



Government of Bengal

Revenue Department

**Report on the
Administration of Bengal
1931-32**

Calcutta
Bengal Secretariat Book Depot
1933

Civil Veterinary Department.

509. During the year there was an increase in the mortality of animals from contagious diseases, the total number of deaths being 15,297 against 13,009 in the preceding year. Rinderpest alone accounted for 71 per cent. of the total mortality reported from bovine diseases, its toll being 10,373 animals against 9,345 in the preceding year. The number of deaths from haemorrhagic septicaemia was 3,009 against 2,035 in the preceding year. There were 517 deaths from anthrax against 147 in the preceding year.

During the year 133,039 animals were inoculated in 600 outbreaks against 89,088 in 455 outbreaks. The death roll among inoculated animals was only 0.6 per cent. of the total. Four hundred and seventy-one animals were inoculated against rinderpest by the serum simultaneous method. During the year the Veterinary Assistant Surgeons in the mafassal treated 127,347 patients against 136,957 patients in the preceding year; while the number of cases treated at hospitals and dispensaries rose from 76,722 to 78,455.

Dispensaries.

510. During the year no new hospital or dispensary was opened. But it is under the contemplation of some district boards, such as Noakhali, Tippera, Bakarganj and Faridpur, to construct new veterinary dispensaries and hospitals.

Zoological Garden, Calcutta.

[Annual Report of the Honorary Committee for the year 1931-32.]

511. During the year the number of visitors fell from 979,604 in 1930-31 to 928,501 and the gate money receipts from Rs. 66,083 to Rs. 62,141. A successful experiment was made to recoup loss of gate receipts during the Fancy Fair days by keeping the Garden, excluding the Fancy Fair, open to visitors at the ordinary charge of one anna. The number of one-anna visitors was 15,984 whilst those visiting the Fair numbered 6,071. Notwithstanding the fall in the entrance receipts owing to economic depression, the financial condition of the Garden was on the whole satisfactory. The total receipts were Rs. 1,16,999 against Rs. 1,23,290 in 1930-31. The Garden again sustained a heavy loss in the death from verminous colic and enteritis of the female Indian rhinoceros of which the mate died in the previous year from arsenical poisoning. But for the generous gift of a very fine young male rhinoceros by Her Excellency the Countess of Willingdon the Garden would have remained without a specimen of this important animal. Substantial alterations were made in the rhinoceros enclosure with a view to improving the conditions under which this animal is kept. Other interesting additions to the collection included two pigmy hippopotami, a capybara, two toucanets, and two white-winged wood ducks.