

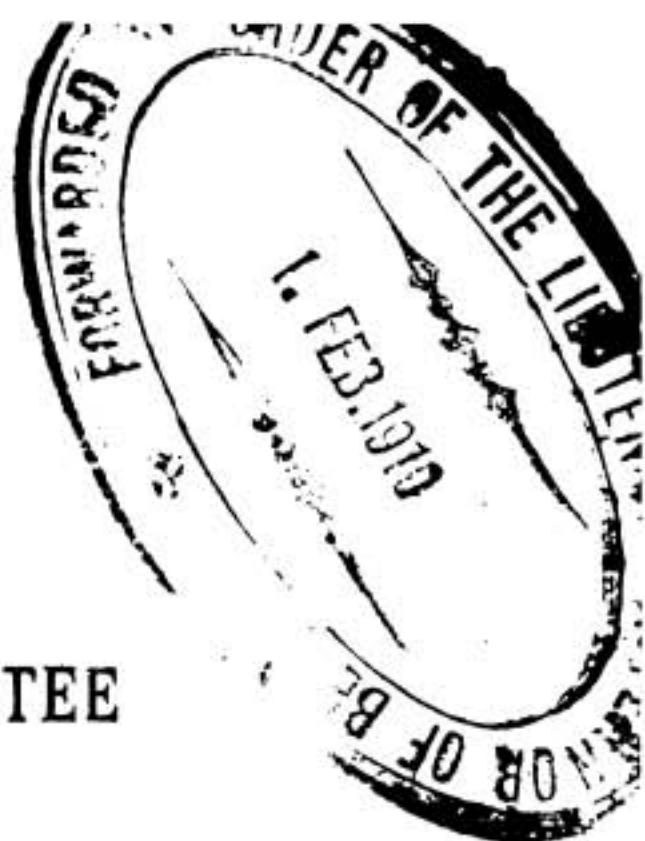
REPORT  
OF THE  
HONORARY COMMITTEE  
FOR THE  
MANAGEMENT OF THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN  
1908-09.



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[Not for sale.]

**REPORT**  
**OF THE**  
**HONORARY COMMITTEE**  
**FOR THE**  
**MANAGEMENT OF THE ZOOLOGICAL**  
**GARDEN,**  
**1908-09.**



THE Honorary Committee have the honour to submit their report for the year ending 31st March 1909, the contents of which, as usual, include—

The Superintendent's report upon the menagerie :

Monthly returns of visitors and list of donors :

An abstract of accounts of ordinary and extraordinary receipts and expenditure.

**1. THE COMMITTEE.**

*President :*

The Hon'ble Mr. E. A. Gait, C.I.B., (from 1st April to 3rd June 1908).

The Hon'ble Mr. F. W. Duke, (from 4th June 1908 to 31st March 1909).

*Vice-President :*

A. E. Silk, Esq., (from 5th May 1908 to 17th November 1908).

W. K. Dods, Esq., (from 18th November 1908 to 31st March 1909).

*Honorary Secretary and Treasurer :*

Major B. C. Chatterton, M.D., I.M.S., F.R.C.S.E. (from 1st April to 13th October 1908).

Lieut.-Colonel E. H. Brown, M.D., I.M.S., D.P.H., F.Z.S., F.R.C.S.E. (from 14th October 1908 to 31st March 1909).

*Superintendent :*

Rai R. B. Sanyal, Bahadur, C.M.Z.S., (from 1st April 1908 to 13th October 1908).

Mr. Bijay Krishna Basu, (from 16th October 1908 to 31st March 1909).

*Assistant Superintendent :*

Babu Somadev Ganguli, (from 16th November 1908 to 31st March 1909).

*Members of the Committee :*

H. H. Sir Nripendra Narayan Bhup Bahadur, G.O.I.E., C.B., Maharaja of Cooch Behar.

Sir Herbert Hope Risley, I.C.S., C.S.I., C.I.E., K.C.I.E.

Surgn.-Genl. G. Bomford, C.I.E., I.M.S.

Roostumjee Dhunjeebhoy Mehta, Esq., C.I.E.

Maharaja Sir Pradyot Kumar Tagore, Kt.

William Arthur Dring, Esq.

Major R. Bird, M.D., C.I.E., M.S., F.R.C.S., I.M.S.

Philip Lindsay Buckland, Esq.

Dr. Nelson Annandale, B.A., D.Sc., C.M.E.S.

W. R. Gourlay, Esq., I.C.S.

Colonel G. M. Porter, R.E.

Ralph Percy Ashton, Esq.

H. J. McIntosh, Esq., I.C.S.

The Hon'ble Ihtisham-ul-Mulk, Rais-ud-Daula, Amir-ul-Umara, Nawab Asif Kadr Saiyid Wasif Ali Mirza, Khan Bahadur, Mahabat Jang, Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad.

*Resignation—*

The Hon'ble Mr. E. A. Gait, C.I.E., resigned the office of President of the Committee during the year.

Mr. A. E. Silk resigned the office of Vice-President prior to his departure for England.

Major B. O. Chatterton, M.D., I.M.S., F.R.C.S.E., resigned the office of Honorary Secretary and Treasurer during the year.

*Obituary—*

Mr. A. E. Silk.

Rai R. B. Sanyal, Bahadur.

## 2. STAFF AND ESTABLISHMENT.

Many changes took place in the course of the year.

The staff suffered a severe loss by the death, on the 13th October 1908, of Rai Rambrahma Sanyal Bahadur, C.M.Z.S., the Superintendent of the garden. At a meeting of the Committee of management held on 24th October 1908, the following resolution was placed on record :—

“The Committee wish to place on record their deep regret at the death of Rai Rambrahma Sanyal, Bahadur, Superintendent of the garden. During the long period of 33 years in which he was in charge of the gardens, he displayed the greatest zeal and energy in their interest ; his scientific attainments and his unequalled knowledge of the treatment of wild animals in captivity, in addition to the great knowledge of gardening, enabled him to bring the gardens to their present satisfactory state, and by his death the Zoological Gardens have sustained a most serious loss.”

Mr. Bijay Krishna Basu, the Assistant Superintendent of the garden, acted as Superintendent from 13th October 1908, and Babu Somadev Ganguli, as Assistant Superintendent.

these were already well represented, they could not be accepted owing to want of accommodation.

The management of the garden has been most satisfactory, Mr. B. Basu, the new Superintendent, having proved himself an able administrator, and most successful in the treatment of sick animals, and in the suppression of threatened epidemics, and a very capable gardener. He has kept the collection of animals up to a high standard, has been markedly successful in breeding, and has been very keen and energetic in all the multifarious duties connected with the garden.

Further, he has kept down the expenses in every department and has effected a good deal of savings thereby.

The new Assistant Superintendent, Mr. S. Ganguli, has also worked very well and has proved himself capable and energetic; I think he will be a very useful officer in time.

E. HAROLD BROWN,  
*Honorary Secretary.*

F. W. DUKE,  
*President.*

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### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report on the existing condition and the progress of the managerie of the garden.

The following comparative table shows how the various collections of animals in the garden stood during the last four years:—

YEAR.		Mammals.	Birds.	Reptiles.
1905-06	...	432	772	281
1906-07	...	418	741	307
1907-08	...	401	795	310
1908-09	...	417	803	312

## COLLECTION OF ANIMALS.

It is high time to make serious attempts to increase the collection of animals and to make it more representative of the Indian fauna. During the thirty-three years and odd months that the garden has been in existence, no organised and systematic attempts have been made in this direction. South India, the Himalayan and Sub-Himalayan regions, which are rich recruiting grounds for animals, remain practically unexploited, though feeble attempts have been made of late to exploit Darjeeling and its neighbourhood for animals, and Lake Chilka for aquatic birds.

The Committee have never since 1878 ceased to appeal to the officials and non-officials, noblemen and others for help in getting Indian animals for the garden; and it must be gratefully acknowledged that whenever an opportunity occurred they helped the garden in the past, and will no doubt do so in the future. Besides, occasional purchases might be made in the local market, but this is deteriorating day by day for want of respectable animal dealers, and by the presence of foreign dealers who are always prepared to pay fancy prices for any new specimen that may come in. Surely, for the purpose of keeping up the collection in a state of efficiency, such sources of recruitment are uncertain, precarious and valueless.

The following methods may be considered for acquiring animals for the garden :—

1. Employment of agencies at selected centres, such as Darjeeling, Mussorie, Trivandrum, Debrughar, Raxaul, Lucknow, Singapore.

2. Appointment of *shikaris* and care-takers to collect animals in different places.

3. Sending out responsible officers from time to time to selected places.

B. BASU,

*Offg. Superintendent, Zoological Garden, Calcutta.*

## APPENDIX A.

I.—Comparative Statement of Receipts for 1907-1908  
and 1908-1909.

	RECEIPTS FOR—					
	1907-1908.			1908-1909.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Opening balance ...	23,888	11	2	21,888	14	7
Interest ...	163	3	4	163	3	4
Donations and subscriptions ...	285	0	0	388	0	0
Entrance receipts ...	37,731	15	0	35,929	12	0
Rent ...	2,640	0	0	1,890	0	0
Carriage and palkies ...	690	0	0	675	8	0
Fishing ...	6	0	0	233	0	0
Picnic ...	139	0	0	133	0	0
Rhino urine ...	1,392	0	0	1,277	0	0
Miscellaneous ...	5,120	0	0	2,369	12	5
Government contribution ...	20,000	0	0	20,000	0	0
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>92,005</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>84,948</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>
<i>Add—</i> Receipts of 28th to 31st March 1907, which were included in 1907-1908	514	8	0	...		
	92,520	5	6			
<i>Add—</i> Receipts of 31st March 1908 which were included in 1908-1909.	...			80	12	0
				85,028	14	4
<i>Deduct—</i> Receipts of 31st March 1908 which were included in 1908-1908.	80	12	0	...		
<i>Deduct—</i> Receipts of 31st March 1909 which were included in 1909-1910.	...			49	0	0
<b>GRAND TOTAL ...</b>	<b>92,439</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>84,979</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4</b>