

THE WEEK IN THE C

A SHORT RECORD OF THE MORE IMPORTANT D
AT THE CORPORATION MEETINGS FOR THE WE

Public Health Standing Committee

WE should have announced long before this that following upon the death of Dr. J. N. Maitra, Dr. K. S. Ray, Deputy Chairman of the Public Health Standing Committee, was elected its Chairman, while Kabiraj Satya Brata Sen took Dr. Ray's place.

The Education Officer

THE Education Officer of the Corporation, Mr K. P. Chattopadhyaya was deputed by the Corporation at their meeting on Wednesday to attend the annual session of the All-India Education Conference at Nagpur during the Christmas week.

For The "Methars"

ONE of the recommendations of the Harijan Special Committee for facilitating the work of the city's scavengers and the *methars* was adopted by the Corporation at their meeting on Monday last, when it was decided to replace the present system of carrying night-soil pails on the head or on the shoulder in favour of hand-carts. The meeting directed that seven hand-carts, in accordance with the design prepared by Mr. Satish Chandra Das Gupta, President of the Harijan Special Committee, be purchased from the Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceutical Works Limited at a cost of Rs. 30 each as an

course, be published after the finish of the days and press reported Chairman to enlighten was not been published side publications the conditions, quite at Commi past.— Deputy present authority to authorise mandating committees by the draft committee. published

ago he was promoted to be the Chief Valuer and Surveyor on increased emoluments.

Mr. Bhattacharya rose from very humble beginnings to a position of responsibility and trust by merit and hard work. He was unostentatious to a degree and universally popular.

He leaves behind him besides his widow, five sons and five daughters, mostly minor. We offer our sincerest condolences to the bereaved family.

Grievances Of Corporation Menials

For some days past, about a couple of hundred menial employees of the Corporation, have been daily gathering in the Market Square, facing the Central Municipal Office. There they come in a procession and hold a meeting and a demonstration, demanding, among other things, "permanent service, provident fund and gratuity, 15 days' casual leave and a month's sick leave in a year, free quarters, uniforms, compensation for accidents, free medical aid, abolition of bribery and corruption." They ask further for "minimum wage of Rs. 30 and maximum of Rs. 500 for all employees."

They stated, on Wednesday, that if the Corporation authorities did not consider their grievances favourably before December 20, they would take "direct action."

A leaflet circulated in the meetings says: "There will be no light and water available some day after December 20. All citizens take note."

—The Week In The Corporation

[Continued from page 196 (b)]

of expenditure might be scrutinized by the Finance Committee.—Mr. Santosh Kumar Basu pointed out that this was a budgetted item of expenditure and

Local Self-Government Institute, Punjab

WE have already referred to the Punjab Self-Government Institute in these columns and should like to draw attention to its very activities at greater length. Institutes for research and investigation into the local administration are a common feature of life in the West. These institutes are associations of citizens for co-operating with officials in the scientific study of local affairs with a view to promoting efficiency and disseminating information. Modelled on these lines is the example of Bombay, which established the Self-Government Institute in 1926, the Punjab Self-Government Institute came into being in 1934 by the conference of local bodies in the Punjab in that year. It now constitutes a permanent organisation of Municipal Committees, Boards, Town Committees and other local bodies as well as public institutions and individuals interested in the field of Local Self-Government in Punjab.

Its aims and objects are:—(a) to educate the people in the principles and practice of Local Self-Government; (b) to promote the study of problems connected with Local Self-Government and to conduct research; (c) to act as a centre of information and advice for Local Self-Government; (d) to strengthen and improve Local Self-Government institutions by co-operation and other means; (e) to organise periodical conferences of local bodies for exchange of ideas, pooling their experience and making combined efforts to solve the difficulties; (f) to represent the opinion of Local Self-Government bodies in cases in which their representation is desirable; (g) to promote the efficiency of administration of the local bodies.

The Institute has already achieved great success and the Punjab Government has recognised its contribution to the improvement of local bodies by awarding them grants.

CORPORATION

NOTES OF AND DISCUSSIONS
 ENDING DECEMBER 20, 1935

as not intended that the whole report
 1. He explained that it was found
 t meeting that the Committee could not
 ours on this side of the Christmas holi-
 there had been many comments in the
 also in other quarters about the
 activity of this Committee, he, as
 of the Committee, took it upon himself
 the outside public that the Committee
 ly inactive and that a draft report had
 ed. What he wished was that the out-
 should know the gist of the recommen-
 e Committee. If he had not authoris-
 cation of the gist of the recommenda-
 ht have found its way to the press in
 r manner and in fact draft reports of
 had found their way to the press in the
 J. C. Gupta: Very unfortunate.—The
 or said that so far as publication in the
 nce was concerned, it was quite in an
 manner because he took it upon himself
 the publication of the gist of the recom-
 of the Committee. Proceedings of Com-
 ed the Deputy Mayor, could be obtained
 e on payment of a certain price, and the
 was part of the agenda of the Com-
 regards the alleged inaccuracies in the
 port he might say that he did not

Resign

me Step"

*addressed to the Mayor of
withdrawal from the Special
th December.]*

ements, this meeting was finally held
December 18, at 5 p.m.

l acrimonious discussions, the Mayor
ormal conference of a dozen Council-
ermen, representing various groups, to
n agreed solution of the pro-
r prolonged discussion "it was
Khan Bahadur M. A. Momin would
olution seeking to fix a percentage and
. B. K. Basu would move an amend-
erence of the matter to a small com-
en Aldermen and Councillors. It was
all causes of friction and controversy
to exist, and that the amendment of
uld be accepted by the House quietly
much comment.

ie matter came up before the meeting,
igs were marked by disorderly scenes.
epeated appeals from the Mayor, mem-
) indulge in personal attacks and reci-
d some of the members treated the
dings with levity, derision and con-
as evident that most of the members
esent were in no mood to take things
d some even attempted to stultify the
suggesting wild amendments. The
ibers present in the meeting left the
protest and the amendment of Mr. B.
as passed in a House from which all
members had already retired.

slem members of the Corporation feel

mises beckoning forward to progress and
 ment. They are cold, matter-of-fact and
 certain limits) efficient. But they are a
 The "City Fathers" is not merely an em
 Many of the Town Councillors have give
 service to their Councils and are deserve
 respect in their cities. Some well-kn
 who have played a very prominent part
 and Imperial politics, won their first
 and acquired their great influence with
 in municipal government. A remarkabl
 is that of the late Mr. Joseph Chamberl
 Chamberlain family in Birmingham ger

FUNCTIONS.

The functions of the Municipal Cor
 be classed under six heads:

(1) Under Public Health and Sani
 come drainage, sewage and sewage di
 removal of rubbish, prevention of nuisan
 tion of offensive trades, inspection of fi
 for sale, regulation of slaughter-houses a
 hospitals and regulations about infectio
 provision of parks and open spaces, w
 and a number of miscellaneous matter
 on increasing every year. To the ad
 of compulsory elementary education a
 certain duties connected with school r
 vices. Perhaps public baths, play-gr
 burial grounds may also come under th
 Public Health and Sanitation.

(2) Under Public Safety will come
 and protection from fire generally; th
 formed by Watch Committees, which are
 the Town Council but which hav
 authority; and other matters of a cog
 The Watch Committee not only looks
 Town Police, but exercises vigilance o
 traffic and matters relating to public

that public bodies give better treatment to employees as they are under public control, and that the employees count in favour of fairplay. Against this it is argued: (1) that public undertakings rarely yield any profits over a number of years; (2) that they are inefficient, as the motive of self-interest does not come into play; and (3) that a certain amount of indirect corruption comes in when the employees of a corporation exercise their power. Municipal Trading is not yet a live thing in India, but it may well become one in the future, and it is not amiss that the question should be discussed and public opinion formed thereon.

(To be continued.)

Calcutta Municipal Corporation

[Department of the Corporation.]

The presence of Diphtheria germs in the throat causes the formation of a greyish membrane. The germ multiplies in the membrane and at the same time throws off a powerful poison which can cause death when absorbed in sufficient quantities and which is fatal because of the symptoms of the disease.

Mode of spread.—The spread of the disease from a diseased person to a healthy person may be by direct contact or through sneezing, coughing or even by speaking, when droplets are thrown out a distance of several feet, which being germ-laden may lodge in the throats of others or be breathed in with impure air. Droplets having lodged on the hands, may be

