

# TANJORE MUNICIPALITY



## DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION



*24th February 1927*

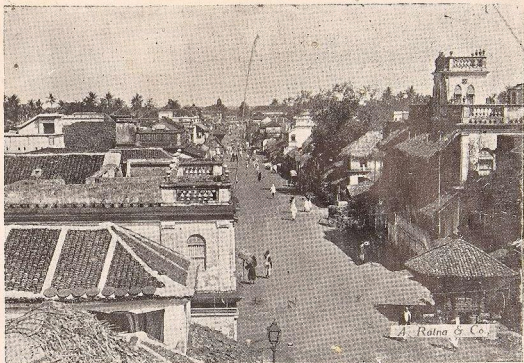
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A REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATION : COMPILED BY  
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West Main Street, View.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

1. We are assembled here to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of the constitution of this city into a Municipality, under the distinguished presidency of M.R.Ry. the Honourable Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN Ayl., M.A., LL.D., B.C.L., Bar-at-Law, Zemindar of Kumaramangalam and Chief Minister to the Government of Madras.

2. It was on the 9th May, 1866, that the Government of Madras, in G. O. No. 471 (Public), called upon the District Magistrate of Tanjore, in his capacity as Ex-Officio President of the Municipal Commissions to be constituted in this District under the provisions of the Madras Towns Improvement Act X of 1865, to submit, in consultation with the local officers and prominent residents, proposals for the constitution of a Municipal Commission and the appointment of suitable persons as Municipal Commissioners of this city, as also information about the possible sources that might be tapped with advantage, under the provisions of the Act. Mr. G. Lee Morris, the then Collector and Magistrate, proposed the names of 10 leading citizens to be nominated as Municipal Commissioners and their names, along with those of the Collector and Magistrate who was the Ex-officio President of the Commission, and the Officer of the P. W. D., in executive charge of the Division who was Ex-officio Member, were gazetted. The Municipal Commissioners met informally in a room in the then Collector's Office in the small fort and discussed the plans to be adopted with a view to bring the act into operation and commence regular work. As the act came into force on the 1st. November 1866, this Municipality was formally ushered into existence on that date.

3. Sixty years form one complete cycle according to Hindu Chronology and as such, the 60th birthday is held specially sacred by all classes of Hindus as marking the commencement of a period of rejuvenation. This Municipality has completed one such cycle and is therefore on the threshold of a cycle of rejuvenation, but the city itself has witnessed several such cycles, having been in existence for more than a millennium, as one of the chief political, religious and literary centres in South India.

#### 4. *A short retrospect of Tanjore History.*

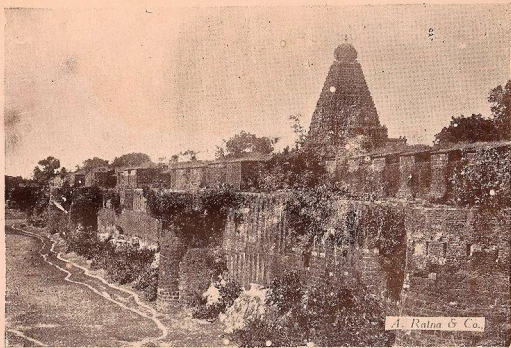
This ancient and historic city owes its importance to its situation at an ideal spot on the southern fringe of the Cauvery Delta, where it meets the western upland which reaches its highest part in the Vallam plateau in the neighbourhood. It is this ideal situation, very near a fertile delta, with a well drained soil and a salubrious climate, that has been chiefly

responsible for its having attracted the cupidity of many an invader from the north and its choice as the capital city of many a dynasty of rulers that held sway over large tracts of south India from time immemorial. The history of Tanjore is in fact a history of South India in miniature. The city derived its name according to tradition from a Rakshasa, 'THANJAN' by name, who is said to have devastated the neighbourhood and fallen a victim to the wrath of 'Maha Vishnu' who however, with characteristic magnanimity granted the dying request of the Asura to name the city after him. The glories of the city have ever since been sung by many a bard and saint, "ஹும்புலாஞ்சோலை தஞ்சை மாமணிக் கோயிலிலே தொழுதேன்"—திருமங்கையாழ்வார்; and several legends have gathered round its hoary antiquity.

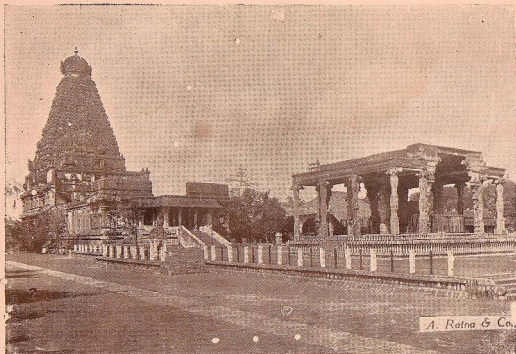
5. At the dawn of history, when it emerges from its legendary period, we find the city in the occupation of the mighty Cholas, who were masters of an ancient and vast kingdom in the 'Punalnadu,' the existence of which is testified to as early as 260 B. C. by the edicts of Emperor Asoka and noticed by Ptolemy (130 A. D.), and the Periplus (264 A. D.) The first authentic mention on record about the city is at the beginning of the 9th Century A. D., when it was seized by Vijayalaya, the progenitor of a line of Chola kings, from a vassal chief of the Pallavas, Perumpidugu Mutharayan, who seems to have been the head of a garrison stationed in the big fort constructed by the Pallava King of the time to serve as an outpost on the borders of the Pandyan kingdom. Vijayalaya defeated Mutharayan and his Pallava ruler, got possession of the entire Cauvery delta and made Tanjore his capital city. The kingdom was further extended by his successors and in the days of Raja Raja the Great (985 to 1011 A. D.), the 6th in succession after Vijayalaya, the Kingdom comprised almost the whole of the present Madras presidency, the southern parts of Orissa, the eastern portion of Hyderabad and the island of Ceylon.

It is this great potentate, who has immortalised his connection with this city by erecting the great Brahatheeswara Temple, "the finest in India," and endowing it with large tracts of land and great wealth. Tanjore thus became the temple-city of the Cholas, as Madura, her southern sister, was of the Pandyas. The inscriptions on the walls of the temple bear ample testimony to the greatness of the empire over which Raja Raja and his illustrious ancestors and successors held sway and also furnish valuable details of historic and economic interest relating to the period. The Saiva Saint, "Karuvur Thevar," who, at the instance of his patron, sang the praises of Rajarajeswaran, as the temple came to be known after its illustrious founder, makes mention of a fortification around the temple, which is evidently the small fort enclosing the Sivaganga tank and the temple. The





The Big Temple and the Ditch.



A. Ratna & Co.,

The Big Temple, Nandi and the Temple of God Subramania.

colossal monolithic bull, 'Nandi,' placed in front of the shrine, the Subramanya temple with its exquisite carvings, lying to the north-west, the very design of the temple and its architectural excellence serve as standing monuments to the genius of the Cholas and have extorted the admiration of Fergusson and other eminent Western architects.

6. During the days of Rajaraja's successor, Rajendra Chola, the capital was shifted to Gangaikonda-Cholapuram and it is very probably on this account, that the celebrated Arabian traveller, Alberuni, who visited this place about the beginning of the 11th century A. D. states that it was in ruins. During the 12th Century the power of the Cholas gradually decline and we hear of a Pandyan King of the 13th Century boasting of his burning Tanjore along with Woriyur, the capital of his rival, a fact which shows that the city was of sufficient importance to merit such mention. As a result of the devastation that ensued, the kingdom passed into the hands of the Pandyas and thence to the Hoysalas. Malik Kaffir, the general of Allauddin Khilji, who invaded South India about 1310, A. D., overthrew the kingdoms of the south and established Mahomedan rule over Madura, Trichinopoly and Tanjore. It is really remarkable that the sacred temple at Tanjore should have escaped the vandalism of this northern invader. Soon after, the Chola kingdom became a tributary to the Vijayanagar under the Udayars and the last nominal Chola King was killed in action by Lotrianagamma Naick, the general of the Vijianagar army on his way to Madura.

7. About 1534 Tanjore passed directly under the rule of Vijayanagar and a Nayak Viceroy came to be installed there. Nuniz a Portuguese chronicler (1537) mentions Tanjore, Nagupeto and Charamaodel as subject states of the Vijayanagar Naicks. Sevappa Naick (1549-1572), the first Naick Viceroy obtained Tanjore by his own valour and made it his capital city. The Portuguese seemed to have suffered very much at his hands, as is borne out by the evidence of Caesar Frederic, a European traveller, who visited Tanjore about 1570 and alludes to it as a "very great city, very populous; and its abundance in victuals has attracted many Portuguese to go thither, build houses and dwell there with small charge." Sevappa is reputed to have dug up the big reservoir, Sevappaneri, which supplies the Sivaganga tank in the small fort and the water course which feeds the reservoir is to this day called 'Sevappa Naicken Vari.' His successor Achuthappa (1572-1614), soon declared his kingdom independent of Vijayanagar, consequent on the terrible blow dealt to the latter at the battle of Talikotta in 1565. Raghunatha, the third of the line, who was a famous patron of arts and letters and himself, an author of no small repute, founded a number of Vaishnavite temples and chatrams. About

1644 the Mahomedan kings of Golconda and Bijapur were invited by the Naiks of the south to help them against their rivals of the north and thus after an interval of 300 years Tanjore had to bow its neck to a Mohamedan conqueror for a second time. The last of the Naick line, Vijayaraghava, came to the throne in 1673 and as a result of a feud between him and Alagiri the Madura Naick, was killed with his son, Mannaru, in a final and desperate sortie at the north gate of the Fort during the attack of the Madura army. He is said to have built the big fort round the city. The Naicks seem to have been great builders and we owe the Palace; several forts and almost all the Vaishnava temples in the district together with a number of tanks, chattrams and other works of public utility to the liberality of these kings. It is also noteworthy that it was during their reigns, the first attempts at European settlements were made on the Tanjore coast. The Portuguese established themselves at Negapatam in 1612, the Danes acquired Tranquebar about 1620 and the Dutch conquered Negapatam from the Portuguese in 1660.

8. Sengamaladas, the infant son of Mannaru, who had been taken away by his nurse to Negapatam before the final crash, applied for help to Bijapur and the Bijapur court ordered Ekoji, otherwise known as Venkaji, a half-brother of Sivaji the Great and a general then in the Bijapur army, to march upon Tanjore, drive the usurper Alagiri and place the refugee on his ancestral throne. Venkaji marched at the head of a large army, won a great victory near Ayyempat and established his protege, on the throne. Quarrels soon ensued among the adherents of the Prince in connection with the appointment of a Minister and Venkaji who was then at Tiruvadamaluru, was invited by one of the factions to seize the fort. Tanjore fell in 1674 into the hands of Venkaji, who then removed his head-quarters permanently to Tanjore from his Jaghir at Bangalore in 1675.

9. In 1677 Sivaji, the founder of the Mahratta Empire in the north, soon led an expedition on behalf of Golconda against the Carnatic and claimed from his brother a moiety of Tanjore as his share of his father's Jaghirs in the South. Despairing of success against his mighty brother, Venkaji was about to don the robes of a 'Byragi' and relinquish the throne in his favour, when, in a mood of generosity Sivaji gave up his claims on his brother consenting to pay a large sum of money and divide his father's jewels and revenues and abandoned his attempt to strengthen his hold on South India. Being a weak Prince, Venkaji was soon forced to sell away his Jaghirs to the Mysore Raj and thus practically isolated the Tanjore Kingdom from its parent source in the Dekhan. He died in 1687 and was succeeded by his sons, Shahaji, Sarabhoji and Thukkoji, who occupied





The Tanjore Palace "Sarja."

the throne in succession for a period of 48 years. About this time Tanjore had to face the invasion of the Moghul General, Zulfikhakhan (1691) who was sent by his master Aurangazeb to put down the power of the Mahrattas of the south. The Moghul Commander levied contribution from Tanjore, deprived the Rajah of a portion of his territory and reduced him to the position of a feudatory of the Moghul, paying an annual tribute of 4 lakhs of rupees. In the reign of Thukkoji, the Tanjore Mahrattas seemed to have extended their power southward in the direction of Rameswararn and conquered the Zemindaris of Sivaganga and Ramnad, wherein the Mahratta generals of the time greatly distinguished themselves. On the death of Thukkoji in 1735 there followed a period of insurrections in consequence of the dispute as to succession. Tanjore which had been attacked by Chanda Sahib in the previous year came to be dominated by the Moghul Commander to such an extent that he seems to have felt powerful enough to impose his own nominees as rulers. Four years later Chanda Sahib reappeared and took the city and enforced payment of tribute to the great Moghul. In 1739 Saiyaji, the second son of Thukkoji, granted Karikal to the French in return for an assurance of help to depose a pretender, 'Katturaja,' from the throne. Saiyaji was himself deposed in 1740, and Prathapa Singh, his illegitimate brother, was finally placed upon the throne, with the general concurrence of the principal men of the kingdom. It was in this year that the confederate Mahratta forces led by Raghoji Bhonsle of Nagpur made a second incursion from the north with a view to seize the southern provinces permanently but they soon found that they had enough pre-occupation in Bengal and Central India and retraced their steps homeward after leaving a garrison at Trichinopoly, which they had captured and taking Chanda Sahib a prisoner to Satara. The Ex-King Saiyaji solicited the assistance of the English in 1749, offering to pay the expenses of the expedition and cede Devikotta near the mouth of the Coleroon to them if they should succeed in driving Prathapa Singh and re-instate him on his father's throne. Meanwhile Chanda Sahib was released and in conjunction with Muzzaffar Jung, the Subedar of the Dekhan and a column of French Troops, sent by Dupleix laid siege to the city of Tanjore, forced Prathapa Singh to come to terms, but abandoned the siege on the approach of Nazir Jung's army. During the 10 years' war between the English and the French (1750 to 1760), the Tanjore Rajas sided with Mahommed Ali, the English protege, and suffered at the hands of the French, who under Count-de-Lally plundered Tanjore in 1758 and would have taken the city but for the timely arrival of an English contingent at Tanjore and an English fleet at Karikal. Throughout the Carnatic wars, the Tanjore army under Mankoji played an important part on the side of the English and Mahommed Ali. Notwithstanding this, Raja Thulasaji (1763-1787) was forced to become a tributary of the Nawab and agreed to pay 4 lakhs of

rupees as annual tribute. With the help of the Madras Government to whom he was heavily indebted, the Nawab attacked Tanjore in 1771 for arrears of tribute and the interests of the Tanjore Raj had once more to yield to the greed of the Mahommedan Nawab and his English co-adjutors, who dictated the policy of the Madras Government. Again the place was besieged in 1773 by a strong English force under General Smith who captured it, took the Raja prisoner with the members of his family and annexed his territory to the Nawab's kingdom. At the intervention of the Court of Directors, who strongly condemned the conduct of the Madras Government Thulasaji was re-instated on his ancestral throne in 1776, on his agreeing to pay an annual subsidy of 4 lakhs of rupees, Tanjore thus became a protected state and its ruler a direct ally of the East India Company. During the raids of Hyder Ali in 1781 the Tanjore Raj had to undergo great hardships, although the capital city escaped in consideration of a heavy payment made by Thulasaji and has ever since been free from the attacks of an invading army. Thulasaji died in 1787 and as the adoption of Sarabhoji by him was declared invalid his brother Amar Singh succeeded to the throne. But the many liabilities due to the Madras Government had so increased by this time and the resources of the state so greatly crippled, that Amar Singh was unable to meet his engagements. Meanwhile Sarabhoji found a protector and friend in Mr. Schwartz, the Danish Missionary, and at his instance the Governor-General and the Court of Directors who were petitioned to rescind their former decision, finally recognised Sarabhoji's claim and re-instated him in 1798, granting a suitable pension to Amar Singh, who thence retired to Tiruvadamarudur. The next year the Marquis of Wellesley prevailed upon Sarabhoji to hand over the administration of his kingdom to the British under a treaty and thence forward Tanjore became a British province. Sarabhoji was recognised as a titular Raja, exercising sole authority over a small area round the fort, which was later reduced to the fort itself (in 1841) and a pension based on the revenues of the province was fixed on him. He was succeeded by his son Sivaji in 1833 and on the latter's death without issue in 1855, the title and dignity of the Raja was declared extinct and the state lapsed to the Company. When the British acquired possession of the country it was formed into 2 collectorates northern and southern but in April 1800 it was established into a single collectorate with headquarters at Negapatam in 1799, Tranquebar 1845 and Tanjore 1860. Till 1806 the revenue as well as the judicial administration was vested in the Collector and in that year a Zilla Court was established in Kumbakonam, which was later split into two principal courts, the one at Kumbakonnam, and the other at Tranquebar in 1860. The latter was finally abolished in 1884 while the former was removed to Tanjore in 1863 and was till recently the only District Court. The Collector resides at



Court House.





Tanjore Collector's Office.

Vallam and was holding his office there as early as 1828. This became necessary after his appointment as Resident in 1842 and his headquarters were transferred to Tanjore in 1860. The present Collector's Office was built between 1896 and 1900 at a cost of over Rs. 1,90,000.

#### 10. *The first Municipal Commissioners of the City.*

The Madras Towns Improvement Act X of 1865 introduced for the first time in this city a qualified system of local autonomy in the management of civic affairs, based upon the wholesome principle of associating local residents with the expert officials of Government to share the burden of responsibility in the task of contributing to the comfort and convenience of the residents of towns. For this purpose, rates, tolls, taxes and fees were to be levied from the residents of towns for their improvement, to be expended towards the upkeep and maintenance of communications and other works of public utility, schools, hospitals, rest-houses, supply of good water for drinking, bathing and washing purposes, medical relief, drainage, removal of filth, lighting, etc., and the corporate bodies that were brought into existence were intended to serve in the words of Lord Ripon "as instruments of political education." The cost of maintenance of the local police force was also to be borne out of the rates levied under the Act, the Government on their part undertaking to subsidise the Municipal Commission to the extent of 25 per cent of the amount thus raised and expended. The first Commissioners nominated by the Government consisted mostly of prominent local residents of light and leading who had sufficient knowledge and experience of the days of Mahratta Administration. After the British took over charge in 1858, a sum of Rs. 4,440, was paid annually by Government towards the cost of conservancy of the town, viz., the cleaning of the drains and the maintenance of a scavenger establishment. When the new Act came into force this allowance was incorporated in the annual contribution to the Municipal Funds payable by the Government under the Act. The first Commissioners seemed to have evinced great interest in the discharge of their duties as is borne out by the very fine set of by-laws drawn up by them in 1867 and 1868. With the exception of one of them in which they allowed their newly won privilege to outrun its legitimate bounds, these by-laws were readily confirmed by the Government, standing as they did a very favourable comparison with any other set of model by-laws devised by Municipal Corporations of the time. The by-law to which exception was taken is as follows "Commissioners shall have the power to break open the houses of persons who lock them up to evade payment of any Municipal Tax and to attach any property therein found in satisfaction of such an arrear." Again, when on the eve of the very first full year of the working of the Act, i.e., 1867-68 the Commissioners proposed to levy a house tax at 4 per cent of the rental value in addition to the other taxes,

fees, etc., levied for the previous year and Government wanted them to explain if the necessity for such an additional impost had been ascertained and it could be raised without any undue pressure on the people, the Commissioners state that experience has shown to them that several wealthy inhabitants of Tanjore altogether escape a license tax that no undue pressure was likely to be felt by the additional levy and that the different modes proposed by them were really required. The concluding remarks of M.R.Ry. (afterwards Sir) A. Seshia Sastrial Ayl., Secretary, to the Commission, on the working of the Act 1867-68 are worth quoting here, as every word of his, though written 60 years ago, rings true and is equally applicable at the present day:—"The taxes had to be levied amidst much silent opposition and distrust of the declared intentions of the legislature. The Commissioners therefore were only too anxious to show at the outset by their works that the comfort and convenience of the people were of the most paramount consideration. In addition to being called upon to pay several taxes, which are proverbially unpopular everywhere, the public have had to submit to several restrictions created by the Municipal Act, all of which more or less interfered with their established routine of life and necessitated the extinction of time-honoured usages. The Commissioners therefore were slow to enforce the penal provisions of the act . . . . . In a few years more, the Commissioners trust that when the works connected with the supply of good water are extended and improved, the roads put in good order and the streets and lanes swept and cleaned punctually, the unpopularity of the Municipal Law will wear away and be succeeded by a reaction which will strengthen the hands of the Commissioners." Mr. G. Lee Morris, the President, in the course of his endorsement on the above, adds: "Regarding the improvements in the cleanliness and appearance of the streets as well as in the state of the principal roads, more especially in Tanjore, there can be no manner of doubt; for, driving in the streets is now a pleasure, whilst formerly it was actually a penance."

11. The strength of the Commission was originally twelve including the Ex-officio President and the Ex-officio Member. On 17-11-1866, Mr. G. A. Parker, the then Assistant Collector, was first appointed as Vice-President. Some time later, the members of the commission chose one of their number as Secretary to the commission. The office establishment at first consisted of a Manager, an English Clerk, a Vernacular Clerk and a Surveyor and estimate-maker while conservancy work was in charge of a nuisance Inspector. As early as 1870 the Commissioners resolved that the elective principle should be adopted in the appointment of Commissioners while the selection of a Vice-President was to be entrusted to the Government. On 1-5-1871 the Towns Improvement Act III of 1871 came into



force and thenceforward the first April came to be recognised as the first day of the Municipal Official year. The new Act differed from the old, in that it entirely relieved the Municipal Commissioners of the charges incurred on account of the maintenance of the Police force, and the Government, in their turn, withdrew the grant-in-aid they were making under the old Act. The new Act also contemplated the conferring of the elective franchise on the Commissioners, but the Commissioners at Tanjore were of opinion that it was undesirable at that stage. About 1874 Government moved in the matter of the election of the Commissioners by the rate-payers but as the rules for the conduct of elections were not finally settled till 1879 the first elections of the Commissioners took place on 1—6—1880 to fill up 2 seats which had then fallen vacant.

12. The boundaries of the Municipality were fixed by the Commissioners in 1866 and an actual measurement of the streets, roads, houses and vacant sites seems to have been completed in 1868. There has been no alteration or extension of the area attempted ever since. Soon after the introduction of the Madras District Municipalities Act IV of 1884, the town was divided into six wards and this was adopted as the basis during the town survey which was finished in 1898. The strength of the Council, which stood at twelve on the date of the incorporation of the Municipality, was raised to eighteen in 1879 and further increased under the new act to twenty-four of whom eighteen were to be elected by the rate payers and the rest nominated by the Government. The distribution of elective seats among the six wards was as follows:—

Wards I and V—two each,  
Wards II and IV—three each,  
Wards III and VI—four each.

When Act V of 1920 came into force, these six wards were recast into twenty-four for electoral purposes, each of them being made to return one Councillor. With a view to ensure efficient supervision, however, the Municipal area has been divided into five divisions for conservancy, three for lighting, and a like number for the registration of vital statistics and vaccination. As for water supply, the area lying to the north of the Clock tower which is supplied direct from the pumping station forms one division, while the area lying to the south which is supplied from the reservoir forms another. In addition to the twenty-four elective seats, the new Act provides for eight seats to be filled up by nominations by Government, presumably meant for the adequate representation of minority interests. The strength of the Council on the date of this report is 31, one elective seat yet remaining to be filled up. The Council counts amongst its present members one European, two Anglo-Indians, of whom one is a lady, three



Mohammedans, three Mahrattas, two Sowrashttras, two Indian Christians, one Adi Dravida, fourteen non-brahmin Hindus and three Brahmins. As early as 1883, the Commissioners elected one of their number to be their Vice-President in executive charge of the board, who was to correspond direct with the Government and heads of departments, but the power of making appointments was reserved to be made by a majority of Commissioners. The very next year, Government conferred on the Council the privilege of electing its own Chairman, but this had to be withdrawn more than once. As soon as the new Municipal Act of 1884 came into force, the Collector fixed a date for the election of the Chairman more than once, but as, on all those occasions, the requisite quorum of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the total strength was not present, Government deprived the Council of the right of electing their own Chairman in March 1886 and nominated Mr. K. Govinda Rao, Sirkele of the Palace, as Chairman. On his resignation a few months after, Mr. V. Rajagopalachariar, the then District Registrar, was appointed in his stead and he continued in office till May 1887. When he resigned his Chairmanship the office devolved on the Divisional Officer as Ex-Officio Councillor. In October 1887 Mr. S. A. Swaminatha Ayyar, Public Prosecutor, was appointed as Chairman and he continued in Office till September 1890, when the place was filled up by the appointment of Mr. D. A. Macready and on his transfer by Lt. Col. H. A. F. Nailer, the then District Medical and Sanitary Officer till November 1893. At the request of twenty-one out of the twenty-three members then on the Council the privilege of election was again restored in December 1893 and Messrs. K. S. Sreenivasa Pillai, the Honourable K. Kalyanasundaram Ayyar and V. A. Vandayar occupied the place as elected Chairmen till November 1901. The power was again withdrawn in November 1902 but was restored in September 1913. Ever since, the office of Chairman has been filled by election. About 1905 the Council was granted permission to elect a Vice-Chairman, if the Chairman was in need of such assistance.

13. The appointment of a paid Secretary was sanctioned by the Government in 1897, the power of appointment being made to vest in the Council, subject to the approval of the Government. As this introduced a system of dual control over Municipal affairs, the post was abolished in May 1914, thus making the Chairman solely responsible for the administration. Till May 1912 the Public Works establishment of the Council was under the supervision of an Overseer, when, at the instance of the Government, a Municipal Engineer was entertained on Rs. 150 per month. After the introduction of the new Act, the post of Secretary has been revived, but not with any of the well defined powers with which he was formerly armed, he being made practically the Chief Ministerial Officer of the Council responsible for the maintenance of Office discipline and proper supervision.

The opening of the new water works in 1895 necessitated the entertainment of a water-works Overseer. The conservancy of the town was at first under the supervision of a single nuisance Inspector and as it was found inadequate, the number was increased to as many as six about 1889, but later, a better class of men with better qualifications were entertained as Sanitary Inspectors, one of them being styled as the Chief Sanitary Inspector. The question of appointing a Health Officer was first taken up by the Council in 1894-95, but for some reason or other it was not till 6-1-1918 that the first Health Officer was appointed by the Council. On his resigning his appointment in 1919, there was a reversion to the old state of affairs and the post was left vacant. Meanwhile, Government provincialised the post of Municipal Health Officers and after a lot of correspondence between the Government and the Council against the entertainment of a Health Officer, the present incumbent was appointed in 1925 and is assisted by five Sanitary Inspectors, each in charge of a division. In 1871 an Inspecting School Master, known later as Supervisor of Schools, was appointed to organise and superintend the Elementary Schools in the Municipality. As the post was provincialised, the Council was saved the expense of maintaining a Supervisor. Owing to a large increase recently in the number of Schools maintained by the Municipality, it was found necessary to have a Supervisor paid entirely out of Municipal Funds and the present incumbent was entertained in July 1923.

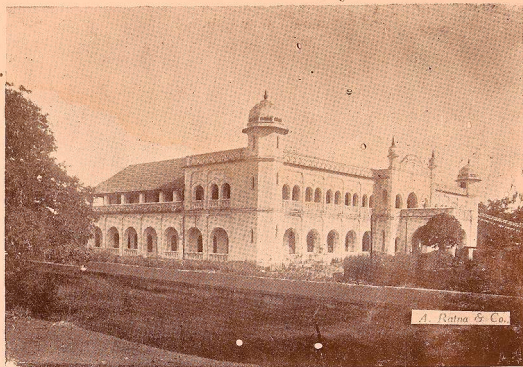
14. The Municipality maintains a total length of  $55\frac{1}{2}$  miles of streets and roads,  $37\frac{3}{4}$  miles of which alone are metalled. The important roads lying within the Municipal limits are the Railway Vennar Road, the West Tiruvady Road and part of Road No. I. Although there are no trunk roads within the Municipality, the cost of maintenance of these roads and streets comes up to over a  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a lakh of rupees. The chief difficulty consists in the quality of the metal supplied not coming up to the mark. Gravel of a softer quality is used for small streets and lanes with light traffic, while aralai or laterite is used in the more important streets and roads with heavy traffic. The quarry wherefrom the metal is supplied lies at a distance of about five miles and the cost of transit consumes a fair portion of the outlay. About 1918, an experiment was made of spreading a portion of the Railway Vennar Road with granite chips and as the experiment proved costly, it had to be abandoned. Last year Rs. 20,000, was sanctioned by the Council for relaying the Railway Vennar Road to its entire length with granite chips and a loan of Rs. 31,000 has been sanctioned by the Government towards defraying the cost. The question of traffic-control has been engaging the attention of the Council ever since its inception as will be evidenced by its first by-laws, and lantern posts on stone platforms have been put up in busy turnings, with lanterns provided with green and

red glass panes with suitable instructions painted on them. Various attempts have been made to widen the streets and open up blind alleys, with a view to provide facilities for short-circuiting and avoiding risk to human life. New roads have also been laid as funds permitted. (e.g.,) Seshayya Sastriar Road, Nailer Road, the road to Vadavar, the road to Vallamburi Palla Street, the road to Velur Palla Street, the road to the Cremation ground, Vijiaraghavachariar Road, Road connecting Thoppil Pilliar Koil Street with Hospital Road with the new diversion created recently with a view to provide convenience for egress and ingress, to vehicular traffic. Although the income from tolls has been showing a progressive increase, still considering the fact that the Municipality has been contributing a third of it to the District Board for a long time past and the phenomenal increase in the cost of road metal, labour, etc., it cannot be said to have reached an adequate level, commensurate with the heavy expenditure entailed on the maintenance of roads.

15. The only rest house maintained by the Municipality is the Dak Bungalow, which was handed over by the Government in March 1872 and is resorted to mostly by European travellers. Besides this, provision has been made by the S. I. R. Company for a number of retiring rooms intended both for European and Indian travellers. The Tanjore District Board is in charge of two choultries in the city founded by the Mahratta rulers, the "Sreyas" founded by Raja Sivaji in the year of accession of Queen Victoria and the Vennar Chattram by Raja Pratapa Singh about 1749. In addition to these, it has also recently constructed the new Tanjore Raja's Chattram opposite to the Municipal Office, wherein according to modern standards furnished rooms are provided for the travelling public on payment of a small fee.

16. Street lighting was first introduced in the Municipality in 1869. Till recently only ordinary lights using kerosine oil were being used. The introduction of gas lights for the first time was thought of as an experimental measure in 1920 and with the sanction of the Government three incandescent lights were installed along the Railway station road. Subsequently as the innovation met with the support of public opinion and as the maintenance of such lights did not entail more cost, considering the convenience of the public, more incandescent lights were introduced along the four main streets and in the busy centres throughout the Municipality. At present there are sixty-four such lights illuminating the different parts of the city. The number of ordinary lights in working order is 800. Effective supervision is maintained over the work of lighting Masaljis by three lighting superintendents, who have been provided with beat books, wherein they are to obtain the remarks of Councillors and other respectable





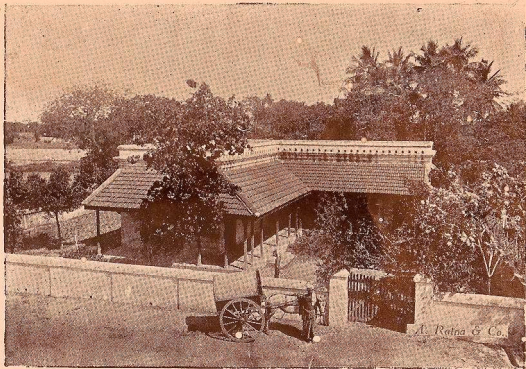
Rajah's Chattram.



citizens with a view to check defects noticed then and there. The question of introducing electric lighting in the city had been engaging the attention of the Council for a long time. The Council recently sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 3,000 to be incurred for formulating a scheme for opening an electric installation in the city and the preparation of preliminary plans and estimates, with a view to provide electric lights and generate power to be utilised for industrial and other purposes. The electrical Inspector to Government has prepared the necessary preliminary plans and estimates and the Council at a recent meeting has appointed a committee to go into the question of working the scheme with capital raised on a co-operative basis if possible, and starting the installation at an early date. The foundation stone of the building to be erected for the electric power installation is to be laid this evening by the Hon'ble the Chief Minister, who has so gracefully acceded to the Council's request to preside over this day's functions. It is to be hoped that ere long this city will have the good fortune of being illumined by electric lights and turning electric energy to fruitful account.

17. In October 1872 four Union Schools were established at the instance of the Municipal Inspector of Schools. They were so called because four or five pial schools in the immediate neighbourhood of each other were amalgamated with the consent of the teachers concerned to form each Union School and located at a central place. In October 1873 the Commissioners took over the management of the Gnanodaya Vilasam Girls' School and in November of the same year a Mohammedan class was opened in the Union School located in the Fort. This seemed to have developed into a Municipal Mohammedan School known as the Municipal Hindustani School. In January 1893 the Municipality turned its attention to the education of the children of the Sowrashttra community in Manambuchavadi. As this community had not then developed any script and their language was only a spoken tongue boasting of no literature worth the name, with a view to enlighten their children a Telugu school was opened. In October 1894 the first Panchama School was opened by the Municipality for the benefit of the children of the depressed classes. The policy of Government in the matter of encouraging existing schools was at first through a system of grants-in-aid to proprietors of private schools on the results of examinations conducted by their officers. This was later abandoned in favour of a system of grants-in-aid based upon a proportion of the salaries of the teachers and the number of children undergoing instruction in schools. The efforts of the Municipality had therefore to be directed at first to open schools and provide facilities for the children of the backward classes, wherein private effort would not compete with them. About 1906 the Municipality seems to have maintained five schools in all, at a cost of Rs. 1,200 and allotted Rs. 8,700 for aiding forty educational institutions

managed by private agencies in the city. The work of opening more schools for the benefit of the backward classes was further pushed on with the result that in 1910 the Municipality opened two new schools one at Palli Agraharam and the other at Karanthattangudi, and in the next year schools were opened at Kuyavan Street and Poomalrowthan Koil Street. In the following year two more schools, the one at Thattankulam and the other at Vennar Bank, were newly started and the question of providing Palli Agraharam school with a local habitation was seriously taken up. A Mohammedan school known as the Hamida School was opened in the Fort in 1913-14. In 1916 the Municipality maintained in all thirteen Elementary Schools, twelve for boys and one for girls. Four more new schools were opened, including the one in the north main street in 1918-19. The Manambuchavadi Girls' School was provided with a type-design building which was opened by Mrs. R. Narayana Iyer on 25-4-1918. In 1920 two more Girls' Schools were opened, one at Palli Argaharam and the other at Ottakara Street. A night School was organised in Pambatti Street and three Panchama Schools, one for the children of the Municipal Thot-ties, the other at Velur Palla Street and the third at Palli Agraharam were started. In 1922-23 the Karanthattangudi Government Girls' School and the Mohammedan Gosha School were taken over from Government and including these there were fifteen schools for boys and 6 for girls maintained during the year. Subsequently two more schools for Adi Dravidas and three for other classes were opened, thus making up a total of 18 schools for boys and 6 for girls on 31-12-1926. Of these, 22 are run purely out of Municipal Funds and two out of provincial funds, 6 of these are located in buildings owned by the Municipality and the rest in rented quarters. Of these 6, one was purchased as recently as December last, at a cost of Rs. 3,250. An estimate has been sanctioned for the re-construction of a school-building which had become dilapidated. Although the passing of the Madras Elementary Education Act of 1920 has brought the question of introduction of free and Compulsory Elementary Education into the domain of practical politics and this Municipality has been levying an educational cess of 20 per cent on all assesseees paying profession and company's taxes, the introduction of the element of compulsion in this Municipality has not been found necessary, owing to the adequacy of existing educational facilities. Of the total number of boys of school-going age namely 3,838, the number attending all schools is 2,783. Of these, 27 per cent represent the children attending Municipal Schools. More than one half of the girls attending schools within the Municipality receive their education in Municipal Schools. Besides the schools maintained by the Municipality, there are quite a large number of Elementary Schools and five Secondary Schools maintained by mission bodies and private agencies



Municipal Boys' School, Palliagraharam.



in the city. The Government also maintain a training school for teachers of the Elementary lower, higher, and secondary grades. Attached to the Government Headquarters Hospitals there is His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales Medical School, which provides instruction and practical training for students undergoing the L. M. P. Course.

18. In the matter of medical relief, the Municipality entertained in August 1870, two trained midwives on a salary of Rs. 10 each per mensem. In October 1872 a Municipal Dispensary was opened near the East Gate which was removed to Karanthattangudy in July 1873 and a branch dispensary was located in Manambuchavadi in September of the same year. As in 1889, there was only one midwife attached to the two dispensaries the appointment of another was sanctioned. Advantage was taken of the Celebration of the Golden Jubilee of the Municipality on 1—11—1916, to have the newly constructed dispensary building at Manambuchavady opened by the Collector and the institution was given the name of the Jubilee Dispensary to commemorate the occasion. The need for an adequate building for the Municipal Dispensary at Karanthattangudy came to be felt more and more acutely, owing to the want of accommodation in the then existing Municipal building wherein it was located and the Foundation Stone for the construction of a pucca building was laid on 12—3—1918 by Mr. J. R. Huggins, the then Collector of Tanjore. The cost of the building was partly borne out of Municipal funds and partly by raising public subscriptions from the generous-minded and patriotic citizens of Tanjore. As the Foundation Stone was laid on a day set apart for the commemoration of the Victory of the British Arms in the Great European War, the building that was to rise on the Foundation was given the name of The Victory Dispensary. A Lady Sub-Assistant Surgeon and a female ward attendant were first appointed in January 1918 to work in Manambuchavadi Dispensary to meet the requirements of the increase in the number of female patients that attended the dispensary from day to day. A male Sub-Assistant Surgeon helped by a compounder, a male ward attendant and a female ward attendant is in charge of each of the two Municipal Dispensaries at Karanthattangudy and Manambuchavady. No necessity has so far been felt for emergency wards in the Municipal Dispensaries, as a separate infectious disease shed has been erected at Municipal cost for receiving patients suffering from cholera or other epidemic diseases. In the days of the last Mahratta Ruler, Sivaji, a Raj Hospital founded by him afforded medical relief to the citizens till it was closed on the erection of the Raja Mirasdar Hospital in 1879. Mr. H. S. Thomas laid the Foundation stone of the Hospital. It was intended as a thanks-offering for the exemption of the District from the famine of 1876-77 and was built by the private contributions of a very large number of Mirasdars aided by a contribution of Rs. 30,000 from the Charities



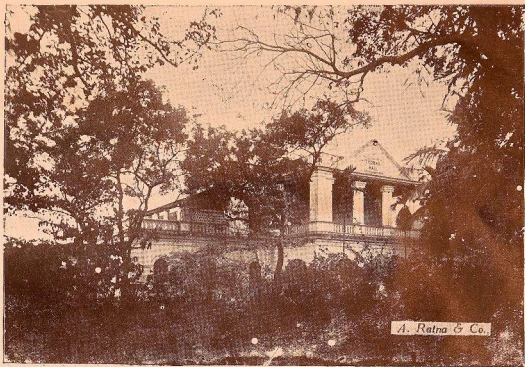


Municipal Dispensary, Manambuchavady, Tanjore.

of King Saraboji. The valuable site, unquestionably the best in Town, was given by the Princess of Tanjore and the cost of the building came up to nearly Rs. 66,000. It was opened in 1880 and was being maintained till recently by contributions from provincial, Municipal and Chattram funds supplemented by allotments from the general revenues of the District Board. The usual contribution from this Municipality was Rs. 2,000 a year. It has now been taken up under the direct management of Government as the Headquarters Hospital of the District and stands next in importance only to the General Hospital in Madras in the number of beds that are maintained for inpatients. There are special departments attached to the Hospital for the treatment of the diseases of the eye, teeth and integument. To it also are attached an out-patient dispensary for males, a women and children's hospital and Queen Alexandra Maternity Hospital. His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales Medical School which is attached to the Hospital was founded by public subscriptions to commemorate the visit of his Royal Highness the Prince Edward of Wales (afterwards King Emperor Edward VII) to South India in 1875. The school which was till recently supported from District Board Funds and the interest on its funded capital of 1,00,000 of rupees is now maintained by Government.

The population of the city has slowly increased from 52,175 in 1871 to 54,745 in 1881, 54,390 in 1891, 57,870 in 1901.

54,745, in 1881, 54,390 in 1891, 57,870 in 1901, 60,341 in 1911 and shows a slight fall in 1921 when it stood at 59,913. It is a matter for gratification that there has been a steady increase all these years in the birth-rate of the Municipality while the rate of mortality has not shown any signs of abnormal increase. Three Registrars of Births and Deaths are employed for the registration of vital statistics and work under the direct supervision of the Health Officer. They were first appointed in April 1890, i.e., 24 years after the constitution of the Municipality. Till then, the registration of births and deaths was being done precariously, having been entrusted to maistries in addition to their legitimate duties and as such was attended to perfunctorily by them. The work of this branch notwithstanding the improvements effected has invariably been characterised as defective and no means have as yet been devised for rectifying the state of affairs. A magic lantern has been recently purchased at the instance of the Health Officer and with its help propaganda work is being done with a view to educate the masses regarding cleanliness of person, houses, surroundings, etc., and Health lectures on personal hygiene, prevention and avoidance of diseases, etc., are being delivered every week by the Sanitary Inspectors in their respective divisions under the immediate supervision of the Health Officer. Articles are also occasionally contributed by the Health staff to a local Tamil weekly and vital statistics are issued to the



Head Quarters Hospital.

Press once a week. There is a maternity and Child Welfare Association working in the city and the Municipality makes an annual contribution of Rs. 120 towards the up-keep of the two centres which the association had been maintaining till January 1926, when both the centres were amalgamated into one and placed in charge of a qualified midwife. In addition to giving baths to children attending the centre, she goes round advising pregnant women and attends to delivery cases when required. The city has also been celebrating the Baby and Health Week for the past 4 years and the fourth annual show is to come off tomorrow. The Municipality has been contributing a liberal donation of Rs. 500 towards the cost of these annual functions and public subscriptions have also come in largely in response to the appeals of the organisers of the show. It is to be hoped that as a result of these activities the Health of the City upon which depends its prosperity will gradually improve and the citizens will respond willingly to the efforts of the Municipal Health Department in bringing down the rather high rate of infantile mortality and improving the health of the city in all possible directions. The problem of affording more facilities for the training of the unskilled midwives of the locality is engaging the serious attention of the Council for a long time past. With a larger output of trained midwives every year and the increased attention shown by the Health Department towards combating infantile mortality, a better state of things is bound to dawn.

20. As early as 1872, there were two vaccinators entertained by the Municipality, but the efficacy of vaccination in preventing the virulence of smallpox was not appreciated by the public at large for a long time and much time had to be devoted for combating the popular prejudice against vaccination. Thus, we find the Municipal Council thinking of introducing compulsory vaccination in 1890, but compulsion was actually given effect to only from 1st July 1893. A vaccinatrix was also appointed in 1916-17 to vaccinate children in Gosha circles, but as the experiment did not succeed, her services had to be dispensed with and a male vaccinator appointed instead. Further, owing to lack of qualified women to be appointed as vaccinatrices there has been no scope for the repetition of the experiment.

21. Town sweepings and rubbish were at first being removed in country carts by the villagers in the neighbourhood for their manurial value, no heavy expenditure being incurred on this account from Municipal Funds. These villagers were also induced to supply some carts for the removal of night soil. As this system did not work satisfactorily the Council had to face the problem of the removal of rubbish by maintaining the necessary carts, tools and plants, etc., and working them departmentally. After some time, the old system of letting out the work on contract

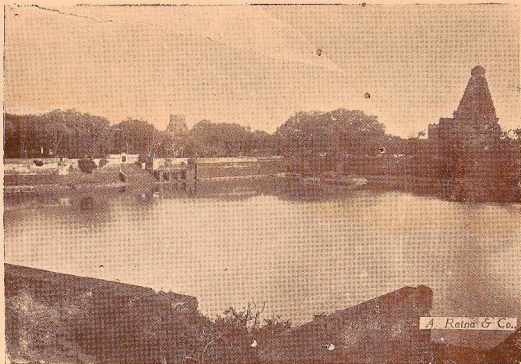


had to be reverted to. The rubbish and sweepings were sold in public auction and the carts and bulls were hired, the rate of hire per cart and pair of bulls per mensem reaching as high a figure as Rs. 45 or so on an average. To facilitate the speedy removal of rubbish and avoid public complaints, the Council has recently resorted to the purchase of motor lorries, two of which are solely used for the removal of rubbish and one for the removal of night soil. Still the removal of filth and sullage is being done by carts maintained by the Municipality for which bulls are hired from contractors and the number of carts now used for the purpose is found quite sufficient. The regular conservancy staff has been augmented by a special gang of men appointed solely for the extirpation of pricklypear in the different parts of the city. This special gang aided by the conservancy staff has succeeded in removing the noxious growth over a large area. A 4th motor lorry for road-watering has also been recently purchased and 8 new night soil and sullage carts added.

22. The private scavenging system was first introduced towards the close of 1879 and after passing through a period of varying successes, it is fairly popular now. Of the 10,875 occupied houses in the Municipality 4010 have been enlisted so far, and steps are taken to bring in a larger number of enlistments. Systematic house to house inspection is being carried on to enforce latrine construction and a vast majority do not yet seem to have realised the importance of having a decent latrine attached to their houses. The private scavenging system has not so far paid its way and proves to be a source of drain on the general revenues of the Municipality. Steps are, however, being taken to wipe off the loss by reducing the strength of the scavenging staff, increasing the enlistment of houses under service and taking prompt measures to realise the arrears under private scavenging fees.

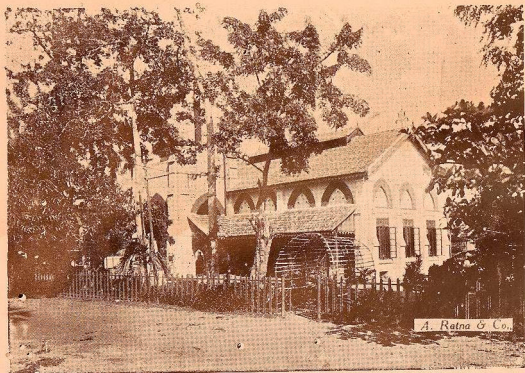
23. Hotels, restaurants and places used for dangerous and offensive trades, such as rice mills, mutton stalls, etc., are subjected to closer inspection and control by the health staff year after year. Licenses are being issued only subject to the usual conditions and such others as are suggested by the Health Officer with reference to any particular trade, locality, etc. Suitable bylaws have recently been framed by the Council and are pending approval of Government.

24. Before the introduction of protected water-supply the only sources of water supply in the city for drinking purposes were the Sivaganga Tank in the small Fort, the Marakayan Tank in Karanthattangudi and some wells in Manambuchavady. The water of the well within the clock tower compound was also largely used for drinking purposes. By means of a system of underground masonry channels the water of the Sivaganga Tank when



A. Ratna & Co.

Sivaganga Tank, Temple and the Fort.



Pumping Station, Tanjore.

full was led into Ayyen Tank, the Haripandithar Tank, the Samanthankulam and several wells in the Fort, besides supplying the Krishna Vilasa Tank within the Tanjore Palace. This was an inheritance of the Municipality from the old Nayak and Mahratta administrations. In the years 1879-80 and 1888-89 large sums of money were spent by the Municipality for the improvement of the watersupply to the tanks within the city and portions of the ditch near the big market and to the north-west of Sivaganga Fort were converted into tanks with flights of steps for bathing and washing purposes. As early as 1885-86 attempts were first made for introducing a protected water-supply and the preparation of the required plans and estimates was entrusted to Mr. W. Hughes, the then Executive Engineer, assisted by a special staff. This project when laid before the Council was shelved for a long time and ultimately rejected on account of its cost. Government, however, insisted on its being carried out. In 1890-91 the Sanitary Engineer under orders from Government appointed one special supervisor for the investigation of the Vennar scheme. The water of the river was declared usable. The scheme was approved by the Government in their order No. 1938 M., dated 5th November 1891 and an application for a loan of Rs. 1,90,000 was also submitted in the same year. The first sod of the water works was cut in November 1892 by His Excellency Lord Wenlock, the then Governor of Madras, and the construction of the works was directly under the management of the then Sanitary Engineer to the government.<sup>2</sup> The following note of the Sanitary Engineer will explain the history of the Tanjore water-works. "The source of the supply is the Vennar which runs about one and half miles to the north of the town. The Vennar has a flow of water for most months of the year. There is little flow above the sand in the Vennar during dry weather, but the bed is saturated and is of considerable depth. The water from the river and the sand will be drawn from it by a filter constructed in the bed of the river and conveyed by a conduit and pipes to the pumping station where it will be pumped by suitable machinery for direct pumping into the distribution pipes. The total length of the distribution pipes is about 15 miles with necessary valves, hydrants and fountains of which at least there will be 83 in the town. The scheme provides for a population of 60,000 at 15 gallons per head per diem. The cost as revised is 3,77,200. The annual expenditure for a full supply of 15 gallons per head, including interest and sinking fund on half the capital cost, will amount to Rs. 32,000. The Government have contributed a moiety of the cost of the scheme." During the Chairmanship of Dr. H. A. F. Nailer, the materials for the construction were collected and the works commenced. During the time of Mr. K. S. Srinivasa Pillai, the major portion of the works was carried out and the works were completed and opened in October 1895 by His



Excellency the Governor when the Hon'ble Mr. K. Kalyanasundaram was the Chairman. The total cost upto completion was Rs. 4,17,300 but some additions and extensions were made after the opening bringing the total cost upto Rs. 4,51,900. The upkeep of water works costs nearly 400 per year. The water supply was introduced in 1912 by the construction of the reservoir near the District Court. In 1905-96 that the water tax was first imposed. The settled demand was Rs. 3-9-0. The entire area of the Municipality cannot yet be said to enjoy the benefits of a protected water supply. The residents of such portions are not satisfied with protected water objected to the payment of water tax, now and then and this proved to be another impediment to the collection of Municipal revenues. When this was pointed out to Government, they observed in the course of their order No. 1643 M, dated 21-9-1898. "The water tax is not an equivalent for water supplied to any particular premises, but a payment for what is a benefit to the whole community and the objection taken to it, on the ground that people do not derive any benefit from the water works, cannot therefore stand." In 1901-02 pipe lines were extended to Pookara Street, and Palliaghraharam and in the course of the next few years a net work of pipe lines has been carried through a major portion of the town. One portion of the town is supplied direct from the supply mains and the other from the service reservoir constructed in 1912-13. The reservoir is daily filled during nights. The pumping of the water to the city is done by 4 engines. Originally there were only 3 and the 4th was purchased in 1913-14. It was in that year that the pumping station compound was fenced. One of the 4 engines was repaired in 1924-25 and another has been sent to Madras for repairs. The estimated cost of repairs for the engine now sent is Rs. 7,500. Attempts are being made for augmenting the supply of water to localities where complaints are loud, by a regulation of the supply and by opening additional valves. At present there are 451 public fountains and 951 house service connections. The quality of water supplied has been continuously pronounced to be excellent. A scheme for augmenting the water supply to the town itself was entrusted to be carried out by the Public Works Department and they state that they have already spent Rs. 40,019-4-5, but it is not known whether the scheme will ever be carried out successfully and the large sum spent will not after all turn out to be a mere waste of Municipal Funds.

25. The splendid drainage scheme which now exists in the large fort dates back to the days of the Mahratta Rajas. It was carried out about 1840 on the initiative of Mr. Kindersley, the then Collector. The side drains along the rampart streets were constructed from Municipal Funds in 1868. About the beginning of 1879 the drainage channels from the northern fort ditch to the Vadavar were constructed. The other portions

of the town are supplied by drains here and there and the sewage is directed into the storm water channels. In addition to these there are a number of cess pits which are emptied by the conservancy staff. During the course of 1926 the drain for Vishnar Kott Edd Street was completed at a cost of Rs. 2,080. The old drains within the fort area continue to be in going order and the contents are emptied in the north fort. There is a sewage main maintained which has been leased out to a contractor for an amount of Rs. 3,205. A comprehensive scheme for the drainage of the fort opening of a sewage farm has been investigated by the Sanitary Engineer, but is kept in abeyance for want of funds though it is believed that the scheme will prove remunerative.

26. The Municipality maintains no Veterinary institution but there is one in the small fort maintained by the Government, where animals are treated on payment of fees. Till recently this Veterinary Assistant was given a small allowance of Rs. 180 per annum for passing the animals at the slaughter house but in view of a high-paid Health Officer having been entertained by the Municipality and five fully qualified Sanitary Inspectors appointed to assist him, the system of requisitioning the services of the Veterinary Assistant for a piece of work which lay within the legitimate province of the Health Staff was discontinued. When in 1917-18 the Municipality was maintaining a large number of bulls for conservancy work, the health of the animals was attended to by a special Veterinary Assistant who was appointed to superintend the cattle shed. The post was abolished, as soon as the system of maintaining bulls at Municipal cost, was abandoned.

27. In 1872-73 the erection of two markets out of Municipal Funds was commenced by the Commissioners; the smaller for the sale of vegetables was located within the Fort while the larger which was to serve as a general market was located on the glacis of the large fort near the East Gate, the cost coming up to Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 12,800 respectively. In 1889-90 a new tiled shed was constructed in the fort vegetable market at a cost of Rs. 1,400 to replace the thatched shed which was then in existence. In April 1910 a separate market known as the Victoria Market was opened at Karanthattangudy, but as the necessity for such a market was not quite felt the new Victory dispensary was constructed by the Municipality over the site, wherein it was located. There is a weekly cattle shandy held to the west of the Glacis adjacent to the small fort and it meets every Friday. The two markets require a good deal of improvement to suit modern requirements and proposals have been recently made to remodel the fort vegetable market at an estimated cost of Rs. 15,000. The work will be put in execution as soon as the Sanitary Engineer's approval of the plans and estimates is obtained. The right of collecting fees from the petty bazaars in both the markets is farmed out annually to contractors and the permanent stalls

located therein are let out once a year. A special establishment consisting of a Sanitary Inspector, a Clerk, a bill collector, two peons and thotties is maintained for the proper up-keep and conservancy of the two markets.

28. The Municipality maintains only one cart stand on the fort glacis near the East Gate. It was constructed as early as 1887-1888 and provides accommodation for a number of country carts which resort to the city, on payment of a small fee. A number of straw stalls have been opened in the cart stand itself for the convenience of the cartmen. The right of collection of fees at the cart stand is also farmed out every year.

29. Two slaughterhouses, one for bulls and the other for sheep, are maintained by the Municipality. The former was opened in 1913-14 and the latter has been in existence for a long time past. The two are situated within the same compound and a typical beef stall is under construction within the compound.

30. In September 1869, Government transferred permanently the Sivaganga Gardens to the Municipality at the request of the Commissioners, to serve as a people's park, on the understanding that other Municipalities in the District were to be supplied with young trees free of cost whenever available. It was laid out in 1871-72 and as the locality is too crowded and ill-ventilated the maintainance of the park seems to have been neglected. Two years after this, the Commissioners accepted the offer of the Government to vest the ditch, glacis, and ramparts of the two forts for ever in the Municipality, on condition that no building should be allowed to be erected thereon without the consent of the Collector. After the passing of the Ancient Monuments Reservation Act by the Government of Lord Curzon, the Sivaganga fort and the ditch around it were declared protected monuments and they were handed over to the Government Public Works Department to be conserved and maintained in good repair. A portion of the glacis to the south of the city and to the east of the road leading to the railway station was leased out in perpetuity by the Commissioners in January 1873 to a committee of local residents for erection of a reading room and library now, the Tanjore Union Club. In September 1877 the Sivaganga Garden was handed over, at the instance of the Government to the Superintendent of the District Jail for the use of the prisoners, as it was very near the Jail which was then located in Somanatha Panth's Palace on the south-west corner of the fort. It was however restored to Municipal management in February 1882 as a separate district jail was about that time built outside the Municipal limits about 1918. The Municipality maintained a special establishment for lifting water from the Sivaganga Tank and irrigating the garden. Recently some attention has been devoted to revive the park and restore it to its original condition. An



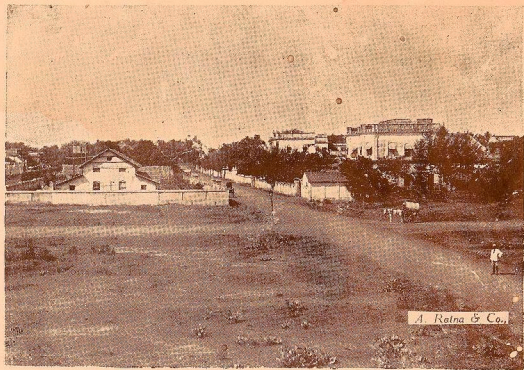
order for a small 6½ B. H. P. Oil Engine and pump at a cost of Rs. 2,085 has been recently placed and ere long it is hoped to convert the Sivaganga garden into a public park to serve as a promenade and place of recreation for the citizens and at the same time make it sufficiently pay its way for its maintenance. In a small room in the garden which seems to have originally served the purpose of a bower house, there is now located an educational museum which is maintained for the benefit of the several teachers and pupils of the Municipal Elementary Schools of the city, and periodical meetings of the Municipal Elementary Teachers' Association are held there. About 1879 the Municipality took on lease the Nilgiri Garden from the Receiver of the Palace Estate for 26 years on an annual rent of Rs. 250. It was converted into a public park named after Mr. Crole, the then Collector of the District. A large sum of money was raised as public subscriptions from the leading land holders of the District and the Receiver of the Palace Estate, for the formation of roads and metalling the southern part of the west rampart street leading to the park, and a band stand was also built at the centre, whereat Their Highnesses the Ranees' Band played on three evenings every week. It was opened for the public in March 1880, and managed by a committee of prominent residents with the Collector as its President. Even before the lapse of the period of lease the park seems to have been abandoned. In 1916 a proposal was made to Government to hand over the Sangitha Mahal located at the north-west corner of the Palace with a garden surrounding it to the Municipality for the purpose of being used as a public park in the heart of the city but Government have not so far complied with the request of the Council. 6 corner parks in expanded metal enclosures have been opened in different parts of the city mostly at important junctions of roads. Crotons and flower plants are reared therein and afford a refreshing site to the way-worn traveller. A small garden has also recently been laid out on the southern side of the Municipal Office compound. It is proposed to extend it further and lay out a tennis ground on the northern side and make the Municipal Office Buildings a centre of attraction.

31. As early as 1879, the Commissioners considered the advisability of providing for the extension of the town and proposed to extend it towards the north west. Later, when the problem of removing the congestion of the town and effecting improvements to the slums of the city was taken up in right earnest at the instance of Government, Professor Patrick Geddes, the town planning expert, and Mr. J. K. Lancashire, I.C.S., the Officer appointed by the Government on Special Duty in connection with town planning operations visited the city and suggested improvements. Mr. H. V. Lanchester, the Town planning adviser to Government, reported upon these proposals after a detailed inspection. As a result of their visit, the



Municipality acquired a site immediately to the north of the Pillayarpatti siding and south of the road leading to the new road to Vallam at a cost of Rs. 10,329 including the cost of acquisition and alignment. The land thus acquired was parcelled out into 93 sites and divided into 4 blocks named Brahmin, Cosmopolitan, Christian and Mohammedan. The Municipal Council met on a number of occasions in 1916 on the site itself and sold the plots in public auction. The upset price, the conditions upon which the sites were to be transferred, etc., having been fixed beforehand by the Council with the approval of Government. Quite a fairly large number of sites were sold at first, but when Government subsequently fixed the rate of ground rent at Rs. 50 per acre, and owing to the delay in laying out roads, providing lights, and facilities for a protected water-supply and other amenities, by the Council there was a lack of bidders for the remaining sites. With a view to ensure quicker sales the sanction of the Government was sought for to reduce the high upset price and the heavy ground rent. Agreeably to the wishes of the Council the ground rent was reduced to Rs. 6-4-0 per acre and the upset price from 5 annas 4 pies per square yard to 3 annas in 1926. After such reduction all the remaining sites but three have been sold. A few high class bungalows have already sprung up and it is expected, that, ere long, a good many houses will be built up in the extension and the congestion of the town substantially reduced. Proposals for other extensions providing for the requirements of the middle and poorer classes, as the Nilgiri extension, etc., are pending further investigation. Meanwhile, when, in 1924, the Government of Madras proposed the formation of co-operative building societies to be financed by the Government loans on easy terms of repayment and low rates of interests, a few such societies were formed with a view to lay out further extensions to the south-west of the city. As the operations of these societies are subject to the close scrutiny of the co-operative and other departments of Government, these schemes worked out by private enterprise have in a way obviated the necessity for the initiation of new town planning schemes for the richer and middle classes by the Municipality. Of the several societies registered, two, viz., the Annapoorna and the Sankaranarayana have acquired sites and the former has put up a number of decent buildings to the south of the railway lines. Two more societies have initiated acquisition proceedings for a similar purpose. The other societies have not yet commenced operations and it is hoped that they will be converted into societies for the benefit of the poor and the depressed classes and advantage taken of their co-operative organisation to reclaim some of the slums and cheries of the city.

32. Among improvements to the town effected from the Municipal Funds or with the help of public subscriptions and Government grants,



Town Extension View.



Municipal Office, Tanjore.



Clock Tower, Tanjore.



the following are worthy of special mention. In February 1872 the building in which the Municipal Office is located was purchased. In 1889-90 an upper storey for the building was built at a cost of Rs. 1,700. The southern verandah and rooms were added in 1917-18 and the northern rooms in 1919-20. The building with its improvements provides sufficient accommodation for the office, the Health Officer and the Municipal Engineer. The present hall wherein the meetings of the council are held is not found to be sufficiently commodious and it is therefore proposed to construct ere long a special meeting hall immediately to the west of the present building. As early as 1872 the Commissioners purchased a turret clock, but as the Municipality was not in a position to provide sufficient funds for building a tower, the present clock tower was built at a cost of Rs. 15,150 raised by public subscription and the work finished in 1885. As the Ranees of Tanjore contributed Rs. 12,000 for the purpose, the tower came to be known as the Ranees' tower. The platform along the edge of the Railway Vennar Road from the Railway Station to the Cutcherry Road was constructed in 1918. Two blocks of huts for the Municipal Thotties were constructed at a cost of Rs. 11,500.

33. From the abstract of receipts and charges of the Municipality for the past 6 decades and the statement showing the financial position of the Municipality on the 31st March 1926, which are appended to this report, it will be seen that notwithstanding the several trials and vicissitudes through which the Commissioners and later the Councillors of the Municipality had to pass, the figures reveal a tale of progress all round and the Municipal Council and its subordinates have all along laboured hard, in their own measure, keeping in view the comfort and convenience of the thousands of inhabitants of this city as their chief concern. There is a limit to all human effort and it remains for us only to pray to the Almighty and the unseen powers that sway the destinies of nations as well as cities to vouchsafe to us and to posterity a bright and happy future in keeping with the glorious traditions of this ancient and historic city.

TANJORE, }  
24th February 1927. }

P. S. RAJAPPA,  
Chairman.

# THE ABSTRACTS OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSE

RECEIPTS.	1875-76.	1885-86.	1895-96.	1905-06.	15	20	3.
Tax on carts ... ..	202	...	12,478	5,079	4,9	8,110	
Tax on companies ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2,20	
House (only) ... ..	12,565	...	...	...	...	60,213	
Buildings and lands ... ..	...	12,946	24,792	2	3. 70	53,49	
Water tax on buildings and lands ... ..	...	...	10,350	20,239	37 76	3	
Tax on vehicles... ..	2,092	...	1,582	...	...	...	
„ animals... ..	...	3,810	2,380	...	...	...	
„ carts ... ..	...	2,284	2,410	...	...	...	
Toll ... ..	19,420	13,548	16,006	1	...	...	
Realization under special acts ... ..	...	...	65	...	...	...	
Rents of lands, building, etc., and sale proceeds of lands, etc. ... ..	...	4,005	3,902	4,	...	...	
Conservancy receipts ... ..	...	...	2,231	3,420	...	...	
Fees and revenue from Educational Institutions ... ..	...	...	14	19	...	...	
Education taxes... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	

## OTHER RECEIPTS.

Fees and revenue from Medical Institutions... ..	...	...	...	26	...	...
Income from markets ... ..	...	4,283	...	...	...	...
Income from markets and slaughterhouses ... ..	...	...	7,349	11	...	...
License fees ... ..	1,050	494	887	...	...	...
Other fees ... ..	...	...	1,538	...	...	...
Fines under Municipal and other acts ... ..	657	613	1,546	...	...	...
Interest and contributions from Government for other purposes including education ... ..	79	550	237	...	...	...
Recoveries for services to private individuals ... ..	...	1,141	1,450	321	8	...
Miscellaneous ... ..	5,488	412	380	1 27	6,830	7,0
Total Receipts ... ..	42,210	44,546	...	42	3,453	2 43,88
Advance recovered ... ..	...	...	301	430	1,032	8,8.
Deposits and Provident Fund ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	14,02
Total Income ... ..	42,210	44,546	90,696	1,13,672	1,6	2,60 72
Grand Total including opening balance ... ..	46,780	56,538	2,12,150	1,30,248	...	...



## Statement of Liabilities, and Assets on 31st March 1926.

Heads.	Amount. Rs.	Heads	Amount. Rs.
LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
(i) Balance of Loans.—		(i) Closing Balance.—	
(a) From Govt. ...	43,679 10 9	(a) Cash ...	6,473 9 3
(b) From public. ...		(b) In Treasury ...	58,614 7 4
		(c) In Bank ...	
		Total	65,088 0 7
Total ...	43,679 10 9		
(ii) Provident Fund.—		(ii) Provident Fund.—	
(a) Cash ...	4,269 5 4	Investments ...	2,900 0 0
(b) Investments ...		Postal Savings Bank...	10,258 6 7
Postal Savings Bank ...	10,258 6 7	Total	14,158 6 7
War bonds and G. F. notes ...	3,900 0 0		
Total ...	18,427 11 11	(iii) Deposits.—	
(iii) Deposits ...	39,365 6 11	(a) Postal Savings Bank	9,743 7 7
(iv) Funded capital of endowed institutions. ...	2,800 0 0	(b) Government Promissory Notes. ...	
(v) Cash balance of endowed institutions. ...		Co-operative Bank.	14,329 9 4
(vi) Cash balance of special accounts ...		(c) Land or other Securities ...	
vii) Other amounts ...		Total	24,073 0 11
Unpaid bills on 31-3-26.	1,190 5 3		
Grand total ...	1,05,463 2 10	(iv) Sinking Fund Investments. ...	
		(v) Other Investments. ...	5,932 3 7
		(vi) Funded capital of endowed institutions—securities and landed property ...	2,800 0 0
		(vii) Arrears of taxes ...	98,150 7 8
		(viii) Other assets ...	3,59,786 12 1
		(ix) Advances Recoverable—	
		(a) Permanent ...	335 0 0
		(b) Other ...	43,848 4 6
		Total ...	6,64,241 11 10
		Grand total ...	7,67,561 3 11