Kerosine oil poisoning ...	1

##### 2. Respiratory System.

6

Influenza ...	2
Lobar pneumonia ...	1
Broncho pneumonia ...	1
Bronchitis ...	1
Asthma ...	1

##### 3. Circulatory System.

3

Myocarditis ...	1
Phlebitis ...	1
Septicæmia ...	1

##### 4. Nervous System

1

Neurosis ...	1
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<b>5. Genito Urinary System</b>	<b>11</b>	
Malformation of genitals ...		1
Dysurea ...		1
Hæmaturia ...		1
Retension of Urine ...		1
Peri urethral abscess ...		1
Phymosis ...		1
Paraphimosis ...		1
Epidydimitis ...		1
Renal colic ...		1
Paræmetritis ...		1
Uterine fibroid ...		1
<b>6. Locomotor System.</b>	<b>8</b>	
Multiple arthritis ...		2
Dislocation ...		1
Fractures ...		4
Compound complicated fracture ...		1
<b>7. Skin and Cellular Tissue.</b>	<b>13</b>	
Wounds and injuries ...		5
Abscess ...		4
Cellulitis ...		2
Chronic ulcer ...		1
Fibroma plantar facua ...		1
<b>8. Pyrexias.</b>	<b>2</b>	
Rheumatic fever ...		1
E. W. O. ...		1
<b>9. Maternity Section.</b>	<b>43</b>	
Full term normal labour ...		36
Premature labour ...		2
Miscarriage ...		2
Abortion ...		1
Puerperal fever ...		1
Post partum eclampsia ...		1
<b>10. Causes of deaths.</b>	<b>3</b>	
Apoplexy ...		1
Tetanus ...		1
Tubercular disease of the hip joint ...		1
		<hr/>
		Total 106

## ANNUAL DENTAL REPORT

For the Year

1938.

My duties as Government Dental Surgeon in this Colony have consisted in giving free dental attention to :—

- I. Government Free Schools.
- II. Government servants entitled to free medical treatment in the 3rd class wards of the Hospital viz :—Police constables, Prison guards, Messengers, Port Office boatmen, Postmen, Government House servants, Labourers employed in any department of the Government or by Local Boards.
- III. Hospital patients in 3rd class wards.
- IV. Paupers.
- V. Prisoners.

Patients included in II, III, IV, V receive any form of dental treatment except conservative e. g. Fillings, Crowns, etc.

First and foremost I shall deal with the aspect of the dental service as it relates to the schools.

It is hardly possible for me at this stage of my programme to give a comprehensive report on the dental services rendered to the schools. Time being the important factor in deciding the results of treatment, no really significant details can as yet be produced as evidence of any lasting benefits to be derived from such treatment. The immediate results, however, can be observed all through the course of treatment. It will be noted that the lasting benefits referred to above can only be valued over a period of several years, when statistics, it is hoped, will show for each school a considerably smaller percentage of cases requiring dental treatment as compared with the previous year during which treatment was begun. In estimating this percentage, however, we must bear in mind that (a) every school term brings its *fresh number of young pupils*. (b) older ones *leave school* having received the necessary dental attention and a certain elementary instruction in oral hygiene to help them in after life, and (c) owing to the great number of schools and amount of work they entail, it is hardly possible for the dental surgeon to give continual treatment to every school all the year round.

The condition of the children's teeth, previous to receiving treatment, has so far been found to be by no means satisfactory. Apart from a few of the children who have extremely good teeth, most of them suffer from an imperfect dentition due to lack of (a) oral hygiene and (b) insufficient nutrition. The latter cause which would, of course, be hard to remove, accounts for an imperfect calcification and development of the hard tissues of the body (e. g. jaws and teeth) and increased susceptibility to disease. The former cause we try to remove, since it brings about diseases of all sorts and, in the child, interferes with the physiological processes concerned with the normal absorption and loss of temporary teeth and the timely and proper eruption of the permanent teeth, thereby necessitating surgical interference.

On the dental surgeon's first visit to a school, appointment cards are given to the Head Teacher for every single child requiring dental treatment. Each card bears the name, age, sex, etc. of the child and the treatment required and the dates and times of appointment chosen are also inscribed in due course. The Teacher sends along whatever children he or she chooses, as this enables parents living out in the country to arrange for their children's visit to Hospital. The most urgent cases, of course, are always dealt with first. The greatest difficulty met with here is that parents do not always try to appreciate the usefulness of treatment required by their children; so that the parents will not always send their children to Hospital when required. As a result, a few children have their cards cancelled and are subsequently excluded from further treatment—which is a measure adopted to impress the parents that the attendance of the school-children as per appointment is compulsory.

The schools so far visited by me are :—

- |                              |               |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Glacis School             | 3 visits paid |
| 2. Bel-Ombre R. C. School    | 2 visits paid |
| 3. Bel-Ombre C. of E. school | 1 visit paid  |

In addition, children from the various other schools have been attended to whenever necessary.

## 1. GLACIS SCHOOL

Total number of children	...	...	210
Number of children requiring treatment	...	...	125

## Treatment given :

Fillings	...	...	40
Dental extractions	...	...	202
Scalings, gum-treatment, etc.	...	...	13

One case of acute ulcerative gingivitis and stomatitis.  
Treatment: Extractions of carious teeth causing condition.  
Local applications and mouthwash  
General treatment: medicine and tonics.

## 2. BEL-OMBRE R. C. SCHOOL.

Total number of children	...	...	86
Number of children requiring treatment	...	...	68

## Treatment given :

Fillings	...	...	87
Dental extractions	...	...	153
Scalings, gum-treatment, etc.	...	...	9

## 3. BEL-OMBRE C. of E. SCHOOL.

Total number of children	...	...	22
Number of children requiring treatment	...	...	6

## Treatment given.

Fillings	...	...	6
Dental extractions	...	...	16

It will be noticed that the last school has a very high percentage of children who are dentally sound. It is probably due to the fact that the said school lies in a locality where natural and physiologically clean foodstuffs are plentiful (e. g. Fruits of a fibrous character). In that respect edible roots, sugar-cane, vegetables, fruits, etc. are highly recommended to children.

## Various other schools attended to :

## 1. VICTORIA R. C. SCHOOL.

Dental extractions	...	...	66
Dressing	...	...	1
Scaling	...	...	1

## 2. ST. PAUL'S C. of E. SCHOOL

Dental extractions	...	...	138
Scalings	...	...	3

## 3. CONVENT SCHOOL (ST. JOSEPH)

Dental extractions	...	...	28
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## 4. PLAISANCE SCHOOL.

Dental extractions	...	...	16
Dressings	...	...	2
Scalings	...	...	2

## 5. ANSE ETOILE SCHOOL.

Dental extractions	...	...	2
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## 6. ANSE AUX PINS SCHOOL.

Dental extractions	...	...	3
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7. CASCADE SCHOOL.				
Dental extractions ...	...	...	...	22
8. ANSE ROYALE SCHOOL.				
Dental extractions ...	...	...	...	5
9. ANSE BOILEAU SCHOOL.				
Dental extractions ...	...	...	...	5

No treatment to children is given in the way of artificial dentures, crowns, etc., which in any case are undesirable for the very young.

Orthodontic treatment, i.e. the treatment which deals with the correcting of malocclusion of teeth and of abnormalities in the relationship of jaws and with the maintenance of jaws and teeth in correct relationship - is given in simple form, namely, (1) extractions and (2) fillings of temporary as well as permanent teeth.

(1) Extractions - in the case of temporary teeth being retained too long and retarding the normal eruption of the permanent ones or upsetting their alignment, etc.

(2) Fillings - in the case of temporary teeth which are carious and yet reparable, when the premature loss of same might be prejudicial to the permanent teeth in process of formation or eruption and to the normal development of the jaws and related parts of the head. Orthodontic treatment, in the form of orthodontic appliances to be worn by patient under the constant observation of the orthodontist, is not given to the children and any way would not be practical in the case of the children concerned.

As regards the other non-paying patients included under II, III, IV, V, on page 1. the following treatment was given:—

1. Dental extractions ...	...	...	1,948
2. Scalings ...	...	...	7
3. Dressings ...	...	...	10
4. Medication of gums and septic sockets etc.			
5. Operation for removal of dental cyst ...	...	...	1
6. Cases of fracture of mandible due to accidents outside ...	...	...	2
Treatment: Ligature of teeth after setting of broken ends to insure immobility.			
Osteitis and abscess present treated by means of incision and free drainage and of antiseptic mouthwashes.			
7. Case of cellulitis of neck due to alveolar abscesses in lower jaw ...	...	...	1
8. Maxillary sinus infection ...	...	...	1
Treatment: dental extractions, repeated daily syringing and packing.			
9. Excision of tumour of gum.			
10. In addition, dental treatment was also given to the lepers at Round Island.			
About 30 extractions were performed on the lepers under local anaesthesia. A special kit of old instruments was taken over to the island for that purpose and those instruments have since then been reserved strictly for use in dental operations on the lepers.			

Most of the extractions performed (as enumerated above) have been done under local and regional anaesthesia. Local anaesthesia comprises local injections as well as freezing with an Ethyl Chloride Spray.

Special cases of multiple extractions have been done under general anaesthesia (Chloroform, Ethyl Chloride by inhalation.)

Of the total number of extractions performed, about 25% involved the removal of buried and septic roots of many years' standing. This state of affairs is obviously due to the ignorance or neglect on the part of the patients.

One thing will be apparent to all concerned in the subject of the Public Dental Service and that is the close relationship that service bears to the medical service and the necessary cooperation between them. Fortunately for this Colony, and for its schools especially, that cooperation has become possible. Dental and general diseases are often so closely linked together that they have to be fought on both sides, so to speak, and I believe I am voicing the opinion of the medical department when I say that if mankind could only become properly tooth-minded, it would help to reduce in our hospital wards the number of diseases that often cripple the young and old.

I should like to finish up with a saying which is as true for the dental as it is for the medical profession, and which parents and teachers would do well to bear in mind. "The intelligent man begins with the child." "Very little can be done for the grown up."

R. DE L. HARTER

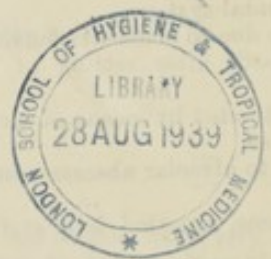
Dental Surgeon.

7. Carious enamel ...  
 8. Dental extractions ...  
 9. Dental extractions ...  
 10. Dental extractions ...  
 11. Dental extractions ...

The following treatment is given in the way of outline to the patient, which is not intended to be a complete guide for the dentist. The patient is first examined and the condition of the teeth is noted. The patient is then advised to brush his teeth twice a day with a soft toothbrush and fluoride toothpaste. The patient is also advised to floss daily. The patient is then given a dental X-ray to see the condition of the teeth. The patient is then given a dental filling for the carious tooth. The patient is then given a dental extraction for the tooth that is too far gone to be saved. The patient is then given a dental extraction for the tooth that is too far gone to be saved. The patient is then given a dental extraction for the tooth that is too far gone to be saved.

As regards the other two patients (dental) refer to III, IV, V on page 1, 2, 3.

1. Dental extractions ...  
 2. Dental extractions ...  
 3. Dental extractions ...  
 4. Dental extractions ...  
 5. Dental extractions ...  
 6. Dental extractions ...  
 7. Dental extractions ...  
 8. Dental extractions ...  
 9. Dental extractions ...  
 10. Dental extractions ...



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Most of the patients who are referred to me are referred to me by the general practitioner. The patient is first examined and the condition of the teeth is noted. The patient is then advised to brush his teeth twice a day with a soft toothbrush and fluoride toothpaste. The patient is also advised to floss daily. The patient is then given a dental X-ray to see the condition of the teeth. The patient is then given a dental filling for the carious tooth. The patient is then given a dental extraction for the tooth that is too far gone to be saved. The patient is then given a dental extraction for the tooth that is too far gone to be saved. The patient is then given a dental extraction for the tooth that is too far gone to be saved.

R. A. HARRIS  
 Dental Surgeon

