

The sanitary chronicles of the Parish of St. Marylebone being the annual report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1896.

Contributors

St. Marylebone (London, England). Parish.
Blyth, Alexander Wynter.

Publication/Creation

London : George Pulman, 1897.

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THE SANITARY CHRONICLES

OF THE PARISH OF

ST. MARYLEBONE;

BEING THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR 1896.



BY

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VOL. XVI.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY GEORGE PULMAN & SONS,

24 & 25, THAYER STREET, AND 5, PRINCES STREET, W.



PREFACE.

The following Report is a brief summary of disease and mortality in the Parish of St. Marylebone, and of the work of the Sanitary Department during 1896. The arrangement is the same as that of previous Annual statements.

THE COURT HOUSE,

ST. MARYLEBONE.

February 26th, 1897.

MEMORANDUM

The following is a summary of the work done by the committee on the subject of the proposed amendment to the constitution of the State of New York, and of the work of the committee on the subject of the proposed amendment to the constitution of the State of New York.

Very respectfully,
The Committee on the Subject of the Proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the State of New York.

January 10, 1897.

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A REPORT
OF THE
METEOROLOGY, MORTALITY, AND SICKNESS
OF THE
PARISH OF ST. MARYLEBONE,
FOR THE YEAR 1896.

BY A. WYNTER BLYTH.

METEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY.

March Quarter.

January was a dark month of moderate temperatures, with but little fog or frost. Minimum temperature, $25^{\circ}\cdot5$; maximum, $54^{\circ}\cdot8$; mean, $39^{\circ}\cdot5$. Rain fell 15 days out of 35—total rainfall 1·59 inch. Only six and a half hours' sunshine were received during the five weeks. The winds were variable.

February was a mild dry month, affording a striking contrast to the hard frost-bound February of 1895. The minimum temperature was $31^{\circ}\cdot0$; maximum, $53^{\circ}\cdot0$; mean, $41^{\circ}\cdot9$. Rain fell on five days (0·58 inch). There were 23 hours of sunshine. The winds were mostly westerly, a little frost occurred in the early mornings.

March was fairly bright ; there was an absence of strong winds, but during 18 out of 28 days, more or less rain fell ; the total rainfall measuring 2·65 inches. The minimum temperature was $26^{\circ}\cdot0$; maximum, $59^{\circ}\cdot1$; mean, $40^{\circ}\cdot7$. Frosts to a slight extent prevailed in the small hours of the morning, but the days were usually of moderate temperatures.

June Quarter.

April was a month of pleasant temperatures. The minimum temperature was $23^{\circ}\cdot5$; maximum, $42^{\circ}\cdot2$; mean, $48^{\circ}\cdot8$. On 13 days rain fell to the extent of 0.86 inch. The sunshine was equal to 18.3 %/o. The winds for the most part were N.W.

May was unusually warm, dry, and bright. The minimum temperature was $36^{\circ}\cdot0$; maximum, $76^{\circ}\cdot5$; mean, $55^{\circ}\cdot9$. There were only five showery days, total rainfall, 0.17 inch. About 25 %/o of the possible sunshine was registered in Regent's Park. The winds were light, N.E. and N.W.

A warm summery June followed. The minimum temperature, $38^{\circ}\cdot0$; maximum, $82^{\circ}\cdot0$; mean, $64^{\circ}\cdot6$. On eight days rain fell (1.4 inch). There was a considerable amount of bright sunshine, the average being about 7 hours daily. The winds were W.N.W. and S.W.

September Quarter.

July was also a fine sunny month. The minimum temperature was $47^{\circ}\cdot0$; the maximum, $91^{\circ}\cdot1$; mean, $63^{\circ}\cdot0$. 31% of bright sunshine was registered in Regent's Park. The winds were N. and S.W.

August was a warm unsettled month. The minimum temperature was $45^{\circ}\cdot0$; maximum, $76^{\circ}\cdot4$; mean, $61^{\circ}\cdot8$. On 11 days rain fell (1.73 inch). About 19 %/o of the sunshine was received.

September was wet. The minimum temperature was $45^{\circ}\cdot0$; maximum, $74^{\circ}\cdot5$; mean, $60^{\circ}\cdot4$. On 19 out of 28 days rain fell (4.8 inches). The winds were mostly S.W.

December Quarter.

An equally wet October followed. The minimum temperature was 34° ; the maximum, $66^{\circ}\cdot5$; the mean, $50^{\circ}\cdot5$; On 22 out of 35 days rain fell (4.71 inches). About 16 %/o of sunshine was received. S.W. winds prevailed.



November was cool and moderately dry. On six days fog prevailed. The minimum temperature was $26^{\circ}0$; maximum, $50^{\circ}0$; mean $32^{\circ}4$. About 21% of sunshine was registered. The winds were N. and N.E.

December was overcast and gloomy. Minimum temperature 26° ; maximum, $50^{\circ}5$; mean, $40^{\circ}1$. Rain fell on 13 out of 35 days to the extent of 2.56 inches. Although fog was absent, yet the sunshine was so deficient that out of 278 hours of possible bright sunshine only 9 were received. The winds were for the most part N.W. and S.W.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

The number of births registered during the 53 weeks ending December 26th, 1896, when all essential corrections have been made, was 3,453. The number of deaths (corrected) of parishioners was 3,164.

This gives a birth-rate of 24.0; a death-rate of 19.9 per thousand.

The birth and death rate for 1896 of the sub-districts were as follows:—

All Souls	birth-rate	16.6;	death-rate	15.8
Rectory	„	26.1;	„	22.8
St. Mary	„	21.1;	„	18.2
Christ Church	„	26.9;	„	23.7
St. John	„	25.1;	„	20.2

The following is a statement of the average death-rates of St. Marylebone and its sub-divisions for five years, viz., from 1891 to 1895 inclusive.

St. Marylebone birth-rate 29.9; death-rate 21.1

All Souls	birth-rate	18.5;	death-rate	19.8
Rectory	„	27.6;	„	22.6
St. Mary	„	22.2;	„	21.8
Christ Church	„	27.7;	„	24.6
St. John	„	26.1;	„	20.8

It therefore appears, from a comparison of the rates for five years (1891-5) with those of 1896, that the latter were below the average.

The following table gives the distribution of the deaths of parishioners dying in various extra-parochial institutions, all of which are included in the mortality statistics :—

St. Marylebone Infirmary, Notting Hill	...	...	...	456
North-Western Fever Hospital	...	...	...	28
South-Western Fever Hospital	...	...	...	4
Western Fever Hospital	...	...	...	23
North-Eastern Fever Hospital	...	...	...	5
Northern Fever Hospital	...	...	...	1
Fountain Fever Hospital	...	...	...	1
London Fever Hospital	...	...	...	2
St. Mary's Hospital	...	...	...	61
St. Bartholomew's Hospital	...	...	...	4
King's College Hospital	...	...	...	4
London Hospital	...	...	...	3
St. George's Hospital	...	...	...	13
Guy's Hospital	...	...	...	2
Charing Cross Hospital	...	...	...	7
Royal Free Hospital	...	...	...	1
St. Thomas's Hospital	...	...	...	5
University College Hospital	...	...	...	17
Great Northern Hospital	...	...	...	1
Children's Hospital, Paddington	...	...	...	10
Children's Hospital, Great Ormond Street	...	...	...	7
Brompton Hospital	...	...	...	3
National Hospital	...	...	...	4
London Temperance Hospital	...	...	...	6
Whitechapel Infirmary	...	...	...	1
Lewisham Infirmary	...	...	...	1
Holborn Infirmary, Hoxton	...	...	...	1
Paddington Infirmary	...	...	...	1
Islington Infirmary	...	...	...	1
Hackney Infirmary	...	...	...	1
St. Pancras Infirmary	...	...	...	2
Friedenheim	...	...	...	4
Evelina Hospital	...	...	...	1
French Hospital	...	...	...	5
St. Saviour's Hospital	...	...	...	2
Cancer Hospital, Fulham	...	...	...	2
Throat Hospital, Golden Square	...	...	...	1
Royal Chest Hospital	...	...	...	1
North London Consumption Hospital	...	...	...	2
British Lying-in Hospital	...	...	...	1
Darenth Asylum	...	...	...	3
Cane Hill Asylum	...	...	...	5
Colney Hatch Asylum	...	...	...	20
Banstead Asylum	...	...	...	5
Hanwell Asylum	...	...	...	18
Leavesden Asylum	...	...	...	12
Hoxton House Asylum	...	...	...	2
St. Luke's Asylum	...	...	...	3
Ilford Asylum	...	...	...	5
Caterham Asylum	...	...	...	1
St. Joseph's Home	...	...	...	2
Carried forward	...	...	...	771

	Brought forward	...	...	771
St. Elizabeth's Home	...	...	...	4
St. Peter's Home	...	...	...	2
Holborn Workhouse	...	...	...	2
Workhouse, Gray's Inn Road	...	...	...	1
Westminster Workhouse	...	...	...	1
St. Giles' Workhouse	...	...	...	1
Invalid Asylum, Stoke Newington	...	...	...	1
St. Vincent's Orphanage	...	...	...	1
Convalescent Home, Hampstead	...	...	...	1
Otherwise	...	...	...	13
	Total	...	...	<u>798</u>

INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING 1896.

Measles.

In this parish measles is not notifiable, hence its presence or absence is only known by the mortality. Measles was epidemic during January, February, and March. There were no less than 188 deaths, 160 of the deaths being under five years of age. Since, in London, the average death-rate from measles is six per cent. of children attacked under five years of age, the deaths represent, probably, some 3,000 cases.

Scarlet Fever.

The course of scarlet fever may be gathered from the curve showing the number of cases each week notified, as compared with the mean curve of five preceding years. The five years' average is denoted by a thin, while the 1896 returns are denoted by a thick curve. It will be seen from this curve that scarlet fever was epidemic during 1896. There is a looseness in the term "epidemic," but in the sense the writer uses the term, it means that the disease was considerably above the average. Scarlet fever was about, or even somewhat below, the mean number during January, February, March, and most of April. Towards the end of April there were indications of undue prevalence, and, with few intermissions, it continued to increase until it attained a maximum in August. In two separate weeks in that month the cases averaged 34 in the seven days, or nearly five a day. As usual, the accommodation for isolation in hospital became

exhausted. This partly from the large number notified throughout the metropolis, and partly from the excessive cubic space which the Asylum Hospital Board had adopted. Strong representations were made from the Vestry of St. Marylebone and other local authorities, to the effect that whatever may be the advantages of a large amount of air-space for patients in ordinary times, yet when scarlet fever is unusually prevalent, the evils of allowing sufferers from an infectious fever to remain at home in crowded tenements, without the most efficient nursing and medical treatment, are greater than treating them in hospital, even with diminution in the cubic space and some slight overcrowding in the wards. These views prevailed, and the Asylums Board passed resolutions enabling a larger number of patients to be admitted than the standard regulations allowed. So that as a fact there were only a few cases in this Parish requiring hospital isolation that did not eventually receive such isolation.

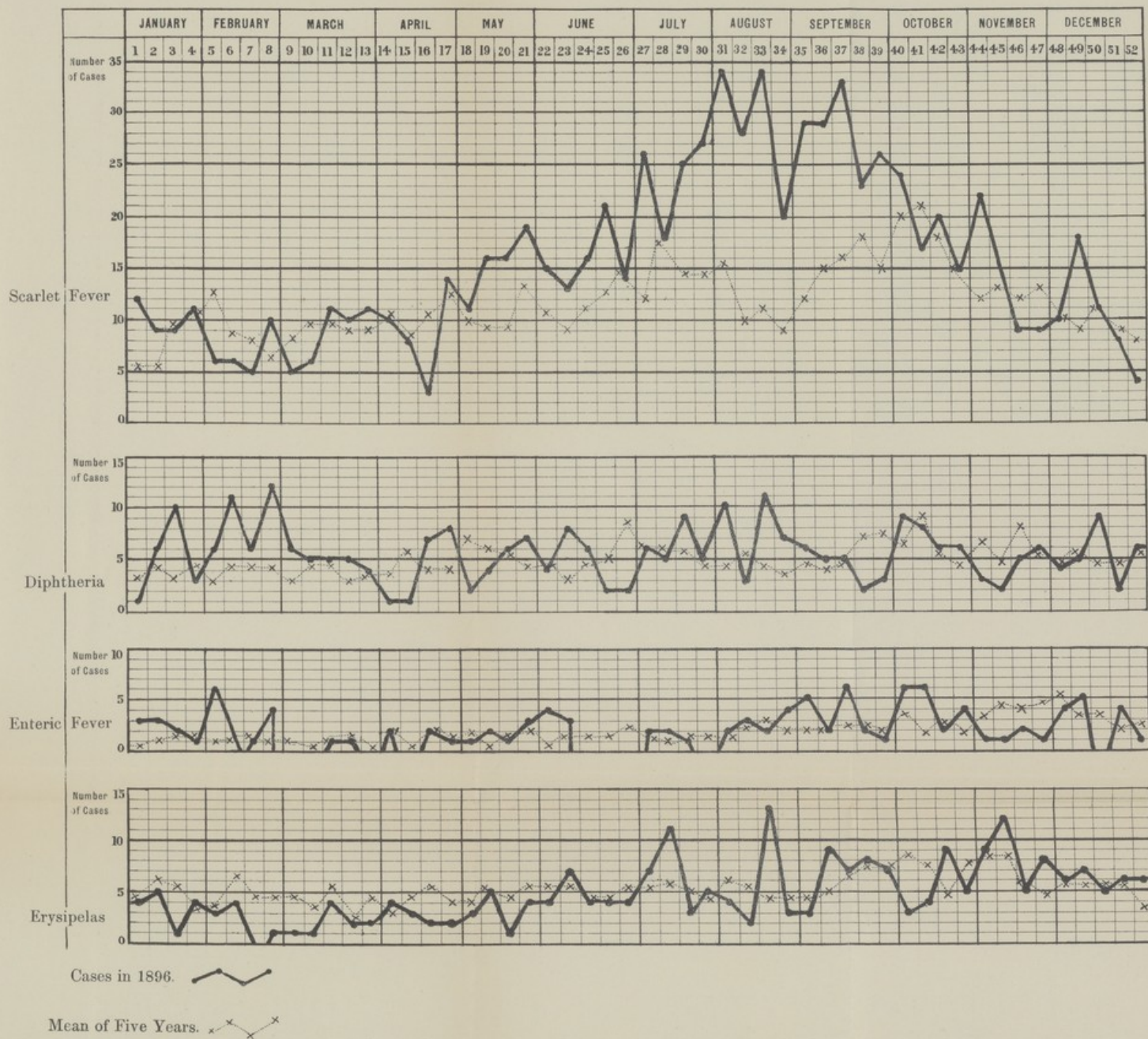
Diphtheria.

Diphtheria showed remarkable alternations. As a whole it was in excess of previous years. Medical men are still given facilities for transmitting specimens of membrane or mucus from suspected throats for bacteriological examination. Eighty-seven cases were in this way examined during 1896, and in forty-six the bacillus diphtheria was identified. In other words, in 53 per cent. the diagnosis of diphtheria was confirmed. Towards the latter part of the year the accommodation at the Asylums Board for Diphtheria also showed signs of exhaustion, and in several instances patients could not be admitted. In these cases the Board sent a letter stating that the patient could not be received, and with the letter a warrant entitling the medical attendant to receive through the Board a supply of "anti-toxin," hence, so far as the anti-toxin method of treatment was of service, most of those who remained at home were treated similarly to those who went to hospital.

Erysipelas.

Erysipelas during the first half of the year was below

CURVES SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED, WEEK BY WEEK, DURING 1896, OF SCARLET FEVER, DIPHTHERIA, ENTERIC FEVER, AND ERYSIPELAS, AS COMPARED WITH THE MEAN OF FIVE PREVIOUS YEARS (1890-95).





ENTERIC FEVER AND BRUCELLOSIS
CURVES SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CASES



Two Vans, one for the conveyance of goods, which have been superficially disinfected by fumigation, a second for conveyance of disinfected goods to the owners of the same.

One Cremator.

This is a contrast to sixteen years ago, when the disinfecting appliances consisted of a small hand-cart or truck, and a gas disinfecting apparatus. At that time the scorching of goods or actual setting them on fire was a somewhat frequent occurrence, for the gas machine required constant and unremitting attention. At that time, also, the bulk of infection was not known, because the notification of disease was not compulsory. Articles requiring to be destroyed by fire were burned in the open on the banks of the Canal, and this last practice prevailed until quite recently.

THE ST. MARYLEBONE SHELTER.

The Shelter that the writer would have liked to have seen erected, and one that he in fact recommended, was a special building in structural connection with the disinfecting chamber. Plans and estimates were indeed favourably considered for the furtherance of this scheme by both Committee and Vestry; but as it happened a change was made at the Stone Yard, and the Surveyor's official residence was given up. It was then proposed that this residence should be utilised. The result is a fair Shelter, and one that is superior in comfort to most of those in the other parts of the metropolis, although far inferior to the shelter which, had the circumstances above mentioned not happened, would have been erected.

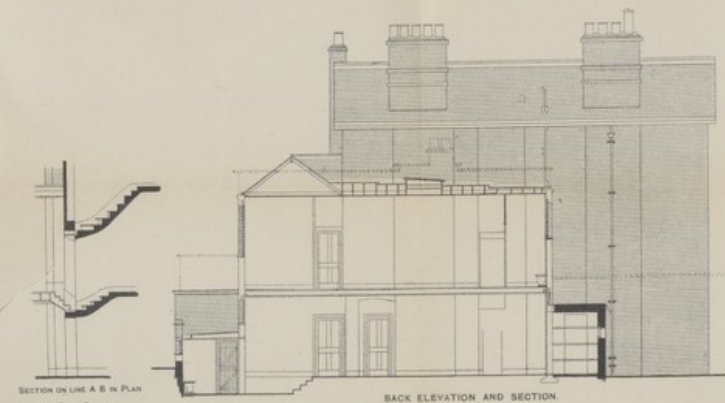
As the annexed plans and sections show, the Shelter is an ordinary residence containing seven rooms and a kitchen. It might accommodate at one time three, or even five, families for a short time. The rooms are fitted up with beds and simple furniture, there is a single bath with hot and cold water, and there are appliances for cooking. The Shelter is under the charge of Miss Kilgallin, who has performed her duties with care and fidelity.

ST. MARYLEBONE SHELTER, GROVE ROAD.



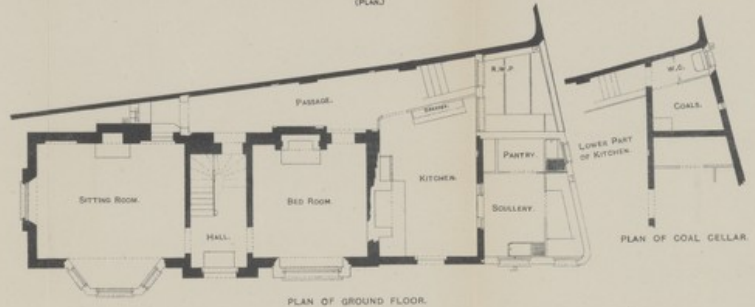
FRONT ELEVATION

ST. MARYLEBONE SHELTER, GROVE ROAD.

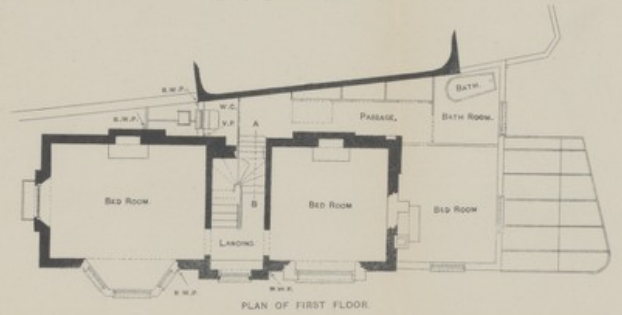


BACK ELEVATION AND SECTION

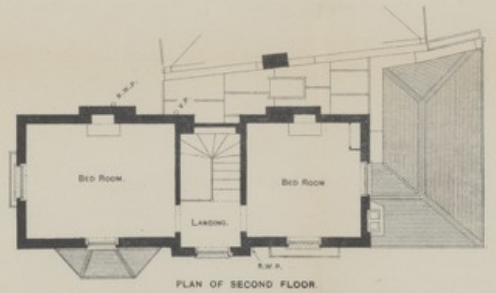
ST. MARYLEBONE SHELTER, GROVE ROAD.
(PLAN)



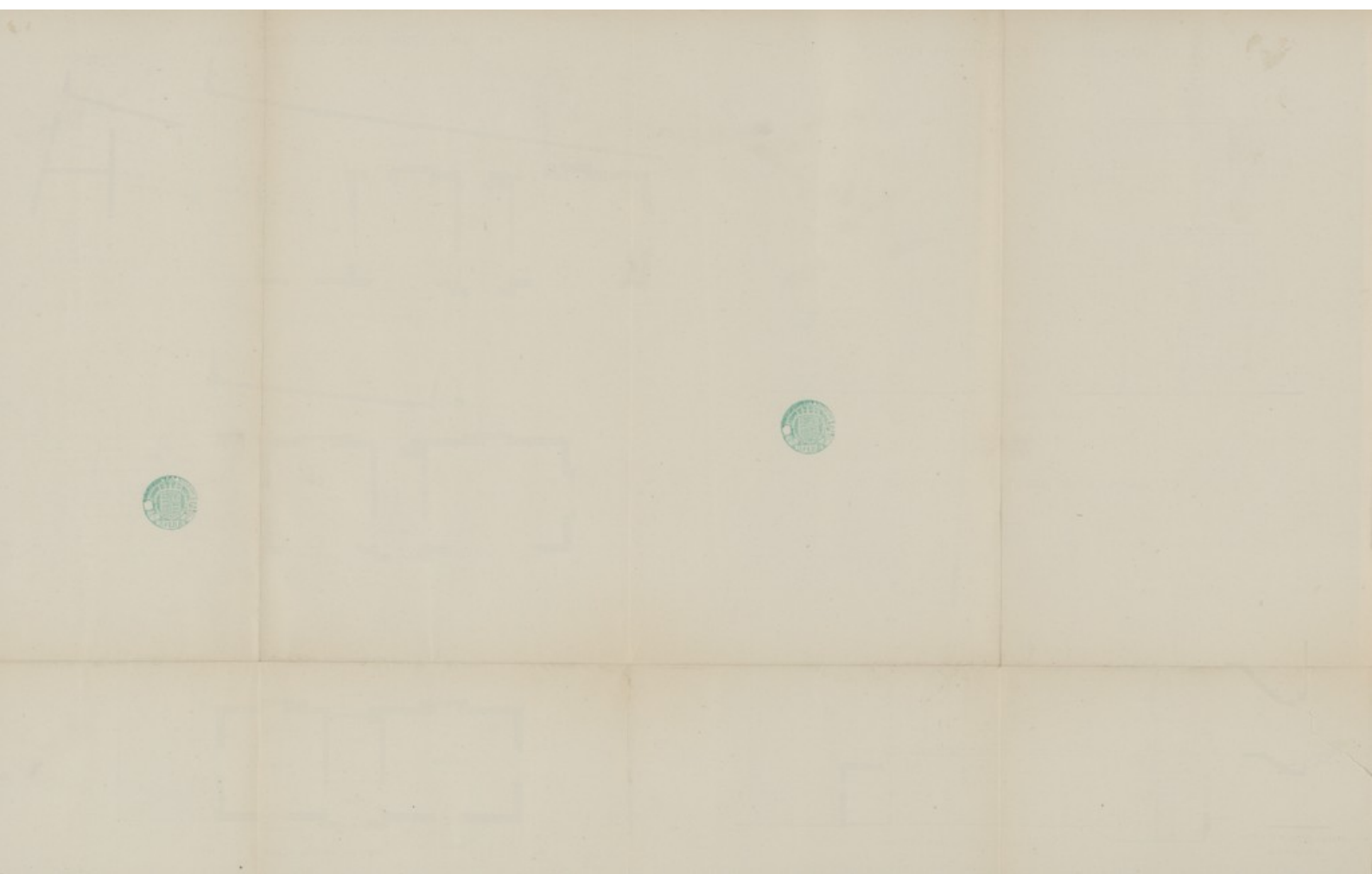
PLAN OF GROUND FLOOR



PLAN OF FIRST FLOOR



PLAN OF SECOND FLOOR



The Shelter has been used from the day of opening, February 20th, 1896, to the end of December twenty-seven times. The average period of occupation was twenty-four hours. In two cases, owing to special reasons, the occupation was for a longer period.

The following is a detailed list of the nature and time of the occupation of the Shelter during 1896 :—

PARTICULARS AS TO OCCUPATION OF THE SAINT
MARYLEBONE SHELTER DURING 1896.

Date and Length of Time.				Disease for which Disinfection Operations were necessary.	Number of Persons using Shelter.
Feb.	20.	24 hours	..	Scarlet Fever ..	2 Adults and 2 Children
"	28.	1 hour ..	..	Diphtheria ..	2 " and 2 "
March	6.	24 hours	..	" ..	2 " and 1 Child
"	24.	18 "	..	Scarlet Fever ..	5 " and 1 Child
April	21.	24 "	..	Diphtheria ..	2 " 1 "
May	5.	12 "	..	Scarlet Fever ..	2 " 1 "
"	20.	12 "	..	" ..	1 " and 2 Children
"	25.	12 "	..	Diphtheria ..	2 " and 2 Children
"	30.	24 "	..	Scarlet Fever ..	3 " 2 "
June	4.	24 "	..	" ..	3 " 2 "
"	30.	24 "	..	Diphtheria ..	3 " and 2 Children
"	30.	12 "	..	Scarlet Fever ..	2 " and 2 Children
July	27.	24 "	..	" ..	2 " and 2 Children
"	28.	2 "	..	" ..	2 " and 2 Children
"	29.	"	..	" ..	3 " and 2 Children
Aug.	14.	24 "	..	" ..	1 " and 1 Child
"	20.	24 "	..	" ..	2 " and 1 Child
Sept.	7.	24 "	..	" ..	3 " and 2 Children
"	7.	24 "	..	" ..	2 " and 2 Children
"	12.	24 "	..	" ..	2 " and 2 Children
"	26.	24 "	..	" ..	2 " and 2 Children
Oct.	14-16.	72 "	..	Diphtheria ..	1 " and 5 Children
"	17-19.	72 "	..	Scarlet Fever ..	2 " 2 "
"	22-25.	60 "	..	Typhoid ..	1 " and 1 Child
"	23.	12 "	..	Scarlet Fever ..	1 " and 1 Child
"	24.	24 "	..	" ..	2 " and 2 Children
Dec.	8-9.	48 "	..	Diphtheria ..	2 " 2 "

CLERICAL WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT.

The Clerical work of the department continues to increase, this is due to the considerable responsibilities placed upon Sanitary authorities by the Legislature, and is

also in part due to the general activity of the Metropolitan and other authorities. Scarcely a day passes without receiving a long list of questions from the Surveyor or Medical Officer of Health of some other authority, requesting information as to the Vestry's procedure in this or that matter. Occasionally there is sufficient correspondence of this nature to employ the whole time of a clerk in answering such inquiries.

The routine clerical work of the Sanitary Department consists in conducting correspondence, in entering the notifications in the register, and the complaints in the complaint book, in issuing the notices of the Vestry, recording the Minutes of the Sewers and Sanitary Committee, and of various Sub-committees, copying Reports, and a large number of other matters which defy tabulation. The Clerical Staff to carry out these duties consist only of two, viz., Mr. Curtis, senior, and Mr. Curtis, junior. The writer can testify to their efficiency, diligence, and hard work during 1896.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS.

The recent legislation on Factories and Workshops has cast upon local authorities serious responsibilities, especially in a district like St. Marylebone, in which so large a number of the working female population are engaged in the millinery trade. Up to the present time 125 workrooms are on the register. The list is each day extending, and it seems probable that this represents only a tenth of the total number. The register is a book in which the address of the employer, the dimensions of the rooms, the manner of lighting, ventilating, warming, the dimensions and cubic capacity, and the legal limit of occupation are entered.

The present 125 entries deal with a little over 2,000 employées, 1,883 of them being females engaged in either dressmaking or matters closely allied to dressmaking.

The inspection of workshops has been undertaken by Mr. Richard Phillips, and he has performed his duties with zeal and discretion. On the first inspection the majority

of workshops were found to have a greater number of workers than allowed by the Statutes, but on a representation made to the employer the numbers have been at once diminished.

Forty-seven of the workrooms out of the 125 are lit by electricity. It is to be hoped that this method of lighting workshops will be extended, for the legal limit of 250 cubic feet of air space per head is so small that it is difficult to keep the air of a gas-lit room free from being absolutely injurious by any kind of ventilation.

Deficient lavatory accommodation is a frequent and just cause of complaint. In some of the older establishments this has been found difficult to remedy, the more particularly because of an ill-advised bye-law sanctioned by the London County Council, which only permits of new water closets being erected under stringent regulations; regulations impossible to comply with in a large number of instances.

The following is a tabular statement of certain matters which can be numerically expressed. Much of the work done does not admit of tabulation :—

	1895.	1896.
Visits to Outworkers	251	476
Ascertaining by Measurement the cubic space of Workrooms, recording same in Register, and issuing cards stating maximum number of workers in each Workroom	172	193
Investigating in detail the ventilation of Workrooms	40	263
Inspection of new places of Business, and reporting on the same	26	10
Inspection of the 126 Bakehouses in the Parish	254	228
Attending to complaints of Smoke, the complaints in number being	23	26

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT.

Under the housing of the Working Classes Act the following premises were reported as being in a state unfit for habitation :—

No. 31, Nightingale Street.

Annexe to No. 1, Upper Rathbone Place.

8, Union Street, L.G.

19, Orcus Street.

The annexe to No. 1, Upper Rathbone Place was voluntarily closed by the owner.

Magistrates' Orders were obtained closing the other houses.

The owner of No. 8, Union Street, repaired the premises throughout and put them in a sanitary condition, and the house is now occupied.

No. 31, Nightingale Street, and No. 19, Orcus Street, still remain closed.

Prosecutions under the Public Health (London) Act.

Prosecutions for disobedience of Vestry Orders with regard to draining the premises were undertaken with regard to 62, Maida Vale; 13, Richmond Street, and 74, Salisbury Street.

The owners of four kitchens in Lisson Grove were summoned for permitting the kitchens to be illegally occupied. The summonses were adjourned *sine die* on the understanding that such occupation should cease.

A resident of Gloucester Place was prosecuted and fined for sending a person suffering from scarlet fever in a public conveyance.

An Order was obtained in the case of a child, convalescing from scarlet fever in a tenement house, for compulsory removal to hospital.

SANITARY WORK 1896.

At page 30 will be found a summary of the details of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors.

The complaints of insanitary condition were a little over the average, viz., 1,658 as compared with 1,633 in 1895.

No less than 13,387 inspections of all kinds were made. If the year is taken at 300 working days this is an average of about forty-five inspections a day.

A large number of letters, or intimations, asking for the abatement of nuisances, were sent out together with 310 vestry notices. In a very few instances was it necessary to enforce the law by legal process.

The Sanitary Inspectors have attended to their duties with punctuality, and have done their work in a most efficient manner.

Combined Drainage.

The subject of Combined Drainage still occupies the attention of local authorities. Without a doubt the present state of things is unsatisfactory, and the whole legislation with regard to drainage, requires amendment. A builder who puts in a drain, whether combined or otherwise, should be obliged, under stringent penalties, to deposit a correct plan for the sanction of the authority, and to carry out the proposed drains in accordance with the plan when sanctioned. Existing Combined Drains, which have not been sanctioned as such, should be considered drains or sewers, according to the merits of the particular case. The Sanitary Officers of this Parish have, at all events within the last few years, exercised a strict supervision of all works which have been discovered in progress. In a few cases Combined Drainage has been sanctioned by the Vestry, and a complete list of such cases, from 1891 up to the present time, is appended :—

COMBINED DRAINAGE.

Date.		Year.	Vol. Vestry Minutes	Page.
1891.				
26 Feb.	33 & 34, Grove Gardens (San. Min., Vol. 3, pp. 146-149)	1891	160	323
1893.				
26 Jan.	"Flying Horse," 6, Oxford Street...	1893	166	387
23 Feb.	104, Carlisle Street and 25, Richmond Street ...	"	167	87
2 Mar.	106, &c., Carlisle Street ...	"	"	115
13 "	141-3-5, Carlisle Street ...	"	"	255
13 "	25A, 26, 27, 28, 29, & 30, Chapel Street ...	"	"	"
19 Oct.	17 & 19, Avenue Road ...	"	168	442
1894.				
22 Feb.	Charles Street (L.G.) ...	1894	170	28-37
1 Mar.	227, 229, 231, Marylebone Road ...	"	"	101
12 July	18, & 18A, Little Queen Street ...	"	171	102
27 Sept.	19, Circus Road, and 44, Wellington Road ...	"	"	276
20 Dec.	Gray's Buildings (2 to 22) ...	"	172	159-176
1895.				
9 May	15, 17, & 19, Blenheim Terrace ...	1895	173	229-214
	19, Margaret Street, and Fitzroy Temperance Hall	"	"	159
30 May	81, Newman Street, and 76, Castle Street East ...	"	"	264-303
13 June	296-298, Oxford Street ...	"	"	334
4 July	35 & 36, Gosfield Street ...	"	174	15
26 Sept.	39 & 40, Paddington Street...	"	"	184
26 "	Site of 9 to 14, Stephen Street ...	"	"	"
3 Oct.	6 James Street, and 372, Oxford Street ...	"	"	218
31 "	1 to 7 Beckett's Place ...	"	"	338
7 Nov.	Site of 11 & 12, William Street, and 28A & 28B, George Street (L.G.) ...	"	"	398-400
7 "	22 to 25, Bell Street, and cottages in rear ...	"	"	377
7 "	1 to 5, Freshwater Place ...	"	"	378
14 "	156, 158, & 160, Edgware Road ...	"	"	419
21 "	1 & 2, Weston Place ...	"	"	440
28 "	9, 10, & 11, Little George Street ...	"	"	448-463
19 Dec.	7 to 14, Hardington Street ...	"	175	40-63
1896.				
9 Jan.	40 & 41, Burne Street ...	1896.	"	83
13 Feb.	3 & 5, Earl Street ...	"	"	239
20 "	149, Marylebone Road, and 1, Circus Mews ...	"	"	251
27 "	260 & 262, Oxford Street ...	"	"	277
12 Mar.	15, Baker Street, and 15, Kendall's Mews ...	"	"	327
26 "	7, 8, 9, 10, 11, Charles Street, (L.G.) ...	"	"	422
26 "	12 & 13, Park Crescent ...	"	"	440
4 June	11 & 12, Devonshire Place, (L.G.) ...	"	176	171
23 July	50, 52 & 54, Richmond Street ...	"	"	333
29 Oct.	65, Newman Street, and 15, Berners Mews ...	"	177	131
5 Nov.	38 & 39, Welbeck Street ...	"	"	154

The Mortuary.

The Marylebone Mortuary and Coroner's Court is in every respect a model building. The Report of the Mortuary Keeper (Mr. Ellis) is to be found on page 29. From this

Report it appears that over 500 bodies, either to wait burial or for the purposes of inquest, are received annually.

The Mortuary has been supplied with a patent coffin for the reception of the extremely decomposed corpses that from time to time are received. Since the patent coffin was supplied in the winter months, it has not yet been sufficiently tried to give an opinion as to its merits.

The coffin may be described as a large shell, large enough to receive another coffin within it. The coffin lid is trapped by means of a groove in the walls of the coffin, which groove may be filled with a disinfecting liquid; in short, the arrangement is very similar to an inspection chamber cover. Any gases which may be evolved pass away through a small vent tube, which can be led into the outer air.

THE LABORATORY.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

It has been laid down by the Local Government Board, that no local authority, which does not cause to be taken at least one sample per year to every 1,000 of population, carries out the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts properly. In St. Marylebone last year 602 samples were analysed, or about 4 to every 1,000 of population. Hence, it may be truly said, that the Adulteration Acts come in for a large share of attention. This is the more important for it was shown in evidence before the Committee of the House, which recently considered the whole subject of food adulteration, that the amount of adulteration in different districts showed a curious relation to the activity of the officers whose duty it was to take samples and submit them for analysis. In those districts where few samples were taken adulteration was common. On the other hand, in districts in which the Acts were methodically administered, and a large number of samples taken, adulteration was rare. This is certainly true of St. Marylebone. For years over 500 samples have been taken annually, and year by year adulteration decreases.

Milk.

The majority of these samples were of fair quality. A few had apparently either been watered down to the well-known standard, or had been diluted with "separated" milk. Nine were obviously adulterated, and the vendors were prosecuted. The adulteration of milk in the parish was therefore 4·3 per cent. of the samples taken; in the previous year (1895) it was 5·4 per cent., and it is not likely to fall lower than 4 per cent.

Spirits.

A fair number of spirits (brandy, gin, rum, and whisky) were analysed, they were all, with the exception of two samples, of legal strength and of fair quality. A notice in the bar to the effect that all spirits were diluted, rendered a prosecution uncertain, besides which the dilution was not great. A notice *per se* in the bar does not protect, unless the attention of the purchaser is called to it, or unless he knows of its existence.

Drugs.

Drugs are often somewhat below standard, but adulteration is rare.

Fourteen samples of white wax were purchased from Pharmaceutical Chemists, and one was found mixed with a large proportion of paraffin wax, the Vendor was prosecuted and fined. White wax is simply bleached beeswax, and is a substance contained in the British Pharmacopœia.

The defence raised in this case was that beeswax was not a drug, but the Magistrate over-ruled the objection.

Subsequent to this prosecution the appeal case of *Fowle v. Fowle* (75 L.T.R. 514) was heard before Grantham and Wright, L.J.J., in which it was decided that Beeswax, when sold by a grocer in the ordinary way of business, was not a drug, and whether it was a drug or no depended upon the manner of selling. From a careful perusal of the judgment it is evident that the Magistrate's decision in the Marylebone case would have been upheld. In other words,

it still continues an offence for a Pharmaceutical Chemist to sell white wax with paraffin without declaring the mixture. On the other hand, if white wax or beeswax is asked for at a general shop, or a grocer's, or an oilshop, the presumption is that the wax is not required for medicinal purposes, but for ordinary use, and if mixed with other waxes there may be no offence under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts. There may, of course, be a contravention of the Merchandise Marks Acts, a statute which it is not the duty of local authorities to put in force.

Colouring Matters of Sweets.

Of the sixteen samples of sweets, the more brilliantly coloured samples were coloured with aniline dyes. The tinctorial powers of these colouring matters are so intense that each sweet contains only a minute proportion, nevertheless, when it is remembered that at the present time so many articles of food are in this way tinted, the daily consumption of aniline colours* may easily become sufficient to produce physiological effects. Some of the aniline dyes in large doses are actively poisonous, but what effect minute doses long-continued of poisonous aniline dyes may produce is unknown; all that can be affirmed is that such are likely to produce forms of indigestion, and conduce to general nerve disturbance. Hence, in the writer's opinion, some limit should be put to the use of such colouring matters, and those that have been shown to be poisonous ought to be prohibited altogether.

The other samples taken under the Act call for no special remark, the amount of fines paid in 1896 for adulteration was trifling, viz., a little over £10.

TABLE I.—DISTRICT BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR THE
FIFTY-THREE WEEKS ENDING DECEMBER 26TH, 1896.

	Population in 1881.	Population in 1896.	Births.		Deaths.	
			Males.	Fmls.	Males.	Fmls.
All Souls	41,651	36,595	400	379	301	287
Rectory.....	24,900	19,798	274	252	221	240
St. Mary	21,122	19,637	210	213	185	180
Christ Church	33,691	32,547	462	430	423	365
St. John	33,640	32,611	418	415	345	328
Total	155,004	141,188	1,764	1,689	1,475	1,400

NOTE.—In the above the births and deaths have all been properly corrected, strangers have been eliminated, and extra-parochial deaths and others have been allotted to their proper sub-district. The population has also been corrected for presumed increase.

Vaccinations by Public and Private Practitioners in St. Marylebone during the year 1896.

VACCINATIONS.				
All Souls	..	..	..	605
Rectory	..	..	..	489
St. Mary	..	..	..	1,097
Christ Church	..	..	..	685
St. John	..	..	..	747
				<u>3,623</u>

TABLE II.—TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, *coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, in the Sanitary District of ST. MARYLEBONE, during 1896 ; classified according to DISEASES, AGES, AND LOCALITIES.*

(a)		ALL SOULS		RECTORY		ST. MARY		CHRIST CHURCH		ST. JOHN		Totals	
POPULATION AT ALL AGES.	(b) Census 1896 ...	36,595		19,798		19,637		32,547		32,611		141,183	
	(c) Registered Births ...	779		526		423		892		883		3453	
(d) Aged under 5 or over 5		Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards
NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.	1 Smallpox ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	2. Scarletina ..	27	118	14	58	22	62	76	157	82	182	221	577
	3. Diphtheria ..	17	39	16	20	20	20	40	45	24	42	117	166
	4. Membranous Croup	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	3	2
	5. Typhus ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	6. Enteric or Typhoid	1	30	..	6	1	16	..	25	..	24	2	101
	7. Continued	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	8. Relapsing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	9. Puerperal	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	10. Cholera ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	11. Erysipelas ..	3	35	2	52	4	24	5	95	4	35	18	241
NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREAT- MENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.	1. Smallpox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2. Scarletina ..	20	106	13	47	22	48	64	124	62	120	181	445
	3. Diphtheria ..	10	26	12	14	11	5	25	32	15	15	73	92
	4. Membranous Croup	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
	5. Typhus ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	6. Enteric or Typhoid	..	11	..	6	1	5	..	15	..	11	1	48
	7. Continued	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	8. Relapsing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	9. Puerperal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	10. Cholera ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	11. Erysipelas ..	..	9	..	28	..	9	1	35	2	9	3	90

TABLE III.—Giving the Causes of Deaths during the 53 Weeks ending DECEMBER 26th, 1896, at the Middlesex Hospital, Queen Charlotte's Lying-in-Hospital, Samaritan Hospital, the Workhouse, and the Marylebone Infirmary, Notting Hill, W.

	Middlesex Hospital.	Queen Charlotte's Hospital.	Samaritan Hospital.	Workhouse	St. Maryle- bone Infirmary, Notting Hill
Measles .....	...	...	...	...	3
Influenza .....	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever.....	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	3	...	...	...	2
Typhoid Fever ..	4	...	...	...	1
Diarrhœa .....	...	3	...	2	7
Erysipelas	4	...	...	...	4
Pneumonia and Pleurisy...	17	...	...	1	21
Pyæmia	5	2	...	...	4
Syphilis .....	...	...	1	...	2
Cancer.....	110	...	2	...	34
Phthisis and Tuberculosis	31	...	...	2	87
Rheumatism ...	...	...	...	1	4
Apoplexy	8	...	...	6	7
Paralysis.....	...	...	...	...	48
Bronchitis	12	...	...	9	107
Asthma	2	...	...	...	1
Peritonitis	14	1	3	...	1
Disease of Brain .....	...	1	...	1	9
„ Heart	38	...	1	10	31
„ Kidney	16	1	2	2	7
„ Liver.....	6	...	1	...	6
„ Uterus	3	...	4	...	...
„ Ovary	2	...	5	...	1
Parturition.....	...	7	...	...	...
Diabetes .....	...	...	...	...	...
Fractures and Injuries.....	20	...	...	2	13
Old Age .....	...	...	...	4	10
Low Vitality, Infants	1	2	...	6	...
Premature Birth	1	16	...	1	1
Other causes	63	9	3	3	45
Total	*360	†42	‡22	50	456

* Of the 360 deaths in the Middlesex Hospital, 267 were those of non-parishioners.

† 31 of the 42 deaths in Queen Charlotte's Hospital were those of non-parishioners.

‡ 19 of the 22 deaths in the Samaritan Hospital were those of non-parishioners.

TABLE IV.—TABLE OF DEATHS in the Sanitary District of ST. MARYLEBONE during the 53 weeks ending December 26th, 1896, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

(a)		ALL SOULS	RECTORY	ST. MARY	CHRIST CHURCH	ST. JOHN	Totals	The subjoined numbers have been taken into account in judging of the records of mortality.										
								Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto.	Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto.									
Mortality from all causes at subjoined ages.	(b) At all ages ..	588	461	365	788	673	2875	798	412									
	(c) Under 1 year	143	80	75	198	166	662	45	46									
	(d) 1 and under 5	51	45	71	162	111	440	93	21									
	(e) 5 and under 15	15	15	9	35	27	101	31	18									
	(f) 15 and under 25	21	19	12	28	31	111	52	34									
	(g) 25 and under 65	255	164	130	243	205	997	378	256									
	(h) 65 and upwards	103	138	68	122	133	564	199	37									
(i)		Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	
Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five Years of Age.	1. Smallpox .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2. Scarlatina	3	..	4	1	9	..	7	5	6	2	29	8	14	4	..	..
	3. Diphtheria	4	2	6	1	11	2	12	6	10	6	43	17	25	11	2	1	
	4. Membranous Croup	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
	FEVERS.	5. Typhus
		6. Enteric or Typhoid	2	..	2	..	1	..	4	..	8	..	17	..	6	..	2
		7. Continued	1	1
		8. Relapsing
	9. Puerperal .. ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	3	..	1	..	3	3
	10. Cholera... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	11. Erysipelas .. ..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	2	..	1	..	7	..	3	1	..
	12. Measles	12	..	18	5	25	2	76	10	37	3	168	20	20	2	1	2	
	13. Whooping Cough ..	4	..	9	1	6	..	23	..	16	..	58	1	4	..	1	..	
	14. Diarrhoea and Dysentery ..	13	2	10	..	7	3	14	1	10	3	54	9	6	4	3	1	
	15. Rheumatic Fever ..	..	4	..	3	..	3	..	5	..	4	..	19	1	7	..	..
	16. Ague .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	17. Phthisis	5	59	..	42	7	37	5	72	9	53	26	263	8	117	..	17	
	18. Bronchitis, Pneumonia, & Pleurisy	45	79	25	73	33	44	97	86	63	88	263	370	13	126	9	23	
	19. Heart Disease ..	3	47	2	54	..	33	..	51	3	50	8	235	7	51	4	30	
	20. Injuries	8	14	8	16	3	10	11	19	9	23	39	82	3	35	5	9	
	21. All other Diseases	95	184	43	135	45	82	114	166	112	154	409	721	37	293	41	257	
TOTAL		194	394	125	336	146	219	360	428	277	396	1102	1773	138	660	67	345	

TABLE V.—SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.—Samples analysed during the Year 1896.

				Genuine.	Adulterated.	Total.
DAIRY PRODUCE :						
	Milk	...	...	202	9	211
	Butter	...	...	69	—	69
	Condensed Milk	...	...	6	—	6
	Margarine	...	...	1	—	1
	Cheese	...	...	6	—	6
CONDIMENTS :						
	Mustard	...	...	25	—	25
	Vinegar	...	...	7	—	7
	Pepper	...	...	14	—	14
	Ginger	...	...	1	—	1
BEVERAGES :						
	Cocoa	...	...	5	—	5
	Coffee	...	...	32	—	32
	Tea	...	...	18	—	18
SPIRITS :						
	Brandy	...	...	19	—	19
	Gin	...	...	25	—	25
	Rum	...	...	6	—	6
	Whisky	...	...	61	2	63
SWEETMEATS :						
	Jam	...	...	7	—	7
	Sweets	...	...	16	—	16
	Marmalade	...	...	1	—	1
	Honey	...	...	6	—	6
	Syrup	...	...	1	—	1
DRUGS :						
	Antipyrine	...	...	1	—	1
	Quinine	...	...	1	—	1
	Gregory's Powder	...	...	1	—	1
	Morphine and Ipecac.	...	...	1	—	1
	Lozenges	...	...	1	—	1
	Tincture of Iron	...	...	1	—	1
	White Wax	...	...	13	1	14
FABINACEOUS FOOD :						
	Flour	...	...	3	—	3
CANNED FOODS :						
	Tinned Peas	...	...	3	1	4
	Salmon	...	...	1	—	1
MISCELLANEOUS :						
	Lard, Sauce, Lemon	...	...	
	Squash, Bitters, Ginger	...	...	
	Brandy, Port Wine	...	...	36	—	36
TOTAL ...				589	13	602

REPORT OF MORTUARY KEEPER FOR THE YEAR 1896.

Number of bodies received from January 1st, 1896, to
December 31st, 1896.

		Males	Females			Males	Females
				Brought forward		147	112
January..	..	22	15	July ..	..	26	20
February ..	..	26	13	August ..	..	22	18
March ..	..	22	20	September ..	..	20	18
April ..	..	29	20	October ..	..	26	19
May ..	..	23	19	November..	..	27	35
June ..	..	25	25	December ..	..	29	19
						297	241
		147	112	Total ..		538	

Number of Inquests from January 1st, 1896, to
December 31st, 1896.

						Brought forward	137
January ..	..	..	..	16	September ..	..	15
February ..	..	..	..	17	October ..	..	24
March ..	..	..	..	17	November ..	..	33
April ..	..	..	..	17	December ..	..	24
May ..	..	..	..	17	Bodies received for inquest, Dec. 1895		
June ..	..	..	..	20	and the inquests held Jan. 1896 ..	2	
July ..	..	..	..	20			
August ..	..	..	..	13			
						Total	235

Number of bodies to await burial only ..	..	..	301
Number of bodies for inquest ..	..	..	235
Bodies received Dec., 1896 ; inquest to be held Jan., 1897 ..	..	2	
		Total	538

Infectious cases received.

Typhoid Fever ..	..	..	..	..	1
Scarlet Fever ..	..	..	..	..	1
Diphtheria ..	..	..	..	..	24
				Total	26

REGISTER OF SANITARY WORK. 1896.

SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Total for Year.	
Number of Complaints received	297	292	260	216	1065	
Inspections { Of Dwelling Houses	403	424	412	419	1658	13387
„ Kitchens (separately occupied) ...	107	166	135	205	613	
„ Schools	34	22	22	20	98	
„ Houses registered under Public Health (London) Act, 1891 ...	264	306	299	285	1154	
„ Dairies and Cow-houses	30	29	23	32	114	
„ Bakehouses... ..	159	96	128	102	485	
„ Slaughterhouses	20	14	28	33	95	
„ Miscellaneous Inspections ...	2319	2531	1607	2713	9170	
Notices issued for Abatement of Nuisances	97	50	67	96	310	
Letters written relating to Abatement of Nuisances	326	316	232	294	1168	
Proceedings taken before Magistrates under Sanitary Acts	1	1	—	12	14	
Reports made to Medical Officer of Health	630	671	473	694	2468	
Infectious Patients removed to Hospital	152	207	344	191	894	
Rooms Disinfected after Infectious Disease	276	352	461	348	1437	
New Pipe Drains (feet)	19721	22702	16351	17632	76406	
Houses where Defects in Drainage have been Detected and Remedied	135	147	110	140	532	
Unwholesome Food—Number of Seizures made ...	3	—	1	—	4	
Food Adulteration { Samples collected for Analysis ...	149	153	147	150	599	
{ Proceedings taken before Magistrates	6	2	1	1	10	
Removal of Bodies to Mortuary	13	7	8	8	36	

Source: *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 1997, 92, 1037-1046.

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July " VI.	89	September " III.	101
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September " XIII.	108	October " II.	142
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November " VI.	145	December quarter " III.	157
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May " II.	57	June quarter " III.	72
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August " II.	100	September quarter " V.	103
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THE
SANITARY CHRONICLES
OF THE
PARISH OF ST. MARYLEBONE
DURING MARCH, 1897.

Containing a Quarterly Summary of the Mortality Statistics for
the Quarter ending March 27th, 1897, and the Quarterly
Statement of Analytical Work done under the Sale
of Food and Drugs Act, &c.

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Parish of St. Marylebone.*

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE VESTRY.

VOL. XVII. COURT HOUSE, ST. MARYLEBONE, APRIL 15th, 1897. No. 3.

The week ending March 7th was wet. On five days rain fell (0·99 inch). The minimum temperature was 34°·0; maximum, 49°·0; mean, 42°·0. The winds were W.S.W. and W.N.W. The sunshine registered in Regent's Park was equal to 20·5 per cent. Barometer, 29·5 inches.

The week ending March 13th was also somewhat wet, on four days 0·86 inch of rain falling. The minimum temperature was 32°·0; maximum, 48°·4; mean, 42°·2. Winds W.N.W. strength below the average. Sunshine registered 11·9 per cent. Barometer, 29·5 inches.

The week ending March 20th was a stormy week. On four days rain fell to the extent of 0·89 inch. Winds S.W., and above the average in strength. Minimum temperature, 37°·5; maximum, 55°·4; mean, 48°·3. Sunshine registered equal to 16·7 per cent. Mean barometer, 29·5 inches.

The week ending March 27th was generally windy, and on the last day of the week a gale prevailed. Minimum temperature, $39^{\circ}\cdot 0$; maximum, $61^{\circ}\cdot 0$; mean, $52^{\circ}\cdot 8$. Rain fell on one day only ($0\cdot 04$ inch). Winds W.S.W. Sunshine equal to 12·0 per cent. Mean barometer, 29·8 inches.

Births and Deaths.

During the four weeks ending March 27th, there were registered 233 births and 219 deaths, equal to a birth rate of 21·4; a death-rate of 20·2 per 1,000. These births and deaths are divided among the five sub-districts, as set forth in Table V.

During the 13 weeks ending March 27th there have been registered 824 births and 676 deaths. These births and deaths are divided among the five sub-districts, as set forth in Table VII. 206 were extra-parochial, as follows:—

St. Marylebone Infirmary, Notting Hill	..	..	134
Western Fever Hospital	..	..	1
North-Western Fever Hospital	..	..	7
St. Mary's Hospital	..	..	12
St. Thomas's Hospital	..	..	1
University Hospital	..	..	2
Westminster Hospital	..	..	1
St. George's Hospital	..	..	1
Children's Hospital, Paddington	..	..	4
„ „ Great Ormond Street	..	..	4
Charing Cross Hospital	..	..	1
Friedenheim	..	..	1
Hostel of God	..	..	1
Brompton Hospital	..	..	1
Royal Chest Hospital	..	..	1
Hanwell Asylum	..	..	7
Banstead Asylum	..	..	2
Leavesden Asylum	..	..	7
Colney Hatch Asylum	..	..	3
Cane Hill Asylum	..	..	1
Paddington Workhouse	..	..	1
Hospital for Women, Chelsea	..	..	1
St. Luke's Home	..	..	1
Central London Sick Asylum	..	..	1
General Lying-in Hospital	..	..	1
Prince's Gate, Kensington	..	..	1



Fulham Infirmary	..	..	..	..	1
St. Peter's Home	..	...	..	..	1
German Hospital	..	..	..	..	3
The Convent, Carlisle Place	1
River Thames, Lambeth	1
Chelsea Infirmary	1
					—
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The birth and death-rates, as deduced from the thirteen weeks' statistics, are as follows:—

All Souls, birth-rate 19·2; death-rate 15·0.

Rectory, birth-rate 23·2; death-rate 21·6.

St. Mary, birth-rate 22·8; death-rate 20·9.

Christ Church, birth-rate 25·8; death-rate 20·6.

St. John, birth-rate 25·9; death-rate 19·7.

The whole district, birth-rate 23·8; death-rate 19·1.

The average death-rates for the five corresponding quarters (1890 to 1895), were as follows:—All Souls, 17·5; Rectory, 28·7; St. Mary, 26·6; Christ Church, 31·4; St. John's Wood, 23·8; the whole district, 26·2.

The following table gives, as usual, facilities for comparing the relative mortality from certain classes of disease and proportion to 1,000 deaths from all causes. In the fourth column will also be found the average rate for the corresponding quarter for five years (1892-6):—

TABLE I.
SHOWING THE COMPARATIVE MORTALITY DURING THE 13 WEEKS
ENDING MARCH 27th, 1897, FROM CERTAIN CLASSES OF DISEASE
AND PROPORTION TO 1,000 DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES:—

	Total Deaths. — 13 weeks ending Mar. 27th, 1897.	Proportion of the deaths to 1,000 deaths from all causes. 13 weeks ending Mar. 27, 1897.	Rate per 1,000 of the population.	Mean rate per 1,000 population for corres- ponding quarter 1892-1896.
1. Deaths from the chief Zymotic Diseases	41	61	1·16	3·49
2. Pulmonary, other than Phthisis	170	251	7·11	8·61
3. Tubercular	77	114	3·23	3·07
4. Wasting Diseases of Infants ...	38	56	1·58	1·25
5. Convulsive Diseases of Infants	36	53	1·50	0·98

NOTES.

- 1, includes Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Influenza, Whooping Cough, Puerperal Fever, Erysipelas, Croup, Fever, and Diarrhœa.
- 3, includes Phthisis, Scrofula, Rickets, and Tabes.
- 4, includes Marasmus, Atrophy, Debility, Want of Breast Milk, and Premature Births.
- 5, includes Hydrocephalus, Infantile Meningitis, Convulsions, and Teething.

Underground Rooms.

The Vestry, by a large majority, adopted a Report, dated April 12th, by the writer, pointing out that a considerable number of kitchens were still "separately" occupied, notwithstanding that an intimation calling attention to their illegal occupation had been sent to the owners, and suggesting that legal proceedings should be taken to enforce the law.

This action is the final decision of the Vestry, and it necessarily follows that all dwellings in the district must henceforth be occupied strictly in accordance with the statute. On the other hand, there are valid and obvious reasons why there should be no simultaneous and wholesale change of occupancy. The emptying of habitations occupied for twenty or thirty years may well be spread over a twelvemonth.

A Case of Pork Poisoning.

On the 28th March a family in Chapel Street, consisting of father, mother, a boy aged 11, and a girl aged 5, partook about mid-day of boiled pork and fowl. The pork had been bought on the previous day (Saturday) from a butcher in the district of Paddington.

In the early hours of Monday morning the father, the boy, and the girl, were seized with choleraic symptoms, and at 2.30 on Monday afternoon the mother became similarly affected, but in a lesser degree. Dr. Dodds, at 11 a.m. of that day, found the boy and the girl with high temperature, the father with choleraic symptoms, cramp, numbness of the feet and hands, and smarting of the eyes. The father, the mother, and the boy got better by about Tuesday, but the girl by Wednesday morning was almost pulseless, with cold extremities, and very nearly died. She, however, revived, and ultimately recovered.

Mr. Gorniot, the Sanitary Inspector, brought the pork to the writer on the Wednesday, that is four days after it was bought, three days after it had been boiled. At that

date its appearance and odour was perfectly normal, but on passing it through a small sausage machine the finely divided fibre had a distinct stale smell. The pork was analysed by Gautier's process, and ultimately a crystalline substance not in normal pork was separated. This substance was alkaline in reaction, it gave fine crystals when united with hydrochloric acid, and gave precipitates with the ordinary alkaloidal reagents (save the chlorides of gold or platinum). So small a quantity was, however, obtained, that it was not practicable to examine it farther or to determine whether the substance was really a poisonous "ptomaine," although this is naturally the inference. It may be suggested that the ptomaine was in quantity in the meat on Sunday, and what the writer found was a small residue which had escaped destruction in the process of putrefaction.

The main object, however, of calling attention to this case of food poisoning is in the hope that anyone who may have bought pork on March 27th, and have suffered from illness within 24 hours, may communicate the particulars to the writer, for it is improbable that one leg of pork should be so poisonous, the other parts are almost certain to have been affected, and may have produced a similar illness in other persons.

The Disinfecting Properties of Formic Aldehyde.

Formic Aldehyde, a gas of extremely irritating properties, was discovered by Von. Hoffman, in 1868. It is easily made by passing the vapour of methyl alcohol over platinised asbestos. The gas is soluble in water, and in solution is an article of commerce under the name of "Formol," "Formalin," and other names. A large number of researches on the antiseptic and disinfecting properties of the gas have been made during the last few years, as may be seen by the annexed list of publications which have been consulted in the writing of this article. The antiseptic powers of Formic Aldehyde are extraordinary: as little as 1 to 10,000 preserves milk, soup and other similar substances for a considerable period. Facts of this kind

naturally suggested that Formic Aldehyde might have true disinfecting properties. Nicolle has exposed little squares of cloth, infected with typhoid, diphtheria, tubercle and other matters, to the gas and found that it always destroyed the infection. J. J. Kinyoun and Geddings have made some elaborate researches ; they found that when various disease producing bacteria were exposed to the gas they were killed in a very short space of time ; but if the infective matters were covered over with layers of material, then the results were inconstant. With regard to damage to goods, they found that brasswork, nickel, zinc, copper, and gilt things generally, were not in any way injured ; on the other hand iron and steel were attacked. They experimented on 225 samples of wool, silk, cotton, linen, leather, and hair, and found that the Aldehyde gas produced no change in texture, nor did it, as a rule, affect colours ; two shades of violet and a light red alone were bleached.

Trillat and Roux have made a number of experiments in the disinfection of rooms, and their results have been uniformly successful.

Since Formic Aldehyde in solution in water is in commerce, it might be thought that the solution could be used as an aerial disinfectant by simply putting saucers or large photographic dishes about a room filled with "Formalin," or that the Formic Aldehyde could be boiled out of a solution ; this has not been found practicable, the reason being that Formic Aldehyde possesses a curious property of changing into a white solid, in chemical language polymerisation takes place, CHOH being changed into $\text{C}_3\text{H}_3\text{O}_3\text{H}_3$. This solid substance possesses disinfectant properties, but to a feebler degree.

It was, however, discovered by Roux and Baudet, that when the gas was dissolved in a solution of calcium chloride and heated under pressure, practically dry Formic Aldehyde was evolved, which did not polymerise, and therefore all that was required for the utilization of the disinfecting powers of the gas was a suitable apparatus to heat a chloride of calcium solution under pressure.

There thus exists a considerable quantity of evidence that formic aldehyde in the form of gas, and also in solution, is a powerful disinfectant, and the writer thought it his duty to investigate the matter personally, the more especially with a view of ascertaining whether the St. Marylebone system could be improved upon.

In St. Marylebone the system of disinfection is as follows :—After a case of infectious disease, the Sanitary Inspector goes to the room with one or more cylinders of liquefied sulphur dioxide, which may be conveniently called “sulphur gas” (it is in fact the same gas as is evolved by the old-fashioned brimstone match, or by the burning of sulphur) the room is now made so far as possible a closed cavity by plugging the chimney and pasting all cracks over with paper. When all is ready a little soft lead tube at the end of the cylinder is cut ; the gas rushes out with great violence, and the Inspector beats a retreat and finally seals up with paper the cracks in the door, and stops up the keyhole. The room is left closed up many hours, usually over night. The door is then opened, and as soon as sufficient of the gas has diffused to render it possible for the room to be entered, the windows are thrown open and the chimney unstopped. Next after aeration of the room, all things that can be taken to the disinfecting chamber are so taken, and submitted to high pressure steam and also intermittent currents of hot air. The room in the meantime receives the ordinary domestic cleansing.

In many districts, in addition to these measures, the local authority insists upon the walls being stripped, and the whole papered or limewashed. In this district no order of the kind is given unless the walls, etc., appear to require it. Trust is not put in fumigation solely, but disinfection is performed by (1) sulphuring ; (2) steaming all things that can be steamed ; and (3) the ordinary cleansing. So far as experience goes, such a disinfection has in practice been considered thorough, and efficient. It has, however, its limits ; expensive furs, expensive silks, leather goods, and paintings, and delicate

works of art of great value, are all articles difficult to treat without injuring materially their value.

The strong assertions that have been made relating to the harmlessness of formic aldehyde, seemed to show that it might supplement or replace our sulphur process, and be an especially valuable agent in those cases where, from the intrinsic value or the delicate nature of the articles, it was only possible to fumigate.

On Monday, the 12th April, the two top rooms of the Shelter at the stone yard were prepared. Both rooms are similar in construction, both having two windows, and both having a fireplace in the same relative position.*

In each of these rooms were placed, on little bits of linen, four cultures of diphtheria in gelatin, four of the typhoid bacillus, four of the tubercle bacillus, and four of anthrax. To judge of the damage to colours, if any, unglazed paper was stained in the laboratory with aniline dyes of known composition, viz., Orange 2 R., Rhodamine, Mauve 5 B extra, and also some paper was stained with Indigo-carmin, giving a light green tint.

The agent of the only autoclave for the production of formic aldehyde at present in the market, attended and evolved the gas in one of the rooms.

The apparatus for the evolution of formic aldehyde consists of an autoclave, which will stand a high pressure; it is provided with a pressure gauge and a thermometer. The chloride of calcium, saturated with the gas, is poured in a silvered receiver, and a Swedish petroleum lamp is placed underneath and lit. When the pressure gauge shows a pressure of 40 lbs., then the gas is turned on and escapes through a very fine copper tube.

The apparatus is usually placed outside the chamber to be disinfected, and the copper tube is thrust through the keyhole. It took pretty well an hour for the pressure to get up to 40 lbs., and then the valve was turned on and the

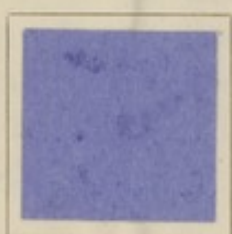
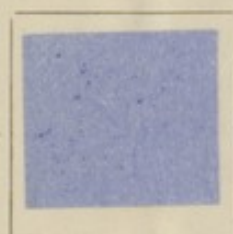
*The Sulphured room has a cube of ^{1073.4}~~1,315.0~~ feet, the room tested with Aldehyde, ^{1073.4}~~1,315.0~~ cubic feet.

ACTUAL SAMPLES OF PAPERS AND SILKS USED
IN THE EXPERIMENTS ON DISINFECTION.

Control
16 hours.

Sulphur Gas
16 hours.

Aldehyde
16 hours.



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gas streamed in for another hour; twenty minutes is said in ordinary cases to be enough. The other room was fumigated with sulphur in the usual way, two cylinders being used. The following morning, nineteen hours after the disinfection, the rooms were opened, and the little infected pieces of linen sent to Professor Macfadyen, of the British Institute of Preventive Medicine, Great Russell Street, to be cultivated. The formic aldehyde room smelled strongly of the gas and made the eyes smart, but the air was not irrespirable, and it was possible to go in and open the windows; not so the sulphur room. The air there could not be breathed for twenty seconds. Three times within as many quarters of an hour did Mr. Kilgallin and the writer attempt to rush in and open the windows, and each time had to retire gasping and choking. Not until more than an hour had elapsed could the windows be opened.

So far as the strictly comparative experiment goes, there was no difference of effect on the pieces of silk, or on the aniline dyed papers.

In both cases the silks showed a trivial bleaching not readily appreciated, save a large piece of the silk is examined side by side with the control at a particular angle to the light, while there was no appreciable difference between the control and the dyed papers.

Professor Macfadyen reports as follows as to the results of the respective gases on the disease-producing colonies :—

Results of cultivation after 48 hours' incubation at blood heat :—

	SULPHUR GAS	FORMIC ALDEHYDE GAS.
I. Diphtheria Bacillus..	No growth	No growth.
II. Typhoid Bacillus....	Good growth.....	No growth
III. Anthrax Bacillus.....	Good growth.....	No growth.

The results of the experiments with tubercle could not be ascertained, because the culture used was found to be contaminated with other growths.

The results of the experiment, combined with the evidence of other observers, lead to the conclusion that as a disinfecting gas, formic aldehyde is far superior to sulphur gas, and wherever circumstances compel the resort to fumigation only, aldehyde, and not sulphur gas, must be used.

On the other hand, the experiments have in no way shaken my faith that in ordinary cases of scarlet fever, typhoid, and so forth, the usual combined system of (1) fumigation, (2,) steam disinfection, and (3,) cleansing is practically quite sufficient, although it may be shown that any one of the three operations alone may have defects.

At the present time the fumigation with aldehyde is a troublesome and time-consuming process. The apparatus itself weighs over 40 lbs., it will have to be conveyed in a hand-cart to and fro. The Sanitary Inspector will charge the apparatus, set the lamp alight, and then seal up the room ; he will then have to wait and watch the thermometer and pressure gauge for probably half-an-hour or three-quarters of an hour until the proper time for turning the valve. The gas must stream through the fine tube for from half-an-hour to two hours, according to the size of the room, and during all this time it would not be wise for the Inspector to leave the apparatus ; the more especially since it has no safety valve, which the writer considers a great defect.

It is hoped that since formic aldehyde gas will most certainly be extensively used in this country, that it may be compressed like oxygen, hydrogen, sulphur dioxide and other gases and sold in cylinders, and so obviate the necessity for using an autoclave.

To summarise:—

1. Formic aldehyde gas is a valuable and true disinfectant, and exercises no appreciable destructive action on fabrics or colours.
2. It is superior to sulphur gas.
3. It should be used in preference to sulphur gas in certain cases, especially where fumigation alone has to be trusted to.
4. The writer advises that the Vestry purchase the necessary appliances for formic aldehyde disinfection.

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THE LABORATORY.

Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

The samples that have been analysed under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act are set out in detail in Table X, page 44.

In only two cases was it found necessary to institute prosecutions; both these cases was for adulterating milk.

David Hughes, of 17, William Street, Lisson Grove, was summoned for selling milk to which at least 21 per cent. of water had been added.

A servant of Mr. Hughes admitted adding water to the milk to make up for some that was spilled, therefore the magistrate did not consider the employer to blame, and dismissed the summons.

John Madagin, of 40, Lisson Street, was fined £1 and costs for selling milk diluted with at least 7 per cent. of water.

Water.

The usual analyses of water are to be found in Table XII.

Gas.

The usual determinations of the lighting power, pressure, and purity of the gas are tabulated in Table XIII, page 45.



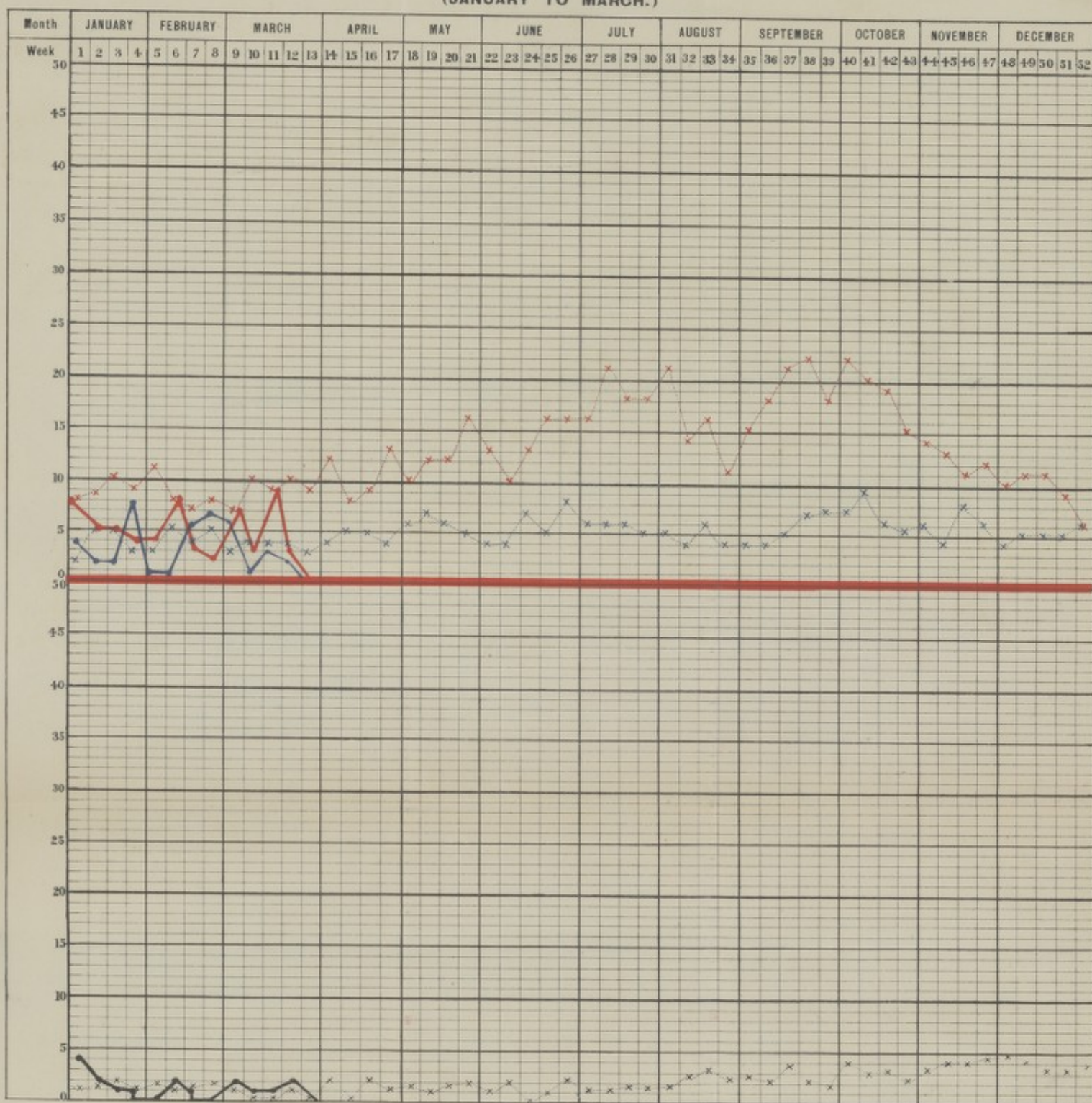
TABLE II.—TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, *coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, in the Sanitary District of ST. MARYLEBONE, during March, 1897, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, AND LOCALITIES.*

(a)		ALL SOULS		RECTORY		ST. MARY		CHRIST CHURCH		ST. JOHN		Totals	
POPULATION AT ALL AGES.	(b) Census 1896 ..	36,595		19,798		19,637		32,547		32,611		141,188	
	(c) Registered Births ..	56		34		31		63		49		233	
(d) Aged under 5 or over 5		Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards
NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.	1. Smallpox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2. Scarlatina ..	2	4	..	..	2	3	..	3	..	6	4	16
	3. Diphtheria ..	1	..	..	3	..	1	..	1	3	2	4	7
	4. Membranous Croup.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
	5. Typhus ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	6. Enteric or Typhoid ..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	3	1	5
	7. Continued ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	8. Relapsing ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	9. Puerperal ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	10. Cholera.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	11. Erysipelas ..	..	..	1	4	1	3	..	10	..	3	2	20
NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREAT- MENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.	1. Smallpox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2. Scarlatina ..	1	3	..	..	2	2	..	1	..	1	3	7
	3. Diphtheria ..	1	..	..	3	..	..	..	1	2	2	3	6
	4. Membranous Croup.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	5. Typhus ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	6. Enteric or Typhoid ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	2
	7. Continued ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	8. Relapsing ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	9. Puerperal ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	10. Cholera ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	11. Erysipelas ..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	6	..	1	..	9

TABLE III.—TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, in the Sanitary District of ST. MARYLEBONE, during the Quarter ending March, 31st 1897; classified according to DISEASES, AGES, AND LOCALITIES.

(a)		ALL SOULS		RECTORY		ST. MARY		CHRIST CHURCH		ST. JOHN		Totals	
POPULATION AT ALL AGES.	(b) Census 1891 ..	37,701		20,019		19,238		33,323		32,100		142,381	
	(c) Registered Births ..	176		115		112		210		211		824	
(d)	Aged under 5 or over 5	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards
NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.	1. Smallpox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2. Scarlatina ..	7	10	1	3	3	11	4	9	6	10	21	43
	3. Diphtheria ..	4	6	1	4	2	3	3	8	4	6	14	27
	4. Membranous Croup..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
	5. Typhus ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	6. Enteric or Typhoid	..	5	..	2	..	1	..	3	1	5	1	16
	7. Continued	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	8. Relapsing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	9. Puerperal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
	10. Cholera..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	11. Erysipelas ..	..	3	1	12	1	7	3	32	..	9	5	63
NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREAT- MENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.	1. Smallpox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2. Scarlatina ..	6	7	1	1	5	7	3	7	6	3	21	25
	3. Diphtheria ..	4	2	1	4	..	1	2	6	2	3	9	16
	4. Membranous Croup..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	5. Typhus ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	6. Enteric or Typhoid	..	3	..	..	..	2	..	3	1	2	1	10
	7. Continued	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	8. Relapsing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	9. Puerperal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	10. Cholera ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	11. Erysipelas ..	..	1	..	6	..	2	..	14	..	3	..	26

CURVE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED, WEEK BY WEEK, OF SCARLET FEVER, DIPHTHERIA, AND
TYPHOID FEVER, DURING 1897.
(JANUARY TO MARCH.)



Notes:

- x — = Scarlet Fever
- • — = Diphtheria
- • — = Typhoid Fever

x x x x x

Average of Scarlet Fever cases for the 5 Years ending 1896.

x x x x x

" " Diphtheria

"

"

"

"

x x x x x

" " Typhoid Fever

"

"

"

"



TABLE III.—Giving the Causes of Deaths during the 13 Weeks ending March 27th, 1897, at the Middlesex Hospital, Queen Charlotte's Lying-in-Hospital, Samaritan Hospital, the Workhouse, and the Marylebone Infirmary, Notting Hill, W.

	Middlesex Hospital.	Queen Charlotte's Hospital.	Samaritan Hospital.	Workhouse.	Notting Hill Infirmary.
Influenza .....	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever.....	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria	3	..	..	..	..
Typhoid Fever	3	..	..	..	..
Diarrhœa	1	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas .....	..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia and Pleurisy ..	5	..	..	..	17
Pyæmia	2	..	..	..	..
Syphilis.....	..	..	..	..	2
Cancer	26	..	..	..	10
Phthisis and Tuberculosis	14	..	..	..	25
Rheumatism .....	..	..	..	..	3
Apoplexy	2	..	..	1	1
Paralysis .....	..	..	..	..	16
Bronchitis.....	5	..	..	4	27
Asthma .....	..	..	..	1	..
Peritonitis	8	..	..	..	1
Disease of Brain	1	..	..	..	..
„ Heart	13	..	..	1	8
„ Kidney	3	..	..	..	..
„ Liver	3	..	..	..	1
„ Uterus .....	..	..	1	..	..
„ Ovary	1	..	2	..	..
Parturition .....	..	..	..	..	..
Diabetes .....	..	..	..	..	..
Fractures and Injuries ..	6	..	..	1	3
Old Age .....	..	..	..	1	11
Low Vitality, Infants ....	..	..	..	2	..
Premature Birth .....	..	5	..	..	..
Other causes.....	14	5	3	3	10
Total.....	*110	†10	‡6	14	134

* Of the 110 deaths in the Middlesex Hospital, 89 were those of non-parishioners.

† The 10 deaths in Queen Charlotte's Hospital were infants, 9 were children of non-parishioners.

‡ 5 of the 6 deaths in the Samaritan Hospital were those of non-parishioners.

TABLE V.—DISTRICT BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR THE
FOUR WEEKS ENDING MARCH 27TH, 1897.

	Population in 1891.	Population in 1896.	Births.		Deaths.	
			Males.	Fmls.	Males.	Fmls.
All Souls.....	37,713	36,595	36	20	34	19
Rectory	20,024	19,798	18	16	16	16
St. Mary	19,239	19,637	20	11	16	19
Christ Church	33,327	32,547	35	28	32	24
St. John	32,101	32,611	23	26	16	27
Total.....	142,404	141,188	132	101	114	105

NOTE.—In the above the births and deaths have all been properly corrected, strangers have been eliminated, and extra-parochial deaths and others have been allotted to their proper sub-district.

TABLE VI.—VACCINATIONS DURING
MARCH, 1897.

Deaths under one year.	Primary Vaccinations.			Re- Vaccinations by Public Vaccinator.
	Public Vaccinator.	Private Practitioners.	Total.	
46	626	241	867	..

TABLE VII.—DISTRICT BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR THE
THIRTEEN WEEKS ENDING MARCH 27TH, 1897.

	Population in 1891.	Population in 1896.	Births.		Deaths.	
			Males.	Fmls.	Males.	Fmls.
All Souls	37,713	36,595	84	92	72	65
Rectory	20,024	19,798	60	55	46	61
St. Mary	19,239	19,637	65	47	45	58
Christ Church	33,327	32,547	103	107	99	69
St. John	32,101	32,611	120	91	77	84
Total	142,404	141,188	432	392	339	337

NOTE.—In the above the births and deaths have all been properly corrected, strangers have been eliminated, and extra-parochial deaths and others have been allotted to their proper sub-district.

TABLE VIII.—VACCINATIONS DURING
MARCH QUARTER, 1897.

Deaths under one year.	Primary Vaccinations.			Re- Vaccinations by Public Vaccinator.
	Public Vaccinator.	Private Practitioners.	Total.	
131	1048	394	1442	..

TABLE IX.—TABLE OF DEATHS in the Sanitary District of ST. MARYLEBONE during the 4 weeks ending March 27th, 1897, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

														The subjoined numbers have been taken into account in judging of the records of mortality.			
(a)		ALL SOULS		RECTORY		ST. MARY		CHRIST CHURCH		ST. JOHN		Totals		Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto.		Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto.	
Mortality from all causes at subjoined ages.	(b) At all ages	53		32		35		56		43		219		79		37	
	(c) Under 1 year	14		4		5		10		13		46		4		8	
	(d) 1 and under 5	1		1		3		4		4		13		4		2	
	(e) 5 and under 15	2		1		1		2		1		7		3		..	
	(f) 15 and under 25	4		3		2		4		2		15		7		3	
	(g) 25 and under 65	22		10		13		19		11		75		39		18	
	(h) 65 and upwards ..	10		13		11		17		12		63		22		6	
(i)		Under 5 5 upwards		Under 5 5 upwards		Under 5 5 upwards		Under 5 5 upwards		Under 5 5 upwards		Under 5 5 upwards		Under 5 5 upwards		Under 5 5 upwards	
Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five Years of Age.																	
FEVERS.	1. Small Pox
	2. Scarletina
	3. Diphtheria	1	1	2	..	1
	4. Membranous Croup	1	1	..	2
	5. Typhus
	6. Enteric or Typhoid	1	1	..	2	..	2	..	1	..
	7. Continued
	8. Relapsing
	9. Puerperal
	10. Cholera
11. Erysipelas .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12. Measles .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13. Whooping Cough .. ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	3	..	..	..	..	..
14. Diarrhoea and Dysentery .. ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
15. Rheumatic Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	3	..	3	..	..
16. Ague .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17. Phthisis	1	9	..	2	..	2	..	2	..	3	1	18	..	11	2	2	
18. Bronchitis, Pneumonia & Pleurisy	6	4	..	6	1	3	7	14	6	7	20	34	5	16	..	1	
19. Heart Disease .. ..	..	5	1	5	..	4	..	5	..	1	1	20	..	5	..	5
20. Injuries .. ..	..	5	..	..	..	1	1	2	2	..	3	8	..	2	..	..
21. All other Diseases	8	14	3	13	5	17	6	15	6	14	28	73	3	31	8	18	
TOTAL		15	38	5	27	8	27	14	42	17	26	59	160	8	71	10	27

TABLE X.—TABLE OF DEATHS in the Sanitary District of ST. MARYLEBONE during the 13 weeks ending March 27th, 1897, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

								The subjoined numbers have been taken into account in judging of the records of mortality.									
(a)		ALL SOULS	RECTORY	ST. MARY	CHRIST CHURCH	ST. JOHN	Totals	Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto.				Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto.					
Mortality from all causes at subjoined ages.	(b) At all ages ..	137	107	103	168	161	676	206				120					
	(c) Under 1 year	29	14	15	34	39	131	8				15					
	(d) 1 and under 5	7	3	7	15	14	46	10				7					
	(e) 5 and under 15	3	5	2	2	3	15	5				7					
	(f) 15 and under 25	7	5	5	8	8	33	12				6					
	(g) 25 and under 65	59	46	38	70	53	266	107				69					
	(h) 65 and upwards	32	34	36	39	44	185	64				16					
(i)		Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards
Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five Years of Age.	1. Smallpox .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2. Scarletina .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3. Diphtheria	3	..	1	1	1	..	1	2	1	6	4	2	3	1	..	..
	4. Membranous Croup .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
	5. Typhus .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		6. Enteric or Typhoid .. ..	..	3	1	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	7	..	5	..	2
		7. Continued .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		8. Relapsing .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	9. Puerperal .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	10. Cholera .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	11. Erysipelas .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
	12. Measles .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	13. Whooping Cough	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	5	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..
	14. Diarrhoea and Dysentery .. ..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	1	..	..
	15. Rheumatic Fever .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	4	..	3	..	1	..
	16. Ague .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	17. Phthisis	1	24	1	5	1	14	1	13	1	16	5	72	..	27	3	4
	18. Bronchitis, Pneumonia, & Pleurisy	10	21	4	23	2	11	24	33	16	26	56	114	9	36	..	9
	19. Heart Disease .. ..	..	9	1	13	..	12	..	10	..	14	1	58	..	9	1	12
	20. Injuries	2	6	..	1	..	2	3	6	3	1	8	16	..	5	1	8
	21. All other Diseases	18	38	10	43	16	41	21	51	25	48	90	221	7	100	15	62
TOTAL		36	101	17	90	22	81	49	119	53	108	177	499	18	188	22	98

TABLE XI.—SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.—Samples analysed during the Quarter ending 31st March, 1897.

				Genuine.	Adulterated.	Total.
DAIRY PRODUCE :						
Milk	..	..	..	64	2	66
Butter	..	..	..	12	..	12
Condensed Milk	..	..	..	3	..	3
Margarine	..	..	..	1	..	1
CONDIMENTS :						
Mustard	..	..	..	11	..	11
Pepper	..	..	..	8	..	8
SPIRITS :						
Gin	..	..	..	6	..	6
Whisky	..	..	..	7	..	7
Brandy	..	..	..	4	..	4
Rum	..	..	..	2	..	2
BEVERAGES :						
Tea	..	..	..	5	..	5
Coffee	..	..	..	6	..	6
DRUGS :						
Anti-pyrine	..	..	..	2	..	2
Tincture of Ginger	..	..	..	1	..	1
MISCELLANEOUS :						
Honey	..	..	..	1	..	1
Syrup	..	..	..	1	..	1
Jam	..	..	..	1	..	1
Lard	..	..	..	4	..	4
Sugar	..	..	..	2	..	2
Sweets	..	..	..	4	..	4
Sloe Gin	..	..	..	1	..	1
Tinned Goods	..	..	..	2	..	2
Vinegar	..	..	..	1	..	1
Port Wine	..	..	..	3	..	3
Flour	..	..	..	1	..	1
TOTAL ..				153	2	155

TABLE XII.—Report of Analyses of Water supplied to the Parish during First Quarter, 1897.

All results are expressed in GRAINS PER GALLON.

Description of Sample.	Appearance in Two-foot Tube.	Smell when heated to 100° Fahr.	Chlorine.	Phosphoric Acid.	Nitrogen as Nitrates.	Ammonia.	Albuminoid Ammonia.	Oxygen, absorbed in		Hardness, Clark's scale, in degrees.		Total solid matter dried at 220° Fahr.
								15 minutes at ordin. tem.	1 hour at 212° Fahr.	Before boiling.	After boiling.	
<i>January.</i>												
West Middlesex Water	Clear, & pale yellow.	...	1.2	S. Trace	.1791	.0007	.0042	.0210	.1862	19.1	5.0	21.8
Grand Junction Water	"	...	1.3	"	.1642	.0008	.0033	.0341	.1982	20.1	5.6	21.6
<i>February.</i>												
West Middlesex Water	"	...	1.22	"	.1459	.0007	.0056	.0399	.1421	14.7	3.6	21.2
Grand Junction Water	"	...	1.3	"	.1418	.0004	.0041	.0411	.1522	14.8	3.9	22.0
<i>March.</i>												
West Middlesex Water	"	...	1.25	"	.1521	.0010	.0051	.0171	.1521	15.2	4.1	20.6
Grand Junction Water	"	...	1.2	"	.1651	.0006	.0044	.0160	.1622	16.1	4.2	21.1

TABLE XIII.—ILLUMINATING POWER, PRESSURE, and QUALITY of the COAL Gas consumed in the Parish during First Quarter, 1897.

For the Quarter ending	Illuminating Power in Sperm Candles.			Mean Pressure in tenths of an inch.		Mean Quantity of Sulphur in 100 cubic feet.	Mean Quantity of Ammonia in 100 cubic feet.	Sulphur- etted Hydrogen.
	*Mean of observations.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Grains.	Grains.	
31st Mar., 1897.								
COMMON GAS—								
January	16.3	16.0	16.7	33.9	15.6	12.5	.00	None.
February	16.4	16.1	16.6	34.6	16.1	11.10	.04	"
March.....	16.2	16.3	16.1	34.8	15.8	12.1	.01	"

REGISTER OF SANITARY WORK, MONTH ENDING 31ST MARCH, 1897.

SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

				Mr. T. Hodges, No. 1 District.	Mr. A. Perry, No. 2 District.	Mr. T. Gorniot, No. 3 District.	Mr. D. J. Andrews, No. 4 District.	Mr. W. Yeo, No. 5 District.	Mr. R. Phillips, Special Duties.	Total.
Number of Complaints received				18	9	39	23	19	1	109
Inspections	{	Of Dwelling Houses		45	47	50	56	44	86	328
		„ Kitchens (separately occupied) ...		12	1	15	50	10	—	88
		„ Schools		—	3	—	1	—	—	4
		„ Houses registered under Public Health (London) Act, 1891 ...		30	—	28	25	27	—	110
		„ Dairies and Cow-houses		2	1	1	1	3	—	8
		„ Bakehouses... ..		1	2	—	1	—	20	24
		„ Slaughterhouses		3	3	—	1	—	—	7
		„ Miscellaneous Inspections ...		145	196	230	130	177	384	1262
Notices issued for Abatement of Nuisances				1	2	9	1	3	—	16
Letters written relating to Abatement of Nuisances				11	10	18	15	11	4	69
Proceedings taken before Magistrates under Sanitary Acts				—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reports made to Medical Officer of Health				25	35	50	26	39	56	231
Infectious Patients removed to Hospital				8	—	4	9	5	—	26
Rooms Disinfected after Infectious Disease				10	3	6	11	15	—	45
New Pipe Drains (feet)				890	936	836	658	1748	—	5068
Houses where Defects in Drainage have been Detected and Remedied				4	6	5	9	7	2	33
Unwholesome Food—Number of Seizures made ...				0	—	—	*1	—	—	1
Food Adulteration	{	Samples collected for Analysis ...		20	15	18	7	24	—	84
		Proceedings taken before Magistrates		—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Removal of Bodies to Mortuary				—	—	—	—	—	—	—

*11 Barrels of Rotten Apples.

REGISTER OF SANITARY WORK,
 QUARTER ENDING 31ST MARCH, 1897.
 SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

	Mr. T. Hodges, No. 1 District.	Mr. A. Perry, No. 2 District.	Mr. T. Gorniot, No. 3 District.	Mr. D. J. Andrews, No. 4 District.	Mr. W. Yeo, No. 5 District.	Mr. R. Phillips, Special Duties.	Total
Number of Complaints received	42	33	80	51	63	7	276
Inspections { Of Dwelling Houses	114	111	120	126	87	255	813
„ Kitchens (separately occupied) ..	39	7	36	85	22	—	189
„ Schools	1	9	1	3	3	—	17
„ Houses registered under Public Health (London) Act, 1891 ...	84	—	62	96	95	—	337
„ Dairies and Cow-houses	7	3	1	3	10	—	24
„ Bakehouses	3	4	—	2	—	89	98
„ Slaughterhouses	8	8	—	3	1	—	20
„ Miscellaneous Inspections ...	425	488	530	410	407	914	3174
Notices issued for Abatement of Nuisances	10	15	17	4	23	—	69
Letters written relating to Abatement of Nuisances	40	40	46	37	39	11	213
Proceedings taken before Magistrates under Sanitary Acts	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Reports made to Medical Officer of Health	101	71	130	78	177	168	725
Infectious Patients removed to Hospital	27	5	15	22	20	—	89
Rooms Disinfected after Infectious Disease... ..	40	28	25	35	51	—	179
New Pipe Drains (feet)... ..	2820	3702	3016	1640	4696	—	15,874
Houses where defects in Drainage have been detected and remedied	18	19	15	27	23	2	104
Unwholesome Food—Number of Seizures made ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Food Adulteration. { Samples collected for Analysis ...	30	30	30	30	30	—	150
{ Proceedings taken before Magistrates	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Removal of Bodies to Mortuary	—	—	1	—	2	—	3



THE
SANITARY CHRONICLES
 OF THE
 PARISH OF ST. MARYLEBONE
 DURING JANUARY, 1896.

BY ALEXANDER WYNTER BLYTH,

*Medical Officer of Health, and Analyst of Food and Drugs, for the
 Parish of St. Marylebone.*

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE VESTRY.

VOL. XVI. COURT HOUSE, ST. MARYLEBONE, Feb. 10th, 1896. No. 1.

The week ending December 28th was mild, moist, and sunless. The maximum temperature was $46^{\circ}3$; minimum, $25^{\circ}5$; mean, $35^{\circ}0$. On five days rain fell, the total rainfall amounting to (0.75 inch). The winds were E.S.E. There were some foggy mornings. The mean barometer was 29.7 inches.

The week ending January 4th was foggy and mild. The maximum temperature was $54^{\circ}8$; minimum, $38^{\circ}1$; mean, $42^{\circ}0$. On three days rain fell, (0.36 inch). No sunshine was registered. Mean barometer 29.9 inches.

The week ending January 11th, sunless and overcast, was somewhat mild. The maximum temperature was $43^{\circ}5$; the minimum, $32^{\circ}2$; the mean, $37^{\circ}0$. A little rain fell on one day (0.06 inch). The winds were N.E. and N.N.E. Mean barometer 30.5 inches.

The week ending January 18th was mild and rainy. The maximum temperature was $51^{\circ}5$; minimum, $36^{\circ}0$; mean, $43^{\circ}1$. On five days rain fell (0.27 inch). Winds W. and N.W. Two hours of bright sunshine were registered during the week. Mean barometer 29.8 inches.

The week ending January 25th was generally mild, with a few frosty mornings. The maximum temperature was $50^{\circ}0$; the minimum, $30^{\circ}0$; mean, $40^{\circ}8$. Rain fell on one day only, to the extent of 0.15 inch. There were recorded in Regents Park during the week 4.5 hours of bright sunshine. The winds were variable. Mean barometer 30.2 inches.

The five weeks were almost without precedent in the uniformity of the temperature and the general mildness. The coldest day in all the five weeks was no cooler than may occasionally be experienced in early summer or in the autumn.

Births and Deaths (January).

During the 5 weeks ending January 25th, 1896, there have been registered 327 births and 268 deaths. These births and deaths are divided among the five Sub-districts as set forth in Tables III. and V. 69 of the deaths were extra-parochial, as follows:—

St. Marylebone Infirmary, Notting Hill	..	..	34
Western Fever Hospital ..	..	..	4
North Western Fever Hospital	..	..	6
King's College Hospital ..	..	..	1
Great Northern Hospital ..	..	..	1
University College Hospital	..	..	2
Charing Cross Hospital ..	..	..	4
St. Mary's Hospital ..	..	..	2
Children's Hospital, Paddington	..	..	1
Brompton Hospital ..	..	..	1
National Hospital ..	..	..	1
Whitechapel Infirmary ..	..	..	1
Lewisham Infirmary ..	..	..	1
Friedenheim ..	..	..	2
Evelina Hospital ..	..	..	1
Darenth Asylum ..	..	..	1
Colney Hatch Asylum ..	..	..	2
Banstead Asylum ..	..	..	2
Hanwell Asylum ..	..	..	1
St. Peter's Home ..	..	..	1
			69

The birth and death-rates, as deduced from the month's statistics, are as follows:—

All Souls, birth-rate 19·0 ; death-rate 17·1.

Rectory, birth-rate 39·4 ; death-rate 17·5.

St. Mary, birth-rate 15·5 ; death-rate 17·1.

Christ Church, birth-rate 29·6 ; death-rate 26·2.

St. John, birth-rate 23·7 ; death-rate 17·6.

The whole district, birth-rate 23·9 ; death-rate 19·6.

In every case the death-rate is lower than for the corresponding 5 weeks in January during the years 1890-95. The mean death-rates for that period being:—

All Souls, 23·2 ; Rectory, 28·6 ; St. Mary, 27·7 ; Christ Church, 31·3 ;

St. John, 27·7 ; St. Marylebone, 27·0.



The following table gives, as usual, facilities for comparing the relative mortality from certain classes of disease and proportion to 1,000 deaths from all causes. In the fourth column will also be found the average rate for the month of January for 5 years (1890-5):—

TABLE I.

SHOWING THE COMPARATIVE MORTALITY DURING THE 5 WEEKS
ENDING JANUARY 25th, 1896, FROM CERTAIN CLASSES OF DISEASE
AND PROPORTION TO 1,000 DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES:—

	Total Deaths. — 5 weeks ending Jan. 25th, 1896.	Proportion of the deaths to 1,000 deaths from all causes. 5 weeks ending Jan. 25, 1896.	Rate per 1,000 of the population.	Mean rates per 1,000 during 5 years 1890-1895.
1. Deaths from the chief Zymotic Diseases	52	194	3.79	2.90
2. Pulmonary, other than Phthisis	73	272	5.33	11.08
3. Tubercular	39	145	2.85	2.93
4. Wasting Diseases of Infants ..	11	41	0.80	1.13
5. Convulsive Diseases of Infants	12	45	0.87	0.64

NOTES.

1, includes Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Erysipelas, Croup, Fever, Influenza, and Diarrhoea.

3, includes Phthisis, Scrofula, Rickets, and Tabes.

4, includes Marasmus, Atrophy, Debility, Want of Breast Milk, and Premature Birth.

5, includes Hydrocephalus, Infantile Meningitis, Convulsions, and Teething.

The table shows that fatal Zymotic disease is a little above the average, but fatal Chest complaints far below the average.

MEASLES.

Measles has been epidemic during the past five weeks. Its presence is recorded by 24 deaths : all but three of the 24 deaths have been young children under five years of age. There seems to be something wrong in our system, when the writer has to confess that the only official intimation he receives of measles is the Registrar's Death Return, supplemented by casual observations made to him personally by medical confrères. Measles is an intensely infectious disorder, in which, in this district, no isolation is attempted; only occasionally is there any effort to restrict its spread by disinfection. Measles, so far as the writer is aware, is not received at any hospital. When measles breaks out in a tenement dwelling, it spreads unheeded and unchecked. In some districts, notification of this malady has been adopted by Resolution. Notification of measles would be a certain expense, and, under present conditions, an uncertain benefit. It must be conceded that there might be some advantages in making "measles" notifiable in St. Marylebone: the various schools would receive notice of the attacks in the several houses affected, and a certain number of children would be forbidden to attend school. This, in some instances, would, without a doubt, prevent spread. A second benefit would be that disinfection of the rooms and clothing, &c., would be regularly practised and enforced. Besides which it would be unlawful for children affected by measles to be conveyed in public conveyances, such as omnibuses, cabs, and railway carriages, without notice. But the writer has always been consistently of opinion that, under present conditions, notification would make but little impression on the spread or the mortality. Something more is wanted, and that something is a hospital or hospitals that would receive cases of measles. For a vast community like

the Metropolis, there could be no greater boon than the establishment by philanthropic effort or local enterprise of hospitals for the treatment of measles. Intense as the infection is, the infection is not so durable as that of scarlet fever. Probably an average period of three weeks would suffice for the treatment of the malady, hence the hospital accommodation for measles would not require to be of the large scale as that of the accommodation for scarlet fever. If hospital accommodation were available, there would not be a single health authority that would not recommend the notification of measles, so that each case occurring in families with restricted accommodation could be segregated. The present mortality from measles is not due to special malignity, but it is due to the practical impossibility of skilled treatment and nursing in the crowded homes of the town workers.

TABLE II.—TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, *coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, in the Sanitary District of ST. MARYLEBONE, during January, 1896, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, AND LOCALITIES.*

(a)		ALL SOULS		RECTORY		ST. MARY		CHRIST CHURCH		ST. JOHN		Totals	
POPULATION AT ALL AGES.	(b) Census 1891 ..	37,701		20,019		19,238		33,323		32,100		142,381	
	(c) Registered Births ..	69		59		29		96		74		327	
(d) Aged under 5 or over 5		Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards
NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.	1. Smallpox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2. Scarlatina ..	2	5	..	4	..	2	4	5	..	11	6	27
	3. Diphtheria ..	1	3	..	..	2	2	7	10	4	3	14	18
	4. Membranous Croup..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	5. Typhus ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	6. Enteric or Typhoid	1	4	..	..	..	4	..	4	..	2	1	14
	7. Continued	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	8. Relapsing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	9. Puerperal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
	10. Cholera..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	11. Erysipelas ..	1	1	..	4	..	1	..	8	..	2	1	16
NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.	1. Smallpox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2. Scarlatina ..	..	5	..	4	..	2	4	5	2	10	6	26
	3. Diphtheria ..	..	1	..	..	1	1	3	5	1	2	5	9
	4. Membranous Croup..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	5. Typhus ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	6. Enteric or Typhoid	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3	..	1	..	5
	7. Continued	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	8. Relapsing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	9. Puerperal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	10. Cholera ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	11. Erysipelas ..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	4	..	1	..	8

TABLE III.—TABLE OF DEATHS in the Sanitary District of ST. MARYLEBONE during the 5 weeks ending January 25th, 1896, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

(a)		ALL SOULS	RECTORY	ST. MARY	CHRIST CHURCH	ST. JOHN	Totals	The subjoined numbers have been taken into account in judging of the records of mortality.									
								Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto.	Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto.								
Mortality from all causes at subjoined ages.	(b) At all ages ..	62	34	32	85	55	268	69	28								
	(c) Under 1 year	10	3	4	25	10	52	9	2								
	(d) 1 and under 5	6	2	6	28	4	46	7	2								
	(e) 5 and under 15	2	2	1	5	3	13	3	1								
	(f) 15 and under 25	2	2	1	2	3	10	4	3								
	(g) 25 and under 65	30	13	9	16	25	93	29	16								
	(h) 65 and upwards	12	12	11	9	10	54	17	4								
(i)		Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards		
Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five Years of Age.	1. Smallpox .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2. Scarlatina	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	3	1	2	..	..	..
	3. Diphtheria .. ..	..	..	..	1	3	1	..	..	3	2	3	2	..	..
	4. Membranous Croup .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	5. Typhus .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	6. Enteric or Typhoid	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	1	..	..	..
	7. Continued .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	8. Relapsing .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	9. Puerperal .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
	10. Cholera .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	11. Erysipelas .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
	12. Measles	5	1	1	14	2	1	21	3	3	..	..	..	..	..
	13. Whooping Cough .. ..	..	..	2	6	..	..	8	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
	14. Diarrhoea and Dysentery .. ..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
	15. Rheumatic Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
	16. Ague .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	17. Phthisis	8	8	1	3	1	9	1	7	3	35	..	16	..	1		
	18. Bronchitis, Pneumonia, & Pleurisy	5	9	8	3	6	16	8	3	15	27	46	2	11	..	2	
	19. Heart Disease	4	1	3	..	3	..	11	..	4	..	3	
	20. Injuries	1	1	1	..	2	2	2	2	5	6	..	2	..	1	..	
	21. All other Diseases	5	23	3	9	3	11	9	7	11	27	61	4	12	4	17	
TOTAL		16	46	5	29	10	22	53	32	14	41	98	170	16	53	4	24

TABLE IV.—Giving the Causes of Deaths during the 5 Weeks ending JAN. 25th, 1896, at the Middlesex Hospital, Queen Charlotte's Lying-in-Hospital, Samaritan Hospital, the Workhouse, and the Marylebone Infirmary, Notting Hill, W.

	Middlesex Hospital.	Queen Charlotte's Hospital.	Samaritan Hospital.	Workhouse	Notting Hill Infirmary.
Influenza .....	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever.....	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria.....	...	...	...	...	...
Typhoid Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa .....	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas .....	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia and Pleurisy...	1	...	...	...	...
Pyæmia	1	...	...	...	...
Syphilis .....	...	...	...	...	1
Cancer.....	7	...	...	1	1
Phthisis and Tuberculosis	4	...	...	...	11
Rheumatism ...	...	...	...	...	...
Apoplexy .....	..	...	...	...	2
Paralysis.....	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis .....	...	...	...	1	12
Asthma .....	...	...	...	...	...
Peritonitis	1	...	1	...	...
Disease of Brain .....	...	...	...	...	...
" Heart	2	...	...	...	2
" Kidney	1	...	...	1	...
" Liver.....	...	...	...	...	...
" Uterus .....	...	...	...	...	...
" Ovary .....	...	...	1	...	...
Parturition.....	...	...	...	...	...
Diabetes .....	...	...	...	...	...
Fractures and Injuries.....	3	...	...	...	1
Old Age .....	...	...	...	...	...
Low Vitality, Infants .....	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth .....	...	1	...	...	...
Other causes	5	1	...	...	3
Total	*25	†2	‡2	3	34

* Of the 28 deaths in the Middlesex Hospital, 20 were those of non-parishioners.

† The 2 deaths in Queen Charlotte's Hospital were those of non-parishioners.

‡ The 2 deaths in the Samaritan Hospital were those of non-parishioners.

TABLE V.—DISTRICT BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR THE
FIVE WEEKS ENDING JANUARY 25TH, 1896.

	Population in 1881.	Population in 1891.	Births.		Deaths.	
			Males.	Fmls.	Males.	Fmls.
All Souls.....	41,651	37,701	31	38	28	34
Rectory	24,900	20,019	23	36	19	15
St. Mary	21,122	19,238	13	16	13	19
Christ Church	33,691	33,323	49	47	46	39
St. John	33,640	32,100	39	35	28	27
Total.....	155,004	142,381	155	172	134	134

NOTE.—In the above the births and deaths have all been properly corrected, strangers have been eliminated, and extra-parochial deaths and others have been allotted to their proper sub-district. The population has also been corrected for presumed increase.

TABLE VI.—VACCINATIONS DURING JANUARY, 1896.

Deaths under one year.	Primary Vaccinations.			Re- Vaccinations by Public Vaccinator.
	Public Vaccinator.	Private Practitioners.	Total.	
52	212	98	310	0

REGISTER OF SANITARY WORK,
MONTH ENDING 31ST JANUARY, 1896.
SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

				Mr. J. Hodges, No. 1 District.	Mr. A. Perry, No. 2 District.	Mr. T. Gorniot, No. 3 District.	Mr. D. J. Andrews, No. 4 District.	Mr. W. Yeo, No. 5 District.	Mr. R. Phillips, Special Duties.	Total.
Number of Complaints received				11	10	29	15	23	5	93
Inspections	{	Of Dwelling Houses		22	23	25	20	26	10	126
		„ Kitchens (separately occupied) ..		8	7	3	16	5	—	39
		„ Schools		4	3	4	3	3	—	17
		„ Houses registered under Public Health (London) Act, 1891 ...		25	—	10	30	29	—	94
		„ Dairies and Cow-houses		2	2	1	—	3	—	8
		„ Bakehouses		3	3	—	—	2	70	78
		„ Slaughterhouses		3	2	—	—	3	—	8
		„ Miscellaneous Inspections ...		138	134	150	120	146	118	806
Notices issued for Abatement of Nuisances				7	12	3	5	11	3	41
Letters written relating to Abatement of Nuisances				13	14	17	12	15	8	79
Proceedings taken before Magistrates under Sanitary Acts				—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reports made to Medical Officer of Health				35	30	40	26	47	45	223
Infectious Patients removed to Hospital				16	7	17	9	7	—	56
Rooms Disinfected after Infectious Disease... ..				25	16	32	10	17	—	100
New Pipe Drains (feet)... ..				1670	1530	1112	882	1786	130	7110
Houses where defects in Drainage have been detected and remedied				11	13	9	12	—	3	48
Unwholesome Food—Number of Seizures made ...				—	—	1*	—	—	—	1
Food Adulteration.	{	Samples collected for Analysis ...		4	3	9	7	—	—	23
		Proceedings taken before Magistrates		—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Removal of Bodies to Mortuary				—	—	2	—	2	1	5

*14 Rabbits.

TABLE VII.—Report of Analyses of Water supplied to the Parish during January, 1896. All results are expressed in GRAINS PER GALLON.

Description of Sample.	Appearance in Two-foot Tube.	Smell when heated to 100° Fahr.	Chlorine.	Phosphoric Acid.	Nitrogen as Nitrates.	Ammonia.	Albuminoid Ammonia.	Oxygen, absorbed in		Hardness, Clark's scale, in degrees.		Total solid matter dried at 200° Fahr.
								15 minutes at ordn. tem.	1 hour at 212° Fahr.	Before boiling.	After boiling.	
West Middlesex Water	Clear, & pale yellow.	...	1.3	Trace	·1850	·0013	·0037	·0244	·1972	21.2	5.6	23.2
Average composition for January... ..	Do.	...	1.27	„	·1542	·0005	·0044	·0449	·1360	15.2	3.9	19.7
Grand Junction Water	Do.	...	1.22	„	·1870	·0009	·0085	·0221	·1912	21.0	6.0	22.0
Average composition for January... ..	Do.	...	1.25	„	·1570	·0006	·0049	·0510	·1710	15.15	3.9	19.9

TABLE VIII.—ILLUMINATING POWER, PRESSURE, and QUALITY of the COAL. Gas consumed in the Parish during January, 1896.

JANUARY, 1896.	Illuminating Power in Sperm Candles.			Mean Pressure in tenths of an inch.		Mean Quantity of Sulphur in 100 cubic feet.	Mean Quantity of Ammonia in 100 cubic feet	Sulphur- etted Hydrogen.
	Mean of observations.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Grains.	Grains.	
COMMON GAS... ..	16.2	16.0	16.4	34.4	15.5	12.0	·05	
Average for January ...	16.4	16.1	16.7	34.0	16.0	13.7	·20	

TABLE VII. - Amount of Larders of Wheat supplied to the British market, January 1920. All weights are expressed in grains per bushel.

Country of origin	Weight of larders of wheat per bushel	Quantity of larders of wheat supplied to the British market in January 1920	Total quantity of larders of wheat supplied to the British market in January 1920	Average weight of larders of wheat per bushel	Total weight of larders of wheat supplied to the British market in January 1920
Canada	56.0	1,000,000	1,000,000	56.0	56,000,000
United States	55.0	2,000,000	2,000,000	55.0	110,000,000
Argentina	54.0	1,000,000	1,000,000	54.0	54,000,000
Australia	53.0	1,000,000	1,000,000	53.0	53,000,000
Other countries	52.0	1,000,000	1,000,000	52.0	52,000,000
Total		6,000,000	6,000,000	54.0	315,000,000



TABLE VIII. - Larders of Wheat, January 1920. The contents of the larders are expressed in grains per bushel.

Country of origin	Weight of larders of wheat per bushel	Quantity of larders of wheat supplied to the British market in January 1920	Total quantity of larders of wheat supplied to the British market in January 1920	Average weight of larders of wheat per bushel	Total weight of larders of wheat supplied to the British market in January 1920
Canada	56.0	1,000,000	1,000,000	56.0	56,000,000
United States	55.0	2,000,000	2,000,000	55.0	110,000,000
Argentina	54.0	1,000,000	1,000,000	54.0	54,000,000
Australia	53.0	1,000,000	1,000,000	53.0	53,000,000
Other countries	52.0	1,000,000	1,000,000	52.0	52,000,000
Total		6,000,000	6,000,000	54.0	315,000,000