

Annual report for 1898 of the Medical Officer of Health.

Contributors

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Chelsea Vestry.

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ANNUAL REPORT

For **1898,**

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.

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MEDICAL SCHOOL.

TOWN HALL, KING'S ROAD, CHELSEA.

1899.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For 1898.

Section I.—STATISTICAL.

POPULATION OF CHELSEA.

The estimated population of Chelsea for the year 1898 is 96,826. The estimated population of each sub-district is as follows:—

Chelsea North	42,247	} 75,526
Chelsea South	33,279	
Kensal Town	21,300	

BIRTHS AND BIRTH-RATE FOR 1898.

Table I. gives the births and birth-rate per 1,000 per annum in the home district and in Kensal Town, in the whole parish, and in London.

TABLE I.

	Number of Births.	Birth-rate per 1,000.
Home District	1,761	23·4
Kensal Town	571	26·9
Whole Parish	2,332	24·2
London	132,432	29·5

In 1897 the birth-rate of the home district was 25·3, and of Kensal Town 30·4, the birth-rate of the whole parish being 26·4.

The progressive lowering of the birth-rate of recent years, both in the home district and in Kensal Town, is shown in the next Table.

TABLE II.—*Birth-rate per 1,000.*

Year.	Home District.	Kensal Town.	London.
1891	28.3	32.6	31.8
1892	27.7	33.5	31.0
1893	28.5	33.7	31.0
1894	27.2	31.3	30.2
1895	27.1	32.4	30.5
1896	26.2	29.9	30.2
1897	25.3	30.4	30.0
1898	23.4	26.9	29.5

The diminished birth-rate in the home district is, no doubt, largely due to the changes that have been in progress of recent years affecting the social conditions of the population, many poor and crowded neighbourhoods having been swept away to make room for the inhabitants of highly-rated houses and flats. In Kensal Town, however, with its essentially working class population, the tendency towards a steadily declining birth-rate is also noticeable, and is probably not attributable to any falling off in the marriage-rate. In London generally the birth-rate also shows a progressive decline during the past eight years.

DEATHS AND DEATH-RATE FOR 1899.

The total number of deaths registered in the parish was 1,827. Of this total 300 were deaths, within the district, of non-parishioners—chiefly occurring in the hospitals of the parish; and 231 deaths of parishioners of Chelsea occurred outside the district in various public institutions. There were, therefore, 1,758 deaths of parishioners of Chelsea. These 1,758 deaths are equivalent to a death-rate for the year of 18.2 per 1,000, as against a death-rate of 17.7 per 1,000 in 1897.

Table III. gives the death-rate of Chelsea and its constituent districts, and of London, during the past eight years:—

TABLE III.

Year.	Home District.	Kensal Town.	Chelsea.	London.
	Death-rate.	Death-rate.	Death-rate.	Death-rate.
1891	22.1	17.5	21.0	21.4
1892	21.9	17.8	21.0	20.7
1893	21.6	16.3	20.4	21.4
1894	17.6	14.1	16.8	17.8
1895	20.8	16.8	19.9	19.9
1896	19.0	18.2	18.8	18.6
1897	17.9	17.1	17.7	18.2
1898	18.1	18.7	18.2	18.7

The slightly higher mortality in Chelsea in 1898, as compared with 1897, is attributable to a greater prevalence of measles in the past year. As in 1897, there was an excessive prevalence of infantile diarrhoea in the summer (August and September), which raised the general death-rate. The past year is the first year on record in which the general death-rate of the home district has been below that of Kensal Town. All the diseases of the zymotic class appear to have been more prevalent in Kensal Town than in the home district, but especially diphtheria, measles, and summer diarrhoea.

The high death-rates in Chelsea of the years 1891, 1892, 1893, and 1895, were largely due to the prevalence of epidemic influenza in those years.

Zymotic death-rate.—The death-rate in Chelsea from the seven principal zymotic diseases was 3·39 per 1,000 in 1898, the corresponding rate for London being 2·8 per 1,000. In 1897 the zymotic death-rate in Chelsea was 3·11 per 1,000.

TABLE IV.—*For the year 1898.*

	Zymotic death-rate.	Diarrhoea death-rate.	Phthisis death-rate.	Other tubercular diseases death-rate.	Respiratory diseases death-rate.	Deaths under 1 year to 1,000 births.	Percentage of deaths under 5 to total deaths.
Home District ...	2·87	1·26	1·91	0·53	3·44	161	34·0
Kensal Town ...	5·23	2·12	1·37	0·80	3·16	222	52·5
Chelsea	3·39	1·45	1·79	0·59	3·38	176	38·2
London	2·80	1·56	1·78	0·71	3·28	167	40·8

The above Table shows that during the past year there has been an exceptional prevalence of fatal infantile diseases in Kensal Town, as shown by the high zymotic and diarrhoea death-rates, the excessive mortality of infants under one year of age in proportion to births, and the high percentage of deaths under five years of age to total deaths. In 1897 also, Kensal Town suffered severely from summer diarrhoea, the zymotic death-rate being 4·3 per 1,000, the diarrhoea death-rate 2·49 per 1,000, there being 190 deaths of infants under one year to every 1,000 births, and 46 per cent. of the total deaths being of children under five years of age.

Small-pox.—There were no deaths from small-pox in 1898; and as in 1896 and 1897, not a single case of the disease occurred in the parish.

Measles.—This disease caused 92 deaths in 1898, as compared with 18 deaths in 1897, and 109 deaths in 1896. Sixty-four of the deaths

occurred in the home district, and 28 in Kensal Town. In the home district the epidemic commenced early in December, 1897, and continued until the middle of June, 1898; in Kensal Town no deaths from measles were registered until the middle of March, 1898, and the epidemic ceased about the end of June, 1898. In 1896 the epidemic commenced in the home district in February, and in Kensal Town in March, and came to an end in both districts in July.

Scarlet Fever.—This disease caused 14 deaths in 1898, as compared with 17 deaths in 1897, and 28 deaths in 1896. Out of the 14 deaths, 5 belonged to Kensal Town.

Diphtheria.—This disease caused 40 deaths, and in addition there was one death from membranous croup. Out of the 41 deaths, 19 belonged to Kensal Town, leaving only 22 for the home district. Of the 41 deaths from fatal throat disease in Chelsea in 1898, 32 were under five years of age, and 9 were over five; 32 deaths occurred in hospitals, and 9 at the patients' own homes.

TABLE V.

	Deaths from Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.								
	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
Home District...	32	20	32	43	41	52	96	45	22
Kensal Town ...	21	10	14	13	13	5	16	11	19

This Table shows the great reduction in diphtheria mortality in the home district in 1898 as compared with the previous six years (1892-7).

TABLE VI.—*Zymotic Disease Mortality in Chelsea in 1898.*

	Actual number of Deaths in Chelsea.	Chelsea's proportion of total London Deaths according to its population.
Measles	92	66
Scarlet Fever	14	13
Diphtheria	40	38
Whooping Cough	26	46
Enteric Fever.....	14	13
Diarrhœa	140	150

TABLE VII.—*Zymotic Disease Mortality in Kensal Town in 1898.*

	Actual number of Deaths in Kensal Town.	Kensal Town's proportion of total Chelsea Deaths according to its population.
Measles	28	20
Scarlet Fever	5	3
Diphtheria	19	9
Whooping Cough	10	6
Enteric Fever	4	3
Diarrhœa	45	30

TABLE VIII.—*Zymotic Mortality in Chelsea in 1898.*

	Deaths in 1898.	Average Number of Deaths Annually in 1884—97.
Measles	92	59
Scarlet Fever	14	19
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup	41	50
Enteric Fever	14	14
Whooping Cough	26	57
Diarrhœa	140	100

Enteric Fever.—The mortality from enteric fever (14 deaths) was equal to the average of the past 14 years. Of the 14 deaths, 4 belonged to Kensal Town.

Diarrhœa.—The deaths in Chelsea in 1898 from diarrhœal diseases (diarrhœa, cholera, gastro-enteritis, and enteritis) were 140 in number, and far exceeded the mortality of any recent year, except 1897. All but 9 of the 140 deaths were of children under five years of age, the great majority of these being infants under one year. Of these 140 deaths, 45 were deaths of Kensal Town residents, Kensal Town's proportion of the total in accordance with its population being only 30 deaths. The excessive prevalence of diarrhœa commenced early in August, reached its maximum about the middle of the month, and was sustained at a high level quite up to the end of September. In the nine weeks ending the first of October, 98 out of the total of 140 deaths were registered. In London generally there was a similar excessive incidence of diarrhœal diseases, the death-rate during the past year being the highest recorded since 1868.

TABLE IX.—*Mortality from Diarrhæal Diseases.*

Year.	Chelsea.	London.
	Death-rate per Million.	Death-rate per Million.
1891	792	774
1892	864	801
1893	1134	1084
1894	541	617
1895	1278	1182
1896	1069	1112
1897	1597	1446
1898	1451	1556

Influenza.—The number of deaths referred to influenza, as a primary or secondary cause of death, amounted to 35, as against 19 in 1897, 13 in 1896, and 68 in 1895, the last year in which influenza was widely epidemic in London. Of the 35 deaths, 9 belonged to Kensal Town. Twenty-five of the total occurred in the first three months of the year. In London generally there was no widespread epidemic in 1898, but deaths have been recorded from this disease in every week of the year, amounting to a total of 1,283, 857 of which occurred in the first quarter. In 1897, 671 deaths were registered in London as due to influenza.

The death-rate from respiratory diseases in Chelsea in 1898 (3·38 per 1,000) was low, owing to the comparative absence of influenza, and the mildness of the winter and spring season.

Tubercular Diseases.—The death-rate from phthisis and other tubercular diseases in Chelsea in 1898 was 2·38 per 1,000, as against 2·49 in London generally. The Kensal Town rate was 2·17 per 1,000, that of the home district being 2·44 per 1,000. The average death-rate from these diseases in Chelsea during the 14 years, 1884-97, was 2·89 per 1,000.

Cancer.—Malignant cancerous diseases caused 101 deaths amongst Chelsea parishioners, of which number 10 belonged to Kensal Town. The annual average of the 14 years, 1884-97, is 77 deaths. Chelsea's proportion of the total London deaths from cancer in 1898 is 88.

Deaths in Public Institutions.—In 1898, 31·1 per cent. of the total deaths of parishioners of Chelsea occurred in public institutions, the average for the seven years, 1891-7, being 31·2 per cent. Of the home district residents, 34·1 per cent. of the deaths occurred in public institutions, and of Kensal Town residents 20·8 per cent. In 1898, 15·2 per cent. of the total deaths of parishioners occurred in the Chelsea Workhouse and Infirmary, the average of the seven years, 1891-97, being 14·7 per cent. Of the home district residents, 17·3 per cent. of the deaths occurred in the Workhouse and Infirmary, and of Kensal Town residents, only 8·0 per cent.

TABLE OF DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1898, IN THE CHELSEA METROPOLITAN SANITARY DISTRICT; CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO DISEASES, AGES, AND LOCALITIES.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities.	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES.							MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.																							
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	(i)	1	2	3	4	FEVERS.						Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhea and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Influenza.	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	TOTAL.
													Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.														
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
Chelsea North, exclusive of Public Institutions	444	122	68	12	6	137	99	Under 5	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	6	40	...	...	37	...	2	6	66	190	
Chelsea South, exclusive of Public Institutions	390	118	55	11	16	125	65	5 upwds.	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	24	2	35	...	1	32	...	1	9	67	173	
Kensal Town	315	121	61	17	15	74	27	5 upwds.	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	23	8	43	...	1	33	42	22	10	6	91	217
Workhouse and Infirmary	280	23	19	...	5	132	101	5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	4	...	...	1	20	21	16	8	1	52	183	
Brompton Hospital	96	...	...	4	28	63	1	5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	49	56	26	1	4	99	238	
Cancer Hospital	94	...	...	2	5	75	12	5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	73	3	12	...	...	...	8	96
Hospital for Women	13	1	...	...	1	11	...	5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	89	94
Royal Hospital for In-Pensioners	69	3	...	...	...	19	47	5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	12
Victoria Hospital for Children	117	43	58	16	...	...	...	5 upwds.	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	1	7	...	3	23	2	...	9	45	101	66
Cheyne Hospital and St. Camillo's Hospital	9	...	...	5	2	...	2	5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	...	1	10	16	...
TOTALS	1827	431	261	67	78	636	354	Under 5	...	...	11	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	90	24	134	...	5	133	4	4	29	255	692	
								5 upwds.	...	...	3	...	...	6	...	...	4	...	4	6	2	9	3	226	196	131	31	19	495	1135	

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging the above Records of Mortality.

Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto...	231	18	47	19	16	115	16	Under 5	...	7	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	12	1	...	4	14	65
Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto	300	39	46	20	36	140	19	5 upwds.	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	3	19	2	...	8	38	85
									...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	73	6	17	...	3	114	215

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH DURING THE YEAR 1898, IN THE CHELSEA METROPOLITAN SANITARY DISTRICT; CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO DISEASES, AGES, AND LOCALITIES.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics: Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.													NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.												
	Last Census.	Estimated to middle of 1898.			Small-pox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	FEVERS.					Typhus.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Small-pox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	FEVERS.					Typhus.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.		
									Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Typhoid.								Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Typhoid.	Continued.				Relapsing.	Puerperal.
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Chelsea Home District	75,196	75,526	1761	Under 5 5 upwds.	...	65 193	47 96	1 ...	...	1 39	1 ...	...	...	...	4 53	...	...	...	43 143	39 58	...	...	1 21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS:—																														
Chelsea Infirmary.....	...	...	...	Under 5 5 upwds.	...	3 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 12	...	...	...	2...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Duke of York's School ...	...	...	...	Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	1 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Victoria Hospital .....	...	...	...	Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	2...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chelsea Barracks .....	...	...	...	Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. George's Hospital.. ...	...	...	...	Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	2 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kensal Town	21,450	21,300	571	Under 5 5 upwds.	...	20 49	42 76	1 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 20	...	...	...	17 42	37 66	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	96,646	96,826	2332	Under 5 5 upwds.	...	88 248	94 177	2 ...	...	1 56	1 ...	...	...	...	8 85	...	...	...	62 187	78 125	...	...	1 29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Section II.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Small-pox.—As in the two previous years, 1896 and 1897, there were no cases of this disease in Chelsea in 1898. In 1895, there were 4 cases; in 1894, 12 cases; in 1893, 29 cases; and in 1892, 4 cases. In London, during 1898, 35 cases of small-pox were notified, as against 105 cases in 1897, 260 cases in 1896, 1,076 cases in 1895, 1,391 cases in 1894, 2,933 cases in 1893, and 436 cases in 1892. In the 8 parishes forming the western district of London (population 781,395) only 3 cases of small-pox were notified in 1898, as against 5 in 1897, and 35 in 1896.

Scarlet Fever.—This disease was less prevalent in 1898 than in 1897, the case-rate per 10,000 of the population being 34·7 in 1898, as against 50·4 in 1897. The case-rate for West London was 35·1 per 10,000, and for London generally 37·6 per 10,000. The disease was prevalent to about the same extent in the home district and in Kensal Town, 69 out of the total of 336 cases belonging to Kensal Town, Kensal Town's share of the cases in proportion to its population being 72 cases. During the past year the incidence-rate of scarlet fever in Chelsea was exceeded by Fulham (66 per 10,000), and by Hammersmith (43·3 per 10,000), the remaining parishes of West London having rates below that of Chelsea. The autumnal exacerbation in prevalence of scarlet fever in 1898 was only slightly marked, but there was a steady decline in prevalence towards the end of November. The fall in notified cases following the closure of the schools (Board Schools on the 21st July) was well marked, especially in the last three weeks of August. The percentage of cases of school age (3 to 13 years) was 67 per cent. in Chelsea, 66 per cent. in the home district, and 72 per cent. in Kensal Town.

Diphtheria.—There was a slight diminution in the prevalence of this disease in Chelsea in 1898, as compared with 1897, the case-rate per 10,000 of the population in Chelsea being 28·2, as against 32·4 in 1897. In the home district the diminished prevalence of diphtheria was considerable, the case-rate for 1898 being only 20·3 per 10,000, as against 32·1 per 10,000 in 1897. In Kensal Town, however, there was more diphtheria in 1898 than in any year since 1890, when diphtheria last assumed an epidemic form there.

TABLE X. - *Cases of, and Deaths from Diphtheria and Membranous Croup in the home district, and in Kensal Town.*

	CASES.								
	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
Home District...	172	162	163	200	207	273	429	242	153
Kensal Town ...	129	33	38	39	42	32	60	71	119
	DEATHS.								
	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
Home District..	32	20	32	43	41	52	96	45	22
Kensal Town ...	21	10	14	13	13	5	16	11	19

Out of the total of 273 cases of diphtheria and membranous croup notified in Chelsea in 1898, 119 cases belonged to Kensal Town, the share of the latter district in proportion to its population being only 59 cases. The greatest prevalence of the disease in Kensal Town was in May, when 29 cases were notified. In June there were 13 notifications, in July 14, and in August 18. After this date the disease rapidly subsided, only 17 cases being notified in the last four months of the year.

In the home district the largest number of cases notified in any one month was in January (21 notifications). In February there were 11 notifications, in March 10, in April 12, in May 12, in June 16, in July 14, in August 7, in September 13, in October 7, in November 16, and in December 14. In the first six months of the year 82 cases were notified, and in the last six months 71 cases, contrary to what usually occurs, diphtheria being a disease usually showing a tendency to prevail most in the autumn months.

The percentage of cases of school age (3 to 13 years) was 66·2 per cent. in Chelsea, 59·5 per cent. in the home district, and 74·8 per cent. in Kensal Town. The fall in notified cases following the closure of the schools at midsummer was well marked in the home district; but in Kensal Town 11 cases of school age were notified during the four weeks following the closure of the schools as against 7 in the preceding four weeks. The decline in Kensal Town set in with the thirty-third week of the year, some three weeks after school closure (July 21st), only 2 cases of school age being notified from the thirty-third to the thirty-sixth weeks, as against 11 cases in the four weeks preceding the thirty-third week. A similar decline of diphtheria (school age) cases in Chelsea at the same period was noticed in 1897.

Prevalence of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria in West London.

The following Table XI. is based upon the notified cases of diphtheria and membranous croup, and of scarlet fever respectively in

each of the eight parishes constituting Western London, the rates being calculated upon the estimated population of each district.

TABLE XI.—*Notifications of Scarlet Fever, and of Diphtheria and Membranous Croup per 10,000 of population.*

	Scarlet Fever.			Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.		
	1897.	1890-7.	1898.	1897.	1890-7.	1898.
Chelsea (Home District) ...	41·4	45·5	35·4	32·1	30·8	20·3
Kensington	43·7	37·4	27·5	19·4	17·5	12·9
Fulham	64·4	46·8	66·0	32·8	23·7	38·8
Hammersmith	37·5	41·3	43·3	14·7	23·4	15·3
Paddington.....	38·9	33·8	23·9	25·8	21·2	20·5
St. George's, Hanover Square	22·0	36·0	27·4	15·0	13·4	13·8
Westminster	34·1	38·5	18·8	20·9	16·4	24·1
St. James's.....	57·8	33·9	13·9	22·1	14·8	19·3
West London.....	43·5	40·4	35·1	23·2	20·8	21·4
London	51·3	51·3	37·6	29·6	24·3	26·4

The above Table shows that in West London, as a whole, there was less scarlet fever in 1898 than in 1897. In Fulham, however, scarlet fever maintained itself at the same high rate as in 1897, whilst in Hammersmith and in St. George's, Hanover Square, there was a slightly increased incidence of the disease as compared with 1897. As regards diphtheria, there was also a diminution of cases in West London, the decrease being most marked in the home district of Chelsea. In Fulham there was a considerable increase in prevalence of the disease, also an increase to a less extent in Westminster and Hammersmith. In all the other districts there was a decrease. In regard to Fulham it may be observed that the past year is the sixth in succession in which the diphtheria case-rate has maintained itself at a high figure. It will be noticed also that, during the past nine years, the prevalence of both scarlet fever and diphtheria has been less proportionally to population in West London than in London as a whole.

Enteric Fever.—The number of cases of enteric fever in 1898 was 56. The cases annually notified since 1890 are as follows:—1890, 63 cases; 1891, 46 cases; 1892, 44 cases; 1893, 77 cases; 1894, 95 cases; 1895, 76 cases; 1896, 68 cases; 1897, 53 cases; 1898, 56 cases. The number of cases in Kensal Town in 1898 was 15, Kensal Town's

proportion of the total being 12 cases. The number of cases notified in the first quarter of the year in Chelsea was 12; in the second quarter, 4; in the third quarter, 10; and in the fourth quarter, 30 (19 in the home district, and 11 in Kensal Town). In 8 cases the infection of the disease may have been, and probably was acquired, outside the parish, whilst in another case the patient was received into a Nursing Home in the parish from outside. This leaves 47 cases in which the infection was probably acquired in the parish, as compared with 46 in 1897. It is somewhat remarkable that out of the 14 cases notified in Kensal Town from the 1st October to the end of the year, 9 were of children under 12 years of age, this extreme incidence on children being somewhat unusual.

The following Table XII. shows the case mortality, or percentage of deaths to notifications of scarlet fever, diphtheria (including membranous croup), and enteric fever in Chelsea, and in London, in each of the nine years, 1890-98.

TABLE XII.—*Case Mortality in Chelsea, and in London, 1890-98.*

	Scarlet Fever.		Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.		Enteric Fever.	
	Chelsea.	London.	Chelsea.	London.	Chelsea.	London.
1890	7.0	5.7	17.6	24.1	17.4	23.0
1891	3.6	5.1	15.4	22.5	17.4	15.6
1892	5.3	4.3	22.9	23.9	13.6	17.2
1893	5.3	4.3	23.4	24.5	22.1	18.4
1894	5.1	5.2	21.7	23.6	14.7	18.1
1895	4.0	4.2	18.7	20.4	18.4	17.0
1896	4.9	3.7	22.9	19.3	14.7	17.7
1897	3.5	3.4	17.9	17.1	26.4	18.8
1898	4.2	3.4	15.1		25.0	19.3

As in 1897 the case mortality of enteric fever in Chelsea was somewhat high, as compared with previous years. The lowered fatality of diphtheria in recent years is probably to be attributed to the gradually extending use of the antitoxin treatment in this disease.

Table XIII. exhibits the removals of patients suffering from scarlet fever, diphtheria, and enteric fever, from their homes to hospitals, in each of the nine years, 1890-98, expressed as percentages of the total number of cases notified.

TABLE XIII.—*Percentage Removals to Hospitals.*

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.
1890	37	20	29
1891	40	15	22
1892	48	27	32
1893	50	41	38
1894	71	58	63
1895	55	62	51
1896	61	56	56
1897	76	67	54
1898	74	74	54

About three-quarters of all the scarlet fever and diphtheria patients, in 1898, were removed from their homes to the Fever Hospitals, and rather more than half of the enteric fever patients.

SPECIAL REPORTS.

During the past year I have had the honour of presenting special reports on the undermentioned subjects for the consideration of the Vestry :—

January 18th.—Proceedings at Petty Sessions; Authorisation of Medical Officer of Health to appear on behalf of the Vestry.

February 15th.—Wilkinson's Sword Factory.

March 15th.—The Vestry's liability for combined drainage at Nos. 5 and 6, Stewart's-grove. Smoke nuisance at the Royal Chelsea Brewery.

March 29th.—The Vestry's liability for the combined drainage of six houses at Eign's-cottages, Milman's-street.

April 19th.—Eign's-cottage's, Milman's-street.

May 3rd.—Eign's-cottages, Milman's-street. Measles epidemics.

June 7th.—The removal of stable manure. Smoke consumption. Diphtheria in Kensal Town. The removal of infectious cases to hospital.

June 21st.—Smoke nuisances. Combined drainage on the Cadogan estate.

July 19th.—Diphtheria in Kensal Town. The appointment of a sanitary inspector for Kensal Town.

July 26th.—Appointment of sanitary inspectors.

September 27th.—No. 6, Marlborough-street. No. 39, Manor-street.

October 11th.—Failure to notify cases of scarlet fever.

November 22nd.—Nuisance on unoccupied land at Kensal Town.

December 6th.—Report on the examination of the water supplied by the Chelsea Water Works from November, 1897, to November, 1898, with some observations on the suitability of the Thames as a source of supply for London: by the Medical Officer of Health, and S. Rideal, D.Sc., F.I.C.

WORK OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Appended are tabular statements, which give full information as to the detailed work of the department during the year 1898.

I am, my Lord and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

LOUIS C. PARKES,

Medical Officer of Health.

Section III.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Summary of Nuisances and other matters reported on and Work done during the Year 1898.

	Home District.	Kensal Town.	Total.
HOUSES AND PREMISES :—			
*Reported on respecting nuisances complained of	876	355	1231
Reported on with reference to infectious cases	601	219	620
Cleansed, whitewashed, and repaired	246	231	477
Defective roofs repaired	88	16	104
Disinfected after zymotic diseases... ..	419	184	603
Cases of overcrowding abated	27	4	31
Dust-bins, new, provided	83	20	103
„ repaired	11	14	25
Underground rooms reported as occupied contrary to Act	11	—	11
Houses closed as unfit for human habitation	15	7	22
DRAINAGE :—			
Drains opened, cleansed, and made sound } „ trapped with stoneware gullies ... }	380	105	485
Water-closets cleansed and repaired	92	30	122
„ new pans and traps provided	226	44	270
Spout drains cleansed, repaired, or renewed	117	152	269
Sink, bath, and lavatory waste pipes disconnected	76	15	91
Soil pipes ventilated or repaired	93	57	150
„ new, provided	103	9	112
New drains laid, in accordance with Vestry's regulations (including 13 systems of combined drainage)	165	14	179
Additional w.c. accommodation provided.....	3	15	18
WATER SUPPLY :—			
For domestic purposes, provided where cut off by Water Company	22	—	22
For water-closets, or check cisterns provided	68	21	89
Main cisterns cleansed or repaired	8	8	16
„ new, provided	1	—	1
NUISANCES ABATED ARISING FROM :—			
Keeping of animals	6	5	11
Accumulations of manure and other filth.....	19	8	27
Yards cleansed, paved or drained	107	168	275
Smoke	8	—	8
Dung pits repaired, drained, &c., or cages, &c., provided	1	8	9

* This does not include re-visits to premises to ascertain works in progress, or premises visited where no nuisances were found to exist, which, if added, would at least treble the number of visits made.

MISCELLANEOUS :—

	Home District.	Kensal Town.	Total.
Dead bodies removed to public mortuary for sanitary reasons	8	3	11
Goods disinfected after infectious cases at station	1551	23	1574
Goods destroyed after infectious cases	63	—	63
Number of samples taken for analysis (Food and Drugs Act)	112	44	156
Unsound Food. Number of boxes of fruit, &c., condemned and destroyed	125	—	125

PROCEEDINGS TAKEN :—

Notices issued for sanitary works, &c., including infectious diseases notices	1229	385	1614
Legal proceedings in respect of defective sanitary arrangements, nuisances, &c. ...	10	11	21
Legal proceedings in respect of food adulteration	8	2	10

CORRESPONDENCE :—

Number of letters written in connection with sanitary matters, including those of Medical Officer of Health	517	324	841
Daily returns of infectious cases sent to Metropolitan Asylums Board... ..	246	—	246
Notification of infectious cases sent to School Authorities	363	145	508
Entries in Inspectors' Report Books	896	336	1232
„ Inhabitants' Complaint Book	42	—	42
Certificates of Disinfection given	420	94	514
Certificates of Infectious diseases for removal cases	352	78	430

The cow-houses and slaughter-houses were inspected by a Sub-Committee of the Works and General Purposes Committee and Medical Officer of Health prior to licenses being renewed in October last, and a list of the retail bakehouses under inspection in Chelsea forms a separate Appendix.

Sanitary Inspectors,

ALEXANDER GRANT,
WILLIAM CHAS. LIGHTFOOT (Resigned),
FREDERICK F. FLINN (Resigned),
GEO. R. METZLER,
J. W. KING,
JAMES JOHN MACKAY, Kensal Town.

Home District.

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS DURING 1898, UNDER THE SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Streets where purchased.	Article purchased.	Extent of Adulteration or Abstraction.	Date of Hearing.	Result.
Leader-street	Milk	10% added water	Feb. 8th	Fine, £1. Costs, 10s. 6d.
Sloane-street	Drugs	25% below B.P. strength.....	„ 15th	„ 5s. „ 10s. 6d.
Cadogan-street	„	32% „ „	„ „	„ 5s. „ 10s. 6d.
„ „	„	38% „ „	„ „	„ 10s. „ 10s. 6d.
Marlborough-road	„	59% „ „	„ „	„ 5s. „ 10s. 6d.
„ „	„	12% „ „	„ „	„ 5s. „ 10s. 6d.
Dartrey-road	Milk	20% added water	April 19th.....	„ £2. „ 10s. 6d.
Edith-grove	„	9% „ „	„ „	„ £1. „ 10s. 6d.
Kensal Town	„	10% „ „	June 10th	„ £2. „ 2s.
„ „	„	27% „ „	Nov. 29th	„ £2. „ 10s. 6d.

Total: £9. 10s. Fines, and £4. 16s. 6d. Costs.

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH (LONDON) ACT, 1891.

Situation of Premises.	Nature of Nuisance or Complaint.	Date of Hearing.	Result.
29, Royal-avenue ...	Want of water to premises	June 14th ...	Closing order made.
" " ...	Failing to comply with magistrate's order	" 28th ...	Fined £3, or one month's imprisonment.
1, Eign's-cottages ...	Wilfully obstructing a drain	" 21st ...	Fined £1.
King's-road	Removing offal during prohibited hours. <i>W. James</i>	July 5th ...	Fined £2, and 5s. costs.
Lower Sloane-street	" " " <i>A. Stannard</i>	" " ...	Fined £1, and 2s. costs.
5, Stayton-street ...	Unfit for human habitation	" 19th ...	Closing order made.
143, Marlboro'-road	Defective drains, w.c., and roof	" 26th ...	Order for works in 14 days.

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6, Marlboro'-street...	Defective drains, dustbin, and roof; want of w.c.; dirty and dilapidated state of the premises	Oct. 4th ...	Closing order made.
" " ...	Failing to comply with magistrate's order	Nov. 1st ...	Fined £3 10s., or one month's imprisonment.
39, Manor-street ..	Continuing to let a cellar dwelling after due notice	Oct. 4th ...	Fined 10s.
31, Langton-street...	Failure to notify case of infectious disease by medical practitioner	" 25th ...	Fined £2.
KENSAL TOWN.			
1, 2, 3 and 4, Pike's-cottages, and 1, 2 and 3, Elizabeth-place	Unfit for human habitation	Nov. 8th ...	Closing orders made.
3, 4 and 5, Wedlake-street	Defective drains and dilapidated premises	" 22nd ...	Order for works in 14 days.
48, Beethoven-street	Defective drains	Dec. 6th ...	Adjourned (works in progress.)

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Total: £13 Fines, and 7s. Costs.

BAKEHOUSES IN USE ON JANUARY 1st, 1899.

Street.	Occupier.	Above Ground.	Below Ground.
74, Arthur-street	Solomon Keppler ...	.....	Below.
93, Beaufort-street	A. Coventry .....	.....	"
26, Blantyre-street	Schuck ..	.....	"
55, Burnaby-street	Loe .....	.....	"
1, Cadogan-street	Summers .....	.....	"
2, Cale-street ...	Judkins ...	Above.	.....
77, Cheyne-walk	Spells .....	.....	Below.
20, Church-street	Bauer .....	.....	"
60, College-street	E. A. Stead .....	.....	"
17, Coulson-street	Gerres ...	.....	"
3, Dartrey-terrace	Knee .....	.....	"
67, Flood-street	J. Venner .....	.....	"
95, ,,	Gass .....	.....	"
153, Fulham-road	C. M. Nash .....	.....	"
187, ,,	A. Bailey ...	.....	"
323, ,,	Burge .....	.....	"
15, Green-street	Bott .....	.....	"
53, Godfrey-street	Becker ..	.....	"
102, Keppel-street	Steel .....	.....	"
47, King's-road	Pennycuick .....	.....	"
83, ,,	J. Humphry .....	.....	"
88, ,,	Akast .....	.....	"
134, ,,	Buckea ...	.....	"
145, ,,	J. Humphry .....	.....	"
302, ,,	Musgrove .....	.....	"
351, ,,	Mardon ...	.....	"
399, ,,	Dohna ...	.....	"
414, ,,	Korle .....	.....	"
488, ,,	Matthiae .....	.....	"

Street.	Occupier.	Above Ground.	Below Ground.
502, King's-road	Ritter.....	.....	Below.
517, „	McKay ...	.....	„
1, Leader-street	H. Southey	Above.	.....
48, Lots-road	West .....	.....	Below.
83, Lower Sloane-street...	Miles	Above.	.....
43, Manor-street	Lorenz ...	.....	Below.
62, Marlborough-road ...	Kremers...	.....	„
100, „ „ ...	Reitze ...	.....	„
110, „ „ ...	Wordley	Above.	.....
23, Queen's-road	Hilton ...	.....	Below.
58, Rawling's-street	Hannah...	.....	„
150, Sloane-street	Pennycuick .....	.....	„
43, Stayton-street	Salzmann	Above.	.....
117, Sydney-street	J. Humphry .....	.....	Below.
25, Walton-street	Burrows...	.....	„
46, „	Channon .....	.....	„

KENSAL TOWN DISTRICT.

551, Harrow-road	A. Hudson	Above.	Below.
608, „	W. Y. Menzler .....	„	.....
690, „	Heinrich Geissler...	„	.....
62, Herries-street	Fredk. Spohr .....	.....	Below.
83, „	A. Royston .....	.....	„
193, Kensal-road	Francis Frost .....	.....	„
300, „	„	Above.	.....
226, Kilburn-lane	James Guscott .....	„	.....
12, Mozart-street	Henry Geo. Taylor..	„	.....

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Street.	Occupier.
Crooked-usage	Cridlan, P. and J. W.
169, Fulham-road	Philp, J.
341, "	Foyer, W.
52, King's-road	Cobb, G. A.
54, "	"
413, "	Rowland, Mrs.
82, Marlborough-road	Iggulden, F.
90, " " "	"
128, " " "	Little, G.
273, Kensal-road	Miles, A.

COW HOUSES.

Crooked-usage	Jennings, J.
Church-street	Emerton, J.
406, King's-road	Jordan, G.
3A, Leverett-street	Robinson, F.
10, Stayton-street	Thomas, J.

