

## GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 474.

His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government has been pleased to grant to Lieutenant H. B. WHEELER, Hongkong Volunteer Corps, leave of absence for twelve months from the 28th July, 1902.

By Command,

F. H. MAY,  
*Colonial Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 30th July, 1902.

## GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 475.

The following Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the Colony of Hongkong, for the year 1901, is published.

By Command,

F. H. MAY,  
*Colonial Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 30th July, 1902.

GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL,  
HONGKONG, June 28th, 1902.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit, for the information of His Excellency the Governor and for transmission to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, the Medical Report on the health and sanitary condition of the Colony of Hongkong for the year 1901, together with the returns, &c., appended thereto.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

You obedient Servant,

J. M. ATKINSON,  
*Principal Civil Medical Officer.*

The Honourable

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

## POPULATION.

The estimated population of the Colony for 1901 was 300,660. There were 1,088 births and 7,082 deaths, of the latter 1,562 were from plague.

The *birth-rate* was 3.6 per 1,000 as against 3.3 per 1,000 in 1900.

The *death-rate* was 23.5 per 1,000 as compared with 23.9 in 1900. Excluding the deaths from plague the death-rate would have been 19.03 per 1,000.

The following figures will show the comparison of the *death-rate* in the Chinese and non-Chinese during the past two years:—

	1900.	1901.
Non-Chinese, .....	20.4 per 1,000	20.5 per 1,000
Chinese, .....	24.1 „ „	23.77 „ „

PREVALENCE OF SICKNESS IN DIFFERENT SEASONS OF THE YEAR, AND GENERAL CHARACTER  
AS TO THE MILDNESS OR SEVERITY OF THE DISEASES PREVAILING.

*Small-pox.*—This disease was much more prevalent than in 1900; 91 cases being notified during the year as against 27 in 1900; most of these cases occurred in the early part of the year, 42 being reported in March and 28 in April.

*Cholera.*—Seventeen cases were imported from Singapore on board the S.S. *Cheung Chew* in the month of February.

*Plague.*—This disease was again epidemic during the year. In all 1,651 cases of plague were notified with 1,562 deaths. The following Table gives the number of cases reported in each month of the years 1900 and 1901:—

	1900.	1901.
January, .....	8	7
February, .....	8	14
March, .....	5	54
April, .....	94	160
May, .....	326	701
June, .....	325	551
July, .....	209	109
August, .....	80	27
September, .....	16	24
October, .....	12	1
November, .....	2	1
December, .....	2	2
	1,087	1,651

This is the fourth year in succession that this disease has been epidemic in the Colony, more Europeans were attacked last year than is generally the case, the number being 30, although in 1898, 26 were attacked.

Most of them were living on the Queen's Road level and were hence more evident to the European Community.

Many of these cases were associated with the finding of rats in the dwellings of those attacked, but whether these rats were themselves the subject of plague was not ascertained. During the first six months of 1901, 48,000 rats were destroyed.

As is usually the case, a large number of the Chinese were dead bodies found lying in the streets or boats in the harbour, in 1902, 308 such cases occurred, these, to a great extent, account for the annual recurrence of this disease, as of necessity the houses from which they come are not disinfected.

As long as this deposition of dead bodies in the streets occurs so long will plague continue in our midst.

To try to some extent to prevent the yearly onset of the disease, in 1902 in the winter months a systematic cleansing and disinfection of every Chinese house in the City was instituted.

This was commenced in November and continued during the following four months, the magnitude of the operations undertaken will be understood when I state that over 8,000 Chinese houses were thus dealt with in Hongkong, and in addition to this the Chinese houses in Kowloon were cleansed and disinfected.

*Enteric Fever.*—There were 75 cases as compared with 85 in the previous year.

More Europeans were, however, attacked by the disease than in the previous year, the number being 47 as compared with 34 in 1900.

Twenty-two of these cases were however imported.

*Malarial Fevers.*—Extensive operations have been undertaken during the year in the way of removal of undergrowth, training of nullahs and draining of stagnant pools of water with the object of diminishing the number of mosquitoes.

As far as we can judge by statistics these appear to have been successful, the total number of deaths amongst the Chinese from malarial fever being returned as 541 in 1901 as compared with 887 in 1900.

*Beri-beri.*—There were 377 deaths from beri-beri as compared with 361 in 1890.

The following Table gives the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year 1901:—

Disease.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Bubonic Fever, .....	7	14	54	160	701	551	109	27	24	1	1	2	1,651
Small-pox, .....	2	7	42	28	6	4	...	1	...	...	...	1	91
Enteric Fever,.....	3	...	3	4	12	10	9	2	10	6	9	7	75
Diphtheria, .....	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	6
Puerperal Fever,.....	...	...	...	...	2	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	7
Scarlet Fever,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera, .....	...	15	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
													1,847

## RELATIVE MORTALITY IN THE DIFFERENT SEASONS.

From the following Table it will be seen that the months of May and June were the most fatal ; excluding plague and small-pox September, October and December were the most fatal months.

1901.

Population :—Non-Chinese 20,096, Chinese 280,564.

*Deaths.*

Month.	Non-Chinese.	Rate per 1000.	Chinese.	Rate per 1000.	Total Deaths.	Total Deaths excluding Plague and Small-pox.
January, .....	27	{ 16.92	369	{ 17.57	396	390
February, .....	26		443		469	450
March, .....	32		421		453	379
April, .....	33		474		507	373
May, .....	47	26.07	963	34.06	1,010	449
June, .....	51		952		1,003	427
July, .....	32		559		591	304
August, .....	39	{ 20.13	475	{ 30.97	514	469
September, .....	30		522		552	530
October, .....	31		541		272	571
November, .....	34	{ 18.91	408	{ 21.27	442	441
December, .....	30		543		573	571
Total, .....	412		6,670		7,082	5,354

## GENERAL SANITARY CONDITION OF THE COLONY.

The presence of plague in an epidemic form for the fourth year in succession shows that more radical measures must be taken to improve the sanitary state of the Colony.

With this object in view a cleansing and disinfection of all the Chinese houses in Victoria and Kowloon was commenced in November and was systematically carried through during the four following months.

The Government also decided to obtain from England the services of two experts in sanitation : Professor SIMPSON, M.D., F.R.C.P., and Mr. ROBERT CHADWICK, M.I.C.E., C.M.G., were appointed to advise as to what further steps should be taken to improve the sanitary condition of the Colony.

During the year the various existing Public Health Ordinances were consolidated in Ordinance No. 13 of 1901.

Ordinance No. 30 of 1901 was passed with a view to limiting the erection of new buildings to a greater height than one and a-half times the width of the street on which they front unless the building at present occupying such site exceeds that height, in which case the new building may be carried up as high as the existing one so long as the scale contained in Ordinance No. 15 of 1894 is not exceeded.

It also provides that no existing building which does not at present exceed in height one and a half times the width of the street on which it fronts shall be so raised as to exceed that limit of height.

It is evident, that resumption of insanitary buildings and of areas will be necessary before there can be much improvement in many of the crowded parts of the Colony.

More public latrines and urinals are also needed.

## VACCINATIONS.

The following vaccinations were performed during the year :—

Government Civil Hospital, ..... 644

Victoria Goal, ..... 2,880

Alice Memorial Hospital, ..... 771

Tung Wah :—

Victoria, ..... 1,826

Aberdeen, ..... 46

Stanley, ..... 24

Shaukiwan, ..... 25

Hung Hom, ..... 7

Yaumati, ..... 24

1,952

6,247

## RETURNS ACCOMPANYING THIS REPORT.

Attached are the:—

Statistics of Population.

Meteorological Return.

Monthly Return of Diseases and Deaths at the Government Civil Hospital.

J. M. ATKINSON, M.B., (London),  
*Principal Civil Medical Officer.*

June 28th, 1902.

## RETURN OF THE STATISTICS OF POPULATION FOR THE YEAR 1901.

	Europeans and Whites including Portuguese and Army and Navy.	Africans, East Indians and Malays including Indian Troops.	Chinese.	Total.
Number of Inhabitants in 1901,.....	13,906	6,190	280,564	300,660
,, of Births during the year 1901, .....	201	39	848	1,088
,, of Deaths ,,, 1901, .....	238	174	6,670	7,082
,, of Immigrants ,,, 1901, .....	...	...	129,030	129,030
,, of Emigrants ,,, 1901, .....	...	...	69,774	69,774
,, of Inhabitants in 1900,.....	10,777	4,031	268,610	283,418
Increase, .....	3,129	2,159	11,954	17,242
Decrease, .....	...	...	...	...

## METEOROLOGICAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR 1901.

	BARO-METER AT M.S.L.	TEMPERATURE.			HUMIDITY.		CLOUDI- NESS.	SUN-SHINE.	RAIN.	WIND.	
		Max.	Mean.	Min.	Rel.	Abs.				Dir.	Vel.
January, .....	30.11	68.5	64.0	62.2	83	0.51	70	94.2	0.685	E by N	15.6
February, .....	30.25	59.5	54.8	50.5	48	0.21	70	98.6	0.765	NE by N	11.6
March, .....	30.14	67.9	63.7	60.4	77	0.46	66	152.6	1.275	E	15.6
April, .....	29.93	75.4	71.9	69.1	87	0.69	88	81.6	9.035	E by S	14.6
May, .....	29.87	81.8	77.1	73.7	85	0.80	79	142.7	14.105	E by S	11.7
June, .....	29.75	85.9	81.5	78.2	80	0.86	80	173.7	2.335	SE by S	13.2
July, .....	29.76	87.0	82.2	78.5	81	0.89	70	243.4	5.585	SE by S	10.2
August, .....	29.70	85.7	80.6	76.9	84	0.88	74	176.7	14.000	ESE	11.2
September, .....	29.88	86.0	80.3	76.4	76	0.78	46	208.2	3.890	E	6.9
October, .....	29.94	82.6	77.4	73.6	68	0.64	49	240.0	2.505	ENE	12.7
November, .....	30.13	75.4	69.5	64.9	64	0.46	39	227.7	0.770	E by N	12.3
December, .....	30.18	66.9	61.6	57.5	66	0.37	54	176.3	0.835	ENE	11.8

RETURN OF DISEASES AND DEATHS IN 1901 AT THE GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL.

RETURN OF DISEASES AND DEATHS IN 1901 AT THE GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL,—*Continued.*

MONTHS.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.	JULY.	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	EARLY TOTAL.	REMARKS.												
	Cases.	Deaths.																								
Mean Temperature, .....	64.9	54.8	63.7	71.9	77.1	81.5	82.2	80.6	80.3	77.4	69.5	61.6	616	...												
Mean Humidity, .....	83	48	77	85	80	81	84	76	76	68	64	66	66	...												
DISEASES.																										
<i>Brought forward,</i> .....	62	4	45	3	43	2	47	3	90	7	81	...	102	6	106	4	124	5	138	4	178	5	69	1	1,085	44
Syphilis :—																										
(a) Primary, .....	1	...	2	...	4	...	7	...	2	...	3	...	2	...	2	...	3	...	1	...	3	...	34	...	...	
(b) Secondary, .....	5	...	10	...	7	...	12	...	8	...	2	...	7	...	6	...	5	...	8	...	6	...	82	...	...	
(c) Inherited, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Gonorrhœa, .....	5	...	2	...	5	...	7	...	4	...	6	...	7	...	6	...	2	...	3	...	7	...	57	...	...	
Hydrocephalus, .....	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	
Scurvy, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Alcoholism, .....	7	...	1	...	3	...	5	...	1	...	4	...	7	1	4	...	4	...	7	...	3	...	5	...	51	
Delirium Tremens, .....	...	...	7	...	5	...	3	...	6	...	9	...	4	...	5	...	4	...	4	...	6	...	6	...	63	
Rheumatism, .....	4	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	7	
Rheumatic Fever, .....	1	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	
Gout, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
New Growth, non-malignant, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
New Growth, malignant, .....	2	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	8	
Anæmia, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5		
Diabetes mellitus, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2		
Diabetes insipidus, .....	4	...	1	...	11	...	6	...	3	...	7	...	1	...	3	...	2	...	9	2	3	...	4	...	54	
Debility, .....																								2		
<i>Carried forward,</i> .....	91	6	70	3	80	3	91	3	119	7	114	...	132	7	137	6	145	5	170	6	208	6	97	1	1,451	53

GENERAL DISEASES,—*Continued.*

## RETURN OF DISEASES AND DEATHS IN 1901 AT THE GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL.—Continued.

MONTHS.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.	JULY.	AUGUST.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	YEARLY TOTAL.		REMARKS.											
													Cases.	Deaths.												
Mean Temperature, .....	64.9	54.8	63.5	71.9	77.1	81.5	82.2	80.6	80.3	77.4	69.5	61.6	66	66	..											
Mean Humidity, .....	83	48	77	87	85	80	81	84	76	68	64	66	66	66	..											
DISEASES.																										
<i>Brought forward, ....</i>	91	6	70	3	80	3	91	3	119	7	114	...	132	7	137	6	145	5	170	6	208	6	97	1	1,454	53
Diseases of the Nerves —																										
Sub-section 1.																										
{ Neuritis,																										
{ Meningitis,																										
{ Myelitis,																										
{ Hydrocephalus,																										
{ Encephalitis,																										
{ Abscess of Brain,																										
{ Congestion of Brain,																										
Functional Nervous Disorders—																										
{ Apraxia,																										
{ Paralysis,																										
{ Choreia,																										
{ Epilepsy,																										
{ Neuralgia,																										
{ Hysteria,																										
Mental Diseases—																										
Sub-section 2.																										
{ Idioty,																										
{ Mania,																										
{ Melancholia,																										
{ Dementia,																										
{ Delusional Insanity,																										
<i>Carried forward, ....</i>	101	7	78	3	94	5	103	5	130	7	123	1	140	8	144	6	157	5	181	7	220	6	107	3	1,578	63

## LOCAL DISEASES.

DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

Sub-section 3.

Sub-section 1.

## RETURN OF DISEASES AND DEATHS IN 1901 AT THE GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL,—Continued.

THE HONGKONG GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, 1ST AUGUST, 1902.

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MONTHS.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.	JULY.	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	YEARLY TOTAL.	REMARKS.												
	Cases.	Deaths.																								
Mean Temperature, .....	64.9	54.8	13.7	71.9	77.1	81.5	82.2	80.6	80.3	77.4	69.5	61.6	61.6													
Mean Humidity, .....	83	48	77	87	85	80	81	84	76	68	64	66	66													
DISEASES.																										
<i>Brought forward,.....</i>	101	7	78	3	94	5	103	5	130	7	123	1	140	8	144											
Diseases of the Eye, .....	2	...	4	...	6	...	...	...	9	...	3	...	5	...	157											
"    Ear, .....	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	157											
"    Nose, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	157											
"    Circulatory System,	2	1	...	...	2	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	157											
"    Respiratory System,	9	5	15	...	11	...	16	2	14	1	19	5	20	1	144											
"    Digestive System,..	12	...	8	...	12	1	18	...	16	3	24	1	15	2	15											
"    Lymphatic System,	8	...	5	...	3	...	9	...	5	...	3	...	2	...	15											
"    Urinary System, ..	6	4	4	2	2	...	5	...	1	...	3	1	5	...	15											
"    Generative System,.....	9	...	4	...	3	...	5	...	5	...	7	...	8	...	15											
Male Organs,.....	9	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	2	...	3	...	3	...	15											
Female ".....	1	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	2	...	3	...	2	...	15											
"    Organs of Locomotion,	8	...	4	...	8	...	9	...	4	...	4	...	6	...	15											
"    Cellular Tissue,.....	...	2	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	2	...	1	...	15											
"    Skin, .....	2	...	6	...	3	...	4	...	1	...	2	...	3	...	15											
<i>Carried forward,.....</i>	160	17	132	5	144	7	174	7	189	12	189	7	214	12	209	9	221	8	252	14	273	13	163	3	2,320	114

LOCAL DISEASES.—Continued.

RETURN OF DISEASES AND DEATHS IN 1901 AT THE GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL,—*Continued.*

MONTHS.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.	JULY.	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	YEARLY TOTAL.		REMARKS.											
	Cases.	Cases.	Deaths.	Deaths.																						
Mean Temperature, .....	64.9	54.8	63.7	71.9	77.1	81.5	82.2	80.6	80.3	77.4	69.5	61.6	61.6	66	66											
Mean Humidity, .....	83	48	77	87	85	80	81	84	76	68	64															
DISEASE.																										
<i>Brought forward, .....</i>	160	17	132	5	144	7	174	7	189	12	189	7	214	12	209	9	221	8	252	14	273	13	163	3	2,320	114
Injuries, .....	46	4	22	1	43	...	37	2	30	2	24	2	39	5	38	2	47	1	36	1	38	5	31	4	431	29
Effects of Heat, .....	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	3	1	8	6	3	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	3	1	1	1	23	10
Malformations, .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	6	...
Poisons, .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Parasites, .....	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	2	...	2	...	3	...	2	...	3	...	1	...	3	...	20	...
Under Observation, .....	1	...	1	...	3	...	5	...	10	...	2	...	3	...	2	...	15	...	6	...	7	...	7	...	62	...
TOTAL, .....	211	21	157	6	191	7	219	9	235	15	226	15	259	17	255	12	286	9	297	15	322	19	206	9	2,864	153