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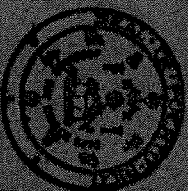
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GOVERNOR OF PUERTO RICO

HONORABLE

JESUS T. PINERO



For the Fiscal Year 1946-1947

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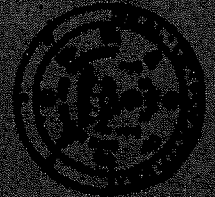
FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

GOVERNOR OF PUERTO RICO

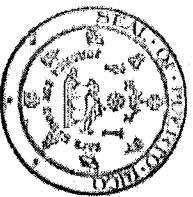
HONORABLE

JESUS T. PUERTO



For the Fiscal Year 1946-1947

**FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
GOVERNOR OF PUERTO RICO
HONORABLE
JESUS T. PIÑERO**



For the Fiscal Year 1946-1947

Public Works Dept.
9-30-47

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FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNOR OF PUERTO RICO

THE HONORABLE
THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
Washington 25, D. C.

SIR:

Pursuant to law, I have the honor to submit the following report as Governor of Puerto Rico, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1947.

INTRODUCTION

On September 3, 1946 Mr. Jesús T. Piñero, former Resident Commissioner for Puerto Rico in Washington, was inaugurated as Governor of Puerto Rico. Governor Piñero, who succeeds Governor Rexford Guy Tugwell, is the first Puerto Rican to receive such presidential appointment and the people of Puerto Rico gathered in an unprecedented parade to celebrate this recognition of their ability to manage their own affairs. On August 5, 1947 Public Law No. 362 was approved, introducing reforms to the Organic Act by providing for a larger measure of self-government, including the election, by the people, of their Governor at the next general election in November 1948 and thereafter.

During the fiscal year 1946-47 emphasis has been given to the encouragement of private enterprise, through intensive research on raw materials and market possibilities, expansion of the Aid-to Industrial-Development Program of the Puerto Rico Industrial Development Company, and legislative action granting certain privileges to prospective investors. Act No. 346 of May 12, 1947 grants new industries complete tax exemption for a seven-year period and partial exemption for the subsequent three years. Fourteen privately-owned plants have been or are being established under said program. Production in the cement and shoe factories increased. The lag in rum exports had an adverse effect on the operation of the glass and paper plants. Test runs at the clay products factory were started near the close of the fiscal period. Machinery and equipment for the textile mill is being received. Plans for the wallboard plant are well under way. An agreement has been entered into with the Hilton Hotels Corporation of Chicago, whereby the Development Company will construct a 300-room hotel at an estimated cost of \$4,000,000 to be leased to said corporation for a term of twenty-years.

OF THE GOVERNOR OF PUERTO RICO

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compared with the previous year's collections, five items of the revenue schedule—U. S. Internal Revenues, Customs, Aleoholic Beverages and Narcotics, Victory Tax and Inheritance Tax—showed decreases aggregating \$16,500,000, while four items—General Excise Taxes, Income Tax, Miscellaneous revenues and Property Taxes—showed increases aggregating \$10,400,000, thus leaving a net decrease in collections amounting to \$6,100,000. Actual collections of revenues amounted to \$76,050,461.44 and exceeded the Treasurer's revised revenue estimate of \$74,450,000 by the sum of \$1,600,000.

The following table shows in comparative form the revenues covered into the general fund during the last two fiscal periods:

Items	1946-47	1945-46	Change	Per Cent
Property Tax.....	\$600,055.15	\$437,707.60	+162,347.55	37.09
Income Tax.....	21,919,899.08	18,744,873.78	+2,875,025.30	15.34
Inheritance Tax.....	397,545.72	694,287.78	-296,742.06	-42.74
General Excise Taxes.....	21,860,523.63	17,011,572.94	+4,548,950.69	26.74
Alcoholic Beverages and Narcotics.....	7,326,540.05	7,748,900.42	-421,960.37	-5.45
U. S. Internal Revenues (General Fund Proportion).....	18,231,622.91	33,216,617.54	-14,984,994.63	-45.11
U. S. Customs.....	2,875,000.00	3,439,000.00	-564,000.00	-16.40
Victory Tax.....	88,571.99	386,852.57	-298,280.58	-77.11
Miscellaneous.....	3,350,562.31	540,226.85	+2,810,335.46	520.22
Total.....	76,050,461.44	82,219,856.48	-6,169,395.04	

NOTE:—These figures from the Treasurer's records differ from the Auditor's (Tables 1 and 2), due to different accounting systems.

The total receipts covered into the General Fund, including restricted and repayment receipts, transfers from special funds and adjustments, totalling \$11,969,092.55, amounted to \$88,019,553.99. This, plus the cash balance of \$82,319,812.81 at the beginning of the period, raised the total resources of the fund to \$170,339,366.80. Disbursements amounted to \$97,271,833.96, including transfers to special funds and adjustments, totalling \$14,248,385.14, leaving an available cash balance of \$73,067,532.84 on June 30, 1947.

Special Funds (Trust Funds):

The total receipts covered into the special or trust funds amounted to \$96,107,295.37, including transfers and adjustments totalling \$23,077,355.77. This amount, plus the cash balance at the beginning of the period, \$47,180,332.33, raised the total resources of the funds to \$143,287,627.70. Disbursements made against these funds, including transfers to other funds in the amount of \$12,249,902.77, totalled \$96,923,065.81. The cash balance available on these funds was \$46,364,561.89, as of the close of operations on June 30, 1947.

Puerto Rico Agricultural Company of market places for retailing staple commodities as a measure for the control of blackmarket practices, and reorganization of the Insular Labor Relations Board under the Department of Labor.

The following concurrent resolutions were adopted:

To request the Governor of Puerto Rico to call a special session of the Legislature for the specific and preferably, only purpose of enacting adequate election and registration legislation;

to state before the Public Service Commission of Puerto Rico the position of the Legislature as regards a serious problem affecting the municipalities of Hatillo and Camuy;

to urge Congress to give favorable consideration to H. R. 2180, which extends to Puerto Rico the benefits of the Reclamation Act; and

to declare the policy of The People of Puerto Rico as regards the collection, classification, and final disposition of garbage and other rubbish after separating paper and cardboard therefrom and other articles manufactured out of either of said two materials; to declare the interest of The People of Puerto Rico in the use, for industrial purposes, of this type of scrap material; to invite the authorities of all the municipalities of the Island to enact local legislation for and to cooperate in any campaign launched to that end.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

BUREAU OF THE BUDGET

The Bureau of the Budget prepared the proposed Model Budget which the Governor transmitted to the Legislature in its regular session. The expenditures included in the proposed Model Budget were divided into three main sections:

Budget A—Operating Expenses including Public Debt
Budget B—Contributions to Public Enterprises
Budget C—Capital Improvements

The Model Budget contained proposed expenditures totaling \$85,979,618. The Legislature approved a program of \$95,434,892, and the Governor approved appropriations totaling \$83,774,553.

The Bureau also prepared special budgets of expenditures for agencies of the Insular Government not covered in the General Appropriations Act.

The Governor's policy of eliminating the so-called "trust funds" and self-renewing appropriations was continued. Consistent with this policy, and the achievements in this respect during the last four

The Division collaborated with Mr. Daniel Creamer of the Social Science Research Center of the University of Puerto Rico in the study on the Net Income of Puerto Rico for the years 1940-44.

In collaboration with Mr. Sol L. Descartes, member of the P. R. Planning Board, his publication "Basic Statistics on Puerto Rico" was revised, bringing the information up to date. The revised work has not been published as yet.

The preparation of the statistical tables for the Annual Report of the Governor of Puerto Rico was undertaken by this Division.

In addition to the above-mentioned activities, countless queries and requests for information on statistical matters were received and attended.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Two hundred and thirty-six domestic corporations were registered, 51 more than the previous year. Of the 70 which were dissolved, 37 were effected by the usual procedure and 33 by legislative action. Twenty-five foreign corporations qualified for doing business in the Island, 14 more than the previous year, and one withdrew. Two domestic banking corporations were organized.

Forty-six cooperative associations organized under the General Cooperative Associations Act of 1946.

Eighty-five domestic nonprofit associations, 7 more than last year, and one foreign association, were registered. Thirty-eight associations were dissolved by legislative action, and 12 in accordance with law.

The Office issued 1,329 passports and renewed 161. The Governor was authorized by the State Department to issue passports for traveling outside the Western Hemisphere, excepting countries under military control, provided applicants travel abroad on business or for personal reasons. Passports for traveling in the Western Hemisphere are issued freely.

Four hundred and sixty-four domestic trade marks, 17 certified copies of U. S. letters patent, and 50 certified copies of U. S. trade marks were registered, an increase over last year's figures.

There were also issued 175 renewals of domestic trade marks, 78 assignments, 19 changes of names, and 5 certified copies of documents.

Fees for the Insular Treasury collected from all sources amounted to \$25,440.45, or \$4,696.23 more than the previous year. Federal fees on passports amounted to \$11,384.

pany; twice as incorporators of the Prison Industries of Puerto Rico, and once as incorporators of the Puerto Rico Coffee Insurance Corporation.

The Council approved during this fiscal period 6 appointments of lottery agents for the Lottery of Puerto Rico; one lease contract of property belonging to the People of Puerto Rico; the sale to the Puerto Rico Water Resources Authority of 2 parcels of land for the Caonillas Hydroelectric Project in Utuado; Sanitary Regulation No. 120 on Restaurants, and Sanitary Regulation No. 119, on the keeping of structures in sanitary conditions; and 10 scholarships for the State Insurance Fund under Act No. 388 of 1946.

The Council also passed upon and approved the following municipal ordinances: 27 for the contracting of loans aggregating \$1,115,169.39; 31 for transfers of credits; 83 levying special property taxes; 39 for authorization to use unencumbered surpluses in the amortization funds of loans, and 32 for the issuance of bonds for the refunding of the municipal public debt up to the sum of \$3,146,000.00.

Insular Veterans Office.—By Act No. 512, approved April 30, 1946, the Insular Veterans Office was created in the Office of the Executive Secretary, for the purpose of making more effective, just, and efficient, the application in Puerto Rico of all Federal and Insular laws in connection with pensions, bonuses, and other benefits for veterans of the U. S. Army. This Office shall make the necessary surveys of education, work, housing and other problems affecting Puerto Rican veterans and their widows and children, and shall prepare and recommend to the Legislature of Puerto Rico such measures as are considered useful and necessary for their assistance.

Col. Miguel A. Muñoz, a well-known attorney with an outstanding military record, was appointed Director. An appropriation of \$80,000 was provided for the office.

A survey and report on educational facilities and needs of veterans in the Island was immediately prepared and submitted to the Governor of Puerto Rico by the Director, wherein it was stated that about 50,000 veterans would be needing educational facilities and would be making use of their educational privileges under Federal legislation within the year. It was recommended that particular attention be given to the creation and establishment of Vocational Training Schools and that the possibility of utilizing some of the vacant army camps be considered.

This office, in order to help our veterans more efficiently, has taken steps to qualify the Director as an authorized representative before the Federal Veterans Administration in the handling of cases and claims before the said Administration, including appeals before the Adjudication Board.

The housing situation is in itself one which requires continuous and special attention and additional personnel, in order to do justice both to the veterans and the government's desire to improve this condition. In San Juan alone there are hundreds of cases of veterans of World War II whose condition in so far as housing is concerned has been classified as desperate. We have contacted the Insular and municipal authorities on the subject and are obtaining from them assistance and cooperation, but much more personnel is required, particularly in view of the Governor's program for the construction of 10,000 homes.

The processing of claims for pensions, particularly as it affects veterans of World War I, is another aspect of the duties of this office which requires additional personnel. It may be said that nearly all these veterans are over 55 years of age and many of them are suffering the infirmities of age as well as of the climate and disease thereof. Many of them are entitled to pensions and this requires trained personnel to study and obtain the evidence necessary and submit it in proper manner to the Federal authorities for adjudication and decision.

The orientation of veterans in the matter of studies, training, general behaviour, and solution of every-day life problems require increased facilities and means.

The readjustment of the veteran into normal civilian life will be greatly hindered and delayed if unnecessary obstacles are placed in his path. It is to be regretted that in an agricultural country like Puerto Rico, only two loans have been granted for farms. Commercial loans should also be increased and fostered.

Cooperatives.—There exists an enormous disproportion between the natural resources of the Island and the population which those resources can support at a satisfactory social and economic level. This disproportion has contributed to create certain undesirable characteristics in our social and economic order.

The reforms of an economic and social nature which, as an expression of the will of the people themselves, are now being put into effect in Puerto Rico, constitute a noble effort for the solving of our problems. These reforms have for their main objective, that

direct responsibility in the administration and management of enterprises for collective benefits. It will create in them a sense of responsibility, and will give them also justified confidence in themselves. Cooperativism will also be the most effective means of opposing the so-called individualism and the existing, deep-rooted, social division between the various economic groups of our people.

In order to promote cooperatives intensively as an essential part of the economic reform so necessary to solve the problem of Puerto Rico, Act No. 291, known as the "General Cooperative Associations Act", was approved on April 9, 1946. The bill for this Act was prepared by a commission of members of the Legislature sent to Canada to survey the cooperative systems operating there. This Act, as amended by Act No. 20 of December 31, 1946, repealed all former legislation on cooperatives and established a well-defined procedure for the organization, operation and development of all types of cooperatives, with the exception of credit unions. It provides for an inspector of Cooperatives in the Office of the Executive Secretary, with certain specific powers to enforce the law.

Cooperatives already organized on the date Act No. 291 took effect had to comply with and reorganize under the provisions of said Act, as amended. Forty-six cooperatives registered in the Executive Secretary's Office, 26 of which were existing associations which amended their charters to conform with the new law, and 20 were newly created. By June 30, 1947, 19 more had submitted their articles of incorporation, of which 9 were pending registration. Of this total of 65 cooperatives, 40 were consumption cooperatives which included 36 groceries, a wholesale warehouse supplying 7 cooperatives, a federation of cooperatives for the establishment of a storehouse to supply all consumption cooperatives in the Island, a cooperative for the sale of gasoline to its members, who are drivers, and a cooperative of farmers for furnishing members farm equipment and supplies, and cattle feed.

Eleven were marketing cooperatives which included 2 sugar factories, 3 for the marketing of coffee, 2 for the marketing of tobacco, 1 gin, 1 vanilla-curing plant, 1 for the marketing of minor products, canning pigeon peas and exportation of vegetables to the United States, and one cooperative for the marketing of bee honey and wax; 8 production cooperatives which include 3 needlework shops, 1 canning plant, 1 for the manufacture and marketing of cigars, 1 bakery, 1 operating trucks for the transportation of sugar cane, and 1 engaged in the production and marketing of handmade

The Photographic Library, constituting a constantly expanding pictorial record of Puerto Rican life, contained over 5,000 documentary pictures by the end of the year. Requests were received for more than 4,500 photographs for publication and exhibition purposes—three times the previous years total. Pictures from the file appeared in many different publications. These included U. S. Camera, Pan America, the widely-circulated Sunday magazine supplement "This Week," many newspapers such as the New York Times, P. M., the Christian Science Monitor and the Des Moines Register Tribune, and house organs like the Lykes Fleet Flashes and Fashion Trades.

Four new photographic exhibits were put on display, and two exhibits previously set up were kept in circulation. Under the sponsorship of the Council for Inter-American Cooperation, the Office presented an exhibit entitled "Puerto Rico—Sugar Island" which opened at the Museum of Natural History in New York, where it was seen by more than 45,000 persons. Thereafter the exhibit was shown in various large cities, including Rochester, Boston, New Orleans and Kansas City. A special folder was prepared for distribution to those viewing the exhibit. "I Come From Puerto Rico"—an exhibit for school children—opened at the Benjamin Franklin High School in New York and then toured other schools and libraries in that city.

Upon the completion of its new quarters in San Juan, the Office held an exhibition for the purpose of acquainting the public with its program and accomplishments. Included were a display of the publications of the office, reproductions of newspaper and magazine articles inspired or written by the Office and panels showing the uses made of the photographs from its documentary file.

A completely equipped, modern photographic laboratory, was set up in San Juan, and started functioning the first of February. Thereafter it took over the servicing of the documentary photo file, a job previously handled by a commercial laboratory in New York. By the end of the fiscal year, the laboratory had filled orders for 2,302 photographs.

A field representative was added to the New York Office staff on October 15, 1946, to visit selected cities throughout the country for the purpose of disseminating information about Puerto Rico, and building up good relations with local newspapers and radio stations. By the end of the year, this representative had addressed more than 40 groups comprising in all more than 10,000 persons.

No cotton was planted in the southern region this season. The 1946 crop yielded 1,423.95 quintals, which sold in the States at 45¢ a pound first class. Second and third class cotton was disposed of locally at 30 and 25¢ a pound, respectively. The crop for this year is expected to be larger; the market shows a tendency to rise.

Around 500 acres are planted to vanilla. Since 1941 production has been on the increase, except for 1946. The Vanilla Growers Cooperative of Puerto Rico handled 4,200 pounds of cured vanilla during 1946-47. Green vanilla delivered to their plant amounted to 19,569.70 pounds, belonging to 165 members of the cooperative and 17 non-member farmers. It is estimated that approximately 3 or 4 per cent of the crop is handled by private concerns.

The purely agricultural and territorial credit in the Island was handled by such organizations as the Federal Land Bank of Baltimore, which also acts as agent of the Land Bank Commissioner and the Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation, the Puerto Rico Production Credit Association, the Farm Security Administration, and the Emergency Crop and Feed Loan Office.

This fiscal year is especially marked by the disappearance of two organizations which have been busy in the agricultural credit field of the Island for quite a number of years, namely, the Farm Security Administration and the Emergency Crop and Feed Loan Office, both of which were merged into the Farmers Home Administration and will continue to do business in Puerto Rico as such.

The Farm Security Administration has been instrumental in organizing a rehabilitation program by restoring the family-size farms that will keep the farmer's family employed throughout the year, and by long range farm and loan programs to facilitate production of part of the family's food requirements. Loans made for this purpose amounted to \$3,000,000, divided into 671 individual small farmers. In addition, it also negotiated farm operating loans with 10,555 borrowers to whom \$6,182,985 were loaned. This farm credit work was carried out in combination with such educational activities as home management, farm guidance, fostering of group services, such as tractor cooperatives, group sugar cane harvesting, medical services, and construction of local water works.

The Emergency Crop and Feed Loan Office had made, as of October 10, 1946, 3,628 loans amounting to \$1,329,580.

Puerto Rico's trade with the world increased 55.4 per cent in 1945-46. Imports increased 71.3 per cent, and exports 36.5 per

year all of the land covered by timber or brush in 5 municipalities had been mapped and sampled for species, quality, and quantity of timber. New forest tree nurseries were established. A total of 1,370 enerdas were planted with 1,160,000 forest tree seedlings and 252 enerdas with 18,000 bamboos on water-producing land above and around reservoirs and on slopes bordering roads.

With the cooperation of the School of Tropical Medicine, experimental field work is being carried out with the *Ichistes reticulatus*, a fish which destroys the eggs and shells that serve as host to bilharzia.

A tract of 56 acres of land was acquired in the neighborhood of Caño Tiburones for the purpose of establishing a bird refuge. It is expected that this site will be developed into a waterfowl area. Seven hundred and eight hunting licenses were issued, 153 more than last year.

A total of 229,617 tons of mixed fertilizers sold in Puerto Rico during 1946-47 was inspected by the Chemical Laboratory for Fertilizers and Feed Inspection. Two hundred and fifty-nine applications for feed and 23 for fertilizers were registered; 935 samples of feeds and fertilizers, representing 191,225 bags of fertilizers and 18,742 bags of feeds, were analyzed.

The Plant Quarantine Service inspected 3,889 airplanes and 743 surface ships arriving from foreign countries and from the United States via foreign countries, 5,784 planes and 678 ships arriving from the United States and territories, 135,906 bags of shelled corn, 535 bales of cotton waste, 150 bales of cheese cloth, the baggage of 148,183 passengers, and 11,472 parcels mailed to the United States, of which 1,218 contained horticultural products.

During July 1946 about 5 million cigars were manufactured for export and by April 1947 this amount had dropped to 55,700. In June 1946 there were 667 cigar factories employing 1,949 cigar makers, and by April next this number had dropped to 561 with 1,103 cigar makers. Efforts are being made to improve this situation. There was a slight increase of \$1 per thousand in the cheaper brands, but no change was reported in the upper brackets of the trade.

The Museum of the Department which is located in the Muñoz Rivera Park continues to be a center of attraction. During the year, 137,903 visitors went through its hall: 98,933 during Sundays and holidays and 38,970 during work days. It is interesting to see how the public has become greatly attracted by the exhibits.

Through an arrangement reached with the Inter-American Educational Foundation, a group of six Brazilian trainees made a two-month visit to Puerto Rican agricultural centers. They spent one month living and working at Sabana Seca Second Unit, Toa Baja, to familiarize themselves with local methods and organization of the work. They were given instruction in both the theory and practice of teaching agriculture by members of the supervisory staff of the Insular Board for Vocational Education and the local teacher of agriculture.

Steady progress has marked the development of the elementary schools since the reorganization of the school system effected in the school year 1942-43.

There has been a marked increase both in the number of teachers and in the enrollment at this level. Despite the critical shortage of trained personnel, 5,390 teachers were assigned to the urban and rural elementary schools in 1946-47. The total enrollment in the elementary schools was 283,570, the largest number ever accommodated at this level.

In accordance with our educational philosophy, the elementary school has as its main goal the promoting of the welfare of the Puerto Rican by raising his economic level, by conserving his health, by teaching him to make good use of his leisure time, by developing in him democratic, cooperative habits in his social relations, by developing his character, and by imparting that knowledge and developing those abilities indispensable to the realization of the further objectives of this program.

One of the fundamental objectives of the Department is the intensification of English at all levels of the public school system. This objective has been given full consideration in the work in elementary English this year.

In the urban schools major emphasis has been placed upon the preparation, revision, trial, and presentation of tentative material for further use and revision during the coming year.

The actual work was started during the activity month in 1946 by a committee of teachers and English field assistants who worked on minimum essentials. They studied the minimum essentials for the junior high schools and gave full consideration to the literature available, the minimum requirements prepared by the National Council of Teachers of English, and the minimum requirements prepared by a group of well-qualified elementary school teachers in Puerto Rico. After carefully outlining the Puerto Rican needs in

A total of 707,373 messages, including gratis service rendered to the Office of the Governor and the members of the Legislative Assembly, were transmitted during the year at a cost of \$380,172.00. This represents an average of \$0.54 per message. Income from paid telegraph service amounted to \$252,264.60 equal to an average of \$0.36 per message.

Fifty-three thousand six hundred ninety-eight telegraphic money orders transferred \$1,440,382.22, against \$1,401,762.84 the previous year, that is, an increase of \$38,619.49. Cablegraphic services amounted to \$27,762.65 (\$5,136.79 more than last year).

There has been a great improvement in the telephone system in those towns served by the Authority and applications for new installations are being received every day. Unexpected delays in the shipment of materials required have not permitted us to comply with the constant demands for automatic telephone service, but the Authority is doing everything possible to increase the capacity of its automatic system in order to satisfy public requirements.

Also the telegraph system is being improved by the introduction of teletype machines which will soon be in operation.

EXTENSION SERVICE

The following are the most important activities carried on by the Agricultural Extension Service during the year 1946-1947:

Development of an intensive island-wide campaign to increase food production and conservation commercially and for home consumption, with special emphasis on the most nutritious foods such as milk, meat, eggs, vegetables, and fruits; campaign on the preparation and conservation of all kinds of foods; campaign on nutrition, health and hygiene providing the necessary information and assistance for the improvement and the attainment of a better standard of living for our people; continuation of the development of native industries in the rural areas to provide added income to farm families; direct rendering of services to all members of the farm families, such as vaccination of livestock against dangerous diseases, control of internal and external parasites of livestock, debt adjustment, nutrition, health, etc; intensive campaign for the organization of cooperative associations in both urban and rural areas; development of a suitable information program to all people, which will bring them the latest information relative to agriculture and home economic activities; intensive campaign on soil conservation with the objective of conserving the land as a means of obtaining higher yields

received from the various departments. There were also issued 2,786 authorizations for provisional appointments, to fill positions for which no lists of eligibles were available.

During this term there were processed 14,353 personnel transactions covering changes in status (original appointments, promotions, transfers, reassignments, resignations, dismissals, lay-offs, etc.), of employees within the Classified and Unclassified Services.

On March 7, 1946, the War Service Regulations were repealed to make room for the reconversion which brought about the Interim Temporary Civil Service Regulations. On May 1, 1947, the Federal Service was definitely placed back under the Rules. In the interim, that is from March 7, 1946, to May 1, 1947, the Federal Civil Service Commission, having given to Federal Agencies authority to make temporary appointments pending register, to effect reconversions, etc., had its hands free to devote its full time and energy to develop probational examinations specifications, writing class specifications and allocation standards, etc. So the period under review is marked by a relative lull or pause in Civil Service activities in preparation for the extensive examination program which the Commission has since launched. This examination program is right now in progress. The fiscal year 1947-48 is destined to witness unprecedented activity in examination work, rating work, and personnel transactions, and, under the Commission's decentralization policies, to go on record as one of the busiest in years.

PUERTO RICO COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

During the fiscal year 1946-47 the Puerto Rico Communications Authority continued its work on the improvement of the communications system, especially the telephone system.

The Communications Authority filed with the Federal Communications Commission an application for the construction of a Frequency modulation (FM) radio station as well as for an Amplitude Modulation (AM) radio station. At the middle of the present fiscal year a licence was granted for the construction of the Amplitude Modulation radio station. The Authority proceeded immediately with the preparation of maps and other studies regarding said station, and called for bids from different manufacturers in the United States. The station will be located at a new building which the Authority plans to construct at Stop 20, Santurce, where a local telegraph station is at present located.

The Pay Plan adopted under Act No. 411 of 1947 is related directly to the Classification Plan and is based on the principle of equal pay for equal work. The various classes of positions have been allocated to the proposed salary schedules in accordance with the provisions of the new Personnel Act. The determination of these allocations and the establishment of the forty-three salary grades were based on consideration of such factors as the difficulty and complexity of different jobs in the Insular Service, current rates of pay in Puerto Rican private industry, salary rates of other public agencies in Puerto Rico, the cost of living, and the financial condition of the Insular Government.

In order to permit recognition of improved efficiency and ability of employees after appointment by increases in remuneration and, to a lesser extent, to allow for some differences between positions allocated to the same class, salary ranges consisting of a minimum, intermediate steps, and a maximum rate rather than single rates of pay were accepted. These ranges, in most instances, are equivalent to approximately 30 percent of the minimum rates and their use for "within-grade" increases is essential to the effectiveness of both the classification and pay plans.

Increases in cost of living were reflected in the pay data which were used as a guide in establishing the pay ranges. Pay ranges should be reviewed from time to time but the reviews should not be limited only to changes in the cost of living. Changes in the availability of certain types of workers on the labor market, alteration of the financial condition of the Insular Government, fluctuations in work requirements, and other basic factors must also be taken into consideration.

It is essential that the ranges be used to reward individuals for increased efficiency, greater knowledge, and skills, and other factors. The full value of using the pay range therefore depends upon adherence to the rule that new appointments be made at the minimum for the range. However, there will be some instances in recruitment, transfers, and promotions where circumstances would make it desirable to start an employee at a rate higher than the minimum for the range.

Part of the gross compensation of some Insular employees is paid in the form of meals, lodging, or other maintenance allowances. Since the rates of pay set forth in the Pay Plan represent the total remuneration and include pay in every form, the cash salary the employee receives in these cases consists of an amount of money within the range of his class minus the value of the subsistence received.

The Legislature has made appropriations amounting to \$10,500,000 to organize and operate the Service and to construct aqueduct and sewer systems in the urban and rural districts.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

At the beginning of the year the work of disposing of the ballots of the last election was completed. The ballots and other papers used in the election were delivered to the government pulp and paper factory. The main work of the year was the checking of all the records. The registration books were compared against the applications for registration and the index cards.

CIVIL SERVICE

Three important events regarding public personnel administration took effect in Puerto Rico during the fiscal year 1946-47:

1. The adoption by the Civil Service Commission of a New Classification Plan on February 20, 1947.
2. The enactment by the Legislature of a New Personnel Act, approved May 12, 1947, and
3. The new Pay Plan contained in Act 411 of May 13, 1947.

As reported in the annual report corresponding to the fiscal year 1945-46, a classification survey was undertaken beginning October, 1945. As a result of this survey a modern Classification Plan was adopted. By June 30, 1947, the Plan had undergone 164 amendments: 53 corresponding to the establishment of new classes and 111 to existing classes. The Plan is dynamic and flexible enough to permit amendments in accordance with new situations or new needs.

The new Personnel Act, No. 345, approved May 12, 1947, insures the selection of the best personnel to execute the various governmental functions. It insures also that said personnel will have the best working conditions, a guaranteed job, adequate pay, opportunities for promotion and all those other advantages usually offered by merit systems. In-service training programs also help the public service personnel in acquiring a better and more effective professional and technical preparation. The new Personnel Act which is drafted in accordance with modern methods in personnel administration was prepared and recommended as an administration bill after a careful study of Act 88 of 1931, and of government needs regarding personnel.

The Legislature of Puerto Rico also passed Act 411, of May 13, 1947, which constitutes the uniform pay system for the Competitive and Noncompetitive Services of the Insular Government.

and studied and crosses are being made between this breed and the Holstein and the Brown-Swiss. The goat improvement program is directed towards the development of a breed of milk goat of high production and also adapted to our conditions. In this program selected native goats are being crossed with the Saanen and British Alpine breeds. The swine improvement project has as its objective the development of a breed that would develop efficiently under range conditions in the Island and that may have a greater degree of resistance to the common diseases and parasites. The value of hybrids between such breeds as the Native, Duroc Jersey, Tannorth and Black Landrace for efficient meat production is also being studied. The poultry improvement project is also directed towards the development of a new breed of birds adapted to range conditions typical of the small farm units of Puerto Rico and with a capacity for a sustained and fairly high egg production. Lines of native stock with high yielding ability have been selected and crossed with imported breeds such as the White Leghorn and the New Hampshire.

An economic land classification system was developed and put in practice in classifying the lands of southwestern Puerto Rico. The location and extent of areas of land adapted to different degrees of intensity of use were determined. Eight different economic land classes, based on the intensity of land use to which each one is best adapted, were drawn and enumerated. The experiences of the Farm Security Administration in the establishment of landless farm families on individually owned, family-sized farms in Puerto Rico were studied. The results obtained showed that the average income for these families in 1944 was twice as much as it was the year before they started the operation of their farms and that in the first 50 months of operation their family net worth had increased from \$976 to \$3,303, on the average. The study also shows that higher capital investment, higher yields of sugarcane per "enerda", best combination of sugarcane and livestock enterprises, and a higher number of net "enerdas" in crops per man were the principal reasons for success in these farms. The advantage of the individually-owned, family-sized farm over other types of farms, for the interior areas of Puerto Rico, was definitely shown in the study.

A study of costs and practices of producing sugarcane on "colonos" farms for the 1946 crop was completed as part of the research activities initiated under Law 311 of 1945.

Summarization of results show: (1) the high dependence of the sugarcane enterprise on subsidies and other government payments

of quality and age in rumms; selection of new sugarcane varieties superior to the standard P.O.J.-2878; improvement of the quality and yield of forage grasses through the control of nitrogen fertilization; determination of efficient methods of feeding forage grasses to grazing and milk cattle; development of a new variety of cucumber resistant to two serious diseases in the Island, mosaic and downy mildew; development of high yielding lines of red beans by selection of the native stock; increased production in acid soils of field crops such as corn through the combined practice of liming and green manuring; study of the chlorotic-streak disease of sugarcane which is rapidly disseminating and reducing the yields in many areas; study of the gumming disease of pineapple which seriously affects the exportation of fresh fruit to Continental markets; and the development of methods for the successful processing and canning of native fruits.

The program of investigation conducted with sugarcane includes the development by breeding of new varieties resistant to the mosaic disease and of higher yields of sugar per acre than the present standard varieties; the introduction and testing in the different cane-producing areas of the Island of promising varieties from other countries; the study of the fertilizer requirements of sugarcane in the different soil types; a study of agronomic practices leading to more efficient production and the control of pests and diseases.

A new program of coffee investigation was completed during the year. The aim of this program is to study the yield of the coffee varieties "Puerto Rico" and "Columnaris" at three different elevations and in the different soil types peculiar to the coffee areas. The program also includes experiments to determine the best formulae and amount of fertilizer, the proper planting distance for each variety and the best pruning methods to follow under the different soil and climatic conditions. A study to find an economic method of controlling the flowering and fruit setting of the coffee tree has also been initiated. The degree of flowering in coffee is greatly influenced by climatic conditions, and in many instances unfavorable weather greatly diminishes the crop. If it were possible to induce flowering at will, the production of more uniform crops from year to year would be possible.

The program for the improvement of vegetables includes varietal studies to determine those best adapted to Puerto Rican conditions, the development by breeding or selection of new varieties of good market quality, study of control measures for pests and diseases, and a study of the fertilizer requirements of these crops under different

in the waters around Culebra and Vieques; these boats operating out of the port of Fajardo. Fishing has also been carried on near Boquerón and on the banks near Mona Island.

The Fisheries Division sells gear to local fishermen at low prices, thus stimulating production, which is bought by its stations and by private dealers.

Five markets are now operating in Santurce, Puerta de Tierra, Aguada, Jayuya and Comerío. The growth of the markets and the success of the marketing project was seriously checked by a decision of the Acting Attorney General in late January to the effect that the Plazas PRACO could sell only local products. This defect in the law was remedied by the Legislature after a very heart-warming support by the consumers group. Food prices in the Plazas PRACO have been kept low, and they have affected prices not only in these towns but all over the Island. It can be truthfully said that since these markets have been in operation, although food prices have advanced greatly in the States, they have remained more or less static in the Island. The fact that plentiful supplies of food can be purchased at reasonable prices at the Plazas PRACO has influenced other merchants to keep their prices in line.

During the fiscal year plans were completed for the establishment of other plazas PRACO at Manatí, Aguadilla, San Sebastián, Vega Baja and San Juan.

The Caguas farm maintains a herd of nearly 70 pure bred and crossbred dairy cattle, which supplies the Food Products Division with milk for the candies, cheese, ice-cream and other products. More than \$16,000 worth of milk was sold to the Food Product Division by the Caguas farm this year. Caguas also produced 1,974 broilers for sale in the Plazas PRACO and raised 15,218 pullets which were then transferred to Vieques. In all, 19,851 chicks were raised at Caguas.

Cucumbers, lima beans, carrots, beets, lettuce and other vegetables were produced by the Caguas farm and sold at the plazas PRACO.

At Caguas we are also experimenting with forage crops that may be adapted to wet island regions.

Two buildings have been reconditioned at the Caguas farm for the manufacture of cigars to be sold in the Continental market. Production is expected to begin in the Fall of 1947 and enough tobacco has been bought, both here and in the States, to insure uninterrupted production for eight or ten months. Machinery, including stripping, binding and edlophaning machines, started to

In Vieques, Bayamón and Caguas the Company is developing the cultivation of forage crops to the end of producing cheap animal feeds. Whatever success we may have on this line of endeavor will be eventually shared by all the interested farmers in Puerto Rico, since we are trying to develop grasses and grains adaptable to planting under different conditions throughout the Island. The production of milk, swine and poultry is seriously limited in Puerto Rico by the lack of local grain feeds. Therefore we are experimenting with the production of grain to make animal production more feasible. We have been successful in finding a good grain for dry and semi-dry regions (Hegari Sorghum) and we are experimenting now with sorghum varieties adapted to regions of high rainfall.

The "Reina del Caribe", a long-range fishing vessel purchased last year, is expected to arrive in September with a load of about 100,000 pounds of fresh frozen fish that will be sold through the Plazas PRACO and through private outlets.

Projects in Vieques include the cultivation of 668 cuerdas of sugar cane, not including the sugar cane lands purchased from the Eastern Sugar Associates. Cultivation of these lands started during the last days of the fiscal year under review.

Looking about for ingredients to be used in the manufacture of cheap animal feeds, the Vieques Division has successfully cultivated such forage crops as Arizona Certified Hegari (grain Sorghum), peanuts, corn, Sweet Sudan, Rhodes, Cuban Bahia and other grasses, all of which have been tested for their adaptability to local conditions.

Out of 12 acres of pineapples cultivated, up to June 30th we have harvested 98,103 pounds of fruit with only about one-third of the crop harvested at that time with an average weight of 5 pounds per fruit. Seventeen additional cuerdas of Red Spanish, Cabezona and Smooth Cayenne pineapples have been planted. Other projects developed in Vieques include the improvement of 10,000 cuerdas of pastures; experimental plots of many kinds of vegetables and the harvesting of coconuts, of which 125,313 were sold locally. The swine and poultry projects have been developing successfully on the basis of feed of which up to 90 per cent of the total amount used was produced in Vieques. The poultry project, particularly, shows it has great commercial possibilities and should in the future be one of our main sources of income. The same can be said of the swine project. On June 30 we had in Vieques more than 15,000

psychiatrist, vocational counselor, social workers and other technical personnel of the Penitentiary with the aim of providing favorable conditions to the prisoners and initiating treatment programs based on their individual knowledge to insure their rehabilitation.

A new penal institution, Camp Guavate, came to life during the year. It was established in a rural district of Cayey and carried on an agricultural program employing an average of 110 prisoners requiring minimum custody. This program is an innovation in the penal administration of Puerto Rico and has proven a great success. The prisoners are carefully selected from the penal population of the Penitentiary and the district jails among those requiring minimum custody and coming from agricultural areas of the Island.

The Insular Penitentiary, the seven district jails and Camp Guavate had during the year a daily average of 3,433 prisoners; the highest number recorded in the last six years. On June 30th, 1947 there were 3,350 prisoners serving sentence or awaiting trials, of which 110 were women and 43 minors. The Probation and Parole systems have helped to solve the problem of penal over-population.

The *Prison Industries Corporation* was created by Act No. 505, approved April 30th, 1946 and began to work on July 1st, 1946 to provide for the diversification of employment of prisoners in the penal institutions, their training and teaching of trades and occupations. This objective was achieved during the year through a program of vocational training. This program included the manufacture of furniture, office equipment, uniforms, clothing, bedding, shoes, etc., which provided employment to a daily average of 281 prisoners. These articles are sold to different government agencies.

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Legislation

During the regular session of 1947, of the Legislative Assembly, the Attorney General prepared and sponsored a bill for the reorganization of the judicial system. Aside from the redistribution of judicial districts and judicial municipal districts, the bill provided for the complete elimination of Justices of the Peace Courts and the establishment in each municipality of a Municipal Tribunal with one or more Municipal Judges, with more ample jurisdiction in civil suits; the reallocation of municipalities to such judicial districts as distance, means of transportation and other facilities deem justified; the incorporation of the Tax Court to the Judicial System, and some changes in the general procedure including appeals to the Supreme Court, whose structure was kept intact. The most im-

cases, condemnation proceedings and quo-warranto proceedings before the Supreme Court. For this reason the Division of Tax Cases appears handling only 942 cases during the year as compared with 1,231 the preceding year. The balance was transferred to the General Litigation Division, which handled 1,375 cases during the year, of which 570 were decided by the different courts, including the U. S. District Court for Puerto Rico, and 805 were pending on June 30.

Due to the huge government program of public works, the acquisition of lands increased enormously during the year. Three hundred and forty-one condemnation cases were handled by the Land Division. Of these, 304 belong to the Department of the Interior, 12 to the Land Authority, and the rest to other government agencies.

In the quo-warranto proceedings before the Supreme Court, some of the cases which were still in the preliminary stages, are now ready for subsequent steps. It is expected that some of these cases be set for hearing in the next term of the Supreme Court, probably those against partnerships, in which cases new questions of law are involved. The case against The Fajardo Sugar Company, The Fajardo Development Company, and the Fajardo Sugar Growers Association, in which there existed a consent decree, was finally disposed of by the acquisition by the Land Authority of all lands and other property of those entities.

The Division of Criminal Affairs took care of 1,777 cases as compared with 1,413 the previous year. In addition 299 investigations submitted by District Attorneys were studied to decide whether the Department should authorize the dismissal of such cases.

Courts

During the year, the *Supreme Court* had before it 1,698 cases against 1,024 cases during the previous year. From the total number of cases handled, 1,437 were disposed of and 261 were pending on June 30, 1947.

The *District Courts* dealt with 26,841 civil cases compared with 27,062 similar cases in the previous year. When the fiscal year came to an end 14,888 cases had been decided, leaving 11,953 pending. During the year 9,292 criminal cases were handled in these courts, of which 7,308 were disposed of leaving pending 1,984 at the end of the year. There were 4,989 convictions, 749 of which were appealed to the Supreme Court. During the year 536 cases

The Commissioner of Labor attended the Thirteenth Annual Conference of the Secretary of Labor of the United States held in Washington, and the Annual Meeting of the International Association of Governmental Labor Officials held in Milwaukee, Wis. In this meeting he was elected Vice-President of the Association. On that occasion he had the opportunity to supervise the working and living conditions of the migrant Puerto Rican industrial and domestic workers in Chicago, and agricultural workers in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The Commissioner also acted as Governor of Puerto Rico during short periods and continued performing his duties as Administrator of the War Emergency Program.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Executive Branch

The Attorney General's Office, through its different Divisions and Bureaus, carried out an enormous task during the year, notwithstanding the lack of necessary personnel.

During the year a total of 584 opinions were rendered. This means that the effort made during the previous year 1945-46, in which 532 opinions were rendered, improving from 105 in 1944-45, was surpassed. A few of the more important opinions were:

"Holding that the term 'qualified' as used in Section 12 of the Organic Act with reference to the appointment of the Governor of Puerto Rico, has a specific meaning. The term refers to acts realized after the commission is issued, for example, the oath of office which the person appointed is required to take.

"Holding that Section 14 of the Organic Act confers to the Attorney General of Puerto Rico exclusive representation of The People of Puerto Rico in all litigation in Puerto Rico or outside. The Legislature may authorize any Board or Agency of the Government of Puerto Rico to contract services of counsel, and may provide among the duties of such counsel or attorney that he may represent such Board or Agency before any court; but the Attorney General, notwithstanding, may at any time intervene and hold exclusively the representation of the Government. In view of these general principles, the contract between the Office of Puerto Rico in Washington and the firm Arnold and Fortas impairs the powers of the Attorney General. The legal services to be rendered by the firm Arnold and Fortas under this contract, concerning the representation of The People of Puerto Rico are subject to the power and control of the Attorney General of Puerto Rico.

"Holding that the payment of *per diem* to an officer or employee of the government that holds a regular or full-time office or employment for which he receives a salary, constitutes additional com-

According to recommendations contained in our annual report for 1945-46, the Legislature provided for the establishment of an arbitration section in the Conciliation Service to be devoted exclusively to arbitration cases.

The Industrial Supervision Service carried out 26,052 inspections and reinspections to commercial, industrial and agricultural enterprises and construction works, as compared with a total of 16,796 inspections carried out the previous year. Workers employed in these activities included 146,373 men, 22,438 women and 259 legally employed minors. The amount collected by claimants on wage claims and complaints handled by the Department amounted to \$91,203.52, and on minimum wage claims to \$73,555.00.

A total of 2,777 claims and complaints was filed with the Women's Bureau, 91 per cent of which were settled during the year, and the amount of \$28,702.86 collected by the claimants. Inspections to industrial and commercial establishments employing women amounted to 12,769. Home work permits were issued to 10,232 home workers, and 1,008 to contractors and subcontractors, of which some 1,210 were investigated. Social services were rendered to 1,758 cases. Sixty-seven labor lectures were delivered and 29 radio programs broadcasted. Nine hundred sixty-seven women applicants for overseas household work employment were interviewed and investigated.

The Child Bureau issued 4,239 employment and age certificates during the year, an increase of 20 per cent over last year's record. There was also increase in the employment certificates, special permits, and age certificates issued.

The main activities of the Legal Division include nine hearings, 25 written opinions and 68 informal consultations, 1,282 claims administratively settled, 506 complaints investigated and 801 cases taken to court for legal action.

The Bureau of Publications and Workers' Education has engaged in the following activities: the semi-monthly issue of the Bulletin "Noticias del Trabajo", half a million copies of which were distributed among laborers, employers and agencies; daily radio broadcasts (248) conducted, and 120 press releases issued; lectures, interviews and educational moving picture exhibitions held with the attendance of labor and student groups. Bibliographies, reports and memorandums regarding different aspects of labor movement and legislation were also prepared. The Bureau cooperated in various social drives, such as industrial accident prevention, consumers' campaign against inflation, prevention of delinquency, etc.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

This fiscal year 1946-47 was a period of increasing prices, economic uncertainty, and labor unrest. Those were, of course, inevitable features affecting a post-war world and Puerto Rico was no exception to the rule. Nevertheless, the picture was not so gloomy for the workers of the Island. Counter-balancing to some extent the increasing consumer's prices (from 151.9 in mid-June 1946 to 177.3 in mid-June 1947), there was at the same time a trend of ever-increasing wages either through legislation (wage orders), collective bargaining, or other factors.

Higher wage levels in the sugar industry, which had the highest crop and the best prices in years, gave a substantial increase to the take-home pay of the largest single group of workers: the 150,000 wage earners of the sugar fields and factories. Expanding business and employment opportunities were evident throughout the year. A greater number of workers is employed now in all industries than it ever was in prior years and the total amount of money received in wages has increased substantially. Furthermore, construction work has reached and all-time peak and housing projects—both governmental and private—are constantly springing all over the Island in spite of the prevailing high prices of construction materials.

Existing legislation was improved and new laws were enacted to foster the development of a greater industrial activity. New industries were offered financial assistance by the Government through tax exemption and otherwise. Also the Government itself has been setting up new industries where private capital would not do so.

Industrialization requires trained workers in the various trades and crafts. Act No. 483, approved May 15, 1947, creates the Apprenticeship Council of Puerto Rico and an Apprenticeship Division in the Department of Labor. As a result of the operation of this Act, the necessary means will be provided to train workmen so as to supply industry with skilled and specialized help since a permanent training program for apprentices in trade, arts and occupations will be organized. Workers thus trained will be an asset not only to the industrialization program of the Island, but also to industries in the States where-to there is a constant flow of Puerto Rico migrants.

To prevent the blind and hasty migration of workers which tends to appear in the wake of unemployment, the Legislature enacted Act No. 89 (Approved May 9, 1947), to regulate contracts for workmen or employees for overseas employment. This Act repeals previous

During the year, 42 studies and designs were made, including plans and specifications, for projects estimated at \$2,227,450. An additional group of 12 studies are under way for projects estimated at \$1,164,000. Twenty-two projects were revised for other agencies for constructions estimated at \$2,379,000. Constructions by force account were carried on with an expenditure of \$61,299.49 during the year. Eighteen contracts were awarded and completed, at a total estimate of \$317,660 and an actual cost of \$394,408.30. The combined repairs to public buildings reached a cost of \$850,000.

The total rent derived during the year from the lease of public lands under our direct custody to private parties was \$36,600.

In relation to the Topographic Map of the Island, no field work was done during the year. The 1:30,000 edition of the map is now complete. Arrangements have already been made to make a new edition, in the scale 1:10,000. The necessary precise surveying instruments have been purchased to carry out the expansion of the actual triangulation scheme and the vertical control net, so as to obtain the adequate control necessary for the contemplated 1:10,000 edition.

During the year reported the amount of \$1,688,914.80 was collected from automobile licenses, number plates, dealer licenses, duplicates, transfers, applications and permits. This shows an increase of \$556,378.02 over last year's figures. A total of 6,065 new motor vehicles were registered during the year. An income of \$1,531.50 was collected from fees on 1021 certificates of ownership or record issued to interested parties for presentation before courts, the Public Service Commission, and other government agencies.

The total premium paid by the Treasurer of Puerto Rico to the Hartford Accident and Indemnity Company, of Hartford, Connecticut, on insured vehicles amounted to \$139,945.38.

For the fiscal year reported a total of \$188,237.80 were collected by the Bureau of Docks and Harbors, an increase of \$17,285.56 over last year's income. Of this amount San Juan Harbor shared \$116,289.66, an increase of \$7,929.59 over last year's income for the same harbor. A total of 2,587 tributable vessels entered all ports of the Island, an increase of 660 over last year's figures. Total tonnage registered for the year reported was 7,212,277 gross tons, an increase of 2,069,722 gross tons over last year's registered figure.

The Service of Land Acquisition and Legal Advice acquired a total of 326 properties with a total value of \$1,097,449.62. These acquisitions were connected chiefly with the construction of insular

Academic education at the institutions continued to be offered under the supervision of the Department of Education. One hundred twenty nine (129) children completed some phases of their academic studies. Fifteen (15) completed the first grade, 62 completed elementary school, 48 completed junior high school and 4 completed senior high school.

Twenty four (24) children were granted certificates after completing vocational courses. In addition, 15 blind adults completed their vocational training at the Vocational Institute for the Adult Blind. One hundred nineteen (119) children were benefited under the occupational placement program developed at the institutions, which represents an increase of 89 over figures for the last year.

Medical and dental services continued to be rendered on a part-time basis. These services were improved through supervision offered by the Medical Consultant.

The activities of the Office of the Handicapped centered around the study of the extent and nature of the problem presented by different groups of handicapped, the interpretation to the public of their problems, and the development of programs in behalf of these groups.

Great emphasis was given during the year to the conduct of institutes for the in-service training of the staff. Three institutes were organized for the public welfare chiefs, one for the district directors and supervisors, one for public assistance workers and another for the clerical staff. An institute was organized for the personnel of the Insular Home for Boys.

The Office of Research, Statistics and Education continued to prepare all statistical reports concerning the activities of the Division of Public Welfare. Monthly statistical information was also prepared and sent to other agencies of the government. Special reports requested by the Children's Bureau in respect to services rendered to children in Puerto Rico were prepared. An analysis of quantity of work done by public assistance workers was made to determine an accepted standard of performance in this respect.

The publication of the Public Welfare Review, published quarterly, was continued during the year.

Two special studies on the social and economic conditions of slum areas in the municipalities of San Lorenzo and Aguadilla were prepared at the request of the Puerto Rico Housing Authority.

Clearance of applications for service submitted by affiliated agencies was continued during the year. Continued efforts were made

only half a day and who lack the necessary supervision during the rest of the day because the mother is employed or ill.

An amendment to the Civil Code in its provisions for the adoption of children gave the Division of Public Welfare the responsibility for investigating every application for adoption at the request of the court.

One thousand nine hundred thirty nine (1,939) new applications for child welfare services were received during the year which, added to 1,126 pending applications from the previous year, made a total of 3,065 applications to be considered during the year. One thousand five hundred ninety two (1,592) applications were pending consideration on June 30, 1947.

By June 30, 1947 the total of 3,051 families with 8,125 children were receiving services from the Child Welfare Bureau. This represents an increase of 281 families and 795 children over the corresponding figures for last year. Eighty seven per cent (87%) (7,086) of these children were served in their own homes or in the homes of relatives.

One hundred ninety eight (198) boarding homes were used during the year. By June 30, 49 of these had been discontinued and only 149 were rendering services to 309 children. A total of 402 children were cared for in boarding homes during the year. The Bureau spent the amount of \$98,185.59 in this service during the period under review.

During the year, 582 housekeepers rendered services to 1,967 children. A housekeeper is used when, as the result of desertion or the death or illness of the mother, the children lack the necessary care. A total of \$52,257.24 was spent in this service during the year.

Psychiatric service was provided for 41 children.

The Child Welfare Bureau continued studying the cases of children applying for admission to the Insular Home for Boys and Girls to determine eligibility for institutional care. A total of 142 studies of this kind was made during the year.

A total of 33,005 cases were receiving public assistance at the end of the fiscal year. A total of \$2,936,042.50 was spent in public assistance grants during the year. The public assistance field personnel conducted 133,171 office interviews and made 83,346 field visits to applicants, clients and collaterals.

During the year 1946-47 a total of 8,560 applications were received which, added to 37,975 pending consideration from the previous year made a total of 46,535 applications before the considera-

The capacity of the hospital is 60 beds. At the beginning of this report there were 52 patients; 17 patients were admitted during the year, 5 were discharged and 13 deaths were registered; at the end of the fiscal year there were 51 patients. The new drug, promin, has been tried on 40 patients, 31 of which, representing cases of cutaneous leprosy, have shown marked improvement. There are plans for improvement and expansion of the physical facilities of this institution. The services of a social worker, added during the fiscal year of this report, have much contributed to making the life of these inmates more enjoyable.

The five district hospitals, with a total bed capacity of 1,300 beds, had, at the beginning of the fiscal year under review, a total patient population of 796; there were 22,355 admissions during the year, which gives a total of 23,151 in-patients treated. There was a total of 298,739 hospital days. There were 21,246 discharges and 1,037 deaths. The patient population at the end of the fiscal year was 968. The autopsies performed during the year in all hospitals combined numbered 179, ranging from 144 at the Bayamón hospital to none at the Fajardo hospital. There was a total of 6,283 operations performed. These general services represent an increase in the services as rendered during the previous year, in spite of the fact that the epidemic of infantile paralysis imposed the necessity of submitting two of the hospitals to certain quarantine restrictive measures.

The Bayamón and Fajardo hospitals operated schools of nursing during the fiscal year of this report. The expansion of the facilities at the Bayamón hospital has permitted the admission of a larger number of students this year than in any previous year. During the year of this report, affiliation was established with the Juliá Psychiatric Hospital in Hato Rey, and with the Demonstration Center of the Río Piedras Public Health Unit, for the provision of training student nurses in psychiatry and public health.

In accordance with the provisions of Act No. 107 of 1944 and through specific legislative appropriation, the Department of Health has contracted for ambulatory and hospital care of cancer patients by the *Liga Puertorriqueña Contra el Cáncer* in San Juan and the *Asociación para la Lucha Contra el Cáncer* in Ponce; these services are rendered on a fee and *per diem* basis. The Bayamón District Hospital, which is also provided with facilities for the treatment of these patients, participated in cancer control activities. Eight hundred thirty-four (834) cancer patients received treatment and

During the fiscal year of this report, the *Bureau of Medical Social Services* had the responsibility for the planning, direction and supervision of the medical social services in the overall public health program within the Division of Public Health.

The work has been carried out through 37 medical social workers in 33 Public Health Units, 5 Supervisors in the District Supervisory Offices and the personnel of the Bureau which includes a Consultant assigned to crippled children services and a Supervisor in charge of in-service training. The work has been carried out in close association with physicians, public health nurses, health educators, nutritionists, sanitary engineers and inspectors, and others. Direct case work services were rendered to a total of 15,865 patients, of which by far the majority were tuberculosis patients.

By Act No. 504 of April 30, 1946, the old Hospital Charities Board was abolished and its functions were transferred to the *Division of Insular Hospitals* organized as of July 1, 1946 as an integral part of the Department.

It administers five district hospitals for the care of general acute medical and surgical conditions at Bayamón, Fajardo, Arecibo, Aguadilla and Ponce with a structural bed capacity of 1,300 beds; the Insular Psychiatric Hospital at Río Piedras with a capacity of 1,200 beds; the Insular Hospital for Lepers at Río Piedras, with a capacity of 60 beds; five tuberculosis hospitals at Río Piedras, Guayama, Albonito, Ponce and Mayagüez, with a total bed capacity of 1500; the reconstruction of old warehouses at Cayey will make 400 additional beds available for tuberculosis in the near future. The district general hospitals and the tuberculosis hospitals serve well defined geographical areas, except the Albonito Tuberculosis Hospital which, being for children, serves the entire Island. The Psychiatric and the Leper Hospitals serve in an island-wide capacity.

Plans are in progress for the addition within the next two years of at least 1,000 beds to the Insular Psychiatric Hospital. At the beginning of this fiscal year there were 1,518 patients in the Insular Psychiatric Hospital; 478 were admitted during the year, and 523 were discharged. Statistics show the lowest number of deaths registered in this Hospital since 1936, a total of 79 as against up to 271 during the year 1941-1942. Fundamental changes in administration were introduced during the year of this report.

Following recommendations made by Mr. J. J. Bloomfield, of the U. S. Public Health Service, the Section of Industrial Hygiene was established in the Bureau of Sanitation during the year of this report. The personnel has been especially trained for this activity. Most of the work performed by this Section during the latter part of the fiscal year has been in the way of organization and planning. Inspection forms were devised for the conduct of sanitary surveys and occupational analyses. The necessary equipment for this work has been ordered and will soon be available.

Through the Section of Soil Sanitation 9,746 inspections were made; 1,051 privies were repaired; 8,709 aluminum privies were distributed, and 8,286 completely installed. A total of 8,338 privies were installed in the rural zone, of which 8,129 were aluminum and 209 frame privies. There is a total of 2,435 privies in our warehouse.

Maternal health services are conducted through the personnel of the Public Health Units, where 6,678 clinic sessions were held for this purpose during the year; 20,876 patients, expectant mothers, admitted, as compared to 17,402 during the previous year; there were 54,319 return visits, as against 42,413 in the previous year. At the end of the fiscal year, 11,176 active cases remained in the active files of the Public Health Units, as compared to 9,460 in the previous year.

Through a cooperative effort of the Department of Health and the municipal authorities of Río Piedras, a maternity service with 40 beds is operated, increased to this capacity during the year from a previous capacity of 24 beds. Other improvements were also made both in the physical plant and in the organization. A total of 1,357 deliveries were made, an increase of 443 over the previous year; there was only one maternal death and 95.42 per cent of 1,377 babies were born alive. Improvements to the nursery were also effectuated.

Through the District Hospitals, the Bureau of Crippled Children and the Red Cross, a great many defects found in school children are remedied; many still remain uncared for. The activities of the School Hygiene Section are educational to a very large extent, so much so, that 145 conferences were given to parents by medical officers, 778 by nurses and 75 by nutritionists. A total of 75,412 children were inspected by nurses in the classroom during the year of this report for screening purposes; 18,898 were examined by physicians in the School Hygiene Clinics. Immunization campaigns

bacteriological standards required. Efforts have been made to guarantee the purity of bottled waters through the correction of deficiencies in the plants or in the bottling processes.

The Section of Stream Pollution and Industrial Wastes, created in April 1947, has carried out preliminary organizational work conducive to the protection of the public health, the agricultural and industrial interest, the future sources of water supply for public use, and the general beauty of our bodies of water for the solace of our people and as an encouragement for the development of the potential tourist industry. To these ends, the Department of Health sponsored a bill which was approved on May 12, 1947, creating the Stream Control Commission with powers to regulate the pollution of our streams and surrounding waters. It brings into a single body all the agencies which are, in one way or another, interested in maintaining certain quality standards in our waters. The preliminary work so far conducted has been concerned not only with streams but also with swimming pools and bathing beaches.

The Section of Food and Drug Sanitation, as part of the general sanitation program, enforces measures which tend to guarantee the quality of food both as it is produced and distributed and mainly from the bacteriological standpoint.

The overall inspection of the production, sale, transportation and distribution of milk has been emphasized and strengthened. There has been some improvement in many dairies, particularly those that sell milk to pasteurizing plants. The present organization and the personnel available have not permitted the close supervision that is desirable. An attempt has been made to give each dairy one inspection each month and a complete and uniform record system has been developed to be used for the milk supply inspections.

During the past several years, the milk control work has been operating under an inadequate milk code. A new set of regulations is now under study, the enforcement of which will greatly improve the quality of the milk consumed in the Island.

The restaurant sanitation work is a relatively new activity of the Section of Food Sanitation, and has received a great deal of impetus during the fiscal year of this report. New regulations for restaurants and eating and drinking establishments, are ready for promulgation. Food handling courses have been offered to workers in food establishments, through the efforts of the Office of Health Education, the Section of Food Sanitation and the Department of

of major drainage operations and the finding and treatment of malaria cases (carried out through the Public Health Units by the Bureau of Epidemiology with the cooperation of the Bureau of Malaria Control).

No major malaria epidemic was registered during the year. Two small outbreaks were reported, one at Barrio Mano Manca between Caguas and Gurabo, and another at Barrio Navarro of Gurabo; both were rapidly controlled through the use of larvicides, treatment of the sick and residual spraying of houses with DDT.

The Bureau conducts weekly surveys of breeding areas around towns where control by means of larvicides, minor drainage and weed clearing is being carried out. Such surveys were made at 12 different localities.

During June 1947, three prominent malariologists made a study of the island of Vieques to determine whether operations could be undertaken which would lead to the complete eradication of the *Albimurus* mosquito from said island. These were Dr. Justin M. Andrews, Senior Scientist of the U. S. Public Health Service, Sanitary Engineer Frank Tetzlaff of the U. S. Public Health Service, and Dr. Harold Trapido of the Gorgas Memorial Laboratory in the Canal Zone. Extensive studies were conducted, with the cooperation of the Bureau of Malaria Control, which led to the conclusion that the eradication of the mosquito from the island of Vieques was feasible and should be attempted as a project in which the Government of Puerto Rico and the U. S. Public Health Service would participate.

Major drainage projects for the control of malaria were carried out in the Ponce-Santa Isabel-Salinas area, where malaria offers the greatest urgency. In this area, the work accomplished has permanently eliminated more than two-thirds of all the important breeding area.

The Bureau of Malaria Control carried out a constant entomological evaluation of the effectiveness of control measures and constant inspection of the prevalence of pest mosquitoes, the latter in the San Juan-Santurce area in particular.

The *Bureau of Sanitation* is in charge of general environmental sanitation as a means of preventing disease by eliminating or controlling environmental factors which may form links in the chain of transmission of disease. These environmental factors include soil, food, milk and its products, water supplies, wastes, rats and insect carriers, housing, drainage and many others.

Among the leading causes of reportable sickness for the year 1946, syphilis lead the list with 24.3 per cent of the total number of cases reported; tuberculosis, in all forms, occupied second place with 19.3 per cent; gonorrhea followed with 18.1 per cent. Important increases were recorded for dysentery and poliomyelitis, slight increases for schistosomiasis, mumps and tuberculosis; important decreases were registered for malaria, typhoid fever and endemic murine typhus fever. Minor decreases occurred in filariasis, gonorrhea, influenza, measles, ophthalmia neonatorum, puerperal fever, syphilis and pertussis. No appreciable change was registered for diphtheria and tetanus.

Under the technical supervision of the *Bureau of Epidemiology* and through the personnel of the Public Health Units, a total of 140,967 persons were vaccinated against smallpox as compared with 79,096 persons in 1945; 37,807 children, mostly under 5 years of age, were immunized against diphtheria as compared to 24,811 in 1945, during the same period; 44,209 persons were vaccinated against typhoid fever as compared to 16,929 in 1945.

Through the Bureau, diphtheria antitoxin, diphtheria toxoid, typhoid and smallpox vaccines were provided for free administration in immunization campaigns or for the treatment of cases. Anti-malarial drugs were also distributed free wherever needed.

The isolation of infectious cases is carried out at the District Hospitals where special isolation wards with 25 beds each are provided.

The *Tuberculosis Centers* examined a total of 144,219 persons as against 104,934 during the previous year, performed 155,923 fluoroscopic examinations (128,752 during 1945-46) and took 21,105 X-ray films of the chest (16,602 in the previous fiscal year). Of the X-ray films taken, 6059 were interpreted to show evidence of active tuberculosis; films were only taken, as a rule, when justified by the result of fluoroscopic examination. The 5,058 patients treated at Tuberculosis Centers received a total of 52,753 pneumothorax insufflations, which indicates more activity this year than during 1945-1946. At the end of the year 1,303 patients were under treatment.

The traveling (trailer) fluorographic unit and a portable fluorographic unit were used for survey work in schools, factories, governmental groups, housing projects, rural areas, towns, etc. A total of 18,973 fluorographic films were thus taken, as compared to 11,139 in the previous year; 98.3 per cent were negative for tuberculosis;

reaching the public are used in disseminating the educational programs, in which physicians, nurses, sanitary engineers and inspectors, nutritionists, social workers, and community groups participate. The unit aims at making every worker in public health a health educator.

The *Bureau of Public Health Laboratories* performed 974,054 tests, an increase of 17.03 per cent over last year's work. For the diagnosis of syphilis, 594,375 tests were made. There was a decrease in the number of smears examined for the gonococcus by the Gram stain, but a marked increase in the more accurate cultural method of examination of material for this etiologic agent. The 44,386 smears examined represent a diminution of 20.99 per cent and the 7,520 cultural examinations represent an increase of 31.44 per cent over the examinations performed the previous year.

New technique has been developed for the examination of food, frozen desserts and implements used in restaurants, and of containers in the milk industry, and for the determination of contamination in the manufacture of frozen desserts.

A total of 146,768 fecal examinations were performed for parasites; 38,208 blood smears were examined for malaria; 33,925 samples of exudates examined for diphtheria, and 917 fecal samples cultured for bacillary dysentery. There were also performed 2,571 fecal and blood cultures for the diagnosis of typhoid fever; 3,240 blood agglutination tests for typhoid, paratyphoid, *B. abortus* and *B. proteus* OX-19; 60,776 urine examinations, and 1,030 blood counts, with 685 hemoglobin determinations. In all cases an increase was registered over last year's performance, along with a general improvement of conditions.

A total of 14,596 samples of water from all water systems were bacteriologically examined; 12,120 from water systems with purification plants, and 2,563 from aqueducts without treatment plants. Thirteen brands of bottled drinking water and 953 samples of ice were examined. Bacteriological examinations of milk samples totaled 3,200, and of food and beverages, 135. Biological products prepared for distribution to District and Auxiliary Laboratories included 45,368 cc. of serological antigens, 3,413 cc. of typhoid, paratyphoid, proteus and brucellosis antigens.

The *Bureau of Chemistry* operates a Central Laboratory and 5 branch laboratories under the technical supervision of the Bureau but attached to the District Public Health Laboratories. The Bureau of Chemistry analyzed chemically, examined microscopically, or

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

During the year under review Dr. Juan A. Pons was appointed Commissioner of Health to succeed Dr. A. Fernós Isern, who had been appointed Resident Commissioner in Washington. Dr. Pons took over on November 22, 1946, when the Department was in the midst of the problems of post-war readjustment.

Although some progress has been attained, Puerto Rico is still facing very serious social and economic problems. With the large population and low per capita income of the Island, this year witnessed what is perhaps the highest rate of natural increase in population of any country in the world in recent years.

From 80 to 90 per cent of the population is medically indigent, and fully 80 per cent of the medicine that is practiced in Puerto Rico is public medicine. Most of this, especially as practiced by the municipal organizations, is now substandard medicine, not registered in the morbidity and infirmity statistics, and which, in the light of the newer knowledge, constitutes a liability rather than an asset. The medicine that is practiced at an insular level can stand much improvement.

Fully 19,523, or 70.8 per cent of the 27,570 persons who died during the year, had not been seen by the physicians who certified the causes of their deaths.

The progress attained in the field of public health is evidenced by the downward trend of the death rate, which established a new record of low mortality in the Island. The death rate from all causes decreased sharply to 13.2 deaths per 1,000. There were 88,729 births registered during the year, which exceeded the number of deaths by over 60,000, with a ratio of over 3 births to each death. This gives our Island a rate of natural increase of 29.6 per 1,000 population, one of the highest for any country in the world. Infant mortality has continued the decreasing trend observed during the last few years. Stillbirths rate dropped from 55.4 to 52.9 in 1946.

Diarrhea and enteritis continue to hold the first place among the causes of death, followed closely by tuberculosis, which showed a slight increase. The control and prevention of these diseases is the main concern of the public-health activities of the Department of Health.

There were 76 urban health centers and 94 public health subunits, most of the latter in the rural areas, in operation during the year.

with Federal and Insular school lunch legislation. The program includes 1,394 school lunchrooms serving free lunches to 174,123 children, 417 milk stations serving 23,143 children, and 39 nursery schools attended by 1,400 children; the last two, which are considered child care centers, have separate organizations and are operated independently. By virtue of two statutes, Act No. 328 and Public Law No. 396, the Department of Education assumed complete control of and responsibility for the school lunchrooms in Puerto Rico. Act No. 328 authorized the Commissioner of Education to establish rules and regulations for the selection of personnel, to make all appointments, to make direct purchases, and to accept contributions and donations from all sources. Public Law No. 396, known as the National School Lunch Act, led to important changes in the system of Federal support of school lunchrooms. Previously the Federal Government donated food commodities; under the new law, a definite amount is allowed for each lunch meeting certain nutritional standards. This change placed new and important responsibilities upon the School Lunch Division. It became necessary to assume the responsibility for the purchasing of all foodstuffs and for the accounting of Federal and Insular funds appropriated for the program. In this connection, the U. S. Department of Agriculture offered full cooperation and acted as purchasing agent for the division in the acquisition of food commodities bought on the Mainland. Island purchases were made through the purchasing section with the cooperation of the Puerto Rico Service Office and through the local offices of the Superintendents of Schools. A total of 11,667,162 pounds of food commodities were purchased in the continental United States, and 8,337,599 pounds were purchased locally. In addition, the United States Department of Agriculture donated 4,400,000 pounds of foodstuffs for use by the lunchrooms. The original Insular appropriation for the operation of the program for the fiscal year 1946-47 was \$2,500,000. Later, this appropriation was increased by the amount of \$900,000 through Act No. 9 of July 26, 1946. Moreover, Act No. 1 of December 15, 1946, which provided for an increase in the salaries of all government employees, allocated a total of \$379,050.34 for the payment of the additional compensation to lunchroom employees for the period from December 16, 1946 to June 30, 1947. When the program operated on the basis of food donations, the estimated contribution of the U. S. Government was about \$2,500,000. However, according to the appropriation made by Congress under the National School Lunch Act, Puerto Rico was only

examinations in different subjects of the high school curriculum and passed 652 of them. Thus, 61.4 per cent of all examinations given in the different high school subjects were passed. A total of 18 high school and 18 eighth grade diplomas were issued to students who completed the requirements for graduation.

The following diplomas were issued by the Bureau of Adult and Extension Activities: general course—1,554, commercial course—74, diversified occupations course—12, junior high school—500, eighth grade—2,249, sixth grade—2,620, and 245 certificates of equivalence.

During the school year 1946-47 the services in visual education rendered to the public schools, government agencies, and private institutions have been of paramount importance.

The School of the Air operated on both day and evening schedules. The day programs, which included morning and afternoon broadcasts, were intended for the classroom. The evening programs were intended for the public in general and for the adult schools. The School of the Air has always cooperated generously with governmental educational, and cultural organizations.

During the school year 1946-47, a total of 6,413 students, including 456 veterans, was enrolled in the all-day classes of vocational agriculture. This represents a substantial increase over the previous year. Canning activities were stressed at twenty agricultural centers. Approximately 3,000 cans of products were donated to the UNRRA during the year.

In 1946-47 there were 96 active chapters of the Future Farmers of America in Puerto Rico with a total membership of 4,518. Four district conventions, thirteen (federation) institutes, and four district institutes were held during the year. The insular convention was held at Río Grande, June 10 to 13. The F. F. A. Loans and Awards Association was created by Act No. 341 of the Insular Legislature on April 17, 1946. To date this association has made 62 short-term loans totaling \$1,350 to local F. F. A. members.

The Vocational Trade and Industrial Education program under Insular and Federal auspices, has been in operation in Puerto Rico since 1932. The program started with seven teachers, one supervisor, and one assistant supervisor. During the intervening decade and a half this group has grown to fifty-four teachers, fifteen diversified occupation coordinators, seven local directors, and four supervisory staff members. The Trade and Industrial Educational program is concerned with the training of prospective workers for industrial pursuits and of employed persons to enable them to do more efficient work.

rhythmic activities, singing games, minuettes, story plays, horseshoes, and folk dancing, as well as modified forms of softball, volleyball, and basketball for fifth and sixth graders.

With the cooperation of the School of the Air it is planned to organize a library of recordings of Puerto Rican music interpreted by Puerto Rican musicians. These recordings will be circulated among the schools. They should prove of inestimable value in acquainting the children with their own music and artists.

During the school year 1946-47 there were 133 rural second units with an enrollment of 16,420 students in the seventh, eighth, and ninth grades. Seventh and eighth grades were also organized in 33 other rural centers. The enrollment figures represent an increase of 2,052 over the number of students enrolled last year.

Much progress was achieved through the cooperative efforts of all local supervisors and teachers of second units in the discussion of local situations and problems. Particular emphasis was placed on the evaluation of the material of instruction and on units of work which have already been sent to the teachers.

During the course of the school year 1946-47 the Secondary School Division was formed and a single director was appointed to take charge of both the junior and senior high schools. This action constitutes the most significant change in the general administration of the secondary school since the reorganization of the school system in 1942-43.

The five years which have elapsed since the junior high school movement was inaugurated have witnessed a marked growth in both the number and size of these schools. In 1942-43 when the school system was reorganized, 58 urban junior high schools were established; they enrolled a total of 18,161 students. By 1946-47, however, there were 93 urban junior high schools with an enrollment of 42,459 and a teaching staff of 1,795.

An extension course in health education was offered by the University of Puerto Rico at Caguas, Río Piedras, Ponce, Arecibo, Guayama, San Juan, and Mayaguez. This course comprises the orientation, objectives, and philosophy of the health education and public health programs. Short orientation courses were also given at the Department of Health and the School of Tropical Medicine.

In the native handicraft classes in the rural junior high schools the pupils are trained in the use of the natural resources of the Island, such as straws, rushes, fibers, fruits, shells, and roots, in addition to horns, turtle shells, and others.

and better incomes for the farm families; development of a better scientific attitude towards agriculture and home economics as a means of attaining a higher efficiency of production in general and consequently improving the well-being of our people; development of good leadership in the rural areas through proper education and orientation of adults and youth as a means of helping in the solution of problems encountered by rural families, and creating in them the desire of keeping their farms and homes for themselves and for their children.

This work has been accomplished with adults, both men and women, boys and girls in both rural and urban areas. To conduct this work, all teaching methods have been used by the Extension Service. This includes results and method demonstrations, leader training meetings, Extension schools, 4-H boys and girls camps, conferences, meetings, publications, radio programs, news releases, visual education, tours, personal farm and home visits, etc.

Food crop production in home and market gardens was the major activity of the year. The problem of food supply was worse during 1946 than during the war years. Production campaign work had its problems due mainly to shortages of seeds and of fertilizers. A total of 17,776 home gardens in which vegetables, fruits and other minor crops are included, was planted during the year with a total acreage of 2,844 acres, with an average-size garden of .16 acre. These 17,776 home gardens were distributed as follows: 2,421 in the urban zone, 2,356 planted by 4-H boys and girls and 12,999 by adults in the rural zone. These home gardens covered a total acreage of 2,844.16 acres.

During the year 11 training meetings and 52 meetings of other kinds were held in the rural areas and a total of 23 farm and home visits were made by the Extension horticulturist. The literature distributed on food production through our personnel in the form of circulars and pamphlets made a total of 14,382 copies.

In the food production campaign for home use as well as for market, the matters of seed selection and of insect and disease control were given special consideration. Four thousand two hundred and twenty-nine farmers were assisted with seed selection practices; 4,168 were assisted with insect and disease control measures and 2,598 with fertilizer application methods.

Food preparation and conservation work during this year have been characterized by the efforts exerted by all Extension workers especially home demonstration agents and nutrition specialists towards

Handicraft and home industries have been started in many 4-H and home demonstration clubs. In 4-H clubs, 1,549 girls were enrolled completing a total of 10,799 articles made out of native raw materials. Some of these articles were used in the homes and others were sold locally as souvenirs.

This year there has been considerable progress in home industry. Home industries showed an addition to the rural family income of about \$52,509.90. Families reported value of products sold amounting to \$20,509.90. A total of 5,385 rural families followed the practices recommended by the clothing program.

The home management program of the Extension Service was emphasized during this year with the appointment of a new home management specialist. Her special attention was directed towards determining the particular needs of the different counties and how the home management program could be made effective to meet these necessities. The housing problem in the rural areas of the Island is a very serious one. The fact that a great number of families live in houses that are badly constructed, unsanitary, and which need great deal of repair, makes necessary an intensive educational program in home management. The high prices of construction materials made it very difficult and even impossible for some families to accomplish necessary improvements in their houses. Three hundred forty-four families were assisted in improving and arranging their kitchens. Three hundred seventy-three received instructions on how to build a suitable water supply for their homes. Four hundred twenty-nine families were assisted in the construction of 880 articles used as furnishings for their homes. These articles had a total value of \$2,173.50. Eight hundred twenty-five projects were completed by 4-H girls and 312 by the adults in bedroom, living room, and dining room improvement, as a result of which 1,050 rooms were improved.

The shortage in food products, clothing and household furnishings and the constant rise of prices have made families aware of the need of stretching the dollar to the limit. Under a program of consumer education 3,578 families were assisted with consumers buying problems. Farm families saved an estimated amount of \$22,974.50 by merely following home management practices. Families were encouraged to save money by buying and keeping war bonds and stamps, as a result of which 404 families bought \$8,466 worth of such bonds and stamps.

average price of \$2.00 per gallon. Thirty-four 4-H club members developed and completed bee projects in which they produced 1,470 gallons of honey.

More than a million baby chicks were introduced in the Island during this year, being a great help in the production of broilers for local consumption. Actually there are about 30 commercial farms which have received technical help from the Extension Service with respect to disease control practices, feeding practices, and general management of equipment. A big campaign for the eradication of pullorum was developed by the Extension Service during the year.

Fifty result demonstrations in poultry raising for meat and egg production were conducted in which general feeding and management practices were taught. Thirty 4-H projects were conducted by boys and girls, each of which raised an average of 20 animals. Eighty-nine farm and home visits were made by the poultry specialist to give direct instruction to adults and 4-H'ers. Twenty-five method demonstrations were given to a total of 250 farmers, 4-H boys and girls. Twelve judging teams were organized with a membership of 72 4-H boys and a total of 30 training meetings were given to 936 leaders, which helped in the development of the project.

Two Extension schools with an attendance of 74 people were conducted during which the best practices of poultry raising and control of parasites and diseases were taught. Seven different films were exhibited and seven different circulars on poultry were prepared and distributed as a means of instructing rural families.

In the fruit project, great emphasis was given during this year to practices such as insect and disease control, fertilizing, production of propagative material and pruning. A campaign was developed looking towards the establishment of a fruit orchard in every farm.

Through an intensive campaign we have stimulated the canning of all fruits in excess of the ones consumed fresh, to be kept for seasons of scarcity. During the year 484 new orchards were established and 39,739 fruit trees were planted. Two hundred forty-eight seedbeds were established in which 7,776 small trees were produced and 36 new nurseries were planted with a total of 14,191 seeds. Three hundred eighty farmers received instructions on seed-helped in obtaining fruit seedlings and 1,191 were helped in obtaining seeds. Three hundred eight farmers received instructions on seed-bed preparations, 454 in fertilizing practices, 369 in insect control practices, 364 in disease control practices, 171 in weed control measures and 20 in the use of lime.

the Extension personnel in relation to the organization and establishment of the soil conservation districts.

Four-H club work is a very important phase of the Extension work conducted by the Agricultural Extension Service of the University of Puerto Rico. The 4-H club program is essentially educational and is directed towards the development of a scientific attitude in agriculture as well as in the solution of the many problems in the rural homes. During this year an enrollment of 13,987 4-H club members, grouped in 530 4-H clubs, was attained, of which 6,951 are girls and 7,036 boys. This enrollment, which took place in 335 "barrios" in the Island, represent a 15 per cent increase over last year's enrollment.

With the educational program of our Extension Service, recreational activities for rural people, adults and young, as a means of producing some amusement to the farm families, were conducted.

Nine demonstration farms operated during the year for the improvement of cattle, production of good selected seed, development of result and method demonstrations, conducting of demonstration tests with crops and animals in cooperation with the Experiment Station, and the celebration of farmers meetings for the purpose of informing farmers and others on the latest developments on agricultural and home economies.

Landscape gardening work as developed by the Agricultural Extension Service is intended towards the education of the rural population in the best ways and means of improving their house surroundings in order to make their places more attractive and render life easier and happier in the rural areas.

Results obtained in forestry work during last year are very encouraging. The distribution of trees and the teaching about how to plant and care them is an important part of the educational program of the Extension Service. Agricultural agents cooperated intensively in the forestry program of the year helping in the distribution of about 3,000,000 forest trees. The planting of forest trees and the development of practices tending to the improvement of existing forest areas have been emphasized in around 2,330 cuerdas of land.

FIRE SERVICE

The Insular Fire Service answered during the year under review 907 calls, of which 202 resulted in serious fires, 635 in small fires of firebreaks, and 34 were false alarms. Losses were estimated at \$1,055,175.23, of which \$368,467.50 occurred in the district of San Juan. There were 14 casualties.

all expenses incurred in hauling and losses were to be absorbed by the Interior Department, ended as of June 30, 1946, the hauling expenses and losses were charged as a direct loss to the Working Capital Fund.

Price Support Program activities were carried on at purchasing and distribution centers in Ponce, Mayagüez, Arecibo and Caguas. By agreement with the Vegetable Cooperatives at Aibonito, Barranquitas, Corozal, Jayuya, Lares, Utuado and Villalba, they acted as purchasing agents for the Program.

This Program was to be ended as of the closing of this fiscal year, but an extension of one month was agreed upon, in order to liquidate all transactions and equipment of the Program. This Program was transferred to us by the Federal Distribution Administration on April 16, 1945.

The Market News Service functioned as a supplement to and in cooperation with the Price Support Program. Information on supply, demand and prices of food crops obtained from several local markets, was daily broadcast and circularized among farmers, government agencies and other interested parties. The Market News Service supplied farmers with adequate information which served as a guide for them to decide where to ship their products for higher prices according to market conditions. A monthly summary was sent to the several Insular and Federal agencies for statistical purposes. This service was transferred to the Department of Agriculture of Puerto Rico in April 1947.

The General Supplies Administration made during the year 222 transactions with the Federal Surplus Property Office of Puerto Rico (now the War Assets Administration), involving \$217,497.37. This amount includes direct purchases from the War Assets Administration in the Continent. The merchandise acquired was sold to municipal governments, Insular Government departments, authorities and instrumentalities, and private institutions, for \$244,863.45, which included cost of transportation and repairs of automotive equipment.

Imports of beef from the Dominican Republic continued during the year. Some 2,278,632 pounds of beef were imported, with a subsidy cost of \$136,717.95. This subsidy enabled a large number of people to obtain beef.

The General Supplies Administration had to import from the Dominican Republic and United States (Brazilian) 36,575.42 Cwts.

The Commercial Division was very active this year. Large quantities of rice, pork, lard, cooking hams, salted pork, coffee and other commodities were handled by this Division. This Division also acts as purchasing agent for the Lunch Room Program (Department of Education) and Milk Stations (War Emergency Program). It also provides staple commodities for the different Insular Government institutions.

During the year there were received 22,458 requisitions for purchase of materials, equipment and/or services.

From the total of 16,553 requisitions for purchase of materials, supplies and equipment, 16,169 were processed by the central Procurement Division of the Service Office, with a total of 19,558 purchase orders issued, aggregating \$7,158,867.78. This sum represents the amount of business placed in the local market. 384 requisitions for purchase were transmitted to our branch office in the United States, covering materials, supplies and equipment to be procured in the continental market, at a total cost of \$336,724.60. Purchases made both in the local and continental markets amounted, therefore, in total to \$7,495,592.38.

During the latter part of fiscal year 1946-47 the agreements entered into by and between the Government of Puerto Rico and the Departments of State and Interior of the United States were terminated due to decreases in the Federal budgets, which made it impossible for the Department of the Interior to continue rendering their assistance in purchasing activities and made it impossible also for the Department of State to continue the handling of our shipments through the U. S. Despatch Agency. A branch office was immediately established in the City of New York to handle our purchasing and dispatching services on the Continent.

An increase of 3,907 requisitions handled, equivalent to 21.06 percent over the number of requisitions handled the previous fiscal year, was recorded.

The amount of orders placed during this fiscal year exceeds by \$1,391,648 the value of orders placed the previous fiscal year, which is equivalent to a net increase of 22.8 percent.

The Printing Division increased its sales during the present fiscal year in an amount equal to \$86,190.04, or 24.76 percent over the sales of the previous fiscal year.

The Transportation Division recorded an increase of \$20,908.89, or 32.05 percent over the amount of sales the previous fiscal year.

The Warehouse Section increased its sales by \$101,991.83, or 28.26 percent over the sales of the previous fiscal year.

to reach this figure had to be provided by the Authority out of its own funds. Other 7 projects are being executed exclusively with Insular funds.

Appropriations made for housing since 1938 have been : \$4,500,000 borrowed from the Federal Public Housing Authority on the basis of a loan contract payable in 60 years at 2½ percent, and \$13,100,000 from Insular funds.

Sites for housing projects have been acquired during the year in Río Piedras, Vega Baja, Ponce and Orocovis, at a cost of \$136,806.26.

Plans and specifications were completed for Land and Utility Projects and other projects at Humacao, Coamo, Salinas, Arecibo, San Lorenzo, Guaynabo, Cayey and Añasco, and also for the extension of a garage and warehouse and a central office building.

The main project that has been programmed and planned during the year is that of "San José" in Hato Rey. This is a site comprising 520 cuerdas of land which will be developed in connection with the rehousing of the families to be removed from "El Fanguito" when this slum is cleared. The magnitude and complexity of this project, which constitute the planning and development of a city of over 35,000 souls, has kept busy most of the Authority's staff during the year. The preliminary work in drawings has been completed and the final ones are being prepared looking forward to advertise for the development of the first stage of the project early in the Fall. This first stage shall consist of 1,000 permanent units, 315 land and utilities, and 540 private lots to be sold to families of moderate income and is intended for the rehousing of the families of "El Fanguito" occupying the portion on both sides of the road to Bayamón.

The money so far appropriated for rehousing the dwellers of "El Fanguito" will be committed in this first stage of the project. The planning of other stages, 5 in number, will follow in succession and will be ready for prompt construction as soon as additional funds are appropriated for the purpose.

As of the close of business on June 30, 1947, the Authority has completed or almost completed housing developments in Cataño, San Lorenzo, Lares, Cayey, Coamo, Salinas, San Germán, Aguadilla, Guayama and Humacao.

Two experimental buildings comprising four dwellings each are under construction at the "Land and Utilities" project at Humacao. The purpose of this experiment is to test the feasibility of the construction of a "windmill" building which comprises 4 houses united

cured. This year, however, due to a nation-wide campaign of the Federal Public Housing Authority, the Puerto Rico Housing Authority was informed that authorization could no longer be granted such tenants to continue living in these projects, and was urged to serve eviction notices upon families who had become ineligible, allowing them time to move. The Puerto Rico Housing Authority argued that because of the increase in the cost of living, the maximum income limit for occupancy established in 1941, when times were normal, should be reasonably increased too in harmony with present conditions. According to statistics of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the cost of living had increased over 200 percent. This information was submitted to the Federal Public Housing Authority, requesting that the maximum income limit be raised to twice what it was in normal times.

During the fiscal year a complete auditing of all the books and the accounts of the Federal-aided projects was carried out by the auditors of the Federal Public Housing Authority, and an audit of the books and accounts of the expenditures of Insular funds was made by the Auditor of Puerto Rico.

The accounts receivable of the 12 projects since the date of operation up to the close of business on June 30, 1947, amounted to \$8,112.97.

After new homes are built and tenants from slums move in, social work takes over, as a continuation of the slum clearance program of the Authority. Social and educational activities during the year included: Milk stations sponsored by the Public Welfare Division of the Department of Health, where numerous children take their breakfast; school lunch rooms and elementary schools under the Department of Education; maternal schools, visited weekly by a physician from the Department of Health, at which children were vaccinated against small pox, whooping cough, diphtheria and measles; a vocational-education center; a "Model Home" at the Río Piedras Development, sponsored by the Home Economics Division of the Insular Board for Vocational Education, where tenant pupils are taught home economics, cooking, serving, interior decoration and other practical trades; 4-H Clubs for training in farming, gardening and canning; women's clubs and tenants' associations, and various types of co-operatives furthered by the Agricultural Extension Service of the University of Puerto Rico.

The tuberculosis census that was begun last year in our first 12 housing developments was finished, and 2,356 X Rays were taken at the Bayamón, Manatí, Yauco, Arecibo, Isabela and Aguadilla housing developments.

Health. The purpose of all these experiments is to test the feasibility of the construction of prefabricated low-cost houses, available in the American market, for people of low income in Puerto Rico.

Several experimental houses of different types and costs were built during the year.

INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

A total of 2,515 cases were decided by the Industrial Commission during the year. Under the Workmen's Accident Compensation Act, appeals lie to the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico against decisions of the Industrial Commission, only on questions of law, for on questions of fact, the decisions of the Commission are final, except when the appreciation of evidence of an expert nature is in controversy, in which case, appeals also lie to the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico.

Nineteen cases were taken on appeal to the Supreme Court, of which thirteen were confirmed three were reversed, one was withdrawn, and two are still pending action.

The budget of the Industrial Commission for the fiscal year 1946-47 amounted to the sum of \$85,643.62 of which \$67,418.62 were to cover salaries and \$18,225 were appropriated to meet the general expenses of the Commission. Of the sum appropriated for salaries \$65,279.04 were only expended.

The medical service of the Industrial Commission is of paramount importance. There is hardly a matter brought to the consideration of the Commission where a medical question is not involved.

The medical advisors of the Industrial Commission performed 1,537 medical examinations and rendered a like number of reports. They appeared before the Commission to testify in 774 public hearings.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

The Development Company has completed its fifth fiscal year in the service of the People of Puerto Rico. It has continued, as it shall continue, its efforts to develop a diversified, solidly industrialized economy.

During the past twelve months genuine progress was made. A new subsidiary, the Shoe and Leather Corporation, went into operation, with promising results. By the end of the fiscal year, another subsidiary, to manufacture heavy clay products, had had successful test-runs. Various American investors satisfied that Puerto Rico offers them excellent industrial opportunities, decided to extend their opera-

skills, has benefited by its familiarity with American standards of production, and understands the meaning of managerial responsibility and supervisory efficiency.

As a further incentive to investors, the Company started on September 12, 1945, its Aid to Industrial Development Program. This Aid Program offers private industry unparalleled opportunities. Under it the Company constructs new factory buildings in Puerto Rico in accordance with the plans of potential investors. It leases these plants at very low rentals for long-term periods, with options to purchase at cost.

At the end of this fiscal year, the AID Program appropriated \$1,185,880 for the construction of 13 new factory buildings. Two of these—a leather wallet factory and a hard candy plant—were completed and leased. The remaining buildings, which will be leased as soon as they are available, are for such industries as artificial flowers, pharmaceuticals, metal products, molded plywood, jewelry, cloth dyeing, art pottery, and hats. The lessees have agreed to employ, after the first years of operations, a total of 2,891 workers, with an annual payroll of \$1,910,000.

Coincident with the AID Program, the Puerto Rican Legislature recently passed a "tax holiday" act, which offers new industries a blanket exemption from income, property and municipal taxes, in addition to exemptions from excise taxes on machinery and raw materials previously provided for by law. Under the bill, none of these taxes have to be paid by new industries established in Puerto Rico after July 1, 1947. The "holiday" is to last until June 30, 1959, during the subsequent three years graduated low rates will go into effect. In order to grasp the full significance of this it should be borne in mind that Federal Income Tax does not apply to the Island, although it is a part of the United States.

As a result of the AID Program, and the "tax holiday" bill, several well known American firms have already decided to extend operations to the Island. At the proper time these firms will make their determination known to the public. Outside investors are finding that they receive a cordial reception from the people and Government of Puerto Rico. Equal industrial advantages are extended to local investors so that they, too, can prosper under free and fair competition.

In its unceasing efforts to further the prosperity of the Island, the Company has not restricted itself to stimulate manufacturing industry, but has perceived that Puerto Rico has all of the assets

Effective July 16, 1945, the Handicrafts Division was reorganized and became the Fiber Textiles and Ceramic Shops. By concentrating managerial and supervisory effort on the two more successful handicraft operations, the Company is now in a much better position to secure the high quality workmanship essential to acquiring and maintaining a stable foreign market.

The higher training standards, satisfactory personnel relations, and employee welfare progress attained by the Company and its subsidiaries was due largely to the work of the new Industrial Relations Department which successfully completed its first year of operation. The Department instituted a modern training program, established personnel officers in each plant, and, through its Employment Section, processed nearly 1,400 applications. It also gave aptitude and psychological tests, and laid the foundation for an efficient long-range employment program. It established laboratory and clinical services in the Paper, Glass, and Cement factories.

Collective bargaining agreements were reached during the year in the Glass and Paper subsidiaries, a jurisdictional dispute in the Paper factory was solved through an election, and a new and mutually satisfactory labor contract was agreed upon by management and workers of the Cement Corporation.

As of June 1947, the Company and its subsidiaries employed an average of 1431 persons a week, with a total yearly payroll of \$2,074,550.

The New York Office maintained by the Company was primarily concerned this past year with procurement, forwarding, and expediting. The Office assists the AID Program by distributing literature, interviewing potential investors, and keeping American business men informed as to industrial opportunities in Puerto Rico.

The Company plans on a year of expanded production and increased employment. It has already scheduled construction of a new textile mill in Ponce which will employ more than 500 persons, and has contracted for the building of a yeast pilot plant capable of producing 1,000 pounds of dry yeast daily. Also scheduled for construction during the coming year are the new hotel, a chinaware plant, a smaller cotton textile factory, and four plants for processing wheat and allied products. Under the AID Program at least three new plants will be erected during the next fiscal year.

Geophysical research, which has indicated the presence of possible oil structures in two Island areas, will continue, and other projects in the fields of physics, chemistry and engineering con-

it to the improvement of tomatoes, papayas, grasses and onions, and to the understanding of the general process of root and leaf differentiation.

Considerable progress was attained in developing a tomato which grows well under local conditions and possesses good quality, size and shape and resistance to diseases. Further work is, however, necessary until all desirable characters of the parents (native and imported varieties and species) are finally combined and fixed. Some of the hybrids obtained outyielded the standard varieties planted in the Island.

A collection of papaya varieties and species was assembled which is now probably the best in the Caribbean and one of the largest in existence. It consists of nearly 100 accessions including 2 genera, 8 species, and over 72 distinct varieties or stocks. Trees coming into bearing were evaluated for resistance to bunchy-top, fruit shape and quality and sex expression. All lines are being involved in as many inter-specific and inter-varietal crosses as possible.

Experiments on the flowering of onions have shown the possibility of inducing flowering readily through the simple expedient of vernalization. These results will make it possible in the future to produce through breeding, varieties of onions adapted to Puerto Rican conditions.

Cytological studies on grasses were made, especially of the *Panicums* (*madagilde* and *guinea*), as a base for a breeding program, with the cooperation of the Agricultural Experiment Station. Observations thus far made on chromosome structure, number and other characteristics account for the high percentage of pollen and egg abortion recorded in the guinea group. Interesting results were observed in studies made to determine sterility. Penicles of the P. maximum group set very poorly when covered with paper bags. Percentages of seed set were increased to 24—44 by using especially designed funnels of wire screen to catch seeds as they were shed.

Further and extensive studies on leaf and roots differentiation in cuttings substantiate results of chemical treatments conducted and indicate that natural differentiation is controlled in a manner similar to that indicated by experimental work. The natural differentiation takes place by the establishment of a natural hormone gradient between the proximal and distal cut surfaces. These findings will have application in the commercial propagation of plants by cuttings.

develop normally under full sunlight. The seed used for those tests was obtained from trees growing under full sunlight. Further studies along these lines may make possible the cultivation of coffee under little shade, a condition most desirable for high productivity.

Extensive tests were started to find varieties of "Chamalueo" banana resistant to Panama disease. It is believed that resistant strains exist on the Island, but studies along these lines must be continued for a number of years before positive results are obtained.

Studies of Puerto Rican problems and areas and of regions of the Caribbean and South America were undertaken by the Department of Economic Geography.

Geographical and economic studies were completed of the Cauca and Calima valleys of Colombia; of St. Nevis and Kitts in the British Leeward Islands, and of the sugar and coffee industries of Puerto Rico. Comparative studies of the economies of regions were made with the object of arriving at methods to be used in order to achieve a well-rounded agriculture and a balanced insular economy in Puerto Rico.

INSURANCE

The year 1946 sets a mark in the underwriting of insurance business in Puerto Rico. Premiums written amounted to \$10,396,931.45 \$10,396,931.45; losses paid, to \$1,934,360.94, and losses incurred, \$2,055,104.50.

A comparison of premiums received and losses paid during the years 1945 and 1946 is as follows:

Coverage	1945	1946	Per Cent
PREMIUMS RECEIVED			
Fire and Fire and Marine, Casualty and Miscellaneous, Life and Health	\$3,415,912.76 1,462,931.80 3,780,468.86 \$8,659,251.46	\$4,969,016.22 1,852,024.52 4,475,282.08 \$10,396,931.45	118.85 127.34 118.35 128.07
LOSSES PAID			
Fire and Fire and Marine, Casualty and Miscellaneous, Life and Health	\$738,738.96 412,234.26 \$56,613.36 \$2,041,006.48	\$689,447.51 329,237.42 715,676.01 \$1,834,360.94	92.08 119.67 84.20 94.77

The insurance in force with life insurance companies authorized to do business in the Island amounted to \$96,786,962 of which \$19,591,432 were written in that year. A total of 1839 new policies were written or revived which, of course, includes policies issued

During the regular session of 1946 of the Legislature of Puerto Rico, Act No. 466 was approved to provide medical and hospitalization services to the officials and employees of the Insular Government for which purpose \$200,000 were approved for 1946-47. This Act authorizes the establishment of medical and hospitalization services of an optional type for the benefit of the officials and employees of the Insular Government, 50 per cent of the cost thereof being chargeable to the public funds, and the balance to be paid by such officials or employees as may voluntarily have availed themselves of said services.

The Superintendent of Insurance is authorized under this Act to execute with the Hospital Service Association of Puerto Rico, an association operated under the Blue Cross System, as well as with the Teachers Association of Puerto Rico, the necessary contracts for the rendering of the services.

This plan has been a great help to the majority of the government employees, inasmuch as under the same, the Blue Cross Association has been willing and able to fix a special fee.

Over 4,700 teachers and more than 3,600 officials and employees of the Insular Government had availed themselves of the benefits provided for by Act No. 466 of April 25, 1946.

The cost of the service to the Insular Government as provided for in Act No. 466 was \$63,713.91, including a reserve of \$25,000 for encumbrances.

The total certificates of authorization issued to insurance companies, agents, brokers, and other personnel of the insurance business during 1946-47 amounted to 1,182 of which 1,107 were in force as of June 30, 1947. Three new companies—one American, one Canadian and one domestic—were authorized during the year and two more American companies were also in process of registration by the end of fiscal year 1946-47.

The underwriters authorized to do business in Puerto Rico submitted 1,201 forms for the approval of the Superintendent of Insurance.

Federal, Insular and municipal government agencies or instrumentalities referred to this Office for examination and certification, 838 fidelity and surety bonds.

In connection with the bonding of officers and employees of municipal governments, the Auditor of Puerto Rico requested the cooperation of this Office for a revision of the bonds issued by fidelity and surety companies so as to draft a standard form acceptable

make it uniform. Another committee was appointed to study a measure which provides for the regulation and definition of the duties of the stenographers of the district courts of Puerto Rico.

There is also under consideration by the Council the proposed reorganization of the judicial system of the Island. The Attorney General will submit to the Council a report on this subject.

MINIMUM WAGE BOARD

The Minimum Wage Law was amended by Act No. 451, approved May 14, 1947. Two main changes were made, both of which have far-reaching effects upon the functioning of the Board. First, the duty of enforcing the Board's Mandatory Decrees was transferred to the Department of Labor; second, the process of enacting Mandatory decrees was modified. Under the new procedure established, Minimum Wage Committees have been abolished. The Board will consider all questions relating to wages and hours as well as conditions of work in a specific industry or business preliminary to the drafting and enactment of a decree applicable to such industry or business. Representatives of labor and management must be appointed by the Chairman as special members of the Board for that purpose. A tentative decree shall be adopted by the Board so constituted, and published. Personal interviews or public hearings may be held to consider the views of all persons affected by the proposed decree and after due consideration of all contentions, the Board proceeds to issue a final decree.

During the fiscal year 1946-1947 the Board issued two new mandatory decrees and revised a third.

Mandatory Decree No. 12 applicable to the Transportation Services was approved in December 1946 to go into effect on January 2, 1947. It is estimated to cover over 13,000 workers whose annual pay roll is thereby increased in at least $2\frac{3}{4}$ million dollars, or additional annual income of \$212 per worker. It prescribes wages of 40, 30 and 25 cents per hour, respectively, for skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled railroad workers; and of 50, 40 and 30 cents per hour, respectively, for the same groups of workers employed in all other branches of the transportation services.

An 8-hour day and a 48-hour week are established for all transportation workers. Overtime must be compensated at double the rate paid for regular hours. Other provisions include a weekly day of rest for employees who complete six days or forty-eight hours of work during any week. Work performed during the day of rest must be paid at twice the usual rate.

tion, the only records to be kept by the management are (1) permanent roll or card file of all employees; (2) payrolls which must include serial number of the employee, his name, occupation, regular and extra hours worked, rate of compensation, additions or deductions from the weekly salary, net amount received, and signature of the employer or his representative; and, (3) the pay envelope on the face of which there must appear items of information similar to those requested in the payroll.

It is further provided in this Regulation that the payrolls, collective bargaining agreements, individual labor contracts, and any other records related to employees must be kept for a period of at least three years after January 2, 1947, when the Regulation took effect.

During the year, the Board held nineteen regular, eleven special and three executive sessions, and three public hearings.

During the year the Division of Research and Statistics completed two surveys, one of the furniture and woodworking industry and another of the quarrying industry. In the first of these, 51 establishments employing 626 workers were canvassed, representing as a sample the 170 establishments and 1600 workers of that industry. The final report was prepared but has not been released yet.

The quarrying industry employs over 1,000 workers and is constituted by some 100 establishments. The sample selected for this study includes 26 quarries wherein 424 workers were employed. The process of tabulation has been completed, averages and other measures have been computed and the drafting of the report is under way.

As a first stage, information from official sources needed for the selection of appropriate samples and preliminary plans was collected for proposed studies covering the wholesale trade, fruit, and needlework industries.

In response to a request for cooperation received from the General Supplies Administration, a special survey was conducted to determine the cost of bread and to serve as a basis for the determination of the maximum legal price to be fixed by that agency. Producers had been claiming that, in view of their high operating costs, especially materials and labor, the legal ceiling authorized was too low.

Through an agreement between the Industrial Supervision Service of the Department of Labor and the Minimum Wage Board, during the year both agencies cooperated in the enforcement of the minimum wage decrees. Under the terms of this agreement, the

Brief of the Government of Puerto Rico Presented to the Committee for Reciprocity Information.
Addresses of Antonio Fernós Isern.
Hearings on the Appointment of Mariano Villaronga to be Commissioner of Education of Puerto Rico.
Memorandum on Puerto Rico—Luis Muñoz Marín and Antonio Fernós Isern.

Distributions included:

Self Determination for Puerto Rico—Clarence Senior.
Puerto Rico—U. S. Army Air Forces, Boringuen Field, P. R.
The Economy of Puerto Rico—U. S. Tariff Commission.
Incomes and Expenditures of Wage Earners in Puerto Rico—A. C. Hanson and M. A. Pérez.
The Net Income of the Puerto Rican Economy, 1940-44—Daniel Creamer.
Puerto Rico: An American Responsibility—Foreign Policy Reports.

The Office prepared for distribution among governmental officials of Puerto Rico, legislators, newspapers, radio stations and civic institutions, a periodical press survey containing an extract of articles on Puerto Rican affairs published in newspapers in continental United States, for their guidance in evaluating press attitudes on the mainland.

It also undertook to assist students in obtaining admission to professional and other schools in continental United States, Puerto Rican firms in obtaining supplies for the Island, and it also investigated labor conditions for Puerto Ricans seeking or having employment on the Mainland.

Post-war conditions required it to participate at length in the shipping, wharfrage and terminal problems affecting Puerto Rico, and to negotiate an adjustment of freight and passenger rates and services.

The Office sent to Geneva, Switzerland, a representative who acted as Advisor to the American Delegation and spoke for Puerto Rico's interest in the tariff concessions proposed for rum, sugar, cottons, needlework and other commodities.

A small, but excellent library, concerned with the history, recent developments, and current problems of Puerto Rico, has been collected.

While travelling in the United States, Puerto Rican governmental officials use the facilities and contacts of the Office of Puerto Rico and make the office their official headquarters.

for the Governor, the Legislature and several Municipal Assemblies, on the progress of capital improvement projects.

The Editor's Office was organized on July 1, 1946, to take charge of all publications, translations and public relations of the Board. Fourteen publications were edited and printed during the year.

As a basis for general planning: (1) an urban land-use survey was completed for all 77 cities and towns, including maps and statistical analyses for over half of them; (2) estimates were made of urban and rural population to 1970, by municipalities; and (3) mapping of minor civil divisions (barrios) was completed for 53 municipalities.

Master plan studies included schools, rural and urban health centers, the rural resettlement program of the Land Authority, urban highways, parks, penal institutions, police headquarters, and fire stations. A preliminary master plan for the city of Ponce was completed to include health, transportation, educational, and recreational facilities, and public utilities. A tentative five-year Federal-aid hospital construction program was prepared jointly by the Board and the Department of Health. Approval of a master plan of municipal hospitals was withheld pending a study for compliance with recent Federal legislation.

Master plan revision was limited to the Master Plan of Major Thoroughfares for the San Juan Metropolitan Area. Public hearings were held and the revised master plan is about to be adopted.

Urban planning also included the preparation and discussion in public hearings of the Río Piedras Zoning Map. Zoning studies were initiated in several other urban areas. Official mapping for urban highways in the San Juan Metropolitan Area was continued, the work performed being estimated at 61 per cent of the total. A general revision of the Subdivision Regulations is under study.

General planning and economic studies included various aspects of public housing types and processes, the development of adequate port facilities for the San Juan and Ponce areas, water supply for San Juan and neighboring municipalities, and problems connected with resort hotels, vocational education for veterans, and public markets.

The Fourth Six-Year Financial Program for the years 1947-48 to 1952-53 was prepared and submitted to the Governor and the Legislature. In this program funds in the amount of \$84,602,234 were recommended for the fiscal year 1947-48 of which \$56,859,272 were for current expenditures, \$12,627,750 for capital improvements

of 11¢ per dollar at Cambalache and 8¢ at Plazuela. A bonus will be distributed to growers at the rate of 5 cents per hundredweight of sugar produced by their canes.

There still prevails the same situation reported last year as to the location of *agregado* communities which had the effect of slowing down the *agregado* resettlement program. Nine new rural communities were established during the year as compared with 25 last year. 1046 plots were distributed against over 2,000 the year past. It is estimated that about 5,600 persons will be benefited by this distribution of plots this year. As per June 30, 1947 a total of 135 rural communities had been established throughout the Island and 16,642 plots ranging in size from one-fourth to three cuerdas had been assigned. There were also assigned 111 plots for such public facilities as schools, churches, medical centers, 4-H Clubs, etc. These plots aggregate some 365 cuerdas. It can be asserted that the house building program in rural communities has been developing most satisfactory, if we consider how difficult it has been to obtain materials during the war and post-war periods. During this fiscal year 480 homes have been built and 128 were part finished. Altogether 13,393 homes had been built by June 30, 1947, with an assessed value of approximately \$2,000,000. This is indeed a good record since it implies that over seventy-four per cent of placed *agregados* have built and are owning their own homes. At the end of the fiscal year *agregados* were raising subsistence crops valued at \$819,708.17 and owned farm animals valued at \$446,407.

The Land Authority continued its supervision over the homestead farms which were transferred to this agency according to the provisions of Act 83 of 1945. These homestead farms comprise some 38,000 cuerdas scattered over 101 wards of 38 municipalities. A vigorous planting campaign was conducted among homesteaders so as to intensify farming practices and the raising of livestock. Results obtained so far are indeed encouraging and acreage planted has increased considerably.

A consumer's cooperative has been organized at farm "La Carmelita" in barrio Anón of Ponce, where 103 homesteads had been established. Two more of these cooperatives are being organized, one at "El Duque" farm, Lares, and another at barrio Pugnado Atuera, Vega Baja.

Sixteen family-size farms ranging from 5 to 25 acres were established during the year. As per June 30, 1947, the Authority had 164 of these small farms distributed through the Island. These farms comprise an area of some 2,280 cuerdas valued at \$123,282.69.

per cent. The work of the Police Athletic League, organized throughout the Island, is aimed at combating this problem. These leagues operate in cooperation with citizens of the community. There are at present over 18,000 junior members of the League between 8 to 18 years, all registered in the 84 Chapters of the League.

The training of members of the Force as experts and teachers in various phases of police work at the National Police Academy conducted at Washington, D. C. by the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been continued. Two members of the Force have been trained at this school during this year. The work of the Police Academy has been very effective. Two different courses have been conducted during the year with an attendance of 183 members. These men were trained on judo technique and other proper exercises.

The Bureau of Detectives, in cooperation with the Uniformed Force and the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation, performs all kinds of criminal investigation brought to the Police. It consists of 146 members, of which 53 are regular appointees of the Bureau, and 93 officers and enlisted men are members of the Police Force temporarily attached for duty in the Bureau. This secret force performed duties throughout the Island.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

The Commission held 199 executive meetings and 428 public hearings, of which 388 were presided over by attorneys of the Commission acting as examining agents.

A total of 3,174 cases were brought to the consideration of the Commission, 347 pending from the previous fiscal year and 2,827 filed during the year; 2,832 were decided and 342 were pending decision on June 30, 1947.

Electric services throughout the Island are being rendered by the Water Resources Authority of Puerto Rico and the Isabela Irrigation Service except in the municipalities of Cayey, Guánica, Yauco, Adjuntas and Peñuelas, where privately or municipally owned plants under the jurisdiction of this Commission are being operated.

All the Government and privately owned electric utilities are interconnected, which fact is beneficial to these utilities and to the public as well inasmuch as it facilitates the interchange of electric energy whenever shortages of power occur in certain areas due to droughts.

Discontinuance of the trolley service was authorized during the year, and a substitute bus service was established.

Nine new tax exemptions were granted and two extended for a longer term.

After proper hearings and investigations the Commission authorized Central Carmen and Central Boea Chica to suspend their operations as sugar mills and to surrender their respective franchises as public-service companies. The cane which used to be ground in Central Boea Chica was transferred to Central Mercedita, and the cane which was milled at Central Carmen was distributed among several centrals.

For the purpose of establishing uniform methods of chemical analyses and technical calculations for the sugar mills of the Island, a Consultative Committee on Sugar Technology was appointed.

The Accounting Division of the Commission prepared and proposed a Uniform System of Accounts for the sugar companies of Puerto Rico, which is pending discussion at a public hearing.

During the fiscal year a total of 170 petitions from "colonos" to transfer their cane for grinding to other mills were authorized. The canes transferred were estimated at 328,000 tons.

Investigations and studies on the technical efficiency of sugar mills were performed. The manufacturing data and reports submitted by the mills were studied, analyzed and compiled by the Commission, and whenever inefficient and poor working results appeared from the same, the findings of the Commission were brought to the consideration of the factory technicians, and, in some cases, a Commission technician was detached to cope with the situation. All sugar mills, especially during the grinding season, were duly inspected by the Commission technicians. All complaints filed by the "colonos" were properly studied. Whenever requested, the colonos' bills of accounts were checked, and advice and explanation of facts and factors were given to them.

Thirty-seven sugar mills operated during the year; 9,286,262.066 tons of cane were ground, with a yield of 1,087,879.681 tons of 96° sugar and 50,974.841 gallons of molasses.

All taximeters used by public service vehicles rendering taxi services in the Metropolitan Area were duly tested during the year by the Bureau of Weights and Measure.

A total of 82,279 new weighing and measuring devices were imported, as compared with 45,176 imported during the previous year; 102,868 weighing and measuring devices were tested, out of

could offer pathological services to the medical profession of the Island. It was therefore considered essential for the School to set up such services which, in the beginning, were given absolutely free of charge.

During the years that the School has been under way, all aspects of this work have grown by leaps and bounds until recently, the greater part of the personnel of the Department of Pathology has had to devote its time to surgical pathology, to medico-legal cases, and to cases from the Workmen's Compensation Bureau, with the ensuing deleterious results to any research that was contemplated or undertaken. Furthermore, the School found it difficult to cope with the situation, financially. The lack of trained personnel for this work also worsened conditions.

With the idea of cutting down such routine to a minimum, the Special Board of Trustees last year approved a contract with the Workmen's Compensation Bureau, whereby the latter would pay the amount of \$25 per every microscopic report of the viscera in autopsy cases forwarded by said Commission. Additional rulings were promulgated on October 1, 1946, rejecting all surgical material coming from private patients or clinics and restricting it, in indigent cases, only to that material of interest in establishing a correct diagnosis.

The Blood Bank, originally established as an emergency activity of the Civilian Defense during the World War II, was transferred to the School three years ago to service all the hospitals for indigent sick of the Island. As in other routines services rendered by this institution, this one, too, has grown very rapidly.

A study of the situation revealed that quite a bit of the work of the Blood Bank was for private clinics. It was therefore decided to charge a minimum fee of \$15 to private patients requesting the services of the Bank.

As of the coming fiscal year, all positions of interns in the University Hospital will be abolished and substituted for those of chief and junior residents, with such salaries as will prove an incentive to young physicians. Facilities to study the clinical aspects of tropical diseases in the clinics and wards of the University Hospital will continue to be provided to students, and arrangements will be made for them to participate in the clinical rounds of the Presbyterian and Bayamón District Hospitals.

The question of nurses was solved to a large extent by the new quarters established for them and the recent salary increase offered all government employees.

ing of Insular Obligations. A substantial amount of Insular debt (Land Authority Temporary Certificates) was refinanced through the issuance of \$1,200,000 in par value of People of Puerto Rico Refunding Bonds of 1946, reducing an original issue of \$2,000,000. The immediate threefold result of this activity, carried out on behalf of the Government of Puerto Rico, was the conversion of non-marketable temporary certificates into marketable bonds, the reduction of the bonded debt by amounts equivalent to the balances of the sinking funds at the conversion date, and the reduction of interest cost of such obligations from $2\frac{1}{2}$ percent to 2 percent.

During the fiscal year 1946-47 the Loan Portfolio of the Bank increased from \$1,500,490 to \$6,248,495 and the number of loans from 50 to 492.

This clearly indicates that this Government Bank, the financial backbone of which is formed by public moneys which came into the Treasury in the form of dues and taxes, is facilitating the constant reversion of these funds to their original owners in the form of long-term credit for the purposes of commercial and industrial development.

Money was borrowed for the establishment and/or expansion and operation of new or already existing commercial and industrial enterprises, including the candy industry, ice manufacture, tourist facilities development, leather goods industry, manufacture and distribution of ice cream and bakery goods, furniture manufacture, construction of theaters, medical clinics, cold storage plant, warehouses, concrete-block plants, needlework shops, private schools, soft drinks bottling plants, milk pasteurization plant, salt-refinery plant, laundries, autobody manufacturing plant, printing press industry, perfumes manufacturing plant, amples manufacturing laboratory, etc.

The proceeds of a substantial amount of loans was dedicated to the solution of our acute housing shortage. During the year 1946-47 the Bank participated directly or indirectly in the financing of more than 400 modern low-cost dwellings for families in the lower income brackets. In this program preference was always given to veterans

Interest rates ranged from 4 percent to $4\frac{1}{2}$ percent on industrial loans. Interest rates on real estate loans varied from $4\frac{1}{2}$ percent to $5\frac{1}{2}$ percent and rates on home loans remained constantly at 4 percent. The raise in the interest rate, from $4\frac{1}{2}$ percent to $5\frac{1}{2}$ percent, on real estate loans was the result of this Bank's new policy aimed at the establishment of some sort of credit control in connection

1946 and June 30, 1945, respectively. There was an unusual increase of 884 per cent in the total number of loans and an increase of 316.43 per cent in the corresponding outstanding principal balances between the fiscal years ended June 30, 1947 and June 30, 1946, which reflects the support that the Banco de Fomento de Puerto Rico is extending to the Puerto Rican industry.

Annual accruals to the Bank's Capital Account now approach the million dollar-a-year mark. Expansion of the Bank's Operating Capital and Reserves on a continuing basis is essential to achieve the Bank's broad public purposes, among which stands the industrialization program of the Government of Puerto Rico, the monetary demands for which have expanded materially during the last six months and show a continuing upward trend.

NATIONAL GUARD

The last two great wars have shown with forceful meaning the necessity of maintaining a strong, well-equipped and trained National Guard. While liberal assistance is being extended by the Federal Government, the responsibility for the reorganization of the National Guard of Puerto Rico rests solely with the Insular Government of Puerto Rico.

In addition to the excellent war service rendered by our National Guard units, they also furnished a great number of officers and cadres from their enlisted ranks which made possible the war time training of the thousands of draftees in the Island.

Upon release from active service, all the enlisted personnel of the prewar National Guard was discharged for expiration of term of service. Also, practically all the commissioned personnel, because of promotion to higher grades, physical disability and by reason of being over age in grade, lost their status as federally recognized National Guard Officers. Therefore, when authority for the reorganization of the Puerto Rico National Guard was received, new personnel had to be found for both officers and enlisted men.

The National Guard has been allotted troops up to a total force of 10,074 men. This allotment was accepted, as in the case of most of the States, with the understanding that the Federal Government would help in providing armories. Since Puerto Rico owns only the armory at San Juan we could not possibly provide the Armory Buildings required by the number of organizations allotted. It is desired to point out that unless the bill now being considered in Congress providing Federal funds is approved, we cannot complete the organization of all the units allotted.

Merit rating has resulted in an incentive for the employers to cooperate in the prevention of accidents, and a substantial saving in premium expense.

During the fiscal year 1946-47, seventy-eight applications for lump sum payments for purposes of investment were approved. The amount thus paid to disabled workers or their beneficiaries reached \$123,751.66, a substantial increase over previous years.

Prices of goods and services in Puerto Rico have continued their upward trend. For policy year 1946-47 practically every single item of cost shows a substantial increase over the previous year.

On the other hand, progress in the control and prevention of accidents in general, has been slow for the past two fiscal years.

To offset in part these disadvantages, we have had a considerable increase in the pay roll coverage.

We must admit that the outlook is not as bright now as it has been during the past few years. Unless a more steady progress in the control and prevention of accidents is made from now on, premium rates might have eventually to be increased.

The preparation of the plans and specifications for the industrial hospital of the State Insurance Fund was finally started during the latter part of the fiscal year and will probably be ready by the end of June 1948.

The hospital will have over 350 beds, and in addition, a 100 bed dormitory adjoining the rehabilitation center. By virtue of this dormitory, the hospital will be able to serve a great many people simultaneously without having them occupy the beds in the hospital proper. The beds in the hospital proper must have many specially equipped services which are relatively expensive. The dormitory will be a very simple and inexpensive but comfortable structure.

There will also be an extensive outpatient department. This, too, will help to treat a large number of injured workers without having them hospitalized in the hospital proper.

The hospital is planned to possess every needed diagnostic and therapeutic facility meeting the highest standards of the U. S. Public Health Service. The accommodations for the patient's living room will be very simple and made to be comfortable under our special weather conditions.

We are indebted to Dr. Harold D. Storms, Director of the Rehabilitation Clinic of the Workmen's Compensation Board of Ontario, for his expert advice in the planning of the rehabilitation center of our Industrial Hospital.

bacco is wanted. The breeding work that has been conducted for several years at the Institute has resulted in the development of several promising varieties. The most outstanding of these is Virginia No. 12. This variety is highly resistant to the cryptogamic disease of tobacco known as Black-Shank, caused by the fungus *Phytophthora nicotianae*. It has an excellent leaf type, produces a leaf of very good quality and is a very high yielder.

Considerable work has been done at the Institute to develop a mosaic resistant variety through the use of Ambalema, a variety of tobacco from South America which is resistant to mosaic, but the results have not been satisfactory as far as quality of the resistant varieties obtained is concerned. For this reason another source of resistance to mosaic is being used at present in our breeding work. This resistance is known as necrotic or localized and is derived from the species *N. glutinosa*. Promising crosses have been obtained with this technique.

Work on this problem is being intensified because the development of such a variety would mean a great help to the tobacco growers. Resistance to the Mottle disease of tobacco is also sought through this technique.

Coupled with this is the work on control of seedbed diseases. Tests were conducted with Fernate, a new chemical fungicide which has given good results in the United States in the control of damping-off.

Resistance to the Black-Shank disease of tobacco was determined for sixteen varieties to find their possibilities as sources of resistance in breeding for this disease.

Experiments on weed control on tobacco seedbeds conducted in cooperation with the American Cyanamid Co. have demonstrated so far that Aero Cyanamid in its granular form is quite effective.

Work on the effect of phosphoric acid present in soils on combustibility and color of the leaf are under way. Heavy rains during the growing season caused considerable damage to this experiment but sufficient data could be gathered. Tests on the residual effect of chlorine in the soil were continued this year. Chemical analyses and combustibility tests are being made at present.

An experiment was started this year in order to determine the best method of topping plants in the field.

Similar tests were conducted with shade grown tobacco. Low topped plants gave heavier bodied leaves of very good elasticity, size and shape which have been highly commended by industrial leaders.

The opening of these airports to the public has resulted in a definite expansion of air transport commerce to and from Puerto Rico. The San Juan air terminal at Isla Grande averages 18,000 air passengers per month, increasing air cargo by thousands of pounds. Aircraft flight operations increased to 4,000 monthly. As another example, during June, Mayagüez airport had 288 flights, and fifteen charter companies made 166 international and commercial flights to and from that airport during the month.

At the end of the fiscal year, plans were nearly completed for the new International Airport of Puerto Rico to be located at Isla Verde, six miles from the commercial center of the city of San Juan. Only Congressional approval is now needed for this project, for which \$800,000 in Federal funds and \$2,750,000 in Insular funds have already been allocated. The preliminary engineering for this project is 90 per cent complete. In approximately three years it is hoped that this airport, which will have two runways large enough to accommodate planes of any size, will be ready to serve as a truly international airport, and a port of entry into the United States for all inter-American plane travel.

During this first year of airport operation the Authority had to incur expenditures, in order to be properly equipped, which slightly exceeded its income.

The average number of buses operating each month in the metropolitan area of San Juan was 157, carrying an average of 3,853,528 passengers each month, or 126,822 daily. During the year, 48 new buses were purchased, 23 Twin Coaches and 25 Fords. At the end of the fiscal year, the fleet consisted of 200 buses, of which 91 were of the old type purchased from the White Star Bus Line and 109 were new, purchased during the past three years. At the end of the fiscal year, 5 more Whites, 15 Twin Coaches and 1 Ford were on order from the States. The total number of passengers carried during the year was 46,242,335, as against 28,851,948 last year.

Progress was made in improving the grounds at Hato Rey, and a study was begun for the consolidation of the Loíza and Villa Palmeras stations into one bus terminal.

The operation of this Division resulted in a considerable deficit this year due partly to the large number of public cars and station wagons operating within the metropolitan area as authorized by Act No. 1, approved on February 20, 1947.

Round table conferences on local and international topics, interviews with University professors and other programs of educational interest were broadcast.

Archaeological excavations were undertaken at Luquillo Beach.

The income of the University from all sources amounted to \$6,074,022, including \$1,490,000 for construction purposes, and \$235,000 for postgraduate and medicine scholarships.

Besides the special appropriations for scholarships, acquisition of real estate, purchase of equipment, and benefits for veterans, the Legislature also raised the percentage of revenue accruing to the University from the tax on alcoholic beverages, from 8 to 11 per cent.

WAR EMERGENCY PROGRAM

The construction and improvement of public buildings ranked first among the construction activities of the War Emergency Program. During the period covered by this report 73 projects for the construction of new public buildings were undertaken, of which 56 were completed and 17 were under construction at the close of the year.

The program for the construction of roads started the year before was completed. Thirty-four (34) secondary road projects were operated in 33 different municipalities of the Island. In addition to those bridges and culverts included in the development of the road and street projects, eight specific projects for the construction of bridges and culverts were carried out, of which 7 were completed and 1 is still under construction. Also, improvements were made to 10.3 kilometers of farm-to-market roads in the municipalities of Gurabo and San Sebastián and a length of 15.146 kilometers of road and trails were constructed or repaired in Insular Forests. A project for the opening of road bed excavations to a width of 4 meters by means of heavy equipment was operated this year in 18 municipalities. With very few exceptions, roads included in this project were those in the Master Plan for the Development of Secondary Roads in Puerto Rico. In this type of work, a total length of 84.6 kilometers have been surveyed and 36.7 kilometers were constructed.

Projects for the paving of streets including concrete curb and gutters and sidewalks were carried out in 36 municipalities. Of these projects 31 were completed and 5 were still active at the close of the year. The physical accomplishment in this type of

A new program to develop cooperatives was started on April 1, 1947, which absorbed the sewing and home industries projects. It was possible to organize only two cooperatives during the year, one in Lares and another in Orocovi. The aim of the program consists in organizing the shops operated by the Program into cooperatives, make them advancements in cash and materials and help to find a market for the articles produced by them, in order that they may become self-supporting. This work is being accomplished with the cooperation of the Agricultural Extension Service of the University of Puerto Rico.

Thirty-nine (39) nursery schools were operated during fiscal year 1946-47. In the same way, the feeding program started the year before, continued serving meals to needy children of pre-school age in 420 milk stations scattered throughout the Island.

In the field of investigations and research, several projects started last year were continued and new ones were developed. The studies of employment and pay roll and unemployment and disabling sickness continued operating during the period of this report under the supervision of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor. The findings of these surveys, which may serve as a basis to solve many problems of social nature in Puerto Rico, are published periodically in mimeographic form. Other surveys developed this year include the census of underaged children working on street trades, the census of feebleminded and the study of employment opportunities in the private industries of the Island.

In the field of agriculture, projects were carried out for the production of seeds and food crops and for the continuation of the agricultural aspect of the silk industry.

The project for posting up of street names and numbering of houses in San Juan and Santurce, which started the previous year with the cooperation of the Planning Board and the Government of the Capital, was continued and new projects, of this type were developed in the municipalities of Carolina and Río Piedras.

Other community service projects undertaken during the year include an educational and recreational program for the rural zone of the Island by means of the exhibition of moving pictures under the sponsorship of the Public Amusements and Sports Commission and a project for the training of workers in the manufacture of fishing rods in Mayagüez. In addition, financial help was given to the Department of Justice to conduct a black market campaign and the

to \$14,220,000 for hydroelectric generating plants to be constructed during the five-year period, as well as \$7,000,000 for a new steam-electric generating station in San Juan, together with additional funds for the corresponding expansion of transmission and distribution facilities. Among the projects included in this program are: A new steam electric station in the San Juan area; additional improvements to other steam plants of the system; new hydroelectric developments known as the "El Yunque Project" and the "Southwestern Puerto Rico Project"; enlargement of the Caonillas Project, and of the Toro Negro Project; and other general improvements of the system including transmission lines and distribution lines with their attendant substations. The program is estimated to cost approximately \$27,000,000.

On May 1, 1947, \$50,000,000 electric revenue bonds were marketed through a syndicate of seventy-one Continental and Insular banks for the purpose of providing new money for carrying out the Authority's construction program, for refunding outstanding bonds, for repaying temporary loans and for making additions to sinking fund and other reserves. The new money provided by this issue for the Authority's five year construction program was approximately \$20,000,000.

In addition to placing in operation the temporary "Seapower" installation, substantial progress was made during the year towards providing additional generating and distribution facilities. Construction at the Caonillas project proceeded at a satisfactory rate, and was estimated as sixty per cent completed at the end of the year. With its completion in 1948 it will add a generating capacity of 18,000 kilowatts to the interconnected system.

The installation of an additional 5,000 kw steam-electric unit in the Mayaguez generating station was nearing completion at the end of the year. Construction of the Monacillo transmission center was about fifty per cent completed. Construction of the 110 kw transmission line from Monacillo to Dos Bocas was started during the year.

Plans and specifications for the raising of the Guayabal Dam to increase its storage capacity by 9,300 acre feet were practically completed during the year.

The first unit of the Toro Negro Extension, the Aceitunas Canal, a 42-inch concrete conduit 9,810 feet long, was practically completed during the course of the year. Design of the remaining units of the Extension, the diversion of Toro Negro headwaters and the Saliente diversion, is under way.

The Commission also held volley ball and tennis games, shooting contests, and track meets.

A Puerto Rican baseball team visited Santo Domingo and competed in a series of five games.

A total of 964,000 persons attended moving picture shows given by the Commission in 1,120 places.

The Rural Recreational Program this year was exceptionally expanded. The Commission organized baseball and volley ball games in 96 rural communities.

Six teams competed in the 1947 professional baseball season: the San Juan, Santurce, Ponce, Mayagüez, Caguas-Guayama, and Aguadilla. Ponce team won the insular championship.

Twenty-two professional boxing programs were held during the year; 40,244 persons attended and paid \$57,849.80. Taxes amounted to \$25,706.77.

LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1947, the Puerto Rico Labor Relations Board was one of the most effective instruments for the promotion of adequate labor management relations on the Island. The extension of its policies to nearly all of the insular industrial, manufacturing and agricultural activities and the increasing acceptance of the Board by employers as well as workers and unions, marked a new stage in the development of better relations between employers and workers making for the maximum development of uninterrupted production.

Statistics of its work during the past fiscal year indicate clearly that the Board resolved administratively or informally the great majority of charges of alleged unfair labor practices filed. More than half of such cases were disposed of by means of voluntary settlement. Similarly, a great majority of the cases of alleged questions of representation were resolved informally by means of consent elections agreed to by all parties involved. Thus formal Board action was necessary only in comparatively few cases.

The Board is confident that during the course of the past fiscal year the efforts made, and the results obtained, by the Board present sufficient and irrefutable proof of the efficacy of the Act as a sound instrument for the prevention of industrial disputes in Puerto Rico.

Employees, labor organizations, employers and other individuals have made increasing use of the machinery established by the Act and have resorted to it with increased confidence. Indicative of this is the large number of representation cases filed. It is reason-

During the course of the year a most interesting and profitable field day was held at the station in connection with the vanilla and bamboo projects. A large group of interested agriculturalists, government officials, and others were present. The commercial applications resulting from research through the establishment of a bamboo fishing rod industry and a new and successful method of growing vanilla were demonstrated.

Extensive experiments were undertaken throughout the year in connection with herbicides, production and industrialization of bamboo, food crops, vegetables and vanilla.

BALTIMORE BANK FOR COOPERATIVES

A study was made by Dr. Arthur G. Keller, Chemical Engineer of Louisiana State University and Advisor of the New Orleans Bank for Cooperatives on the possibilities of refinancing the two sugar mill cooperatives operating in Puerto Rico, namely, Asociación Azucarera Cooperativa Lafayette and Cooperativa Azucarera Los Caños. The project is still under consideration by the Baltimore office.

For the first time since the Bank began operations in Puerto Rico, the Puerto Rico Tobacco Marketing Association and Cosecheros de Tabaco de Uinado made applications for loans necessary for the complete financing of tobacco handled by these associations for its members. Total commitments for both cooperatives amounted to \$6,092,000.

A line of credit of \$300,000 was extended to Cafeteros de Puerto Rico for working capital purposes. Because of the excellent financial conditions of this cooperative, the management made limited use of these funds.

The Bank approved a line of credit of \$10,000 for the financing of the vanilla crop to Cooperativa de Cosecheros de Vanilla de Puerto Rico.

Because of a very small cotton crop harvested it was unnecessary for this Bank to finance the Puerto Rico Cotton Growers Association. There is an application under consideration for the financing of operations of the Villalba Vegetable Growers' Cooperative Association.

An operating line of credit of \$200,000 was approved for Sociedad Agrícola Cooperativa. A facility loan of \$45,000 was also approved. The purpose of these loans was to refinance the P.R.A indebtedness and for working capital needs.

DIVISION OF FOREIGN PLANT QUARANTINES
BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY AND PLANT QUARANTINE

The Division of Foreign Plant Quarantines in Puerto Rico is engaged in the enforcement of quarantines and regulatory orders of the U. S. Department of Agriculture prohibiting or restricting the movement of various plants and plant products from foreign countries into Puerto Rico, the movement of various plants and plant products from Puerto Rico to the continental United States, and the certification of various types of plant material moving from Puerto Rico to foreign countries.

The enforcement of Plant Quarantine No. 37, which allows the importation of nursery stock, plants, and seeds under permit is done by the Federal Plant Quarantine inspectors. San Juan, P. R. is one of the designated places where the inspection of plant material under Regulation 14 is permitted, and also where permits for the importation of plants and plant products are issued. Most importations of plant material under Quarantine No. 37 are arriving by air express or passengers' baggage. There has been a steady increase in such importations since the end of the war.

There has been a marked increase in the interceptions of prohibited and restricted plant material on airplanes from foreign countries.

With the resumption of regular ship service between Puerto Rico and the Mainland there has been an increase in the movement of vegetables requiring inspection and certification under Quarantine No. 58. A considerable number of shipments of sweet peppers and pigeon peas destined for the continental United States were inspected and certified by Federal plant quarantine inspectors during the year.

The inspection of arrivals of airplanes, except those of the Army and Navy, ships, cargo other than that under Quarantine No. 37, most of the inspection and sealing of baggage going to the Mainland, and parcel post inspection, is being done by inspectors of the Insular Plant Quarantine Service, who are either collaborators or agents of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, under the supervision of the Federal Inspector in Charge of Puerto Rico.

The plant quarantine work is accomplished with the utmost co-operation by the Federal and Insular Plant Quarantine Services. The Insular Plant Quarantine Service has all the records of ship and planes arrivals, cargo inspections, etc.

The work in general during the fiscal year 1947 compares favorably with that of the fiscal year 1946.

These are 40-year loans with which to buy, repair, improve or enlarge farms and the rate of interest is $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Much of the supervision given to borrowers relates directly to the improvement of their health. All FHA borrower families are encouraged to take advantages of the preventative services offered through the Insular Health Department, and, as a rule, provision is made in the Farm and Home Plan to meet the family's need for a sanitary water supply, waste disposal and protection from insects and rodents.

During the year 601 privies, 52 individual water supplies, and 15 community-type water supplies were provided or improved.

During the last fiscal year the Farmers Home Administration assisted a large number of families in obtaining written leases, which meant not only security of tenure for the borrowers, but a better understanding between the landlord and the borrower.

FEDERAL INTERMEDIATE CREDIT BANK OF BALTIMORE

The following table shows the activities of the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank of Baltimore for fiscal year 1946-47:

Discount of agriculture paper:

Puerto Rico Production Credit Association:

Farmers' Obligations ----- \$7,571,889.35

Direct Obligations ----- 599,000.00

\$8,170,889.35

Banco de Ponce:

Farmers' Obligations -----

867,053.65

Crédito y Ahorro Ponceño:

Farmers' Obligations -----

1,985,974.05

Total ----- \$11,023,917.05

FEDERAL LAND BANK OF BALTIMORE

On June 30, 1947, outstanding loans, purchase money mortgages and real estate sales contracts totalled \$12,301,145.50, distributed as follows:

Federal Land Bank Loans ----- \$9,653,063.56

Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation Loans ----- 2,648,081.94

The net delinquency on F.L.B. loans amounted to \$106,324.17, as compared with \$90,402.52 at the end of the previous fiscal year. The net delinquency on Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation loans was \$25,356.72, as compared with \$14,437.24 at the end of the previous fiscal year. The volume of new business closed during the year

The four forest tree nurseries now in production are operated and maintained by the Insular Forest Service. One is located within the Caribbean Forest and the small amount of nursery stock needed for current planting on the Caribbean comes from that nursery.

The La Mina Recreational Area in the vicinity of El Yunque in the Luquillo Division and the Doña Juana Recreational Area on the Toro Negro Division were completely rehabilitated from funds especially appropriated by Congress for that purpose, beginning May 1946 and finishing that Fall. Both areas, which aggregate about 2,000 cuerdas, were extensively used by the general public the past year, the number of visits of people in the calendar year 1946 having exceeded 58,700 during the 12-month period. The use of these areas so far in 1947 is running at a much higher rate. Plans were prepared and put into effect to make the La Mina Area more usable by the low-income people.

The staff of the Tropical Region engaged in many cooperative activities with other branches of the Federal Government and with a number of bureaus of the Insular Government aside from the very close cooperation and working relationship always maintained with the Insular Forest Service. Among these were such activities as the conference on problems in the mountain area, meetings of the scientific societies on the Island, cooperation with the power, water, development and land administering agencies, and assistance to individual land owners desiring to practice forestry on their own lands or to reforest lands of value only for the growing of timber.

The Tropical Forest Experiment Station, as a part of the Tropical Region, continued its program of forest research on a broad scope despite the absence of three staff members during part of the year. Two of these were Puerto Ricans on educational furlough for advanced training in the United States. The greater part of the investigative program dealt with reforestation and the improvement of existing forests. The results of a number of established studies became available during the year and several new experiments were undertaken.

HOME OWNERS' LOAN CORPORATION

Since last report to cover 1945-46 year was issued, this corporation has continued carrying out its normal liquidation of the original 396 loans. At present there are about 240 loans outstanding and most of these owe about 30 per cent of the original indebtedness. Due to the inflation in real estate values the properties have greatly in-

duction was less than 80 per cent of normal due to drought conditions prevailing during the cane growing season in certain sections of the Island. Processors who as producers applied for payment received 36 per cent of the total amount paid under the program, and the balance went to growers who are not processors as well. The cane production of such processors was 46 per cent of the total production.

The 1945-46 production of blackstrap molasses amounted to 38,453,965 gallons of which 36,675,106 gallons were produced by mills controlled by producer-processors who applied for payment under the Act. The average amount of the molasses bonus payable by such producer-processors was \$0.2298 per ton of cane ground for sugar. The total amount of such bonus was \$1,635,763.

Purchased sugarcane during the 1944-45 grinding season was settled at an average minimum f.c.b. mill value of \$3.299064 per hundredweight of sugar, 96° basis. As yet, the information available with regard to the price of purchased sugarcane during the 1945-46 grinding season is quite scant. The delay in getting this information is due in large measure to the fact that there were three ceiling prices for raw sugar marketed during the 1946 calendar year.

The situation with respect to raw sugar distributed in the local and export market during the 1946 calendar year is summarized as follows:

Raw, 96° basis, carried over from the 1944-45 sugarcane crop	80,117 tons
Production of raws, basis 96° as bagged	909,074 tons
	<hr/>
Total available	989,191 tons
Less:	
(1) Raws shipped to continental U. S.	750,514 tons
Raw, processed into refined sugar shipped to continental U. S.	121,998 tons
	<hr/>
(2) Raws distributed locally	24,986 tons
Raw, processed into refined sugar distributed locally	90,463 tons
	<hr/>
Balance	115,449
Shrinkage and spoilage	<hr/>
Carryover at December 31, 1946	987,961 tons
	<hr/>
	1,230 tons
	138 tons
	<hr/>
	1,092 tons
	<hr/>

School Lunch Program operations for the fiscal year 1946-47 were conducted for the first time in Puerto Rico within the frame-

respect to Puerto Rico the term "school" shall also include non-profit child care centers certified as such by the Governor of Puerto Rico. Both milk stations and nursery schools were duly certified by the Governor of Puerto Rico as non-profit child care centers. Accordingly, such units participated in the Federal school lunch assistance program under sub-agreements negotiated with the Insular Department of Education.

From July 1 to December 31, 1946, the Milk Station Program used 608,962 lbs. of evaporated milk donated by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The value of this donation was \$68,120. It was sufficient to provide 2,188,734 servings of reconstituted milk. During the period from January 1, 1947 to the end of the fiscal year, the Milk Station Program became eligible to receive cash reimbursements in lieu of donations in kind. For this period the Milk Station Program claimed and was reimbursed for 3,926,440 servings of milk, at 2 cents per serving, or a total of \$78,528.80. In all, therefore, these milk stations received from the U. S. Department of Agriculture evaporated milk and cash totalling \$146,648.80 during the fiscal year, of which \$68,120 was donated by the Federal Government in the preceding year and \$78,528.80 was part of the Federal cash contribution for the fiscal year 1946-47.

PUBLIC HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

During the fiscal year 1946-47 no new Federal loans for construction of low-rent public housing were available.

Earlier commitments, suspended during the war, were revived however, with the result that the 160-family project at Cataño was completed and occupied; another of 146 families at Mayama was almost ready for awarding the construction contract; one of 280 families in Ponce was approved and revised plans were in progress, and the 200 family project planned for Puerta Tierra in San Juan had received preliminary approval. These four projects will add 786 permanent dwellings to the 4850 units now in operation under the FPHA-Aided program. Any further Federal aid will depend on action by Congress.

During the year this agency paid \$252,410 in cash subsidies as called for in the annual contributions contracts with the four local housing authorities. The subsidy serves to bridge the gap between the operating cost of the housing and the rents paid by the low-income families.

A special survey of PRRA's operations and holdings was made in April with a view to determining the best method of accomplishing the liquidation which for several years have been recognized as inevitable. Based upon that survey, certain procedures which have already been undertaken and others recommended by the Department which are now before the Bureau of the Budget for consideration, may make it possible for the major portion of PRRA's activities and holdings to be liquidated by June 30, 1948. Whether this goal can be reached will depend upon the result of negotiations with other agencies which are believed to be qualified to take over some of PRRA's indispensable service functions, and upon whether some authorizing legislation by the Congress may be necessary to make the tentative liquidation plan effective. Meanwhile essential projects for the fiscal year 1948 are being continued with allotments aggregating \$615,600 out of the Revolving Fund. That fund, derived exclusively from PRRA operations, had a net available balance on June 30, 1947, of \$2,770,195.

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Soil conservation work in Puerto Rico has now emerged from the "demonstration" stage—the seriousness of the problem is understood and need for action recognized. Soil conservation means more than just keeping the soil from being washed away by rainfall. That conception of conservation is known as erosion control. Soil conservation is the utilization of every acre according to its capabilities and the treatment of every acre according to its needs, the control and full use of rainfall and the meeting of the demands of the farmer as to products and income on a permanent and continuous basis.

The Soil Conservation Districts Law of Puerto Rico (No. 211, approved March 26, 1946) became effective on the first day of this fiscal year and in becoming effective, opened the way to getting conservation on the ground in the quickest and best way, the democratic way, which places the responsibility for formulating and carrying out a soil conservation program squarely upon the shoulders of local people.

Through the efforts of Insular government agencies, with the cooperation of the Soil Conservation Service, the farmers of Puerto Rico have been informed of the perils of erosion brought on by poor land use and damaging agricultural practices. They have been shown how this peril may be averted. They have been made aware of their

gainful employment. In addition special emphasis has been given to the physically handicapped. The results of this emphasis have reduced the total of the handicapped veterans needing employment to less than 4 per cent of the veterans registered with this agency. Many other special services to aid veterans have been rendered such as investigations of all claims of unjust dismissal from work, or violations of veterans' preferences. Every case has been minutely attended to and many are those who are now working, thanks to these special services.

This Agency also has given valuable assistance to employers in several ways: first, by obtaining for them qualified and competent personnel throughout Island-wide recruiting services; secondly, by furnishing labor market information; thirdly, by the advisory and conciliation services rendered in disputes involving veterans. Visits to employers for the purpose of obtaining jobs are now averaging almost one hundred contacts daily every full working day and are soon to be increased.

WAGE AND HOUR AND PUBLIC CONTRACTS DIVISION

As their quota for fiscal year 1946-1947 the Division were required to make 750 inspections in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. They completed in Puerto Rico 662 inspections, distributed among industry groups.

Back wages due amounting to \$157,772 were collected by the inspectors for 17,446 employees.

The Mayagüez office, in addition to the regular inspection work, checked for accuracy of pricing during the first ten months of the fiscal year 1946-47, 1,935 needlework designs and arbitrated 6,582 cases of deductions made for poor work and lost or damaged goods.

During the fiscal year all arrangements were completed for industry committee hearings to be held for the purpose of reviewing minimum rates of pay in a number of industries.

In addition to routine duties, the Division took part in the framing of legislation setting up an apprenticeship council in Puerto Rico. It has also attended a number of meetings with representatives of the Minimum Wage Board and the Department of Labor.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

Jesús T. PIÑERO,
Governor.

TABLES

TABLE 1.—Combined statement of revenues and receipts, Government of Puerto Rico, by fund groups and type of transaction, fiscal year 1946-47

(All figures in dollars)

Description	Total	General Fund	Special operating Funds	Capital Project Funds	Working Capital Funds	Public service enterprises Funds	Debt Redemption Funds	Trust and agency Funds
REVENUES:								
Taxes.....	60,438,128	51,637,250	2,124,368	6,417		453,206	1,590,976	13,625,902
Licenses, permits, franchises.....	69,748	40,970	12,874			1		9,897
Fines, forfeits, penalties.....	504,534	270,451	38,143		17,054			238,896
Use of money and property.....	1,703,188	429,723	1,025,959		198	99,596		146,712
Revenue from other agencies and individuals..	30,958,508	23,770,085	3,858,079	27,272	3,257	1,577,922	7,198	1,714,695
Service charges for current services.....	38,240,203	2,053,471	1,255,251	443	9,855,725	10,571,762	664	14,522,977
Other revenues.....	170,856	94,696	74,464			885		841
TOTAL REVENUES.....	141,145,265	78,282,631	8,300,138	34,132	9,876,234	12,703,372	1,598,838	30,250,910
RECEIPTS:								
Sale of property and compensation for loss of property.....	500,150	213,108	36,477	6,061	135,456	108,946		102
Contributions from other government funds.....	27,283,418	3,740,124	7,573,530	4,548,341	4,140,061	2,091,285		4,589,177
Non-revenue receipts.....	14,303,323	3,279,174	988,331	161,586	2,175,806	1,540,756	176	6,057,494
TOTAL RECEIPTS.....	41,986,891	7,232,406	8,598,338	4,715,988	6,452,223	4,340,987	176	10,646,773
TOTAL REVENUES AND RECEIPTS.....	183,132,146	85,515,037	16,898,476	4,750,120	16,328,457	17,044,359	1,599,014	40,906,683

Source: Office of the Auditor of Puerto Rico.

TABLE 2.—(Cont.) *Combined statement of expenditures and disbursements, Governments of Puerto Rico, by fund groups and minor object of expenditure, fiscal year 1946-47*

(All figures in dollars)

Description	Total	General Fund	Special operating Funds	Capital Project Funds	Working Capital Funds	Public service enterprise Funds	Debt Redemption Funds	Trust and agency Funds
ACQUISITION OF LAND AND STRUCTURES:								
Acquisition of land.....	7,005,080	1,305,479	2,472	8,364	10,158	5,078,007		
Acquisition of structures.....	3,431,020	2,636,755	149,334	574,644	62,051	7,345		
TOTAL, ACQUISITION OF LAND AND structures.....	10,436,109	3,942,234	151,806	583,008	73,109	5,085,352		
DEBT RETIREMENT, INTEREST AND DIVIDENDS:								
Principal payments.....	2,307,065	168,562	5,000			400,000	80,000	1,713,503
Interest and dividend payments.....	1,140,484	26,193				195,237	204,000	715,054
Other.....	4,265	186					10	4,069
TOTAL, DEBT RETIREMENT, INTEREST AND DIVIDENDS.....	3,451,814	134,941	5,000			595,237	284,010	2,432,626
TOTAL EXPENDITURES.....	116,948,893	76,165,572	8,452,874	1,992,738	1,000,829	9,538,296	719,191	19,019,393
REFUNDS AND NON-EXPENSE ITEMS.....	48,974,853	4,593,175	1,732,891	70,793	12,857,924	15,084,299	3,754	14,032,017
TRANSFERS TO OTHER GOVERNMENT FUNDS.....	27,283,418	13,018,516	1,482,825	1,972,242	12,220	1,278,193	367,094	9,152,328
TOTAL, OTHER DISBURSEMENTS.....	76,258,271	17,611,691	3,215,716	2,043,035	12,870,144	16,362,492	370,848	23,184,345
TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND DISBURSEMENTS.....	193,207,164	93,777,263	11,668,590	4,035,773	13,830,973	26,500,788	1,090,039	42,203,738

SOURCE: Office of the Auditor of Puerto Rico.

TABLE 5.—*Indebtedness of the municipalities of Puerto Rico, June 30, 1947 compared with 1946, 1945 and 1944*

(All figures in dollars)

Description	1947	1946	1945	1944
Total outstanding obligations ¹				
June 30.....	14,623,702	15,504,273	16,189,172	17,030,406
Bonds.....	10,294,000 ²	11,042,600	11,755,700	12,482,800
Loans with Insular Government.....	10,220,007	11,229,187	11,251,546	12,284,185
Local loans.....	3,988,988	4,137,630	3,940,559	4,020,963
Current bank loans.....	37,390	4,000	4,500	6,124
Advance of taxes.....	0	2,101	160,928	168,774
Other indebtedness.....	83,347	78,755	75,869	71,890
Redemption funds due Treasurer of Puerto Rico..				

¹ Including interest payable.² Including revenue bonds (self-liquidating), not chargeable to debt-incurring margins.

Source:—Office of the Auditor of Puerto Rico

TABLE 6.—*Total enrollment¹ in public day schools, by years, 1932-33 to 1946-47, Puerto Rico*

Year	Urban 1-12 grades	Rural 1-4 grades	Total Urban and rural
1933.....			233,457
1934.....	109,128	124,329	233,457
1935.....	109,738	129,757	239,495
1936.....	115,286	131,066	246,354
1937.....	120,491	135,861	256,352
1938.....	118,648	128,220	246,868
1939.....	126,397	136,863	263,260
1940.....	134,481	146,878	281,359
1941.....	137,709	148,404	286,113
1942.....	137,576	144,025	281,601
1943.....	141,396	151,867	293,263
1944.....	146,907	155,899	302,806
1945.....	153,888	155,687	309,575
1946.....	167,376	163,494	330,870
1947.....	179,965	169,966	349,931
	189,290	177,681	366,971

¹ As of the last school day of each school year.

Source: P. R. Department of Education.

TABLE 9.—*Age¹ grade distribution of pupils, public day schools, school year 1947, Puerto Rico*

Grade	Under age ²		Normal age ²		Over age ²		All ages	
	Age	Num-ber	Per cent	Age	Num-ber	Per cent	Age	Num-ber
1.....	5	655	.88	6-7	33,472	46.14	8-21+	39,967
2.....	6-6	535	1.02	7-8	23,651	39.44	9-21+	35,788
3.....	6-7	514	1.27	8-9	18,669	37.12	10-21+	31,118
4.....	7-8	497	1.33	9-10	14,866	38.15	11-21+	23,732
5.....	8-9	584	1.53	10-11	12,889	39.70	12-21+	18,079
6.....	8-10	728	2.64	11-12	12,015	43.88	13-21+	14,823
7.....	9-11	877	4.06	12-13	9,199	42.61	14-21+	11,514
8.....	10-12	849	4.51	13-14	8,219	49.01	15-21+	8,744
9.....	11-13	1,168	6.31	14-15	8,256	44.68	16-21+	9,055
10.....	12-14	1,039	8.35	15-16	5,519	49.66	17-21+	4,557
11.....	12-15	851	11.31	16-17	3,906	50.57	18-21+	2,869
12.....	12-16	881	15.08	17-18	3,128	53.55	19-21+	1,532
TOTAL..	5-16	9,186	2.50	6-18	154,729	42.17	8-21	203,000
								55.33
								366,915
								100.00

¹ As of September 1, 1946.
² In accordance with grade.

SOURCE:—P. R. Department of Education.

TABLE 10.—*Average number of pupils per member of instructional staff¹, 1947 school year, Puerto Rico*

Type of school	Pupils per member		
	Enrol-ment	Average number belonging	Average daily attendance
Elementary school			
Urban.....	51	48	46
Rural.....	57	55	50
Junior High School	23	22	20
Urban.....	16	15	14
Rural.....			
Senior High School	27	25	24
Urban.....	41	39	37
General Average..			

¹ Instructional staff member includes principals and teachers.

SOURCE:—P. R. Department of Education.

TABLE 13.—*Enrollment in the private accredited and non-accredited schools of Puerto Rico, 1947¹ school year*

Type of school	Enrollment		
	Accredited private schools	Non accredited private schools	Total
Kindergarten.....			1,220
Elementary school.....	16,883	1,220	18,103
Junior High school.....	3,882	571	4,453
Senior High school.....	2,836	522	3,358
Commercial and special high schools.....			522
Total.....	17,689	2,113	19,801

¹ As of May 30, 1947.

Source: P. R. Department of Education.

TABLE 14.—*Estimated¹ population of Puerto Rico, by age groups, race and sex, July 1, 1946*

Age groups	White			Colored			Total		
	Males	Fe-males	Total	Males	Fe-males	Total	Males	Females	Total
All ages.....	807,084	794,198	1,601,282	241,739	226,399	478,138	1,048,823	1,626,597	2,675,420
Under one year.....	25,949	25,582	51,531	8,936	8,707	17,643	34,905	34,390	69,294
1-4 years.....	98,192	95,905	194,097	31,411	31,683	63,094	132,803	127,588	260,391
5-9 years.....	103,834	98,779	202,713	33,970	33,101	67,071	137,804	131,880	269,684
10-14 years.....	89,373	87,662	177,035	26,299	27,066	53,365	114,673	114,738	229,410
15-19 years.....	87,591	94,105	181,696	28,295	29,409	57,705	116,896	121,595	238,492
20-24 years.....	81,179	81,650	162,829	24,617	21,255	45,872	105,196	102,905	208,101
25-29 years.....	74,207	75,018	149,225	20,002	20,290	40,292	94,209	95,308	189,517
30-34 years.....	46,720	43,138	89,858	12,482	11,346	23,828	59,212	54,484	113,696
35-44 years.....	77,920	74,715	152,635	21,904	21,002	42,906	99,734	95,717	195,451
45-54 years.....	58,683	51,514	110,197	15,998	14,191	30,189	74,081	65,705	139,786
55-64 years.....	33,106	29,991	63,097	9,076	8,077	17,153	42,176	38,068	80,244
65-74 years.....	21,390	23,314	44,704	5,198	6,309	11,507	26,888	28,623	55,511
75 yrs. and over.....	7,797	11,583	19,380	2,128	3,532	5,660	9,925	15,145	25,070
Unknown.....	640	1,112	1,751	203	320	523	852	1,432	2,284

¹ Estimated by arithmetic extrapolation from the censuses of Dec. 1, 1945 and April 1, 1940.
Source: Bureau of Registry and Vital Statistics, P. R. Department of Health.

TABLE 17.—*Number of deaths and death rates per 1000 population, by months, calendar years 1946 and 1945 compared with 1941-45 average*

Month	1946		1945		1941-45 average	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Total.....	27,570	13.2	28,886	14.1	31,084	15.7 ¹
JANUARY.....	2,410	13.6	2,401	14.2	2,775	16.3
FEBRUARY.....	2,112	13.4	2,221	14.2	2,416	15.9
MARCH.....	2,232	12.6	2,382	13.7	2,608	15.6
APRIL.....	2,636	12.0	2,885	12.7	2,402	13.2
MAY.....	2,422	13.7	2,868	14.4	2,991	16.0
JUNE.....	2,572	14.5	2,638	15.7	2,785	17.2
JULY.....	2,563	14.5	2,779	16.0	2,896	17.2
AUGUST.....	2,409	13.6	2,431	14.0	2,629	15.7
SEPTEMBER.....	2,223	13.9	2,139	12.7	2,436	15.0
OCTOBER.....	2,244	12.7	2,381	13.7	2,514	15.2
NOVEMBER.....	2,157	12.6	2,255	13.5	2,414	14.9
DECEMBER.....	2,246	12.7	2,347	13.5	2,514	15.0

¹ As of July 1, 1943 estimated population: 1,978,511.
Source: Bureau of Registry and Vital Statistics, P. R. Department of Health.

TABLE 18.—*Number of deaths and death rates per 1,000 population, by sex and type of residence, calendar years 1946, 1945 and 1944*

Item	1946		1945		1944	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Total.....	27,570	13.2	28,886	14.1	29,843	14.8
By sex.....						
Male.....	14,549	13.9	15,016	14.6	16,631	15.3
Female.....	13,021	12.6	13,870	13.7	14,312	14.3
By residence.....						
Urban.....	10,166	13.7	11,260	15.5	13,701	19.3
Rural.....	17,413 ¹	12.8	17,626	13.3	16,142	12.4

¹ 301 unclassified cases not included.
Source: Bureau of Registry and Vital Statistics, P. R. Department of Health.

TABLE 20.—Cases rates of the various communicable diseases as reported to the Department of Health, 1946 compared with 1945 and 1941-45 average rate

Disease	Rate per 100,000 population ¹		
	1946	1945	Average 1941-45
All Causes.....	1,576.0	1,651.2	2,538.5
Bilharzia.....	3.1	2.8	0.6
Chicken pox.....	13.1	22.3	17.6
Diphtheria.....	27.7	22.3	33.8
Epidemic typhus.....	100.6	7.7	14.5
Epidemic meningitis.....	6.5	0.1	6.4
Erysipelas.....	0.2	0.3	0.7
Rubella.....	0.2	0.3	1.9
Scarlet fever.....	259.4	322.3	348.3
Tetanus.....	0.2	0.2	0.1
Infantile tetanus ²	0.2	0.2	0.2
Influenza.....	68.0	81.3	304.6
Leptosy.....	0.2	0.3	0.5
Malaria.....	288.5	301.5	791.2
Measles.....	22.6	77.5	60.9
Mumps.....	3.3	0.6	8.6
Ophthalmia neonatorum ³	0.1	0.2	0.3
Pellagra.....	0.3	0.0	0.3
Poliovirus ⁴	14.8	0.5	1.8
Poliovirus ⁴	0.5	1.6	4.5
Scarlet fever.....	0.65	0.65	0.1
Syphilis.....	383.1	419.1	548.5
Tetanus.....	5.1	5.5	7.0
Tuberculosis (pulmonary).....	299.5	278.4	357.7
Tuberculosis (other forms).....	4.3	3.2	4.6
Typhoid fever.....	8.5	13.7	14.7
Typhus (Murine type).....	6.5	9.7	6.1
Undulant fever.....	4.2	0.3	0.2
Wet's disease.....	4.65	6.5	6.2
Whooping cough.....	36.1	60.2	62.8
Yaws.....	0.0	0.68	6.1

¹ Except as noted.

² Rates per 1,000 live births.

³ Rates per 10,000 total births.

Source:—P. R. Department of Health, Bureau of Epidemiology.

TABLE 21.—Employees of the Insular Government under the jurisdiction of Civil Service Laws, fiscal years 1941-43 and 1946-47

Fiscal year	Total ¹	Classified employees	
		Number	Per cent of total
1946-47.....	28,049	14,636	52.1
1945-46.....	21,100	10,441	49.5
1944-45.....	19,686	9,660	50.5
1943-44.....	19,192	9,446	49.2
1942-43.....	17,045	6,524	37.1
1941-42.....	18,018	6,744	37.1

¹ Excludes employees of all independent authorities and of the University of Puerto Rico not covered by the Civil Service Laws.

Source:—Puerto Rico Civil Service Commission.

TABLE 25.—*Classification plan adopted February 20, 1947 by the Puerto Rico Civil Service Commission, with amendments as of June 30, 1947*¹

Occupational groups and series of classes	Number of classes	
	Feb. 20, 1947	June 30, 1947
0000 Clerical and Administrative		
0010 General.....	12	13
0060 Office Equipment Operation.....	9	10
0110 Administrative.....	13	14
0170 Accounting.....	11	11
0210 Statistics and Research.....	11	11
0250 Personnel.....	8	9
0280 Labor Relations.....	10	14
0310 Supply.....	6	6
0330 Informational.....	12	17
0440 Revenue.....	9	9
0470 Property Appraisal.....	8	9
0510 Miscellaneous.....	6	10
Total.....	115	136
1000 Health		
1010 Nursing and Allied.....	30	22
1180 Medical.....	35	35
1410 Laboratory.....	10	11
1470 Therapy.....	4	11
1490 Sanitation.....	10	10
Total.....	89	92
2000 Social Service and Recreation		
2010 Welfare.....	26	28
2100 Library.....	5	6
2120 Recreation.....	6	6
Total.....	37	40
3000 Education		
3010 Classroom Teaching.....	9	13
3100 Vocational Instruction.....	8	8
3180 Special Teaching.....	2	2
3230 District Supervisory Group.....	11	11
3230 Staff Specialized Group.....	11	13
3280 Vocational Rehabilitation.....	6	8
Total.....	47	55
4000 Custodial and Food Service		
4010 Custodial.....	5	5
4030 Laundry.....	3	7
4060 Food Service.....	13	15
Total.....	21	27
5000 Trades and Labor		
5010 Labor.....	8	8
5050 Equipment Operations.....	5	5
5100 Building Trades.....	17	17
5200 Mechanical Trades.....	18	18
5330 Printing Trades.....	19	21
5420 Other Trades.....	13	13
5530 Photography.....	4	4
5570 Utilities.....	18	18
5700 Communications.....	8	8
5760 Inspection.....	5	5
Total.....	115	117

TABLE 27.—Motor vehicles registered, fiscal years 1943-44 to 1946-47, Puerto Rico

Class of vehicle	Number of vehicles				
	1946-47	1945-46	1944-45	1943-44	
Passenger cars					
Private.....	16,534	12,812	11,562	11,472	
Public service.....	5,091	4,646	3,771	3,862	
Insured public service.....	2,222	1,382	1,856	2,047	
Commercial (light trucks).....	6,233	4,695	3,841	3,699	
Heavy trucks					
Private.....	3,549	3,676	2,838	3,117	
Public service.....	2,837	2,712	2,406	2,210	
Trailers and semi-trailers.....	909	501	389	63	
Tractors.....	790	497	299	129	
Motocycles.....	838	473	278	217	
Insular Government vehicles.....	900	792	702	608	
Municipal Government vehicles.....	434	345	290	222	
Total.....	42,367	32,389	28,233	27,648	

Source: P. R. Department of the Interior.

TABLE 28.—Number and tonnage of vessels that arrived at the several ports of Puerto Rico, 1943-44 to 1946-47

Flag and kind of vessel	1946-47		1945-46		1944-45		1943-44	
	Num-ber	Gross tonnage	Num-ber	Gross tonnage	Num-ber	Gross tonnage	Num-ber	Gross tonnage
American								
Steamers.....	1,253	6,526,093	919	4,691,278	575	2,409,862	503	2,375,629
Other vessels.....	682	16,762	287	11,813	322	35,905	108	4,667
Total American...	1,935	6,542,855	1,206	4,703,091	897	2,445,467	611	2,380,195
Foreign								
Steamers.....	510	638,938	232	362,724	175	460,796	542	545,911
Other vessels.....	142	10,494	489	36,740	575	101,132	257	32,044
Total Foreign....	652	649,432	721	439,464	750	567,948	799	577,955
GRAND TOTAL.....	2,587	7,192,277	1,927	5,142,555	1,647	3,013,415	1,410	2,958,150

Source: P. R. Department of the Interior.

TABLE 31.—*Number of claims registered, State Insurance Fund, policy years 1943-44 to 1946-47, as of June 30, 1947*

Type of claim	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47
Compensated claims				
Temporary total disability	22,734	21,844	29,064	25,812
Permanent partial	3,039	2,893	2,805	2,177
Permanent total	3	1	62	41
Death	51	64		
Total	25,827	24,802	31,932	28,031
Medical only				
Continued waiting	7,199	8,511	9,150	9,029
Waiting period	5,084	5,083	8,114	5,987
Abandoned treatment	2,853	3,118	3,400	2,925
Claims denied	2,643	2,457	3,165	2,499
Non-compensable claims	338	314	359	259
Filed	9	15	29	8
Total	18,166	19,431	21,008	19,738
Noninsured employees	220	136	262	53
Unclassified open claims	3	34	122	8,515
GRAND TOTAL	44,246	44,220	53,904	56,397

SOURCE: P. R. State Insurance Fund.

TABLE 33.—*Insurance losses¹ in Puerto Rico, by type, calendar year 1946 compared with 1945*

(All figures in dollars)

Type of Insurance	1946		1945	
	Losses paid	Losses incurred	Losses paid	Losses incurred
Life insurance.....	715,678	797,888	850,013	716,659
Casualty and miscellaneous risks.....	629,237	700,294	442,234	441,900
Automobile.....	430,041	?	354,813	?
Accident and health.....	13,814	?	10,724	?
Public liability, property damage and collision, other than automobile.....	46,898	?	67,313	?
Fidelity and surety.....	34,679	?	21,292	?
Other.....	3,896	?	8,082	?
Fire.....	368,639	283,687	345,937	465,619
Hurricane.....	1,226	381	28,961	29,216
Earthquake.....	11,916	18,810	0	0
Marine risks.....	257,596	202,171	349,161	334,180
Automobile fire, property damage and collision.....	50,061	41,874	24,700	25,443

¹ The difference between losses paid and incurred is due to losses outstanding from previous years which were paid out in these two years respectively. Losses incurred are actual losses within the respective year, but some claims are held pending litigation in court.

? Not available.

? Including ocean marine, war, inland navigation, and transportation risks.

Source: Office of the Superintendent of Insurance of Puerto Rico.

TABLE 35.—*Juvenile delinquency: Total number of offenders, convicted, acquitted, and pending trial or investigation, fiscal years 1941-42 to 1946-47*

Year	Total offenders charged	Convicted	Acquitted	Pending trial or investigation at end of year
1946-47.....	1,029	253	296	480
1945-46.....	1,623	199	324	1,189
1944-45.....	1,495	122	188	1,185
1943-44.....	318	76	109	124
1942-43.....	270	31	114	125
1941-42.....	457	37	39	381

SOURCE: P. R. Insular Police.

TABLE 36.—*Persons killed and injured by motor vehicles and other types of accidents, Puerto Rico, fiscal years 1941-42 to 1946-47*

Type of accident	1946-47	1945-46	1944-45	1943-44	1942-43	1941-42
Motor vehicle						
Number of accidents.....	10, 183	7, 652	4, 898	4, 053	4, 004	7, 949
Persons killed.....	215	164	137	137	164	215
Persons injured.....	6, 159	4, 915	3, 129	2, 868	2, 738	4, 570
Other types of accidents						
Number of accidents.....	962	817	731	722	574	554
Persons killed.....	272	164	212	184	223	231
Persons injured.....	852	655	671	531	465	374
All types						
Number of accidents.....	11, 145	8, 469	5, 629	4, 775	4, 578	8, 103
Persons killed.....	487	348	349	321	407	446
Persons injured.....	7, 041	5, 569	3, 800	3, 139	3, 044	4, 944

SOURCE: P. R. Insular Police.

TABLE 40.—*Police services rendered by the Insular Police to other government agencies, fiscal years 1945-46 and 1946-47*

Government agencies (Insular, Municipal, and Federal)	Average number of policemen assigned per day	
	1945-47	1946-48
Department of Justice.....	49.10	46.06
Department of Labor.....	7.06	5.06
Department of Health.....	3.87	3.09
Department of Interior.....	1.20	.20
Department of Finance.....	.73	.82
Office of Price Administration.....	2.46	2.23
State Fund.....	2.18	1.65
U. S. Selective Service.....	1.02	2.16
American Red Cross.....	1.37	.51
Industrial Commission.....	1.46	.51
Federal Government.....	1.05	.10
General Supplies Administration.....	.61	
Municipal Government.....	.08	
Federal Bureau of Investigation.....		.88
Total.....	71.19	65.27

SOURCE: P. R. Insular Police.

TABLE 41.—*Divorce cases disposed of by the District Courts of Puerto Rico, by major causes, fiscal years 1942-43 to 1946-47*

Cause	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47
TOTAL.....	2,349	3,091	3,574	3,867	3,862
Disposed of in favor of					
Husband.....	1,167	1,499	1,525	1,795	1,821
Wife.....	1,182	1,682	2,049	2,072	2,041
Abandonment.....	1,215	1,276	1,323	1,559	1,470
Separation.....	745	1,354	1,708	1,573	1,668
Cruelty or grave injury.....	346	404	401	626	681
Adultery.....	35	49	75	136	129
Conviction of felony.....	3	3	8	3	10
Physical drunkenness.....	4	5	1	1	2
Insanity.....	0	0	1	0	1

SOURCE: P. R. Department of Justice.

TABLE 44.—Statement of investment at par value, Development Bank of Puerto Rico, as of June 30, 1945, 1946 and 1947

(Figures in dollars)

Description	June 30, 1945	June 30, 1946	June 30, 1947
U. S. Government securities.....	17,850,000	21,450,000	28,790,000
People of P. R. Bonds.....	2,006,000	1,944,000	180,000
Municipal Government securities.....	717,000	1,167,748	1,602,286
Capital of Puerto Rico bonds.....	28,000	28,000	50,000
Insular Government authorities, agencies, etc.....	4,500,000	2,015,000	4,675,000
Total.....	25,100,000	28,592,748	32,777,286

Source: Development Bank of Puerto Rico.

TABLE 45.—Comparative analysis of loan portfolio, Development Bank of Puerto Rico, as of June 30, 1945, 1946 and 1947

Denomination	June 30, 1945		June 30, 1946		June 30, 1947	
	Number	Outstanding principal (Dollar)	Number	Outstanding principal (Dollar)	Number	Outstanding principal (Dollar)
Less than \$1,000.....	5	2,988	10	5,535	21	13,605
1,001 — 5,000.....	4	7,740	12	41,500	123	241,072
5,001 — 10,000.....	1	10,000	13	47,500	229	2,168,073
10,001 — 25,000.....	2	20,010	11	160,548	17	2,068,493
25,001 — 50,000.....			3	102,100	14	488,381
50,001 — 100,000.....			5	315,725	13	737,020
100,001 — 500,000.....	1	863,888	1	760,722	4	1,078,000
500,001 and over.....					2	1,280,343
Total.....	13	\$28,526	50	1,500,490	492	6,248,495

Source: Development Bank of Puerto Rico.

TABLE 46.—Production and sales, Puerto Rico Cement Corporation,¹ by months, fiscal year 1946-47

Month	Production	Sales	
		Quantity	Value
July.....	72,632	72,683	196,880
August.....	72,546	64,957	164,138
September.....	51,011	53,257	134,056
October.....	51,148	56,206	137,176
November.....	62,800	66,408	162,142
December.....	78,008	64,657	171,357
January.....	78,778	74,577	221,890
February.....	51,847	72,321	214,827
March.....	80,638	67,611	183,115
April.....	46,023	53,524	146,683
May.....	82,767	76,777	215,953
June.....	88,840	70,257	221,646
Year.....	804,778	801,494	2,134,672

¹ Subsidiary of the P. R. Industrial Development Company.² Barrel of 376 pounds.

Source: P. R. Industrial Development Company.

TABLE 49.—Sales of electric energy, P. R. Water Resources Authority, fiscal year 1946-47 compared with 1945-46

Class of service	1946-47		1945-46	
	Sales (Tb. kwh.)	Revenue (Dollars)	Sales (Tb. kwh.)	Revenue (Dollars)
Residential.....	73,664.0	2,669,302	66,100.3	2,126,721
Commercial.....	39,308.9	1,581,442	32,617.9	1,226,536
Retail power.....	33,801.4	1,922,463	29,402.6	1,742,194
Wholesale power.....	109,682.6	1,561,466	108,207.8	1,308,196
Public lighting.....	4,270.3	134,374	4,102.8	116,861
Other electrical utilities.....	1,028.2	89,374	2,146.8	41,118
Irrigation District South Coast.....	27,028.2	287,205	13,644.2	132,921
Street railways.....	7,228.7	1,457	6,641.2	6,480
Interdepartmental.....	4,562.6	41,320	2,838.0	14,886
Total, P. R. W. R. A.....	296,661.9	7,285,346	258,594.9	5,764,083

SOURCE: P. R. Water Resources Authority.

TABLE 50.—Sales of electric energy by the Irrigation District South Coast, fiscal year 1946-47 compared with 1945-46

Class of service	1946-47		1945-46	
	Sales (Tb. kwh.)	Revenue (Dollars)	Sales (Tb. kwh.)	Revenue (Dollars)
Residential.....	4,601.2	162,346	3,077.8	113,078
Commercial.....	2,047.7	79,894	1,516.1	51,594
Retail power.....	19,289.5	392,755	16,374.3	311,459
Wholesale power.....	6,779.9	91,895	4,849.0	71,797
Public lighting.....	1,654.4	12,422	404.9	14,085
Interdepartmental.....	—	14,062	—	—
Other.....	—	—	751.5	11,805
Total, I.D.S.C.....	33,283.6	670,364	26,973.6	573,908

SOURCE: P. R. Water Resource Authority.

TABLE 51.—Power generated and purchased by the Integrated System of the P. R. Water Resources Authority, 1946-47 and 1945-46

Source of power	1946-47	1945-46
Power generated		
Generated by P. R. Water Resources Authority		
Hydro.....	112,391,659	147,630,520
Steam.....	258,530,799	133,537,330
Total, P. R. Water Resources Authority.....	370,922,450	280,567,850
Generated by Irrigation District South Coast		
Hydro.....	13,773,090	19,777,920
Total generated, Integrated System.....	384,695,520	299,345,770
Power purchased		
From Isabela Irrigation Services.....	2,343,400	4,663,600
From other sources.....	3,675,435	38,917,385
Total purchased.....	6,018,835	43,580,985
Total power generated and purchased.....	390,714,355	342,926,755

SOURCE: P. R. Water Resources Authority.

TABLE 54.—*Consumers' price indexes¹, Puerto Rico, by months, fiscal years 1945-46 and 1946-47*

(March 15, 1941=100)

Month and year	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent ²	House furnishings	Miscellaneous
1945-46						
July.....	145.6	155.2	144.4	.....	145.1	136.7
August.....	148.5	160.6	144.2	.....	145.1	136.8
September.....	147.5	159.1	144.4	104.8	144.9	136.3
October.....	147.9	159.8	144.3	.....	145.2	136.2
November.....	148.4	161.1	144.3	.....	145.3	136.8
December.....	148.8	161.7	144.8	104.7	145.3	136.8
1946-47						
January.....	148.8	162.2	144.7	.....	145.9	134.2
February.....	149.3	163.5	144.7	.....	145.7	134.4
March.....	149.8	164.2	144.9	104.7	145.7	134.7
April.....	150.7	165.7	145.0	.....	145.8	134.2
May.....	151.0	166.4	145.9	.....	146.1	134.8
June.....	152.0	167.5	147.1	104.8	146.3	135.6
1946-47						
July.....	154.6	172.0	148.6	.....	148.2	136.1
August.....	157.9	177.6	149.0	.....	147.9	137.2
September.....	159.6	180.1	149.7	104.0	147.3	138.0
October.....	163.5	187.2	153.8	.....	147.8	138.6
November.....	179.7	217.2	153.3	.....	148.2	139.4
December.....	186.0	224.7	153.9	104.0	150.9	143.3
1946-47						
January.....	182.5	217.3	157.2	.....	151.6	147.1
February.....	181.6	215.9	158.3	.....	151.3	146.9
March.....	181.6	215.4	158.3	104.3	150.5	147.9
April.....	182.3	216.9	157.9	.....	146.9	147.6
May.....	178.0	209.4	155.3	.....	144.9	147.1
June.....	177.1	207.9	155.9	104.6	144.1	146.9

¹ Consumers' price indexes are based on retail prices gathered every mid-month in six municipalities representing the various geographic regions of the island. The index represents changes in the retail prices of selected goods, rent and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners in the six municipalities in March 1941.

² Rents are surveyed quarterly.

³ End of War.

⁴ End O P A.

Source: "Consumers' Price Index for Wage Earners' Families in Puerto Rico" Bureau of Labor Statistics, P. R. Department of Labor, Monthly, Mimeo.

TABLE 56.—General index of the wholesale prices¹ of foodstuffs in Puerto Rico, by months, fiscal year 1943-44 to 1946-47

Month	(1935-39=100)				
	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	
July	161.4	161.0	161.8	185.3	
August	161.9	162.0	167.0	194.4	
September	162.4	161.6	166.3	191.6	
October	160.5	161.9	163.8	222.0	
November	160.3	161.9	173.8	219.8	
December	160.2	161.0	171.8	267.9	
January	160.2	161.6	172.0	341.4	
February	159.8	161.4	175.4	235.5	
March	160.5	161.9	174.7	240.7	
April	159.6	162.1	178.1	238.7	
May	160.6	162.0	177.7	226.1	
June	162.6	162.2	181.0	230.5	
Average for year	160.7	161.7	171.6	226.4	

¹ Prices collected from wholesalers on the 15th and 30th day of each month and weighted. Indexes shown here are for the 15th of each month, but both indexes were used to compute the average for the year. Foodstuffs included are: rice, beans, codfish, lard, pork fat, ham, potatoes, evaporated milk, sugar, coffee, wheat flour, and corn meal.

Source: "Index Numbers of the Wholesale Prices of Foodstuffs in Puerto Rico", P. R. Department of Agriculture and Commerce, Bull. 1, 1942 and supplements.

TABLE 57.—Employment estimates,¹ Puerto Rico, by months, fiscal year 1946-47

Description	(Figures in thousands)					
	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Civilian population 14 yrs. and over	1,285	1,287	1,289	1,290	1,292	1,295
Total labor force	638	648	679	689	690	695
Employed	572	566	595	600	598	607
In agriculture	220	211	224	222	227	220
In other industries	352	355	371	378	371	387
Unemployed or seeking work	86	82	84	89	92	88
Outside labor force	627	639	610	601	602	600
Civilian population 14 yrs. and over	1,298	1,309	1,302	1,304	1,306	1,308
Total labor force	683	698	702	700	688	684
Employed	582	624	642	639	623	619
In agriculture	209	226	249	252	243	248
In other industries	373	398	393	387	385	371
Unemployed or seeking work	101	74	60	61	60	65
Outside labor force	615	682	660	604	613	624

¹ Data obtained through personal interviews on the week nearest or including the 15th of each month in 5,000 households in 37 municipalities selected to represent the entire island.

Source: "Survey of Unemployment and Illness", Bureau of Labor Statistics, P. R. Department of Labor.

TABLE 60.—*Decrees issued by the Minimum Wage Board up to June 30, 1947, number of workers covered and probable increase on the annual payroll of the industry and on the workers' yearly income*

Decree number	Industry, service or business	Workers covered by the decree	Probable increase caused by the decree	
			On the annual payroll of the industry	On the workers' yearly income
		Number	Dollar	Dollar
1.	Leaf tobacco	13,000	770,000	30
3.	Cane sugar	144,000	2,698,000	25
4.	Industrial phase	19,000	448,000	24
4.	Agricultural phase	125,000	3,162,000	25
5.	Hospitals, clinics and sanatoriums	3,000	306,000	100
6.	Bread and soft drinks	700	84,000	123
7.	Eating and drinking places	6,000	700,000	117
8.	Printing and kindred places	800	48,000	36
9.	Retail trade	10,800	1,260,000	50
10.	Services and amusements	7,000	238,000	137
10.	Laundry	7,000	400,000	85
11.	Construction	50,000	8,000,000	160
12.	Transportation	13,000	2,735,000	212
13.	Laundries	2,000	130,000	65
	Total	253,000	15,093,000	74

SOURCE: Minimum Wage Board of Puerto Rico.

TABLE 61.—*Annual budget for a minimum adequate standard of living of a worker's family of six members, Puerto Rico, 1941 and 1947*

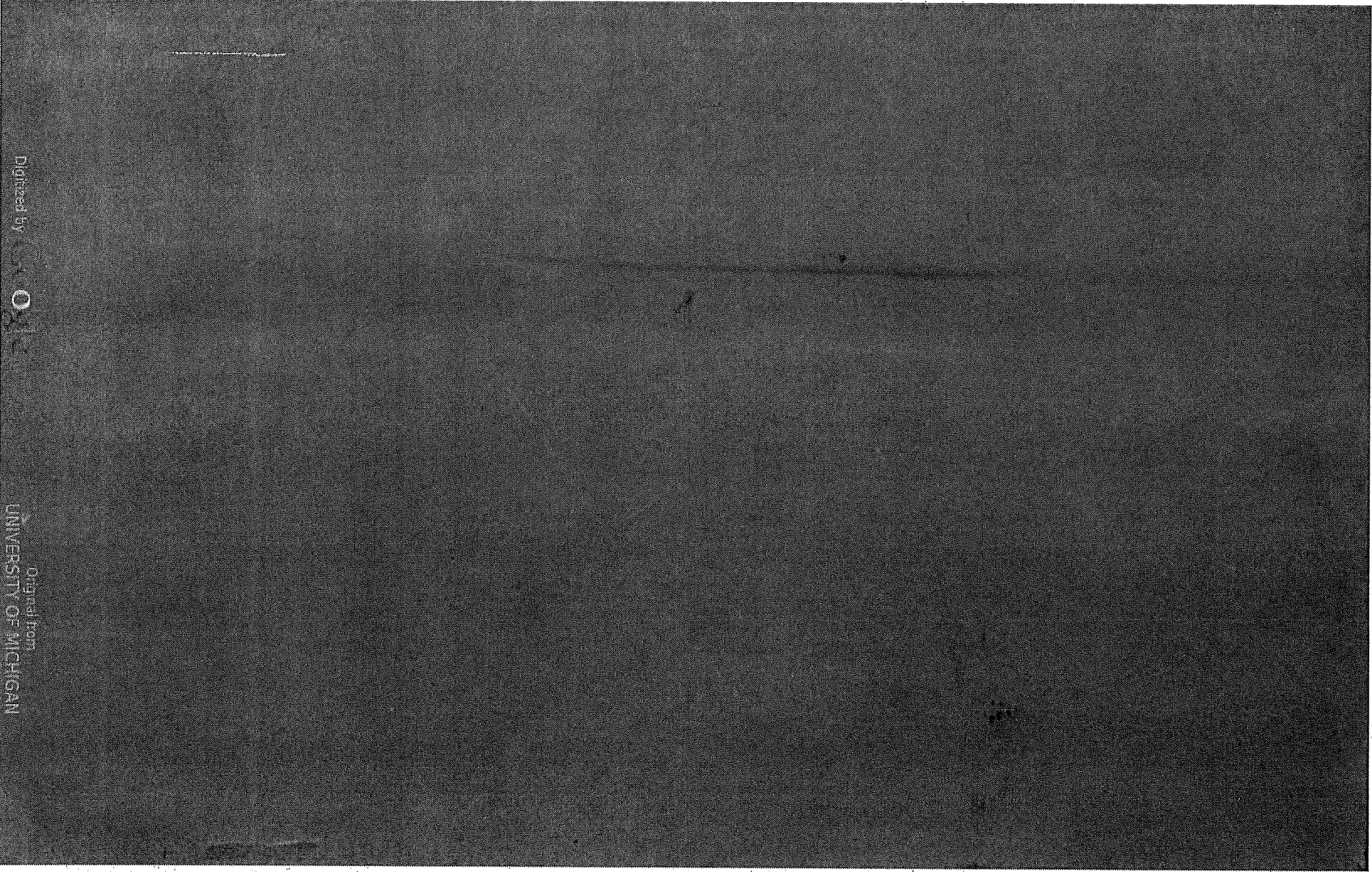
Item	Annual budget as of:	
	December 1941	June 1947
	Dollar	Dollar
Food	668.32	1,117.67
Clothing	164.61	141.69
Housing	232.13	243.55
Fuel and light	35.10	50.70
House furnishings	36.21	50.05
Household operations	21.27	30.72
Medical care	31.91	46.05
Personal care	31.91	46.05
Transportation	18.51	25.88
Amusements	16.64	13.35
Education	53.18	76.81
Other		
Total	1,264.18	1,874.94

SOURCE: Minimum Wage Board of P. R. Rico. Prepared from "Standards of Minimum Decent Living Requirements for Puerto Rico—Division of Public Welfare, P. R. Department of Health, 1942" The annual budget proposed in that publication for June 1942 was adjusted to the cost of living in dates prevailing in December 1941 and June 1947.



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