

SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

Ceylon Government Gazette

PART I.

No. 6,923 — FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1918.

VITAL STATISTICS OF TOWNS IN CEYLON IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1917.

REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

THIS report deals with the Vital Statistics of the 33 principal towns in the Island proclaimed under sections 31-36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895.

Births.

2. The number of births registered was 1,507 (770 males and 737 females), and was equivalent to an annual rate of 28·70 per 1,000, against 27·65 in the preceding month, 31·32 in the corresponding month of last year, and 29·09 the average for the corresponding months since 1908. The rate ranged from 13·29 in Nuwara Eliya to 64·57 in Kurunegala.

3. In the city of Colombo the births registered numbered 506 (253 males and 253 females), and were equal to an annual rate* of 22·24 per 1,000, against 19·89 in the preceding month, 24·21 in the corresponding month of last year, and 24·26 the average for the corresponding months since 1908. The rate ranged from 11·84 in Kollupitiya to 25·42 in Wellawatta.

Deaths.

4. The total deaths registered during the month numbered 1,575 (845 males and 730 females). There were 1,325 deaths of residents in towns, equivalent to an annual rate of 27·37 per 1,000, against 25·97 in the preceding month, 29·92 in the corresponding month of last year, and 33·87 the average for the month of December in each year since 1908. The rate ranged from 93·03 in Nawalapitiya to 5·35 in Nuwara Eliya.

5. In the city of Colombo the number of deaths registered was 618 (338 males and 280 females). There were 550 deaths of residents, equivalent to an annual rate* of 28·04 per 1,000, against 24·45 in the preceding month, 29·93 in the corresponding month of last year, and 33·82 the average for the month of December in each year since 1908. The rate ranged from 23·92 in Kotahena to 6·58 in Kollupitiya.

6. The stillbirths registered numbered 105 (50 males and 55 females), against 129 in the preceding month.

Infant Mortality.

7. The mortality of infants was equal to a rate of 254 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ending December 31, 1917. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 247, against 242 in the preceding month, 251 in the corresponding month of last year, and 309 the average for the corresponding months since 1908.

8. In the city of Colombo the mortality of infants was equal to a rate of 288 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ending December 31, 1917. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 283, against 322 in the preceding month, 265 in the corresponding month of last year, and 353 the average for the corresponding months since 1908.

Causes of Death.

9. The highest death-rate was attributed to *Debility*, to which 10 per cent. of the total deaths was due, 8 per cent. was due to *Pneumonia*, 7 per cent. to *Convulsions*, 6 per cent. each to *Anchylostomiasis* and *Phthisis*, 5 per cent. each to *Enteritis* and *Diarrhoea*, 4 per cent. each to *Malaria* and *Malarial Cachexia* and *Dysentery*, 3 per cent. each to *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis* and *Prematurity*, 2 per cent. to *Puerperal Septicæmia*, and 1 per cent. each to *Enteric Fever* and *Tetanus*.

10. In Colombo too the highest death-rate was from *Debility*, to which 11 per cent. of the total deaths was due, *Phthisis* caused 10 per cent., *Enteritis* and *Pneumonia* 9 per cent. each, *Convulsions* 5 per cent., *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis* 4 per cent., *Diarrhoea* and *Dysentery* 3 per cent. each, *Bronchitis*, *Anchylostomiasis*, and *Enteric Fever*, 2 per cent. each, and *Prematurity* and *Puerperal Septicæmia* 1 per cent. each. Six deaths from *Plague* were registered, against 9 in the preceding month and 23 in the corresponding month of last year.

11. *Infectious Diseases reported.*—The infectious disease most prevalent during the month was *Chickenpox*, of which 124 cases were reported (43 in Trincomalee, 22 in Colombo, 15 in Galle, 14 in Panadure, 12 in Kandy), followed by *Phthisis* 67 (48 in Colombo, 11 in Galle), *Enteric Fever* 59 (37 in Colombo, 7 in Kandy, 6 in Galle), *Measles* 53 (47 in Kandy and 6 in Colombo), *Continued Fever* 26 (10 in Colombo, 6 in Galle), *Plague* 6 (in Colombo), *Mumps* 6 (4 in Colombo), *Diphtheria* 4 (in Colombo), *Dysentery* 3 (1 each in Kalutara, Panadure, and Galle), *Parangi* 1 (in Galle), and *Leprosy* 1 (in Galle).

Meteorology.

12. *Rainfall.*—Batticaloa recorded the highest rainfall (14·93 inches), followed by Hambantota (8·13 inches). In the other towns the rainfall ranged from 7·94 inches in Badulla to 2·20 inches in Negombo. Colombo recorded 4·30 inches.

13. *Temperature.*—The mean temperature varied from 57·8° in Nuwara Eliya to 78·4° in Ratnapura, and was 77·6° in Colombo.

14. For detailed statistics, 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, January 23, 1918.

W. L. KINDERSLEY.
Registrar-General.

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

Table I.—Number of Births and Deaths registered during December, 1917, their Proportion per 1,000 of the Population per Annum, and the Stillbirths and the Deaths of Children under One Year and their Proportion with the Average Birth- and Death-rates in the corresponding months since 1908, and the Mean Temperature and Rainfall in the Month in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31-36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895.

Provinces and Towns.	Population (inclusive of the Military) at the Census of March 10, 1911.	Population estimated to the Middle of 1917 by Interannual Increase.	Total Births.		Total Deaths.		Total Stillbirths.		Deaths of Town Residents.	Birth-rate.		Death-rate excluding non-residents.			Number registered during Dec., 1917.	Its proportion to 1000 births registered during Dec., 1917.	Its proportion per annum to 1000 births registered during the year ended last day of Dec., 1917.	Mean Temperature.	Rainfall in Inches.		
			Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		Average Birth-rate for Dec., 1917.	Average Birth-rate for Dec., 1908-1910.	Crude, Dec., 1917.	Standardized, Dec., 1917.	Average Death-rate for Dec., 1908-1916.							
All 33 Towns	517,877	618,947	770,787	1,507	845,780	1,575	50	55	105	242	1,325	28.70	29.09	25.11	27.87	83.87	373	247	254		
<i>Western.</i>																					
Colombo	219,687	267,888	253,283	506	338,380	618	19	21	40	61	550	22.24	24.26	24.17	28.04	33.82	143	283	288	77.6	4.30
Negombo	13,045	26,339c	34,411	75	31,447	75	2	1	3	4	4	33.63	38.18	31.74	33.20	36.97	20	267	245	—	2.20
Morebawa	27,286	29,980	60,581	118	32,524	84	6	1	7	2	82	46.34	39.49	32.20	35.52	40.84	31	263	278	—	—
Kalutara	13,006	14,039	21,144	35	20,222	42	1	3	4	8	34	29.35	33.36	28.52	28.33	29.09	8	239	202	—	4.91
Panadura	5,709	7,333	8	16	9	14	1	3	4	4	10	25.69	33.25	16.06	19.11	24.09	2	125	165	—	—
<i>Central.</i>																					
Kandy	30,149	32,376	48	35	41	32	3	—	3	21	52	30.18	23.06	18.91	20.61	31.13	16	193	183	73.8	5.13
Gampola	5,521	7,003	8	16	14	7	1	—	1	8	13	26.90	33.74	21.86	23.68	33.58	4	250	224	—	6.31
Nawalapitiya	3,767	3,990	6	4	10	15	1	—	1	29	29	29.91	29.90	85.57	93.03	30.98	2	200	187	—	—
Hatton and Dikoya.	3,025	3,149	4	4	6	4	1	—	1	6	4	29.91	21.99	14.95	17.47	36.80	1	159	159	—	4.68
Matale	5,792	7,325d	10	17	22	26	2	2	4	31	17	40.63	29.94	25.58	29.40	47.63	5	185	226	—	4.84
Nuwara Eliya	14,910	15,060e	12	5	17	4	—	—	—	2	6	13.23	18.64	4.69	5.35	13.37	3	176	155	—	3.63
<i>Southern.</i>																					
Galle	39,936	41,810	45	52	56	42	3	7	10	12	86	27.32	30.88	24.22	23.71	30.21	19	196	186	—	3.71
Ambalangoda	—	4,384f	4	6	3	5	—	—	—	—	8	26.86	—	21.49	—g	—	3	300	343	—	—
Matara	13,851	15,276	38	40	27	14	—	—	1	5	36	60.13	41.96	27.75	27.18	30.19	10	128	217	—	4.96
Weligama	8,672	9,428	18	18	11	6	1	—	2	—	24	44.96	42.13	26.71	24.06	21.23	10	278	347	—	—
Hambantota	3,092	3,263	9	5	14	11	—	—	—	—	15	50.52	37.56	54.13	60.53	33.69	6	428	516	—	8.13
Tangalla	3,505	5,704h	6	8	6	3	—	—	—	—	8	28.90	34.77	16.51	16.88	30.94	2	143	142	—	4.39
<i>Northern.</i>																					
Jaffna	40,441	45,229	71	65	61	47	1	6	6	102	102	35.40	31.24	26.55	27.13	34.45	36	285	296	—	4.99
Mannar	3,777	4,088	2	3	6	7	—	—	—	6	7	14.40	37.75	20.16	22.20	42.32	3	200	79	—	5.46
Mullaitivu	1,392	1,448	3	3	2	3	—	—	—	4	4	24.39	32.27	32.53	43.12	43.88	3	—	442	—	4.05
Vavuniya	808	1,012	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	3	3	—	16.82	34.89	60.78	60.78	1	—	561	—	7.29
<i>Eastern.</i>																					
Batticaloa	10,671	11,138	10	12	14	14	3	3	6	—	28	26.10	25.43	29.60	29.19	26.72	10	455	247	—	14.93
Kalmunai	—	2,081	3	3	8	2	—	—	—	4	6	33.96	46.22	33.95	—g	—g	4	667	423	—	—
Trincomalae	8,840	10,557	15	9	10	11	—	—	1	1	20	26.82	29.37	22.35	24.53	38.28	3	125	119	—	—
<i>North-Western.</i>																					
Kurunegala	8,167	9,482	29	23	29	13	—	—	1	21	21	64.57	28.91	26.08	26.79	56.13	9	173	334	—	2.41
Puttalam	5,990	6,618	3	9	9	9	—	—	2	2	16	21.35	36.41	28.46	30.45	63.04	5	417	280	—	4.23
Kalpitiya	1,591	1,667	1	4	4	2	—	—	1	6	6	23.25	42.43	42.37	—g	—g	—	—	—	—	4.33
Chilaw	5,033	5,668	9	4	13	4	—	—	2	—	8	27.01	38.86	16.62	15.93	35.04	2	154	159	—	2.60
<i>North-Central.</i>																					
Anuradhapura	5,361	6,821	11	7	9	8	—	—	1	5	12	31.07	26.07	20.71	25.38	62.91	5	278	289	—	5.30
<i>Uva.</i>																					
Badulla	6,487	7,226h	14	11	11	13	—	—	1	8	16	40.74	39.49	26.07	28.77	37.91	4	160	151	—	7.94
Lunugala	515	601	1	—	4	14	—	—	1	14	4	19.60	44.40	78.39	—g	—g	1	—	107	—	—
<i>Sabaraгамuwa.</i>																					
Ratnapura	5,476	7,215i	8	5	16	6	—	—	—	9	13	21.22	24.75	21.22	24.05	48.68	3	231	185	—	78.4
Kegalla	2,536	2,669	4	9	12	2	—	—	1	14	14	57.36	23.73	61.77	56.65	21.52	1	77	132	—	6.86

^a The standardized death-rates represent the crude death-rates multiplied by the respective standardizing factor in order to make correction for differences of sex- and age-constitution of the several populations in 1911 as compared with that of the Island.
^b Blanks indicate that there are no observatories or rain gauges.
^c Includes population of the Negombo Local Board and registration area.
^d This increase of population is due to the extension of the town limits as from July, 1915.
^e Estimated to the end of December, 1916, by natural increase method.
^f Population enumerated at the beginning of 1915.
^g Standardized death-rates for Kalpitiya and Lunugala towns not available, as the population of these towns has not been enumerated at the Census of 1911 by age and sex, while the town of Kalmunai was created a registration division only in January, 1914, and Ambalangoda in January, 1915.
^h The death-rate given for "All Towns" is therefore independent of the towns, but is scarcely affected by their rates.
ⁱ Increase of population is due to the extension of the town limits.

Table II.—Causes of Deaths registered during December, 1917, in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31-36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895.

Causes of Deaths.	All 33 Towns.										Deaths among all Races.																													
	Western Province.			Central Province.			Northern Province.				Eastern Province.			North-Western Province.			North-Central Province.		Province of Sabaragamuwa.																					
	Colombo.	Negombo.	Moratuwa.	Katunara.	Pandura.	Kandy.	Gampola.	Nawalapitiya.	Hatton & Dikoya.	Matale.	Nuwara Eliya.	Galle.	Ampangoda.	Matale.	Welligama.	Hambantota.	Tangalla.	Jaffna.	Mannar.	Mullaitivu.	Vandiyia.	Batticaloa.	Kalmunai.	Trincomalee.	Kurunegala.	Puttalam.	Kalpitiya.	Chilaw.	Auradhapura.	Badulla.	Lunugala.	Ratnapura.	Kegalla.	Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamil.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.
All Causes	618	75	84	42	14	78	21	29	10	48	8	8	41	24	16	9	108	13	5	3	28	10	21	42	18	6	8	17	24	18	22	14	4	43	788	487	217	21	35	
I.—Infantile Mortality	143	20	31	8	2	16	4	2	1	5	3	19	3	10	6	2	86	1	3	1	10	4	8	9	5	2	9	5	4	1	3	1	13	193	106	50	5	6		
A.—One Week and under.	40	8	2	—	—	8	1	2	—	3	2	6	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1. Prematurity	67	4	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Debility	27	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4a. Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
5. Tetanus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Other Causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B.—Over 1 Week and under 1 Year.	7	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1. Prematurity	61	4	5	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Debility	66	—	3	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Convulsions	12	—	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Diarrhoea	20	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4a. Enteritis	5	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Tetanus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Other Causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
II.—General Mortality (1 Year and over)	1,202	475	53	34	12	57	17	27	9	43	5	79	53	14	10	7	72	12	2	2	18	6	18	33	13	6	6	12	20	17	19	13	4	30	595	361	167	16	29	
1. Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1a. Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Chickenpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* These are due to Post-operative Shock and Congestion of Brain (in Colombo).

† This includes, besides 16 deaths mentioned in Table IV, footnote 1, 3 deaths from Syphilis (2 in Kandy and 1 in Galle), 2 deaths from Worms (1 in Galle and 1 in Puttalam), 2 deaths from Gastritis (1 in Galle and 1 in Batticaloa), 2 deaths from Malarial Fever (in Jaffna), 1 each from Asthma and Continued Fever (in Negombo), and 1 from Malarial Cachexia (in Batticaloa).

Table III.—Number of Births and Deaths registered during the Month of December, 1917, and the Deaths of Children under One Year, and their Proportion per 1,000 of the Registered Births, together with the Average Birth- and Death-rates for 1908 to 1916, in each Ward of the City of Colombo.

Wards.	Population (inclusive of Military) at the Census of 1911.	Population estimated to Middle of 1917 by Inter-censal Increase.	Total Births registered.			Stillbirths.			Total Deaths including Deaths in Hospitals and Jails.			Per Mille per Annum.				Mortality of Children under one Year.						
			Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Deaths of Non-Residents.	Deaths of Residents.	Birth-rate.		Death-rate.		Standardized Death-rate.	Number registered during Dec., 1917.	Its proportion to 1,000 births registered during December, 1917.	Its proportion to annum for 1,000 births registered during the year ended last day of Dec., 1917.	
														December, 1917.	Average for Dec., 1908 to 1916.	December, 1917.	Average for Dec., 1908 to 1916.					
City of Colombo ..	219,557	267,888†	253	253	506	19	21	40	338	280	618	68	550	22.24	24.26	24.17	29.89	28.04	148	288	288	
Fort and Galle Face	3,612	3,512‡	1	2	3	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	10.06	5.70	3.35	7.06	—	—	—	—	
Pettah ..	7,974	7,974‡	1	2	3	—	—	—	4	—	4	—	4	4.43	4.66	5.91	10.75	—	—	—	—	
San Sebastian ..	11,546	13,207	12	15	27	1	—	1	11	8	19	—	19	24.07	18.92	16.94	28.41	—	—	7	259	330
St. Paul's ..	24,735	28,068	23	19	42	3	3	6	24	22	46	—	46	17.62	17.53	19.30	24.99	—	—	12	286	330
Kotahena ..	40,771	46,274	44	39	83	2	2	4	48	46	94	—	94	21.12	23.43	23.92	26.54	—	—	27	325	307
New Beazaar ..	22,309	26,055	24	22	46	1	1	2	18	29	47	—	47	20.79	22.42	21.24	30.34	—	—	20	435	451
Maradana Hospitals			37	50	87	6	8	14	107	72	179	60	119	—	—	—	—	—	17	—	—	—
Maradana (exclusive of Hospitals) ..	48,093	64,374	55	51	106	4	5	9	69	57	126	1	125	19.39	20.52	22.86	27.98	—	—	39	368	419
Slave Island ..	21,984	25,958	19	18	37	1	—	1	27	19	46	2	44	16.78	22.74	19.96	23.68	—	—	10	270	210
Kollupitiya ..	25,410	35,791	18	18	36	1	2	3	12	13	25	5	20	11.84	14.55	6.53	15.11	—	—	4	111	135
Wellawatta ..	13,223	16,675§	19	17	36	—	—	—	17	14	31	—	31	25.42	31.48	21.89	31.81	—	—	7	194	164

* For explanation of "standardized death-rate" see note *, Table I. The population of the several wards of the city not being available by age- and sex-constitution, their standardized death-rates cannot be calculated.
 † Estimated partly on the intercensal increase method and partly on the natural increase method, i.e., population exclusive of Wellawatta Ward on the former method and that of Wellawatta added to the town on January 1, 1912, on the latter method (as it was not a separate division at the Census of 1901).
 ‡ The population of these two wards being a fluctuating one, their population cannot be estimated to the middle of 1917. Hence the Census figures are retained.
 § This population is estimated partly on the natural increase method and partly on the intercensal increase method, i.e., population of Wellawatta on the former method (as it was not a separate division at the Census of 1901) and that of the part of Kollupitiya taken over to Wellawatta on the latter method.
 || Average for months of December, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, and 1916.

