SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

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Ceylon Government (

PART I.

No. 6,504 - FRIDAY, MAY 24, 1912.

VITAL STATISTICS OF TOWNS IN CEYLON IN THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1912.

REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

This report deals with the Vital Statistics of the 31 principal towns in the Island proclaimed under sections 31 to 36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895.

Births.

2. The births registered in the 31 towns during the month numbered 1,229 (640 males and 589 females), and were equal to an annual rate of 28.77 per 1,000, against 28.97 during the preceding month, 26.64 in the corresponding month of last year, and 29.72 the monthly average for the fifty-four months, July, 1907, to December, 1911. Of the towns (excluding Vavuniya and Lunugala, which have a population under 1,000), the highest birth-rate was in Nawalapitiya (47.96, average 24.75), and the lowest in Nuwara Eliya (5.75, average 16.13).

3. In the city of Colombo^{*} the births numbered 453 (241 males and 212 females), and were equal to an annual rate[†] of 25.09 per 1,000, against 24.49 in the preceding month, 18.88 in the corresponding month of last year, and 25.37 the monthly average. Of the wards (omitting Fort and Galle Face and the Pettah, which contain a mainly floating population), the highest birth-rate was in Wellawatta (54.30), and the lowest was in Kollupitiya (11.59, average 17.72).

: Deaths.

4. The deaths registered in the 31 towns during the month numbered 1,523 (866 males and 657 females), and were equal to an annual rate of 28.77 per 1,000, against 32.76 during the preceding month, 22.11 in the corresponding month of last year, and 30.67 the monthly average. Of the towns (excluding Vavuniya and Lunugala), the highest death-rate was in Mullaittivu (123.85, average 49.98), and the lowest was in Nuwara Eliya (10.76, average 13.79).

5. In the city of Colombo* the deaths registered numbered 497 (296 males and 201 females), and were equal to an annual rate† of 27.62 per 1,000, against 29.41 during the preceding month, 19.06 in the corresponding month of last year, and 32.56 the monthly average. Omitting Fort and Galle Face Ward and the Pettah Ward, the lowest death-rate was in Kollupitiya (10.14, average 19.96), and the highest in Wellawatta (30.78).

Infantile Mortality.

6. The infantile mortality of the 31 towns was equal to a rate of 238 per 1,000 births registered, against 226 in the preceding month, 283 in the corresponding month of last year, and 257 the monthly average. In the towns having an estimated population of 5,000 or more, the infantile mortality ranged from as high as 714 in Matale (average 261), 471 in Batticaloa (average 342), 404 in Kandy (average 240) to 200 in Badulla (average 254), 152 in Galle (average 204), 149 in Moratuwa (average 161), and 34 in Weligama (average 103).

7. The infantile mortality in the city of Colombo was 208 per 1,000 births registered, against 277 in the previous month, 251 in the corresponding month of last year, and 318 the monthly average, and ranged from 400 in San Sebastian (average 359) to 108 in Wellawatta

Causes of Death.

8. Infanis.—Out of the 1,523 deaths from all causes at all ages in the 31 towns, 293 were among infants under one year. Of these, the chief causes were 86 Convulsions (including 35 in Colombo, 7 each in Matara and Batticaloa); 55 Debility (12 in Colombo, 7 in Negombo); 30 Premature Birth (8 in Colombo, 5 in Jaffna); 27 Tetanus (8 in Colombo, 6 each in Jaffna and Galle); 16 Bronchitis (7 in Jaffna, 4 in Colombo); 14 Pneumonia (10 in Colombo); 6 Diarrhæa (2 each in Negombo and Kandy); 5 Enteritis (3 in Moratuwa).

9. In the city of Colombo, out of the 497 deaths from all causes at all ages, 94 were among infants under one year. Of these, the chief causes were 35 Convulsions (10 in Slave Island, 6 in New Bazaar); 12 Debility (6 in Kotahena); 10 Pneumonia (3 in Kotahena); 8 Premature Birth (3 in Maradana hospitals); 8 Tetanus (6 in Kotahena); 4 Bronchitis (2 in Kotahena).

* Consequent on the extension of the Municipal limits of the Colombo town on November 9 last by the addition of Wellawatta, the limits of the registration division of Kollupitiya Ward was altered with effect from January 1, 1912, by Proclamation of December 18, 1911.

† The city-rate is worked out differently from the ward-rates, and takes into account hospital events, &c., not assignable to wards.

10. General Mortality (One Year and over).—Out of the 1,230 deaths of persons one year and over in age in the 31 towns, there were 154 from *Pneumonia*](55 in Colombo, 17 in Kurunegala, 13 in Moratuwa); 111 from *Diarrhea* (22 in Ratnapura, 10 in Kandy); 101 from *Phthisis* (56 in Colombo, 8 each in Moratuwa and Galle); 79 from *Dysentery* (13 in Colombo, 11 in Jaffna); 70 from *Enteritis* (37 in Colombo, 8 each in Anuradhapura and Badulla); 65 from *Malarial Cachesia* (11 in Ratnapura, 6 each in Negombo, Batticaloa, Trincomalee, and Kurunegala); 59 from *Malaria* (9 each in Colombo and Jaffna); 41 from Anchylostomiasis or Dochmius Duodenalis (9 in Kandy); 27 from Active 18 in Colombo); 35 from *Convulsions* (12 in Colombo, 4 in Kandy); 27 from Accidents or Negligence (10 in Colombo); 26 from *Puerperal Septicæmia* (4 each in Jaffna, Galle, and Batticaloa); 22 from Bronchitis (8 in Colombo, 5 in Jaffna); 20 from Bright's Disease and Nephritis (13 in Colombo). One death was registered from Cholera of a, Tamil in Jaffna.

11. The highest mortality in the city of Colombo was from *Phthisis* (14 per cent. of all deaths, one year and over), followed by *Pneumonia* (nearly 14 per cent.), *Enteritis* (9 per cent.), *Enteric Fever* (4 per cent.), *Bright's Disease* and *Convulsions* (each 3 per cent.). Out of the 102 deaths from *Phthisis* in all towns at all ages, 56 occurred in Colombo. *Phthisis* and *Pneumonia* were together responsible for 121 deaths at all ages in the city, or 24 per cent. of the deaths from all causes.

12. Taking all towns together, Bronchitis and Pneumonia contributed the highest mortality (14 per cent.), followed by Debility and Phthisis (13 per cent.), Diarrhae and Dysentery (13 per cent.).

13. Infectious Diseases.—The most prevalent infectious disease during the month was Phthisis, of which 90 cases were reported (89 in Colombo and 1 in Galle), followed by Measles 75 (of which 69 were in Colombo, 2 in Moratuwa), Chickenpox 72 (47 in Colombo, 8 in Kandy, 4 each in Galle and Weligama), Enteric Fever 67 (53 in Colombo, 5 in Kandy), Continued Fever 11 (all in Colombo), and Smallpox 1 (in Colombo).

Meteorology.

14. Rainfall.—Hatton and Dikoya records the highest rainfall (19:00 inches), followed by Kalutara (16:81 inches). The next highest (12:86 inches and 11:14 inches) were in Ratnapura and Ruttalam, while in the other towns the rainfall ranged from 10:45 inches in Colombo to 0:71 inches in Trincomalee.

15. Temperature.—The mean temperature varied from $62 \cdot 6^{\circ}$ in Nuwara Eliya to $86 \cdot 6^{\circ}$ in Jaffna, $86 \cdot 0^{\circ}$ in Mannar, $85 \cdot 2^{\circ}$ in Trincomalee, $84 \cdot 4^{\circ}$ in Anuradhapura, and was $82 \cdot 8^{\circ}$ in Colombo, and $80 \cdot 0^{\circ}$ in Kandy.

16, For detailed information see Tables I. and II. for all towns, and Tables III. and IV. for the city of Colombo, in the Appendix.

Registrar-General's Office, Colombo, May 15, 1912. P. ARUNACHALAM, Registrar-General.

Table La-Number of Births and Deaths registered during April, 1912, their Proportion per 1,000 of the Population per Annum, the Deaths of Children under One Year and their Proportion per 1,000 Registered Births, together with the Average Birth- and Death-rates and Infantile Mortality from July, 1907, to December, 1911, and the .

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Table II.—Causes of Deaths registered during April, 1912, in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31-36 of

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Table III.—Number of Births and Deaths registered during the Month of April, 1912, and their Proportion per 1,000 of the Population, and the Deaths of Children under One Year and their Proportion per 1,000 Registered Births, together with the Average Birth- and Death-rates and Infantile Mortality from January, 1908, to December, 1911, in each Ward of the Clity of Colombo. ł `**<**; ; •

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Kol lúpitiya	30,320	25,256	14	10	24	4	14	21	1	21	17.72	11 · 59	19-96	10.14	1,.	4	273	167
Vellawatta	8,313	8,313	23 .	14	37	10	11	21	•	21	1	54.30	1	30.78	 -	4		108

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§ The population of these two wards being a fluctuating one, their population cannot be estimated for the middle of 1912. Hence the Census figures are retained. || This will be estimated on the natural increase method and shown in the report for July next. || Average not available yet, as the ward was added to the City in January last. It will be shown in the Report for July next.

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