

Report on the health of the Borough during the year 1920.

Contributors

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THE
Metropolitan Borough of Bethnal Green.

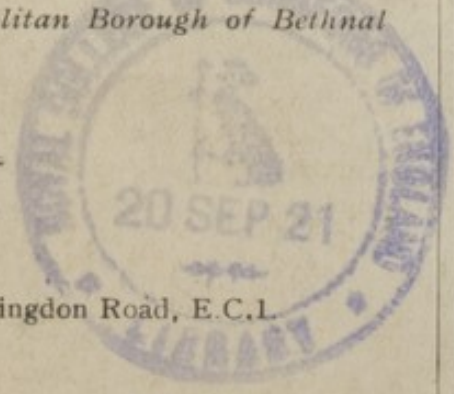
REPORT
ON THE
HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH
DURING THE YEAR 1920.

BY
GEOFFREY EUGENE OATES,

*M.D., B.S., (London), M.R.C.P. (London), D.P.H. (Cambridge);
Barrister-at-Law, of the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn; Lieutenant
(late R.A.M.C.); Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine; Fellow of the
Royal Institute of Public Health; Fellow of the Society of Medical
Officers of Health; Fellow of the Zoological Society; Member of the
Royal Sanitary Institute; and Medical Officer of Health and Adminis-
trative Tuberculosis Officer for the Metropolitan Borough of Bethnal
Green.*

LONDGN:
Printed by VAIL & Co. (T.U.) 170 Farringdon Road, E.C.1.

1921.



1871

1872

1873

1874

1875

1876

1877

1878

TOWN HALL

BETHNAL GREEN, E. 2.

20 SEP 21 June, 1921.

*To the Mayor, the Aldermen and
Councillors of the Metropolitan
Borough of Bethnal Green.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my second Annual Report, which deals with the Health of the Borough of Bethnal Green for the year 1920.

The year has been one of steady progress in health matters, and a determined and partly successful effort has been made to cope with the arrears of work arising out of the long period of the War.

This has necessitated some increase in staff, generously and wisely provided by yourselves, and the formation of a Housing Section within the Public Health Department.

There has been great activity in dealing with housing questions throughout the year, and if the results of such activity are disappointing it is not due to any lack of foresight and enthusiasm on the part of yourselves, or lack of zeal on the part of your officers. However, although there are no new houses or cleared slum areas in evidence so far, it must not be forgotten that there has been in progress throughout the year a large amount of repair and improvement of individual houses resulting from the work of the sanitary inspectors.

In the following report I have only touched on housing questions so far as they concern myself as a Health Officer, and have not attempted to deal with the important question of re-housing, with which your Town Clerk and Borough Surveyor are more concerned.

Owing to the need for economy this Report is much abridged, and much information of minor importance as well as some statistical summaries have been omitted.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the Members of the Council, and more particularly the Public Health and Housing Committees, for the support and consideration they have accorded myself and my staff during the past year. I must also tender my thanks for the support I have received from my brother officers both in the Public Health and other Departments.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEOFFREY EUGENE OATES,

Medical Officer of Health.

Metropolitan Borough of Bethnal Green.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1920-1921

Meetings held at the TOWN HALL on the first and third
Wednesdays, at 7 p.m.

Councillor F. W. WRIGHT, *Chairman*.

Councillor C. N. MURPHY, *Vice-Chairman*.

THE MAYOR (Councillor J. J. VAUGHAN)

Alderman T. J. BOYCE. Alderman J. J. FLEMING, J.P.

Alderman Mrs. H. JEFFCOTE.

Councillor W. H. BRYANT. Councillor A. H. GILLISON.

„ H. FITT. „ E. C. E. LEAR.

„ Miss JAMES, J.P. „ Rev. G. E. A. WHITWORTH,

„ W. A. WARDEN. M.A.

Ex-Officio Members of the Public Health Committee

(Chairmen of Standing Committees of the Council.)

COMMITTEE.					CHAIRMAN.
Finance	...	...	...	...	Councillor B. GRAY.
Works and Stores	...	...	...	...	„ J. W. MARTIN.
Law and General Purposes	...	...	...	...	„ C. W. HOVELL.
Baths	...	...	...	...	„ T. F. H. FRENCH.
Electricity	...	...	...	...	„ J. J. CUNNINGHAM.
Valuation	...	...	...	...	„ J. VALENTINE.
Public Libraries	...	...	...	...	„ W. WINDSOR.

The Public Health Committee is also the Statutory Committee to which all matters relating to Maternity and Child Welfare stand referred.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

STAFF as on December 31st, 1920.

GEOFFREY EUGENE OATES, M.D., M.R.C.P. London, D.P.H. Cambridge, Barrister-at-Law, *Medical Officer of Health and Administrative Tuberculosis Officer.*

*JOHN FOOT, *Chief Sanitary Inspector and Housing Superintendent.*

ALFRED W. STOKES, F.C.S., F.I.C., *Public Analyst.*

EVAN RICHARDS, *Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector.*

Sanitary Inspectors.

E. Ainley.	E. J. Jenkins.
F. T. Bare.	J. R. Jones.
W. Billings, Junr.	Miss A. F. Murphy.
G. I. Brighting.	W. Rowsell.
**A. S. Henley.	J. O. G. Weeks.
J. H. Hewitt.	

Health Visitors.

Miss C. R. Brown, <i>Superintendent.</i>	Miss V. D. Cornish.
, E. M. Squier.	Mrs. E. L. Hann.
, E. M. Patrick.	Miss L. F. Wright.
Mrs. M. A. Hodgkins.	Mrs. F. M. Barden.
Miss E. S. Crisp (Tuberculosis).	Mrs. A. W. Rosling.

J. Henry Lloyd, *Chief Clerk.*
 (Vacancy) *Senior Assistant Clerk.*
 F. G. Thomas, *Assistant Clerk.*
 F. J. Bryant, *Shorthand Typist.*
 R. W. Slyfield, *Assistant Clerk.*
 G. E. Gould, "
 S. Slater, *Junior Clerk.*
 H. A. Saunders, *General Assistant.*
 W. H. Heron, " "

TEMPORARY STAFF.

Mrs. M. Radford, <i>Medical Officer</i> (Maternity and Child Welfare Centre).					
Mrs. K. Addison,	"	"	"	"	"
Mrs. E. F. Iredell,	"	"	"	"	"
Mrs. O. Langmead.	"	"	"	"	"
Mrs. J. P. Smyth,	"	"	"	"	"
W. F. Mayo, <i>Sanitary Inspector.</i>					
S. H. Taylor,	"	"			
L. A. Taylor, <i>Assistant Clerk.</i>					
J. Godwin,					
Miss C. Lane,	"	"			
Miss E. Packman,	"	"			

Clinical Tuberculosis Officers

(appointed by the Governors of the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest).

Senior, H. Tylford Howell, M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P. London.

Junior, F. W. Hamilton, M.B., B.S. London, D.P.H. Oxon.

*Also Fuel Overseer.

**Also Assistant Fuel Overseer.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

STAFF.

CHANGES IN 1920.

Sanitary Inspectors.

Mr. E. J. JENKINS and Miss A. F. MURPHY were appointed as Sanitary Inspectors, and took up their duties on the 3rd May, 1920.

Clerical Staff.

Mr. E. Q. BILHAM, Chief Clerk, resigned on the 20th May, 1920.

Mr. J. HENRY LLOYD, formerly Chief Clerk in the Public Health Department, Hounslow, was appointed Senior Assistant Clerk, and subsequently, upon the resignation of Mr. Bilham, was appointed Chief Clerk.

Mr. H. W. FENDRILL, Assistant Clerk, resigned on the 5th June, 1920.

Messrs. F. J. BRYANT and G. E. GOULD have been appointed as Shorthand Typist and Assistant Clerk respectively.

Health Visitors.

Miss E. M. SQUIER, Miss E. M. PATRICK, Mrs. E. L. HANN, and Miss L. F. WRIGHT, formerly employed at the voluntary Maternity and Child Welfare Centres taken over by the Council on the 1st April, 1920, together with Miss V. D. CORNISH, formerly employed in a temporary capacity, were all appointed as Health Visitors.

VITAL STATISTICS OF BETHNAL GREEN DURING 1920 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS. REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Un- corrected Number.	Nett.		Num- ber.	Rate.	Of Non- residents regis- tered in the District	Of Resi- dents not regis- tered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Num- ber.	Rate.					Num- ber.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Num- ber.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1914	127,662	3,609	3,786	29·6	2,113	16·5	434	368	519	137·0	2,047	16·0
1915	120,207	3,314	3,514	27·5	2,152	17·9	502	441	415	118·0	2,091	17·4
1916	115,552	3,171	3,438	27·4	1,784	15·5	445	425	365	106·0	1,764	15·3
1917	107,862	2,409	2,710	22·6	1,665	15·5	425	435	299	110·3	1,675	15·6
1918	103,403	1,761	2,220	19·2	2,331	22·5	384	542	289	130·2	2,488	24·1
1919	110,085	2,242	2,564	22·4	1,517	13·8	366	412	218	85	1,563	14·2
1920	114,471	3,346	3,857	33·7	1,625	14·2	320	398	365	94·6	1,715	15·0

DEATHS REGISTERED DURING 1920 IN BETHNAL GREEN CLASSIFIED BY AGE AND CAUSE.

CAUSES OF DEATH.						Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.
						All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and upwards.	
1						2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All causes	Certified ...	..	..	..	..	1715	365	91	91	70	86	225	407	380	947
	Uncertified ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1.	Enteric Fever ..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
2.	Small-pox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3.	Measles ..	..	..	..	..	62	14	31	17	..	..	..	..	..	45
4.	Scarlet Fever ..	..	..	..	..	12	..	2	4	4	1	1	..	..	..
5.	Whooping Cough ..	..	..	..	..	55	29	12	14	..	..	..	..	..	34
6.	Diphtheria and Croup ..	..	..	..	..	36	4	7	13	11	..	..	..	1	3
7.	Influenza ..	..	..	..	..	62	3	2	5	3	7	20	19	3	32
8.	Erysipelas ..	..	..	..	..	6	2	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	4
9.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	..	..	..	..	173	..	..	1	3	29	70	58	12	115
10.	Tuberculous Meningitis ..	..	..	..	..	13	2	1	8	2	..	..	..	..	15
11.	Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	..	..	..	..	11	1	..	3	3	3	..	1	..	7
12.	Cancer, malignant disease ..	..	..	..	..	119	..	..	..	2	..	17	69	31	61
13.	Rheumatic Fever ..	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	2	1	2	..	1	4
14.	Meningitis (not tuberculous) ..	..	..	..	..	10	2	2	2	1	..	1	1	1	16
15.	Organic Heart Disease ..	..	..	..	..	201	1	..	..	7	7	27	56	103	127
16.	Bronchitis ..	..	..	..	..	162	32	4	1	..	..	10	45	70	65
17.	Pneumonia (all forms) ..	..	..	..	..	177	69	22	16	6	7	14	28	15	93
18.	Other diseases of respiratory organs ..	..	..	..	..	24	5	..	..	1	..	..	11	7	15
19.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis ..	..	..	..	..	51	45	3	2	..	..	..	..	1	59
20.	Appendicitis and Typhlitis ..	..	..	..	..	8	..	..	2	1	3	1	1	..	4
21.	Cirrhosis of Liver ..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1
22.	Nephritis and Bright's Disease ..	..	..	..	..	32	..	..	..	1	3	4	14	10	17
23.	Puerperal Fever ..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	1
24.	Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition ..	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	3
25.	Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth ..	..	..	..	..	94	94	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	59
26.	Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ..	..	..	..	..	46	7	2	2	11	..	8	9	7	14
27.	Suicide ..	..	..	..	..	21	..	..	..	..	2	5	11	3	1
28.	Other Defined Diseases ..	..	..	..	..	319	55	3	1	12	21	33	78	115	152
29.	Diseases ill-defined or unknown ..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
Totals ..						1715	365	91	91	70	86	225	407	380	947

POPULATION.

The population of this Borough for the middle of 1920 is estimated by the Registrar-General at 114,471. The figure obtained at the last Census in 1911 was 128,183.

MARRIAGES.

The number of marriages celebrated in Bethnal Green during 1920 was 1,124. This is equal to a rate of 19·6 persons married per 1,000 total population.

BIRTHS.

The number of births registered in the Borough during 1920 was 3,346, and in addition 511 occurred outside the Borough to Bethnal Green residents in excess of those occurring in Bethnal Green to residents of other localities, making a total of 3,857 births. The birth rate for 1920 was therefore 33·7 births per 1,000 of population. This compares with:

1914	...	...	29·6
1915	...	...	27·5
1916	...	...	27·4
1917	...	...	22·6
1918	...	...	19·2
1919	...	...	22·4

The birth rates in the four quarters of the year were:—

First quarter	...	41·8
Second „	...	34·4
Third „	...	30·6
Fourth „	...	27·6

ILLEGITIMACY.

Of the 3,857 births credited to this Borough, 89 were illegitimate, or 2·3 per cent. of the total.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths that were registered during the year as having taken place in the Borough was 1,626.

Of these, 320 were of persons whose residence was not in Bethnal Green, 315 dying in Bethnal Green institutions, and 5 in other places in the Borough.

There were also reported to the Registrar-General 398 deaths of Bethnal Green persons who died in institutions in other parts of London, and 11 who died in other parts of England and Wales.

This correction gives the net number of civil deaths for Bethnal Green as 1,715, making an annual death rate of 14·9 per 1,000 of civil population.

Death rates of previous years are:—

1914	...	...	16·0
1915	...	...	17·4
1916	...	...	15·3
1917	...	...	15·6
1918	...	...	24·1
			(influenza pandemic)
1919	...	...	14·2

There were no uncertified deaths during the year.

CASES OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1920 IN BETHNAL GREEN.

DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.							
	All Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1.	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and upwards
Small Pox	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Cholera (C) Plague (P) .. .. .	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	580	13	174	326	50	15	1	1
Erysipelas	133	9	7	17	18	30	37	15
Scarlet Fever	1070	6	259	723	60	22	..	..
Typhus Fever .. .. .	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever	5	..	..	..	2	3	..	..
Relapsing Fever (R) Continued Fever (C) .. .. .	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever	10	..	..	..	3	7	..	..
Cerebro-spinal Fever	7	3	4	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Poliomyelitis	3	1	1	1	..	..	..	..
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	6	..	..	4	..	2	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	29	29	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Polio-encephalitis	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Dysentery	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Malaria	42	..	..	..	7	31	4	..
Acute Primary Pneumonia	105	5	29	36	10	17	7	1
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	66	..	11	12	9	23	8	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	270	..	..	27	52	107	77	7
Other forms of Tuberculosis	65	..	8	36	7	12	2	..
TOTAL	2394	66	494	1183	218	270	136	27

SMALL-POX.

In May a child of 15 months who had been vaccinated was notified as having Small-pox. Further investigation, however, showed that the case was really one of severe Chicken-pox, and the child was admitted to Bethnal Green Hospital. It was fortunate that the case proved not to be Small-pox, as it occurred in a densely populated block of flats.

Owing to the effective protection afforded by vaccination, Small-pox in a vaccinated child of 15 months is very unlikely to occur, and such cases invariably prove to be Chicken-pox.

During the year 12 individuals who had been in contact with Small-pox were reported to me and kept under close observation for the period of a fortnight, within which the disease might develop. None of these persons contracted the disease. Ten of them were soldiers from a vessel on which a case of Small-pox had occurred. One person had recently arrived from an infected port in Spain, and the remaining person had visited by mischance a hospital ward in which a case of Small-pox was shortly afterwards detected.

TYPHOID FEVER.

Five cases were notified. In no case was it possible to ascertain the source of infection. Two deaths from the disease occurred.

TYPHUS FEVER.

One man who had been in contact with a case on board a steamship was kept under observation.

DIPHTHERIA.

There were 580 cases of Diphtheria notified during the year.

Of these there were 13 cases under the age of 1 year, 174 between the ages of 1 and 5 years, 326 between the ages of 5 and 15 years, 50 between the ages of 15 and 25 years, 15 cases between the ages of 25 and 45 years, 1 case between the ages of 45 and 65 years, and 1 case over the age of 65 years.

Of the 580 cases, 566 were removed to an Isolation Hospital. In 24 instances the Hospital authorities reported the diagnosis to be incorrect.

Thirty-six deaths from this disease occurred during the year, 34 of which took place at hospitals.

Comparison with previous years is as follows:—

1915	...	39	deaths
1916	...	26	„
1917	...	19	„
1918	...	26	„
1919	...	58	„

A little difficulty was experienced during the autumn months in obtaining prompt removal of cases notified. In really urgent cases removal was generally effected forthwith, but in other cases there was a delay of some hours, or even a day or two. The delay did not at any time equal that experienced in 1919.

SCARLET FEVER.

There were 1,070 cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year.

Of these, there were 6 cases under the age of 1 year, 259 cases between the ages of 1 and 5 years, 723 cases between the ages of 5 and 15 years, 60 cases between the ages of 15 and 25 years, and 22 cases between the ages of 25 and 45 years.

Of the 1,070 cases, 1,042 were removed to an Isolation Hospital.

In the earlier part of the year there was but little Scarlet Fever about, but the disease became very prevalent in the autumn and winter.

Twelve deaths occurred from Scarlet Fever during the year, all of which number took place at hospitals.

Comparison with previous years is as follows:—

1915	...	11 deaths
1916	...	5 „
1917	...	3 „
1918	...	9 „
1919	...	4 „

As in the case of Diphtheria, some difficulty was experienced in obtaining the prompt removal of cases notified during the last few months of the year.

MALARIA.

During the year 42 cases were notified. In all cases the patient was found to be an ex-Service man and had contracted his infection overseas.

CHOLERA, RELAPSING FEVER, PLAGUE, TRENCH FEVER, ANTHRAX, GLANDERS, HYDROPHOBIA.

No cases of these diseases were notified to me during the year.

ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

Six cases of this disease were notified, of which two cases died. Two of the cases recovered completely, and the other two cases recovered with some impairment of mental condition.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

Seven cases of this disease were notified, with a fatal issue in each case.

ACUTE POLIO-MYELITIS AND POLIO-ENCEPHALITIS.

Three cases of Acute Polio-myelitis and one case of Acute Polio-encephalitis were notified.

DYSENTERY.

One case of this disease was notified. The patient, a young married woman, was removed to hospital, where she died.

ACUTE PRIMARY PNEUMONIA AND ACUTE INFLUENZAL PNEUMONIA.

One hundred and five cases of Acute Primary Pneumonia and 66 cases of Acute Influenzal Pneumonia were notified during the year.

The great majority of the patients were removed either to the Bethnal Green Hospital or the London Hospital.

In pursuance of the powers given by the Regulations rendering the diseases notifiable, nursing assist-

ance for some of the cases treated at home was provided at the expense of the Borough Council by the Shoreditch and Bethnal Green District Nursing Association. (See the table on page 28.)

VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

351 children reported to me from the Elementary Schools as being infested with body-lice were visited. In every case advice as to treatment of the clothing and bedding was given and disinfestation was offered. However, in only 3 cases was advantage taken of the offer of such disinfestation.

Twenty-one men suffering from body-lice were cleansed at the Disinfecting Station and their clothing disinfested.

SCABIES OR ITCH.

187 children suffering from this disease were visited after being excluded from the Elementary Schools. In only 17 instances was disinfestation of the clothing and bedding permitted.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Ten cases of this disease were notified, and in three cases death resulted. Six of the cases were reported from the London Hospital or the Bethnal Green Hospital. These cases were, generally speaking, patients who had undergone prolonged or difficult labour in their homes previous to removal to the institution, and the infective condition resulting was

closely correlated with this fact and in no way connected with the treatment the patient received at the institution.

There can be no doubt that an appreciable number of slight cases of puerperal infection escape notification owing to the doctor in attendance not considering the case to be severe enough to be classed as "Puerperal Fever." In my opinion, any rise of temperature or septic discharge from the uterus following on child-birth should be notified as Puerperal Fever unless cause can be shown to the contrary.

It is time the medical profession enlarged the scope of the term "Puerperal Fever," and ceased to restrict it to those cases which are complicated by septicæmia and which consequently often have a fatal issue.

It is to be regretted that the Legislature while requiring the notification of Puerperal Fever has not seen fit to define the condition.

Seven women died during the year from accidents and disease incidental to pregnancy and parturition. With the London Hospital and Bethnal Green Hospital close at hand the Borough is well equipped for dealing with the emergencies of child-birth. None the less a number of women die every year from the incidents of child-bearing, while considerable numbers are permanently injured in health. This is the more to be regretted since these deaths are almost all preventible, if the mother had only had proper advice during pregnancy when things were apparently going on well. One of the important functions of Maternity

Clinics, such as have been set up by the Borough Council and by the London Hospital, is the prevention of these lamentable deaths in child-bed by the detection of abnormal conditions beforehand and in time to exercise preventive measures.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Twenty-nine cases of purulent eye discharge in the newly-born were notified to me, 27 by Doctors and 2 by a Midwife.

This disease is of special interest as a cause of blindness, but in only one case did complete blindness result, in the right eye. In one case it was found impossible to trace the issue of the case, and the remaining 27 cases are apparently without impairment of vision.

Whilst one must regret the continued prevalence of a disease which is easily prevented, the results as regards the preservation of vision are quite satisfactory. Cases in the Borough if severe are almost always removed to a hospital for treatment. Home-nursing is provided by the Shoreditch and Bethnal Green Nursing Association, the Borough Council paying a part of the cost of such nursing. During the year 18 cases of eye-discharge in babies were nursed and a total of 614 visits were paid.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

365 deaths of Bethnal Green infants under one year of age took place during the year. This is equal to a rate of infantile mortality of 94·6 per 1,000 births.

Comparison with previous years is as follows:—

1914	...	...	137·0
1915	...	...	118·0
1916	...	...	106·0
1917	...	...	110·3
1918	...	...	130·2
1919	...	...	85·0

Of the 365 deaths, 58 were due to Prematurity and 45 were due to Diarrhoea and Enteritis. Only 14 deaths were certified as being due to Measles, although some of the 101 deaths ascribed to Bronchitis or Pneumonia were probably secondary to Measles.

So far as can be ascertained, 358 of the deaths were those of legitimate infants and 7 those of illegitimate infants. Accordingly we have the following figures for infantile mortality:—

Infantile mortality (legitimate)	...	95
Infantile mortality (illegitimate)	...	79
Infantile mortality (all infants)	...	94·6

It is unusual for the illegitimate infantile mortality to be lower than the legitimate infantile mortality.

INFANTILE MORTALITY IN BETHNAL GREEN IN 1920.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week.	1 2 weeks.	2 3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 week & under 3 months.	3 months & under 6 months.	6 months & under 9 months.	9 months & under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All causes—										
Certified	76	17	13	6	112	76	76	53	48	365
Uncertified ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small Pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken Pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	4	7	14
Scarlet fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	3	8	8	10	29
Diphtheria and Croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	4
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2
Tuberculous Meningitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Abdominal Tuberculosis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2
Convulsions	3	1	1	1	6	...	1	...	2	9
Laryngitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis ... ..	...	...	4	1	5	11	9	5	2	32
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	...	3	1	1	5	14	22	14	14	69
Diarrhœa ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	...	5
Enteritis ... ..	...	2	...	...	2	15	10	10	3	40
Gastritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Syphilis ... ..	...	1	1	...	2	1	3	1	...	7
Rickets... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlying	1	...	1	...	2	4	...	1	...	7
Injury at birth	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3
Atelectasis	13	...	1	...	14	1	...	...	...	15
Congenital Malformations	6	1	1	1	9	4	3	1	1	18
Premature birth	43	5	2	1	51	6	...	...	1	58
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	2	1	...	1	4	7	3	1	...	15
Other Causes	5	3	1	...	9	7	6	3	5	30
Totals	76	17	13	6	112	76	76	53	48	365

Nett Births registered during the calendar year { legitimate 3766
illegitimate 89

Nett Deaths registered during the calendar year of { legitimate infants 358
illegitimate infants 7

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACTS, 1907 & 1915.

During the year 3,678 births were notified, 3,595 being live births and 83 still-births. Of the total 2,099 were notified by mid-wives, and 1,496 by parents and doctors.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

During the year 14,429 attendances of infants were recorded at the Centres. 1,645 new cases were brought to the Centres during the year, and 99 expectant mothers seen for the first time.

The Medical Officers in charge saw 7,865 of the infants, and held 535 ante-natal and other consultations with expectant and nursing mothers.

5,255 applications for the supply of milk and food on the ground of necessitous circumstances were dealt with during the year.

There were three Voluntary Centres working at the commencement of the year; at 49, Green Street, 26, Preston Street, and at the King Edward Institution, Albert Street, Spitalfields.

These were taken over by the Council on 1st April, 1920, as going concerns, together with the staff. The Centre at 49, Green Street consists of a house on lease and is well equipped and conveniently situated. It is open three times a week for consultations and at other times it is used as a Centre for dealing with necessitous cases, and as an office for the Health Visitors. The Centre at 26, Preston Street is also well equipped and consists of a disused public-house,

rented on lease. It is open for consultations twice a week. The Centre at King Edward Institution was only in use for two afternoons a week, and on November 30th, owing to its inconvenient position outside the Borough, its activities were transferred to the St. Andrews Institute, St. Andrews Street, certain rooms being rented from the St. Andrews Parish Council on two afternoons of each week.

Acknowledgment must be made of the valuable gift to the Borough Council made by the Voluntary Committee in charge of the three transferred Centres.

It is not possible to give figures for the attendances at each Centre throughout the year.

The Centre at 499—505, Hackney Road, which had been working for some years was closed at Christmas 1920, owing to the premises being required by the landlord.

This Centre was replaced by a Centre opened at Thornton Hall, Mount Street, on two afternoons a week. The furniture and equipment at the Hackney Road Centre are stored for the time being.

SUPPLY OF FOOD.

Considerable use was made of the Council's Centres for the distribution of food to mothers and infants.

The following food was sold at cost price:—

Dried Milk	...	...	11,350 lbs.
Condensed Milk	...	...	217 tins.

The following amount was distributed free to necessitous cases:—

Fresh Milk	1,359½ gals.
Dried Milk	9,358 lbs.
Condensed Milk	1,133 tins.

together with drugs, etc.

The approximate cost of the milk given to necessitous cases was £1,319 14s. 1d.

Each necessitous case was carefully investigated before assistance was given, and the usual amount given was 2 lbs. of dried milk or 1½ pints of fresh milk per week to each case.

SUMMARY OF VISITS PAID BY HEALTH VISITORS.

Births (first visits) ...	3,732
„ (re-visits) ...	6,433
Visits to Mothers ...	1,468
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	152
Puerperal Fever ...	16
Measles	1,422
School Complaints ...	752
Special Matters	958
Futile Visits	1,232
Tuberculosis	2,956
<hr/>	
Total visits paid	19,121

During the year an important alteration in the hours of duty of the Health Visitors was put into effect. Previously they were on duty from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturdays. In place of this they now work for 3 hours on certain evenings in the week. It

is found that in many homes an evening visit is much appreciated especially when the parents are out at work during the day. It is occasionally useful to be able to have a talk to the father of the family, who is, of course, not generally at home in the day time.

A further advantage is that the Health Visitors get an intermission of two whole days in their duties every week. It may be added that one of them attends on Saturday in rotation to attend to any urgent matters.

HOSTEL FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND THEIR INFANTS.

This Hostel at 4, The Terrace, Old Ford Road, is under the control of the London Diocesan Council for Rescue and Preventive Work, and provides for about six mothers with their infants. I am informed that a grant of £131 19s. 9d. was made to this institution during 1920 by the Ministry of Health.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The following examinations were carried out by the Clinical Research Association and the Royal Institute of Public Health:—

Throat Swabs—Submitted for examination	391
Diphtheria bacilli present in	81
Sputum—Specimens submitted for examination	...
Tubercle bacilli present in	...
Blood-serum—Specimens examined	...
4 of these gave a negative Widal result to Typhoid Fever.	5
Fæces—2 specimens submitted.	

In addition to the above, 4 samples of milk were examined bacteriologically.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of notifications of cases of Tuberculosis received during the year is set out in the Table appended hereto.

Owing to duplicate notifications of cases, no deductions of much value can be drawn from the number of notifications.

There were 173 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 13 deaths from Tuberculous Meningitis, and 11 deaths from other Tuberculous diseases.

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

186 ex-Service men were under observation during the year. There were 19 deaths amongst these, and 7 removed from the Borough.

330 visits were paid to these men by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor.

WORK OF TUBERCULOSIS HEALTH VISITOR.

This Officer paid 2,956 visits to cases.

During the year 60 sputum flasks were distributed to patients. 50 sputum tins with 1,500 cardboard refills were distributed to patients for use indoors.

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1912.
Summary of Notifications received during the Year, 1920.

Primary Notifications (1).													Total.	Cases re-notified.	Total Notifications on Form A.	Primary Notifica- tions by School Medical Inspectors.			Cases re-notified.	Total Notifications on Form B.			
Years.																Years.							
0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and up- wards.						Under 5	5 to 10	10 to 15					
Tuberculosis of Lungs—																							
Male	7	9	15	15	29	36	35	25	3	174	69	243	...	...	1	...	1		
Female	3	6	8	14	20	22	13	4	4	94	27	121	...	1	...	...	1		
Tuberculosis (other parts)																							
Male	5	9	4	1	2	2	3	2	...	28	7	35	...	2	2	2	6		
Female	3	9	7	4	...	4	3	...	...	30	6	36	...	2	1	...	3		

(1) These are all new cases to Bethnal Green, but have sometimes been already notified in other Districts.

NO. OF NOTIFICATIONS ON FORM C.

	Poor Law Institutions.	Sanatoria.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis—		
Male 	8	120
Female 	2	41
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis—		
Male 	5	5
Female 	2	8

NO. OF NOTIFICATIONS ON FORM D.

	Poor Law Institutions.	Sanatoria.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis—		
Male 	45	61
Female 	20	18
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis—		
Male 	5	2
Female 	1	6

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

The arrangement whereby the Dispensary is provided by the Governors of the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest continued in force throughout the year.

A full report on the work of the Dispensary by Dr. H. T. Howell, Clinical Tuberculosis Officer, appears in the appendix to this report, on page 73.

NURSING ASSISTANCE.

Up to the limits permissible by law, a very complete scheme of home nursing is now in operation. Such nursing is carried out by the mediation of a voluntary organisation, the Shoreditch and Bethnal Green Nursing Association. For each visit a charge of tenpence is made to the Council by the Association. As regards children under the age of five years, the Ministry of Health have sanctioned expenditure on the nursing of all sick cases, but grant is only paid by the Ministry in respect of certain specified conditions, *i.e.*, Measles, Whooping Cough, Diarrhœa, Ophthalmia Neonatorum and Poliomyelitis, which come within the Council's Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme.

During the year 211 children under the age of 5 were nursed, a total of 3,224 visits being made at a cost of £134 6s. 8d. Of this expenditure £58 4s. 2d. was expenditure under the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme.

Fifteen mothers received 154 visits for nursing in connection with conditions incidental to child-bearing, the cost being £6 8s. 4d.

Fifty-four adults and children over 5 received 694 visits for nursing at a cost of £28 18s. 4d.

NURSING ASSISTANCE 1920.

Disease.	Under Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme.						Under Public Health Acts.			
	Under 1 year.		1-5 years.		Mothers.		Children under 5		Others.	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	18	604	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	4	41	57	662	...	...	...	...	8	67
Pneumonia	53	731	30	483
Whooping Cough...	2	56	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever
Other post-natal conditions	15	154	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea	3	34	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other diseases:—										
Threadworms	8	59	...	...
Stomatitis	1	8	...	...
Spinal disease	1	35	...	...
Hæmorrhage	1	4	...	...
Impetigo	3	35	...	...
Constipation	1	1	...	...
Abscess	10	125	...	...
Scalds	3	126	...	...
Influenza...	3	15	16	144
Bronchitis	18	146	...	...
Pyrexia	3	14	...	...
Tubercular Glands	1	7	...	...
Otorrhœa	2	20	...	...
Circumcision	2	24	...	...
Blepharitis	3	251	...	...
Ulcerated mouth	1	6	...	...
Convulsions	1	2	...	...
Marasmus	5	42	...	...
Septic Rash	1	18	...	...
Nasal Catarrh	1	9	...	...
Hernia	1	15	...	...
Injuries	1	54	...	...
Ulcers	1	47	...	...
Excision of tonsils	1	3	...	...
Conjunctivitis	1	30	...	...
Totals.	22	645	62	752	15	154	127	1827	54	694

10 cases were in hand at the beginning of the year.

9 cases were in hand at the end of the year.

A total of 4,072 visits were paid to 280 cases at a cost of £169 13s. 4d.

MILKSHOPS AND DAIRIES.

Thirty three applications for registration under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders were considered during 1920, and were acceded to.*

The figures in regard to registration of Milkshops are set out below:—

Number of purveyors of milk at retail milk-shops on register at end of 1919	190
<i>Deduct</i> number of purveyors removed from register during 1920	5
<i>Add</i> number of new purveyors added to register by resolution of the Public Health Committee during 1920	9
Number of purveyors of milk at retail milk-shops on register at end of 1920	194

During the year 690 inspections of milkshops were made by the Inspectors, and 91 notices were served under the Public Health (London) Act, 1891.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.—One prosecution was undertaken under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders of 1885 and 1886.

COWHOUSES.

There were at the end of 1920 twelve licensed cowhouses in the Borough, as in previous years. 59 inspections were made during the year.

* This includes changes of occupiers in premises previously registered.

LIST OF LICENSED COWHOUSES.

- 63, Bishop's Road.—(*No. of cows*—Shed No. 1—8 cows, Shed No. 2—6 cows.)
- 42, Cheshire Street.—(6 cows.)
- 23, Ezra Street.—(6 cows.)
- 38, Fellbrigg Street.—(*No. of cows*—Shed No. 1—8 cows, Shed No. 2—3 cows.)
- 104, Gibraltar Walk.—(18 cows.)
- 34b, Green Street.—(45 cows.)
- 1, Hamilton Road.—(13 cows.)
- 55, Kerbela Street.—(*No. of cows*—Shed No. 1—18 cows, Shed No. 2—2 cows.)
- 2, Lisbon Street.—(19 cows.)
- 64, Squirries Street.—(14 cows.)
- 38, Three Colts Lane.—(23 cows.)
- 6, Warley Street.—(10 cows.)

ICE CREAM PREMISES.

205 visits were paid to these premises by the district inspectors during 1920. No legal proceedings were taken in respect of the manufacture and sale of ice cream.

FRIED FISH AND FISH-CURING
PREMISES.

At the end of 1920 there were 50 fried fish vendors' premises in the Borough, at two of which curing was also carried on. There were 25 fish curers' premises, including these two. 488 visits were made by the Food Inspector to these premises.

UN SOUND FOOD.

The Food Inspector has kept under regular inspection food exposed or deposited for sale in slaughter houses, shops (especially butchers', cooked meat and fishmongers' shops), stalls, and market places.

Twelve seizures of unsound food have been made during 1920, as follow:—

SEIZURES.

Date.	Description of Article.	Weight.	Prosecution and Result.
19/5/20	Liquid Egg Margarine Condensed Milk	21 lbs. 24 „ 5 tins.	Fined £50. Costs £3 3s.
?/7/20	Cherries	70 lbs.	P.H. Committee decided not to prosecute.
22/7/20	Roe (fish)	28 „	Fined £1. Costs £2 2s.
16/9/20	Pears	32 „	„ 15s.
28/9/20	„	30 „	„ 15s.
29/9/20	„	75 „	„ £2.
30/9/20	Conger Eel	8 „	Summons not served; correct address could not be obtained.
3/11/20	Eggs	278 in number	Owner absconded before his name and address could be obtained.
4/11/20	Pears	108 lbs.	Fined £1
9/11/20	Condensed Milk	11 tins	„ 10s.
8/12/20	Eggs	124 in number	„ £2.
28/12/20	Meat	102 lbs.	„ £7. Costs £3 3s.

On 80 occasions during the year the following articles of unsound food have been surrendered by the owners to the Food Inspector, and destroyed as trade refuse,

ARTICLES SURRENDERED.

Description of Article.	Weight.
Fish	17 cwt. 67 lbs.
Meat	11 „ 109 „
Fruit (Excluding 129 tins of pears, 2 bundles of Tangerines and 1,000 tins of pineapple*)	4 tons 13 cwts. 9 lbs.
Eggs	14,163 in number.
Others Articles 100 quarters of damaged Wheat and 24 tins of Condensed Milk.	1 cwt. 88 lbs. and

* The weight of which was not ascertained.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There were three licensed slaughter houses in the Borough at the end of 1920, situated at—

294, Bethnal Green Road,
354, Bethnal Green Road,
278, Hackney Road.

Fourteen visits were made to Slaughter Houses by the Food Inspector during the Year.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

714 samples were taken and examined. 667 of these proved to be “genuine,” and 47, or 6·6 per cent., adulterated. The details are given in the following table:—

SUMMARY OF ANALYST'S REPORTS.

Article.	Samples taken formally.			Samples taken informally.			Total number of samples taken.
	No. taken.	Genuine.	Adulterated.	No. taken.	Genuine.	Adulterated.	
Milk	341	328	13	22	14	8	363
Vinegar	65	58	7	8	6	2	73
Butter.. ..	59	58	1	13	9	4	72
Jam	39	36	3	3	2	1	42
Margarine	19	19	..	2	2	..	21
Flour	14	14	..	..	..	..	14
Coffee	14	14	..	..	..	..	14
Cocoa	12	12	..	..	..	..	12
Lard	11	11	..	..	..	..	11
Marmalade	10	10	..	..	..	..	10
Pepper	7	7	..	2	2	..	9
Mustard	8	8	..	..	..	..	8
Condensed Milk	2	..	2	4	4	..	6
Camphorated Oil	2	1	1	4	1	3	6
Olive Oil	5	5	..	..	..	..	5
Oatmeal	1	1	..	3	3	..	4
Chocolates .. ..	..	..	..	4	4	..	4
Sago	4	4	..	..	..	..	4
Cotton-seed Oil	4	4	..	..	..	..	4
Ground Ginger.. ..	4	4	..	..	..	..	4
Strong Tincture of Iodine	3	2	1	1	..	1	4
Calomel Ointment	3	3	..	..	..	..	3
Sweetmeat .. ..	..	..	..	3	3	..	3
Dripping	2	2	..	..	..	..	2
Sugar	2	2	..	..	..	..	2
Treacle	2	2	..	..	..	..	2
Custard Powder .. ..	..	..	..	2	2	..	2
Scones .. ..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1
Rice	1	1	..	..	..	..	1
Concentrated Tea, Sugar and Milk .. ..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1
Concentrated Coffee, Sugar and Milk .. ..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1
Tea Tablets .. ..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1
Cornflour	1	1	..	..	..	..	1
Cheese .. ..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1
Crushed Linseed .. ..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1
Herbal Mixture	1	1	..	..	..	..	1
Pork Sausage .. ..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1
Totals.	636	608	28	78	59	19	714

Prosecutions were instituted in respect of 22 of the 28 formal samples which were reported to be adulterated. Full details are set forth in the following table:—

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION REGARDING SAMPLES NOT REPORTED TO BE GENUINE.

Name of Article.	Identi- fication Number given to the sample.	Result of Analysis.	If any legal pro- ceedings were instituted under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, state result, showing fines and costs separately.	If any legal pro- ceedings were taken under Acts other than Sale of Food & Drugs Acts, state the result, showing fines and costs separately.	If no legal proceedings were institu- ted, state briefly the course adopted in regard to each sample	Information, if any, as to previous convictions.	Remarks on any point of special interest.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Vinegar ..	No. 4	Contained 23 per cent. of added water.	Vendor paid £1 1s. costs.	..	..	..	..
do. ..	.. 8	Contained 25 per cent. of added water.	Vendor paid £1 1s. costs.	..	..	..	..
Milk ..	.. 32	Found to be 10 per cent. deficient in fat.	Vendor fined £2 Costs £1 1s.	..	..	..	..
do. ..	.. 45	Contained 9 per cent. of added water.	Vendor fined £3 3s. Costs £3 3s.	..	..	..	..

24

do. ..	.. 47	Contained 8 per cent. of added water.	Withdrawn by informant. See column 8	..	..	..	It was proved that this sample was from the same churn as sample No. 45 for which a conviction was obtained the same day.
Butter ..	.. 505	Found to be 100 per cent. margarine.	Vendor paid costs, £2 2s.	..	..	6th December, 1917. Vendor was fined £2 in respect of adulterated vinegar.	..
Milk 522	Found to be 18 per cent. deficient in fat.	Vendor fined £15. Costs, £5.	16th July, 1907. Vendor fined £2 for selling butter 16 per cent. deficient in fat. 5th December, 1912. Fined £1, costs £1 3s., for selling milk contain- ing 10 per cent. of added water. 6th April, 1916. Fined £1, costs £1 1s., for selling milk 5 per cent. deficient in fat. 15th June, 1916. Committed for trial at Central Criminal Court on charge of conspiracy in connection with a false warranty. Bound over in sum of £50, and ordered to pay £30 towards cost of prosecution.	..

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ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION REGARDING SAMPLES NOT REPORTED TO BE GENUINE.—*Continued.*

Name of Article	Identification Number given to the sample.	Result of Analysis.	If any legal proceedings were instituted under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, state result, showing fines and costs separately.	If any legal proceedings were taken under Acts other than Sale of Food & Drugs Acts, state the result, showing fines and costs separately.	If no legal proceedings were instituted, state briefly the course adopted in regard to each sample.	Information, if any, as to previous convictions.	Remarks on any point of special interest.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Vinegar ..	No. 97	Contained 5 per cent. of added water.	..	..	Vendor cautioned by order of Public Health Committee.	..	..
Milk .. ..	.. 119	Contained 5 per cent. of added water.	Vendor fined £2. Costs, £1 1s.	..	..	..	..
do. .. ..	.. 120	Found to be 13 per cent. deficient in fat.	Vendor fined £2. Costs, £1 1s.	..	..	..	..
do. .. ..	.. 121	Contained 10 per cent. of added water.	Vendor fined £2. Costs, £1 1s.	..	..	..	..
do. .. ..	.. 122	Found to be 14 per cent. deficient in fat.	Vendor fined £2. Costs, £1 1s.	..	..	..	..
do. .. ..	.. 180	Found to be 13 per cent. deficient in fat.	Dismissed.	..	..	30th September, 1915. Vendor fined £10, costs £1 1s., for refusal to serve Inspector. 1st July, 1918. Fined £10, costs £2 2s., for selling milk 10 per cent. deficient in fat.	Warranty proved.
Plum Jam ..	.. 530	Contained 10 per cent. of apple pulp.	Dismissed.	..	..	..	Warranty proved.
Raspberry Jam	.. 309	Contained 40 per cent. of apple pulp.	Dismissed.	..	..	..	Nature of article demanded not proved to satisfaction of Magistrate.
Vinegar ..	.. 339	Contained 19 per cent. of added water.	Vendor paid costs, £1 1s.	..	..	..	..

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION REGARDING SAMPLES NOT REPORTED TO BE GENUINE.—*Continued.*

Name of Article.	Indenti- fication Number given to the sample.	Result of Analysis.	If any legal pro- ceedings were instituted under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, state result, showing fines and costs separately.	If any legal pro- ceedings were taken under Acts other than Sale of Food & Drugs Acts, state the result, showing fines and costs separately.	If no legal proceedings were institu- ted, state briefly the course adopted in regard to each sample.	Information, if any, as to previous convictions.	Remarks on any point of special interest.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Milk	No. 369	Found to be 16 per cent. deficient in fat.	Vendor fined £15. Costs, £5.	..	..	16th March, 1916. Vendor fined 18s., costs £1 1s., for selling milk 32 per cent. deficient in fat. 5th September, 1917. Fined £10, costs £2 2s., for obstructing Inspector in the course of his duties. 14th March, 1918. Fined £18, costs £2, for selling milk 12 per cent. deficient in fat.	..
Milk .. ..	.. 394	Contained 5 per cent. of added water.	..	..	No prosecu- tion in view of warning notice to purchaser exhibited in shop.	..	..

Raspberry Jam	.. 461	Contained 50 per cent. apple pulp.	..	..	No action taken in consequence of nature of article demanded being in doubt.	..	..
Milk .. ..	.. 488	Contained 8½ per cent. of added water.	Vendor fined £40. Costs, £10.	..	..	15 April, 1920. Vendor fined £2, costs £1 1s., on each of four summonses for selling milk deficient in fat.	..
do. .. ..	.. 513	Found to be 16 per cent. deficient in fat.	Vendor fined £1. Costs, £1 1s.	..	..	..	..
Vinegar ..	.. 538	Contained 15 per cent. of added water.	Vendor fined £1. Costs, £1 1s.	..	..	..	..
do. .. ..	.. 548	Contained 10 per cent. of added water.	Vendor fined £2. Costs, £2 2s.	..	..	8th May, 1913. Vendor fined 10s., costs 12s. 6d., for selling glycerine containing 35 per cent. sugar. 4th August, 1913. Fined 5s., costs 12s. 6d., for selling vinegar 55 per cent. deficient in acetic acid.	..
o. .. ..	.. 567	Contained 17 per cent. of added water.	Vendor fined £5 Costs, £2 2s.	..	..	..	..

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION REGARDING SAMPLES NOT REPORTED TO BE GENUINE.—*Continued.*

Name of Article.	Identification Number given to the sample.	Result of Analysis.	If any legal proceedings were instituted under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, state result, showing fines and costs separately.	If any legal proceedings were taken under Acts other than Sale of Food & Drugs Acts, state the result, showing fines and costs separately.	If no legal proceedings were instituted, state briefly the course adopted in regard to each sample.	Information, if any, as to previous convictions.	Remarks on any point of special interest.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Condensed Milk	No. 577	Contained 94 per cent. less than the proper amount of fat. (Proved to be a sample of machine skimmed milk.)	..	..	No prosecution in respect of adulteration, but vendor summoned for selling unlabelled machine skimmed milk. (See offences other than adulteration.)	..	..
Camphorated Oil	.. 539	Found to be 26 per cent. deficient in camphor.	Vendor fined £5. Costs, £2.	..	..	..	..

40

Condensed Milk	.. 603	Found to contain 91 per cent. less than the proper amount of fat, and to be in a decomposed condition. (Proved to be a sample of machine skimmed milk.)	..	..	No prosecution in respect of adulteration, but vendor summoned for selling unlabelled machine skimmed milk. (See offences other than adulteration.)	..	..
Strong tincture of Iodine 616	Contained 75 per cent. less than the amount of Iodine prescribed by the British Pharmacopoeia.	Vendor paid costs, £2 2s.

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SAMPLES TAKEN INFORMALLY.

Of the 21 samples of milk taken informally, 7 were found to be adulterated. The results of the analyses were:—

Sample No. 37 $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of added water.

„	153	6	„	„
„	104	10	„	„
„	152	13	„	deficient in fat.
„	157	13	„	„
„	360	23	„	„
„	472	24	„	„

Thirteen informal samples of butter were taken, 4 of which were adulterated as follows:—

Sample No. 585 80 per cent. of foreign fat.

„	586	80	„	„
„	150	67	„	margarine
„	582	100	„	„

Out of 8 informal samples of vinegar, 2 were found to be adulterated, containing:—

Sample No. 19 39 per cent. of added water.

„	103	$17\frac{1}{2}$	„	„
---	-----	-----------------	---	---

Of the four informal samples of camphorated oil, 3 were found to be adulterated as follows:—

Sample No. 576 $69\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. deficient in camphor.

„	606	$61\frac{1}{2}$	„	„
„	636	47	„	„

Of the 3 informal samples of jam taken, 2 were found to be genuine and 1 to be adulterated with 30 per cent. of apple pulp.

One informal sample of strong Tincture of Iodine was found to be 75 per cent. deficient in Iodine.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK AND CREAM)
REGULATIONS, 1912 & 1917.

The following is a report of the work done under the Regulations during the year ended the 31st December, 1920.

363 samples of milk were taken, and in no case was a preservative reported to be present.

No samples of cream were taken.

No contraventions of the Regulations were discovered.

“APPEAL TO COW” SAMPLES.

No samples of milk were taken direct from the cow during 1920, there being no requests received for such action.

OFFENCES OTHER THAN ADULTERATION.

Article.	No. of Sample	Offence.	Result of Prosecution.
Milk	33	Selling milk from a can on which name and address of vendor was not conspicuously inscribed.	Fined £1, costs £1 1s.
Margarine	26	Selling margarine by retail in plain wrapper	Fined £3.
Milk	329	Selling milk from a vehicle on which name and address of vendor was not conspicuously inscribed.	Fined 10s., costs 10s.
"	377	Obstructing Inspector in the course of his duties.	Fined £20, costs £5 5s.
Margarine	539	(1) Exposing for sale by retail an unlabelled parcel.	Fined 10s., costs 10s.
		(2) Selling margarine by retail in plain wrapper.	Fined 10s., costs 10s.
"	544	Exposing for sale by retail an unlabelled parcel.	Ordered to pay costs 20s.
Condensed Milk ..	577	Selling condensed skimmed milk without a label thereon stating "Machine-skimmed milk" or "Skimmed Milk."	Fined £5.
" ..	603	Selling condensed skimmed milk without a label thereon stating "Machine-skimmed milk" or "Skimmed Milk."	Fined £2.

The case of obstruction noted above (Milk No. 377) deserves special mention. The defendant was a notorious offender, having been convicted of adulteration on six previous occasions. In the last two prosecutions fines of £20 and £30 respectively were imposed. The defendant had been observed on this occasion to be carrying out manipulations with various cans on his barrow in the intervals between serving customers. He was then accosted by an Inspector who took a formal sample of milk from one of his cans. It was observed that the defendant, on becoming aware of the approach of the Inspector, hastily filled up this can from the churn. This sample was subsequently reported upon as being "genuine" milk. The Inspector then asked for half-a-pint of milk from a milk can hanging on the handle of the barrow. The defendant made no reply but lifted the lid and the can was found to be empty. Another can on the barrow was then indicated and the defendant was asked what the contents were. He stated that the can was empty. On being pressed in the matter he deliberately lifted the lid and spilled the contents over the barrow. The Inspector was only able to conserve a small amount of milk, not large enough for formal division. On analysis this informal sample was found to contain 48 per cent. of added water. Other cans on the barrow were then examined and four of them were found to contain altogether 6 quarts of water. A sample of milk from the churn was found to be "genuine."

The procedure of the defendant apparently was to keep cans of water on his barrow and add genuine milk to such water according to the "gullibility" of the purchaser. He evidently calculated that he would get off more lightly on an obstruction prosecution than on a prosecution for extreme adulteration.

GENERAL SANITARY

WORK OF SANITARY

TOTAL NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS AND PARTICULARS OF CASES

DISTRICT.	Infectious Cases.	Complaints.	House to House Inspections.	Trade Inspections.	Re-Inspections.	Milkshop Inspections.	Factory and Workshop Inspections.	Outworkers' Home Inspections.	Tenement House Inspections.	New Buildings Inspections.	Ice Cream Shop Inspections.	Combined Drainage Inspections.
A	470	803	..	..	2974	87	471	56	34	..	31	..
B	397	606	..	..	3163	53	175	259	11	..	31	..
C	314	623	..	1	3724	51	172	2	48	..	25	..
D	185	65	..	..	4612	175	627	38	113	..	29	..
E	269	628	..	..	2036	40	71	1	6	13	29	..
F	310	696	..	..	3103	28	224	18	23	12	17	145
..	..	4	22	..	53	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	1165	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..
1	31	..	..	783	..	..	1856	..	..	..	..	..
4	1	..	..	178	24	486	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTALS	1950	3445	22	1166	20537	458	2226	2230	245	25	162	145

ADMINISTRATION.

BY INSPECTORS.

CASES IN HAND FOR THE YEAR ENDED 25TH DECEMBER, 1920.

Smoke Nuisances. Premises under Observation.	Other Inspections or work of Special Character.	Number of Calls.	Unsound Food Seizures.	Samples of Food and Drugs taken.	Police Court Attendances.	Nuisances Abated.	Number of Cases in Hand.	Total Visits for the Year.	Inspector.
1	275	119	..	..	3	899	63	5321	G. I. Brighting.
..	110	400	..	..	..	946	56	5205	J. H. Hewitt.
7	85	318	2	4	19	1064	72	5370	W. Billings.
..	146	97	..	3	4	1009	41	5987	F. Bare.
6	95	266	..	..	4	680	50	3470	E. J. Jenkins.
..	37	537	..	7	..	1176	68	5150	I. R. Jones.
..	818	1	..	2	35	140	..	898	E. Richard's.
..	..	230	9	54	47	1	..	1395	W. Rowsell.
..	..	..	1	701	99	..	..	..	J. G. Weeks.
..	404	72	..	..	..	449	9	3147	Miss A. F. Murphy.
..	..	1	..	..	..	71	..	694	W. E. Galvin (Voluntary Inspector working "E" District from 22-5-20 to 24-7-20).
14	1970	2042	12	771	211	6234	359	36637	

TOTAL NUMBER OF SANITARY DEFECTS DISCOVERED
DURING 1920.

Month.	Dirty Premises.	Defective Drains.	Defective and Dirty W.C.'s.	Defective Water. Supply.	Smoke Nuisances	Other Matters.	Total.
Jan.	316	35	223	72	—	622	1268
Feb.	273	37	193	34	—	680	1217
Mar.	341	40	225	40	—	650	1296
April	220	47	159	27	—	335	788
May	359	63	211	39	—	508	1180
June	610	79	396	69	2	848	2004
July	311	83	130	118	—	942	1584
Aug.	265	52	128	103	—	706	1254
Sept.	447	63	232	59	2	753	1556
Oct.	446	116	176	164	—	1474	2376
Nov.	419	98	152	131	—	1309	2109
Dec.	468	108	124	152	—	1380	2232
Totals	4475	821	2349	1008	4	10207	18864

During the year 3,726 Preliminary Notices were served requiring the remedying of a Nuisance. 5,769 Statutory Notices were served.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

This Act came into force on January 1st, 1920, and the Medical Officer of Health was appointed the Officer for administrative purposes. It was not found necessary to appoint any special Officer for rat destruction, owing to the rat problem being of minor importance in Bethnal Green as compared with some other localities.

A good deal of advice was given to persons who complained of rats and a few informal notices were served on persons whose premises were found to harbour rats, or not to be rat-proof. 211 tins of rat-poison were also distributed.

SMOKE PREVENTION.

During the year 74 observations of smoke shafts were made. There were no prosecutions.

REGULATED TRADES.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.—There is only one licensed premises for such trades in Bethnal Green, viz., a tripe dresser's in Bethnal Green Road.

Three visits were paid to these premises. No legal proceedings were taken during the year.

RAG FLOCK ACT, 1911.

Nine samples were taken under this Act during 1920. One prosecution was instituted (see page 81).

DISINFECTION SERVICE.

During the year, 1,852 rooms were disinfected for various reasons, one-and-a-quarter tons of sulphur candles and 25 gallons of Creocide being used for this purpose.

It is proposed in future to use liquid Formalin in the form of a spray for disinfection.

The table appended gives full details of the rooms, bedding and clothing disinfected.

There were also :—

Articles destroyed	...	...	...	57
Articles disinfected in Formalin Chamber				650
Books from Borough Library disinfected				344
Rooms in schools disinfected	...	...		2
Hospital Wards disinfected	...	...		15

MOTOR DISINFECTING VANS.

During the year, the hand-drawn trucks previously used for conveying bedding and clothing to and from the Disinfecting Station were replaced by two motor vans purchased from the Belsize Motor Co., Ltd.

ROOMS, BEDDING AND CLOTHING DISINFECTED DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1920.

Month.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Enteric and Typhoid.	Vermineous Rooms.	Cancer.	Erysipelas.	Chicken Pox.	Scabies.	Measles.	Influenza.	Pneumonia.	By Request.	Total No. of Rooms.	Total No. of Articles.
January	33	63	7	2	1	1	..	..	6	2	..	..	1	116	2493
February	33	48	14	1	15	..	..	1	6	3	..	..	..	121	1976
March	41	51	8	..	11	2	2	..	6	6	..	4	6	137	2303
April	46	39	14	..	13	..	..	..	3	4	..	..	1	120	1777
May	46	34	12	..	19	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	3	116	2084
June	65	34	11	..	29	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	131	1522
July	69	37	4	..	7	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	120	2051
August	75	47	14	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	142	2134
September	115	57	10	..	3	..	..	..	2	..	1	1	2	191	2459
October	162	45	8	..	5	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	3	225	4090
November	213	48	7	..	2	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	273	4830
December	101	38	12	..	2	2	..	2	1	..	..	..	2	160	2232
	999	541	121	3	102	7	6	3	28	15	2	6	19	1852	29,451

DISTRIBUTION OF DISINFECTANTS.

Thirty-nine casks of Sanitas powder, made up into 2,730 packets, were distributed.

1,900 pint bottles of Sanitas Fluid and 5,037 pint tins of Izal Fluid were also distributed.

The foregoing quantities of disinfectants are excessive in my opinion, in so far as they are principally used as deodorants, that is, for removing smells. Such smells usually arise from lack of cleanliness and want of attention given to foul traps and gullies. It is doubtful whether the distribution of disinfectants without supervision leads in any way to the prevention of infectious disease, and possibly harm may result if persons are led thereby to place reliance on such substances, and not pay sufficient attention to personal hygiene and cleanliness.

Steps are now being taken to restrict the issue of disinfectants to within reasonable limits.

SHELTER FOR CONTACTS, 3, ST. JAMES ROAD.

Fortunately but little use had to be made of the Shelter during the year. Three families were accommodated for very short periods, in no case exceeding 24 hours.

CUSTOMS AND INLAND REVENUE ACTS.

APPLICATIONS FOR EXEMPTION FROM INHABITED HOUSE DUTY.

No applications for certificates under these Acts were received during the year 1920,

PUBLIC MORTUARY STATISTICS 1920.

Bodies removed to Mortuary:—

On Coroner's order	...	...	116
By Police	...	...	12
By Sanitary Inspector's order	...		1
At request of relatives	...	...	35
Total	...	...	<u>164</u>

Number of Inquests held ... 127

Number of post-mortem examinations made ... 92

Particulars of Bodies on which Inquests were held:—

Bodies removed by Police from Canal	...	...	3
Bodies removed by Police from Street, etc.	...	...	7
Bodies removed by Police from Great Eastern Railway	...		1
Bodies received from Bethnal Green Hospital	...	...	14
Bodies received from Queen's Hospital	...	...	6
Bodies received from Mildmay Mission Hospital	...	...	2
Bodies received from Private Houses, etc.	...	...	94
Total	...	...	<u>127</u>

Inquest cases according to age period:—

No. under 1 year	...	...	...	30
„ over 1 year and under 5 years				12
„ „ 5 „ „ 10 „				5
„ „ 10 „ „ 20 „				5
„ „ 20 „ „ 30 „				4
„ „ 30 „ „ 40 „				6
„ „ 40 „ „ 50 „				12
„ „ 50 „ „ 60 „				19
„ „ 60 „ „ 70 „				16
„ „ 70 „ „ 80 „				13
„ „ 80 and over	...	...		5
Total	...	...	...	<u>127</u>

Causes of Death in Inquest cases:—

Natural causes	...	...	...	81
Accidental—Choked by a piece of meat	...	...		1
„ Burns	...	...		2
„ Drowning	...	...		4
„ Falls	...	...		6
„ Gas Poisoning	...			1
„ Run over by Motor Lorry	...	...		2
„ Scalds	...	...		3
„ Suffocation whilst in Bed	...	...		7

Misadventure—Death whilst under				
Chloroform	...	...	...	1
Suicide—Drowning	...	...	...	2
„ Fall from window	...	...	...	1
„ Gas Poisoning	...	...	...	3
„ Hanging	...	...	...	4
„ Poisoning	...	...	...	1
„ Revolver Shot	...	...	...	1
„ Run over by a train	...	...	...	1
Alcoholic excess	...	...	...	1
Manslaughter	...	...	...	1
Wilful Murder	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	2
Measles	...	...	...	1
				—
Total	...	...	...	127
				—

Bodies received under the Public
Health (London) Act:—

Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	3
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1
				—
Total	...	...	...	5
				—

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.

Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	142	20	..
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	3,916	851	6
WORKPLACES (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	13	1	..
Total	4,071	872	6

Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspctr.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	365	361	..	..
Want of Ventilation	24	24	..	..
Overcrowding	2	2	..	..
Want of drainage of floors	2	2	..	..
Other nuisances	1,047	1,042	..	5
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient	22	20	..	1
{ unsuitable or defective	345	345	..	..
{ not separate for sexes	15	13	..	..
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bake-houses (s. 101) .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)	48	48	..	2
Other offences	13	13	..	..
(Excluding offences relating to out-work which are included in Part 3 of this Report)				
Total	1,883	1,870	..	8

HOME WORK.

Nature of Work.	OUTWORKERS LISTS, SECTION 107.											Outwork in un-wholesome premises, Section 108.			Outwork in Infected premises, Sections 109, 110.		
	Lists received from Employers.						Addresses of Outworkers.		Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists.	Prosecutions.		Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.	Instances.	Orders made, (s. 110).	Prosecutions (s. 109, 110).
	Sending twice in the year.			Sending once in the year						Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists.	Failing to send lists.						
	Lists.	Outworkers.		Lists	Outworkers.		Received from other Councils.	Forwarded to other Councils.									
		Con-tractors	Work-men.		Con-tractors	Work-men.											
Wearing Apparel— Making, etc. ..	143	44	1393	8	..	21	1447	797	58	..	..	246	209	..	..	..	..
Curtains and Furniture hangings	2	..	17	..	..	..	7	..	1	..	..	6	4	..	..	..	..
Furniture and upholstery .. ..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fur-pulling	2	..	14	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Umbrellas, etc.	6	..	16	..	..	..	74	4	1	..	..	13	11	..	..	..	..
Artificial Flowers	2	..	43	..	..	..	36	17	1	..	..	5	4	..	..	..	..
Paper, etc., Boxes, Paper Bags	32	..	856	1	..	1	293	307	15	1	..	164	149	..	..	..	..
Brush-making	5	..	497	1	..	1	111	348	5	..	..	35	31	..	..	..	..
Stuffed Toys	2	..	24	..	..	..	1	16	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
Basket-making .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cosques, Christmas Crackers, Christmas Stockings, etc. .. ..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Textile Weaving	2	..	23	..	..	..	6	1	1	..	..	7	5	..	..	..	..
Total	196	44	2886	11	..	24	1975	1491	84	1	..	477	414	..	..	..	..

HOME WORKERS.

Of the 4,929 workmen and contractors whose names appeared on the lists sent in by employers, 3,438 resided within the Borough. In 1919 the number was practically the same, being 3,490.

This figure, 3,438 is approximately double the number of individual workers as in the majority of cases the same people are notified in February and in August.

The number of visits paid to Home Workers' dwellings by Miss Murphy, the Sanitary Inspector detailed for this work, was 3,153. The number of premises found to be in an insanitary condition was 477, or 27 per cent. of the premises inspected.

Notices were served in 414 cases, the other 63 premises being already under notice arising from other visits.

Overcrowding was found to be a common defect, but it was not found possible under the prevailing circumstances to effect much improvement in this condition by the threat of legal action.

A few cases of infectious disease have occurred in outworkers homes, but no action was necessary as no homework was on the premises at the time, a circumstance explained by the extensive unemployment which was prevalent.

HOUSING.

On the recommendation of the Public Health Committee, the Council on February 5th, 1920, approved of the formation of a special staff for housing work, under the general supervision of the Medical Officer of Health. The following officers were appointed and commenced their duties on April 12th, 1920.

Chief Sanitary Inspector J. Foot.—Housing Superintendent.

Sanitary Inspectors A. S. Henley, E. Ainley.—Housing Inspectors.

Sanitary Inspectors S. H. Taylor (left December 28th, 1920), W. F. Mayo.—Housing Inspectors (temporary).

Mr. W. H. Heron.—General Assistant.

Mr. J. Godwin and Miss C. Lane.—Clerks (temporary).

Of the above Messrs. Taylor, Mayo, Godwin, and Miss Lane were temporary officers specially engaged for the purpose. No. 20, Patriot Square, a house adjoining the Town Hall was furnished and equipped as an office.

The officers of the Housing Section were for most of the year engaged in a survey of the various unhealthy areas of the Borough, having in view the wish and intention of the Council to undertake a number of very urgently necessary clearance schemes. Before the end of the year it became evident that insuperable obstacles, financial and otherwise, stood in the way of

these intentions. The activities of the Housing Officers were thereupon diverted to work of a remedial nature. During the year and apart from the numerous inspections made by the District Sanitary Inspectors, the special Housing staff made a detailed inspection (including measurements) of 1,354 houses. Arising out of these visits of inspection, 651 notices were served on owners to effect repairs. A large amount of remedial work arising out of the inspections recorded above remained to be done at the end of the year, and was then in hand.

As to general housing conditions of the Borough there remains but little to add to what was said in last year's Annual Report.

There is practically nothing to show for the year's work so far as the reconstruction of unhealthy areas is concerned. Furthermore no new houses have been erected. But as in previous years the efforts of the Sanitary Inspectors, supported when necessary by legal notices authorised by the Public Health Committee, have been the means of effecting a very large amount of useful and necessary work in improving individual houses.

UNHEALTHY AREAS.

The following is a summary of work carried out during the year on various unhealthy areas:—

(1) *Brady Street Area.*

This area need not be described as it has been fully dealt with in previous Annual Reports. The area was the subject of an Improvement Scheme

propounded by the London County Council during the year, and on June 1st, a Public Local Enquiry was held on this Scheme. The decision of the Ministry of Health on the Scheme is not yet forthcoming.

(2) *Green Street Area.*

This area comprises the following streets:—

Globe Road	Allas Road,
(East Side).	Lansdell Place,
Baker Street,	Portman Place
Bonwell Street,	(North Side),
Butler Street,	Knottisford Street,
Tuscan Street,	Bullards Place,
Warley Street,	Walter Street,
Morpeth Street,	Prospect Terrace,
Usk Street,	Braemar Street,
Smart Street	Moss Street,
Preston Street,	Surat Street,
Green Street (Part of	Davis Place,
South Side),	Violet Row,
Digby Walk,	Bucks Court.
Digby Street,	

On February 20th, 1920, this area of 27 acres was represented to the London County Council as an unhealthy area, but so far no improvement scheme has resulted.

It consists of about 923 houses, a large number of which are scheduled for demolition by the London County Council for the purpose of building a new school.

During the year a house-to-house inspection of the East portion of this area was carried out. The portion inspected, about 12 acres in extent, is bounded on the North Side by Green Street, on the South Side by the Great Eastern Railway, on the East Side by Palmers Road, and the West by the East Side of Warley Street. It consists of 432 houses of various sizes, including shop properties occupied as residences. Some 40 of the houses were unfit for human habitation, 316 required such extensive repair as to necessitate their being temporarily closed during such repair, 71 were in need of minor repairs, and the remaining 5 were in fair condition. The population of the area inspected was 3,228.

(3) *Cranbrook Street Area.*

This area of about 13 acres was on February 20th, 1920, represented to the London County Council as being an unhealthy area, but no improvement scheme has yet resulted.

It comprises the following streets:—

Bonner Street	Havelock Place,
(East Side),	Green Street (North
Mace Street,	Side) (Part of),
Ames Street,	Hersee Place,
Sidney Street,	Tagg Street,
Norton Street,	Old Ford Road (South
Type Street,	Side) (Part of),
Harold Street,	Alma Road
Cranbrook Street,	(South Side).
Cranbrook Road.	

The area comprises 452 houses with a population of 3,504. A house-to-house inspection was carried out during the year. Some 27 of the houses were unfit for human habitation, 190 houses were unfit but capable of improvement if closed for thorough repair, 224 were in need of minor repairs, and the remainder were in fair condition.

(4) *Collingwood Street Area.*

This area of 6 acres, 286 houses and 1,716 population was on February 20th, 1920, represented to the London County Council as being an unhealthy area, but so far no improvement scheme has resulted.

It comprises the following streets:—

Collingwood Street	Buckhurst Street
(East Side) (Part of),	(Both Sides (Part of),
Fellbrigg Street,	Somerford Street
Venice Street,	(South Side) (Part of,
Coventry Street (Both	School Place,
Sides) (Part of),	Octagon Street,
Northampton Street.	

(5) *Pott Street Area.*

This area of 6 acres, 239 houses and population 1,434, was on February 20th, 1920, represented to the London County Council as being an unhealthy area, but so far no improvement scheme has resulted. It is congested with worn-out houses and narrow and badly arranged streets.

It comprises the following streets:—

Fox Street,	Bethnal Green Road
Pott Street,	(Part of South Side),
Coventry Street (Both	Archer Street,
Sides) (Part of),	Lucas Street,
Gales Gardens,	Birkbeck Street
Parliament Place,	(Part of both sides),
Abingdon Street,	Parliament Street,
Glass Street.	

(6) *Pedley Street Area.*

This area of 4 acres, 174 houses and population 1,044, was on February 20th, 1920, represented to the London County Council as being an unhealthy area, but so far no improvement scheme has resulted. A house-to-house inspection was carried out during the year. Some 46 houses were found unfit for human habitation, 65 houses unfit but capable of being made fit if closed for thorough repair, and most of the remaining required minor repairs. There are three Courts in the area, comprising 28 houses, which with two exceptions have only two rooms each. The streets of the area are narrow and the residents are mostly Russian Poles by origin. There is much over-crowding on this area, and in 45 cases this was such as to be a legal nuisance.

The area comprises the following streets:—

Pedley Street	Code Street
(South Side),	(East Side),
Whites Court,	Collyers Court,
Butlers Buildings,	Eckersley Street,
Buxton Street	New Church Street,
(Part of North Side),	Fleet Street Hill,
Weaver Street	Bratley Street.
(North & West Side),	

(7) *Teale Street Area.*

This area, of about 4 acres, comprises 137 houses and a population of 822. A house-to-house inspection was carried out during the year. 36 houses were found to be unfit for human habitation, 93 were unfit but capable of being made fit if closed for thorough repair, and the remaining required minor repairs. This area is eminently suitable for an improvement scheme since there is a fair quantity of land available in the form of large gardens and waste land. It was formally reported to the Borough Council as being an unhealthy area suitable for a reconstruction scheme, and is now under the consideration of the Housing Committee.

It comprises the following streets:—

Pritchards Road	Spencer Passage
(Part of West Side),	(North Side),
Teale Street	Gillman Street,
(Part of South Side),	Queen Caroline
Garner Street	Gardens,
(East Side),	Dinmont Street.
Coate Street (Part of North Side),	

(8) *Diss Street Area.*

This area of about 2 acres, comprises 69 houses and a population of 420. A house-to-house inspection was carried out during the year. Some 26 houses were found to be unfit for human habitation, and 41 houses were unfit but capable of being made fit if closed for thorough repair. This area was formally reported to the Borough Council as being an unhealthy area suitable for a reconstruction scheme. The Western portion of the area has been partly cleared for some time, and the Council considered that this portion was suitable for immediate treatment. In consequence a Reconstruction Scheme was prepared and submitted to the Ministry. A Public Local Enquiry into the Scheme was held on June 18th, 1920. As the approval of the Ministry is not yet forthcoming and the Scheme is likely to take a different form from that first put forth, I do not propose to take up any further space on this matter at present.

The whole area comprises the following streets:

Arline Street (Part)	Stamp Place (Part),
Smiths Buildings,	Chapel Street,
Strouts Place (part).	Diss Street (part).
Pelter Street.	

(9) *Kirkwall Place Area.*

This area of about seven-tenths of an acre, comprises 29 houses with a population of 159. A large proportion of the houses are unfit for human habitation, and they are as a whole hemmed in and obstructive to neighbouring dwellings. This area was formally reported to the Borough Council as being an unhealthy area suitable for a reconstruction scheme.

(10) *Manchester Buildings Area.*

This area of about $\frac{1}{4}$ acre comprises 17 houses with a population of 105. It consists of a court off Menotti Street together with a few houses in Menotti Street. Nine of the houses are unfit for human habitation, and the remainder would require to be vacated if they were to be thoroughly repaired. The houses in Manchester Buildings are built in a hollow, being about 2 feet 9 inches below the pavement level of Menotti Street and are closed in on all sides. This area was formally reported to the Borough Council as being an unhealthy area suitable for a reconstruction scheme.

(11) *Hemming Street Area.*

This area of about nine-tenths of an acre, comprises 29 houses with a population of 116.

Eleven of these houses have been for some time past closed and unoccupied, owing to their structural defects. Three others are unfit for human habitation and only one of the remaining houses can be said to be in good repair. This area was formally reported to the Borough Council as being an unhealthy area suitable for a reconstruction scheme.

The area comprises the following streets:—

Hemming Street, Nos. 2 to 24 (even) and No. 2a.

Ann's Place, no houses.

Waterloo Terrace, Nos. 1 to 12 consecutive.

Selby Street, Nos. 2 to 8 (even) and stables and yard adjoining No. 8.

(12) *Sale Street Area.*

This area of about seven-eighths acres comprises 37 houses with a population of 265. Some 15 of the houses are unfit for human habitation, and the remainder require repairing. The houses in Crossland Square and Hague Place are situated in a hollow, being from 2 feet 3 inches to 3 feet 3 inches below the level of the pavement of Sale Street, and they are hemmed in by surrounding dwellings. This area was formally represented to the Borough Council as being an unhealthy area and suitable for a reconstruction scheme.

The area comprises the following lands and streets:—

Mape Street, Nos. 4 to 18 (even).
 Sale Street, Nos. 2 to 10 (even) with land
 adjoining to Hague Place.
 Crossland Square,
 Hague Place,
 Hague Street, Nos. 17 to 29 (odd).
 Derbyshire Street, Nos. 50 and 52.

Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4, BAKER'S COURT.

These four houses, crowded together in a narrow cul-de-sac were the subject of Closing Orders in 1918. In 1920 the question of demolition arose, and Demolition Orders were made by the Council on May 20th. These orders were confirmed on appeal.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

STATISTICS FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1920.

1.—GENERAL.

(1) Estimated population	-	-	-	114,471
(2) General death-rate	-	-	-	14·9
(3) Death-rate from Tuberculosis	-	-	-	1·72
(4) Infantile mortality	-	-	-	94·6
(5) Number of tenements of all classes (separate occupiers)	-	-	-	27,755
(6) Number of working-class dwelling-houses				—
(7) Number of new working-class houses erected	-	-	-	a few

2.—UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.

I.—Inspection.

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	-	9,246
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	- - - -	1,354
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	- - - -	231
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	- - - -	figures not available.

II.—Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered
fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers - figures not available.

III.—Action under Statutory Powers.

A. *Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc. Act, 1919.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs -	-	} nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—		
(a) by owners -	-	
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners -	-	
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close -	-	

B. *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied -	-	5,769
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—		
(a) by owners -	-	figures not available.
(b) Local Authority in default of owners -	-	nil.

C. Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the [Housing, Town Planning, etc. Act, 1909.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders - - -	nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made - - -	nil.
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit - - -	nil.
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made - - -	4
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders - - -	nil.

3.—UNHEALTHY AREAS.

Areas represented to the Local Authority with a view to Improvement Schemes under (a), Part I., or (b), Part II., of the Act of 1890:—

(1) Name of area - - -	see above.
(2) Acreage - - -	„
(3) Number of working-class houses in area - - -	„
(4) Number of working-class persons to be displaced - - -	„

4.—Number of houses not complying with the building bye-laws erected with consent of Local Authority under section 25 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc. Act, 1919 - nil

5.—Staff engaged on housing work, with, briefly, the duties of each officer - - - see above

APPENDIX.

Bethnal Green Tuberculosis Dispensary.

ABSTRACT OF REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920,

By H. TYLFORD HOWELL, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond.,
Clinical Tuberculosis Officer.

During the year several changes have taken place in the working arrangements of the Dispensary. In January the post of Tuberculosis Officer to Bethnal Green became vacant by the resignation of Dr. Hebert, who had done most valuable work both for the Hospital and the Dispensary for more than four years.

Following his departure it was decided to place the direction of the work for both the Boroughs of Hackney and Bethnal Green under one Senior Tuberculosis Officer, and to appoint a Junior Officer to assist him. I was appointed to the senior post, while Dr. J. R. MacNeill, late Resident Medical Officer at Victoria Park Hospital, was selected as junior.

Dr. MacNeill left in November, and was succeeded by Dr. F. W. Hamilton, of the Royal Chest Hospital, City Road, where he had acted as Resident Medical Officer, and later as Senior Assistant Tuberculosis Officer. This amalgamation of the two boroughs has proved to be quite satisfactory in practice. Previously it often happened that in a particular session the cases from one borough greatly predominated, thus throwing perhaps about four-fifths of the work on the particular officer concerned. This is now remedied, as the work can be more evenly distributed between the two officers, and it is thus possible to give more individual attention to each case.

Seven sessions are still held each week, but it was found necessary during the year to make some alteration. Previously it was our custom to see patients on three evenings and four mornings each week. It was found that the number of attendances did not justify three evening sessions, while the morning sessions were becoming unwieldy. With the sanction of the borough authorities it was decided to cancel an evening session and to replace it by a morning one. An alteration was also made in the evening hours. Previously patients were admitted any time between 7.30 and 9 o'clock, so that it often happened on an otherwise slack evening that several new cases would appear at only a few minutes before the hour for closing. This would mean that our work would not be completed till after 10 p.m., whereas if the patients

had arrived early, as they easily could have done, we might have finished at the normal hour. This difficulty has been overcome by limiting the time of attendance for new cases from 7.30 to 8.30 p.m. It has been found that no hardship has resulted from this restriction, and the new arrangement works quite satisfactorily.

Saturday morning is reserved for school children, so that they shall not lose time from school, and those adults who find it impossible to attend at other times.

The department, as in previous years, had the use of two consulting-rooms, to each of which are attached two dressing-rooms, and in addition a dark room for examination of throat cases.

Each patient, whether new case or old, is seen in order of his appearance at the Hospital, so that rarely one is kept waiting longer than a few minutes, and practically never for more than half an hour.

The Nurse first records the temperature, weight, etc., and then sends the patients singly into the consulting-room, where the Medical Officer takes the history and makes the necessary examination.

Interesting, doubtful, or difficult cases are seen by both the Senior and Junior Medical Officers. This practice adds considerably to the interest in the work. It sometimes happens that a further opinion is necessary, in which case the patient is sent to one of the Physicians in charge of out-patients. As a personal interview is usually of more value than a written opinion we endeavour to see the out-patient Physician concerned and talk over the case with him.

Every use is made of the special departments of the Hospital in the diagnosis of difficult cases. A large number of cases have been referred to the X-ray department, while cases of surgical tuberculosis are referred to the Surgeon for an opinion, many of them later being admitted to Hospital for treatment. While the Surgeon in charge of the throat department and the Dentist are only too pleased to give an opinion on any particular case, we have no authority to send them cases for treatment. They have very kindly undertaken this in special cases, but the arrangement is not satisfactory. The subject was reported to the Dispensary Committee, and the Borough Councils consulted, with the result that every effort is now being made to deal with the matter.

With regard to disposal of patients, this has been conducted on the same lines as heretofore. An endeavour is made on the first attendance to make a definite diagnosis. This having been done, it then remains to decide on the most appropriate form of treatment applicable to the case. Patients with signs of early disease are usually transferred to a sanatorium, while those in advanced and hopeless condition are sent to a special hospital suitable for those in this stage of the disease.

The intermediate class of case, comprising those who are too advanced for sanatorium, or cases of high fever, hæmoptysis, etc., in which the prognosis is doubtful, though not necessarily hopeless, is recommended for admission to Hospital for observation and treatment, and later sent to sanatorium if suitable.

It often happens that it is impossible to make a definite diagnosis on the first attendance. If these cases are in the least suspicious, they are advised to attend the Dispensary at regular intervals until the diagnosis is cleared up. Should they fail to put in an appearance they are written for, or the Visiting Nurse is asked to look them up.

Cases in which the above forms of treatment are contra-indicated, usually of the advanced type, or those who refuse admission to institutions, receive domiciliary treatment under the care of their own doctor, but are still under the supervision of the Tuberculosis Officer.

The class of case treated at the Dispensary itself includes those of doubtful diagnosis, patients awaiting admission to sanatorium or hospital, and uninsured cases who cannot afford a private doctor.

No specific form of treatment has been used, such as vaccines or serums, while our best results appear to have followed the use of creosote in increasing doses.

Quite a large proportion of the positive cases received institutional treatment during the year. On the whole, the length of time the patients are kept on the waiting list has not been unduly long, but there is still great difficulty in securing admission to Hospital for those suffering from advanced disease except in the case of ex-service men.

There has been no improvement as regards the question of securing suitable employment for patients who are not fit to resume their ordinary occupation. We have a large number attending the department who, though not well enough to do full-time heavy work, would benefit by some light, suitable employment; the absence of any official body to help the men in obtaining this is a great handicap.

The after-care of tuberculous patients remains in the hands of the Borough Care Committee, of which the Tuberculosis Officer is a member. We are indebted to various charitable societies, including the Invalid Children's Aid Association, the Jewish Board of Guardians, and the Charity Organization Society, who have been of great assistance in providing convalescent treatment for necessitous cases. Tuberculous children can receive institutional treatment through the L.C.C., but those who have not been definitely diagnosed as such, but who are in a state of ill-health and may be predisposed to the disease, are unprovided for. It is in this class of case that such good work is done

by the Invalid Children's Aid Association, the Hackney branch especially being responsible for the convalescence of a large number of our cases.

The Tuberculosis Officers have continued to act as Medical Referees for the Local Pensions Committees on tuberculous or doubtful cases, and a considerable number have been referred to the department for an opinion by Pensions Medical Boards. This has entailed a good deal of additional work, but it has kept us in close touch with all discharged men of both services.

The statistical tables showing the work done are given below. A comparison with last year's tables will show that there was a slight increase in the total number of new cases.

From Table 2 it will be seen that there has been a marked increase in the number of contacts from Bethnal Green. The majority of the contacts examined consists of children, as there appears to be great difficulty in persuading adults to attend for the purpose of examination.

The total number of patients sent by local practitioners has remained high, and it is satisfactory to see that they continue to make use of the department as a consulting centre for cases suspected of having tuberculosis.

Our relationship with the neighbouring doctors has always been of the most cordial nature. I was asked recently by the local branch of the British Medical Association to read a paper on the diagnosis of early Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and as we take every opportunity of meeting the General Practitioners, either individually or collectively, I was most pleased to do this.

The general work of the Dispensary has increased considerably in amount, as instanced by the increase in the total number of attendances to 5,056, the number of letters written to 1,480, and the number of systematic examinations to 1,670.

With regard to the number of attendances, attention was drawn to this in a recent survey of the dispensary treatment of tuberculosis in London made by the Ministry of Health. It was pointed out that "the provision of routine treatment as distinct from consultative work has at some dispensaries been developed to an undesirable extent," and that "treatment at dispensaries should as a rule be limited to patients whose continued treatment requires special knowledge or technical skill, or to those who are unable to obtain other adequate medical attendance. Patients who require treatment which can consistently with the best interests of the patient be properly undertaken by a general practi-

tioner of ordinary professional skill and competence, and who are either insured persons or can afford to pay for medical attendance, should not be encouraged to attend the dispensary for routine treatment."

Personally, I am inclined to agree with those who hold the view that all cases of tuberculosis, excepting patients who are receiving institutional treatment or who are too ill to attend, should be treated at the Dispensary, as it is impossible properly to supervise a case receiving treatment elsewhere. If a patient is being treated at the department he will generally attend quite regularly, but great difficulty is experienced in getting a patient to attend, say, at intervals of two or three months for the purpose of supervision only, the result being that the Tuberculosis Officer loses touch with him.

In conclusion I should like to thank the Dispensary Committees, the Medical Officer of Health, the Hospital Physicians, and the Hospital Secretary for their help and advice, and also the Dispensers, the Clerk, the Nurse, and the Porter, all of whom have done their work very efficiently.

(Signed) H. TYLFORD HOWELL.

1st February, 1921.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

1. THE TOTALS OF NEW CASES.

Males	..	..	..	..	..	411
Females	..	..	..	..	..	342
Total	..	..	..	..	..	<u>753</u>

2. THE SOURCES OF THE NEW CASES.

	Total.	Tuberculous.
Medical Officer of Health	142	43
Local Practitioners	146	61
London War Pensions Committee	35	17
Contact Cases	283	7
London Insurance Committee	34	20
London County Council	43	16
Victoria Park Hospital	41	34
Other sources	14	4
"No card"	15	0

3. THE DIAGNOSIS OF THE NEW CASES.

Diagnosis.	Insured.		Uninsured.			Total.
	Males	Females	Children under 16	Males	Females	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	93	31	20	5	24	173
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	8	1	19	1	0	29
Non-tuberculous	87	56	280	6	71	500
Doubtful	21	8	14	2	6	51
Total	209	96	333	14	101	753

4. THE DIAGNOSIS OF CONTACT CASES.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	5
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	2
Non-tuberculous	..	..	..	..	265
Doubtful	..	..	..	..	11
Total	..	..	..	..	<u>283</u>

5. SPUTUM EXAMINATIONS OF INSURED AND UNINSURED PATIENTS.

	Insured.	Uninsured.	Total.
Tubercle Bacilli present	65	12	77
Tubercle Bacilli absent	283	116	399

6. OTHER FIGURES.

	Insured.	Uninsured.
Total number of attendances	2,809	2,247
Systematic examinations at the above	873	797
Number of letters written	1,480	
Number of visits to patients at their homes	39	14
Number of patients sent to hospital or sanatorium	137	6
Number of patients referred to:—		
X-ray Department	55	22
Other Departments	27	17

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

(Other than under Food and Drugs Acts, for which see pp. 34—41.)

Date of hearing.	Offence.	Inspector.	Result and remarks.
1920			
January 8th ..	Having deposited for purpose of sale seven unsound mackerel	Dr. Oates.	Withdrawn. Conviction on alternative summons.
January 8th ..	Exposing for sale eighteen unsound mackerel.	Dr. Oates.	Fined £10. Costs £3 3s.
January 22nd ..	Exposing for sale unsound pears.	W. Rowsell.	Fined £2.
January 22nd ..	Non-compliance with statutory notice requiring abatement of nuisance.	Hewitt.	Order to do work in seven days. Costs £2 2s. awarded.
January 29th ..	Failing to give notice of intention to fit a new pan and trap to a water-closet.	Bare.	Costs £2 2s.
February 5th ..	Non-compliance with statutory notice requiring abatement of nuisance.	Billings.	Order to do work in seven days. Costs 21s. awarded,
February 5th ..	do. do.	Billings.	do. do.
February 12th ..	Removing offensive fish-refuse at other than the prescribed hours.	Billings.	Fined £5. Costs £3 3s.
February 12th ..	do. do.	Billings.	do. do.
February 12th ..	Failing to adopt precautions for the prevention of effluvium in removing offensive fish-refuse.	Billings.	Withdrawn. Conviction on alternative summons.
January 22nd ..	Using bread otherwise than for human food contrary to the Cereals (Restriction) Order, 1919.	Rowsell.	Fined £4. Costs £3 3s.
January 22nd ..	do. do.	Rowsell.	Fined £7. Costs £3 3s.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.—*Continued.*

Date of hearing.	Offence.	Inspector.	Result and remarks.
1920			
January 29th ..	Selling red herrings at excess price contrary to the Fish (Prices) Order, 1919.	Rowsell.	Fined 10s. Costs 10s.
January 29th ..	Aiding and abetting in the same offence.	Rowsell.	do. do.
January 29th ..	Selling eels at excess price contrary to the Fish (Prices) Order, 1919.	Rowsell.	Fined £20. Costs £5 5s.
January 29th ..	Failing to keep posted a notice showing the maximum prices of fish contrary to the Fish (Prices) Order, 1919.	Rowsell.	Withdrawn. Conviction on preceding summons.
January 14th ..	Selling milk at excess price contrary to the Milk (Winter Prices) Order, 1919.	Weeks.	Costs £3 3s. awarded.
January 14th ..	Aiding and abetting preceding offence.	Weeks.	Fined £5.
February 12th ..	Selling rice at excess price contrary to the Rice (Retail Prices) Order, 1918.	Weeks.	Fined £5. Costs £2 2s. awarded.
February 11th ..	Selling a piece of fowl at excess price contrary to the Poultry and Game (Prices) Order, 1918.	Saunders.	Fined £2. Costs £2 2s. awarded.
February 12th ..	Using bread otherwise than for human food.	Rowsell.	Fined £5. Costs £3 3s. awarded.
February 12th ..	Aiding and abetting preceding offence.	Rowsell.	Dismissed.
February 19th ..	Selling by retail milk at excess price.	Rowsell.	Costs £2 2s. awarded.
February 19th ..	Aiding and abetting preceding offence.	Rowsell.	Fined £3.
February 26th ..	Selling fowl at excess price.	Weeks.	Fined £2. Costs £2 2s. awarded.
February 26th ..	Using bread otherwise than for human food.	Rowsell.	Fined £3. Costs £3 3s. awarded.

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February 26th ..	Exposing for sale imported meat unlabelled as such.	Rowsell.	Fined £1. Costs £1 1s. awarded.
March 4th ..	Selling sugar otherwise than for the purpose for which obtained.	Rowsell.	Costs £1 1s. awarded.
March 4th ..	Failing to keep posted a list of Outworkers in Workshop. (Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, sect. 107.)	Billings.	Fined 10s. Costs 10s. awarded.
March 4th ..	Failing to send to the Council a list of Outworkers. (Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, sect. 107.)	Billings.	do. do.
April 22nd ..	Non-compliance with statutory notice requiring abatement of nuisance.	Billings.	Costs 28s. awarded.
April 15th ..	Having in possession rag flock containing 270 parts of Chlorine in 100,000 parts of flock. (Rag Flock Act, 1911.)	Hewitt.	Fined £5. Costs £5.
April 8th ..	Carrying for sale bread not an even number of pounds, contrary to the Bread Order, 1918.	Weeks.	Fined £1. Costs £4 4s.
May 13th ..	Using as a sleeping place a room in which food intended for sale was stored, contrary to the L.C.C. (General Powers) Act, 1908, sect. 8.	Billings.	Fined 20s.
May 13th ..	Charging excess price for bullock's liver, contrary to the Edible Offal (Maximum Prices) Orders, 1918 and 1919.	Rowsell.	Fined £50. Costs £5 5s.
May 6th ..	Supplying sugar to a person other than a registered customer, contrary to the Rationing Order, 1918.	Weeks.	Fined 20s. Costs 42s.
June 17th ..	Removing offensive matters through the streets during prohibited hours, contrary to the Bye-laws prescribing such hours.	Billings.	Fined £3. Costs 42s.
June 10th ..	Charging excess price for home-killed bullocks' milt, contrary to the Edible Offal (Maximum Prices) Order, 1918.	Rowsell.	Fined £5. Costs 42s.

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LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.—Continued.

Date of hearing.	Offence.	Inspector.	Result and remarks.
1920			
June 17th ..	Exposing for sale unlabelled imported meat, contrary to the Imported Meat (Labelling) Order, No. 2, 1919.	Rowsell.	Fined £10. Costs 42s.
June 17th ..	do. do.	Rowsell.	Fined £10. Costs 42s.
June 17th ..	do. do.	Rowsell.	Fined £2. Costs 21s.
June 17th ..	Selling meat in excess of maximum retail price.	Rowsell.	Costs 42s.
June 17th ..	do. do.	Rowsell.	Costs 42s.
June 24th ..	Using a bakehouse unfit for use or occupation on sanitary grounds, contrary to the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, sect. 98.	Dr. Oates.	Fined 40s. Costs 21s.
June 24th ..	do. do.	Dr. Oates.	Fined 40s. Costs 21s.
June 24th ..	Depositing for purpose of preparation for sale certain unsound liquid eggs, margarine and condensed milk	Dr. Oates.	Fined £50. Costs £3 3s.
July 1st ..	Bakehouse unfit for use or occupation on sanitary grounds. (Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, sect. 98.)	Dr. Oates.	Fined 20s. Costs 21s.
August 12th ..	Removing in unsuitable vessels during prohibited hours certain offensive matters.	Billings.	Fined 40s. Costs 42s.
August 12th ..	do. do.	Billings.	Fined 40s. Costs 42s.
August 12th ..	Exposing for sale about 20 lbs. fish and roes unfit for food.	Rowsell.	Fined 20s. Costs 42s.

July 1st	Using as a sleeping-place a room in which certain sugar and sultanias were deposited for the purpose of preparation for sale.	Dr. Oates.	Fined 10s. Costs 21s.
August 5th ..	Non-compliance with statutory notice requiring abatement of a nuisance.	Hewitt.	Order made to do the work in 14 days. Costs £2 2s.
September 9th ..	do. do.	Hewitt.	Order made to do the work in 28 days.
September 16th ..	do. do.	Hewitt.	Order made to do the work in 21 days. Costs £2 2s.
October 21st ..	Exposing for sale 30 lbs. of pears unsound and unfit for the food of man.	Rowsell.	Fined 15s.
October 21st ..	Exposing for sale 32 lbs. of pears unsound and unfit for the food of man.	Rowsell.	Fined 15s.
October 28th ..	Exposing for sale 75 lbs. of pears unsound and unfit for the food of man.	Rowsell.	Fined 40s.
November 17th ..	Non-compliance with statutory notice requiring abatement of a nuisance.	Hewitt.	Closing Order made by the Magistrate.
December 2nd ..	do. do.	Bare.	Order made to do the work in 14 days. Costs £2 2s.
December 16th ..	Exposing for sale 11 tins of condensed milk unfit for the food of man.	Rowsell.	Conviction. Costs 10s. (Convicted on another summons under Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.)
December 30th ..	Exposing for sale 108 lbs. of pears unfit for the food of man.	Rowsell.	Fined 20s.
Various	Non-compliance with statutory notice requiring abatement of a nuisance:	Various.	All summonses withdrawn on payment of 4s. costs in each case, the works having been done.
Various	112 summonses.	Various.	do. 5s. do.
—	11 summonses.	—	do. 6s. do.
Various	1 summons.	Various.	do. 10s. 6d. do.
Various	7 summonses.	—	Summonses against occupiers withdrawn. Proceedings taken against owners.
August 12th ..	do. 3 summonses.	—	

