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SANITARY CHRONICLES

THE

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OF

St. Marylebone;

BEING THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR 1900.



BY

ALEXANDER WYNTER BLYTH,

Medical Officer of Health,' and Analyst of Food and Drugs for the Parish of St. Marylebone; Barrister-at-Law of Lincoln's Inn; Fellow of the Institute of Chemistry, &c., &c.

VOL. XX.

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PREFACE.

The following Report is a brief summary of disease, mortality, and sanitary administration in the Parish of St. Marylebone during 1900. The arrangement is the same as that of previous Annual Statements.

THE TOWN HALL,

ST. MARYLEBONE,

January, 1901.

A REPORT

OF THE

METEOROLOGY, MORTALITY, AND SICKNESS

OF

ST. MARYLEBONE

FOR THE YEAR 1900.

BY A. WYNTER BLYTH.

METEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY.

MARCH QUARTER.

January was mild, wet, and gloomy. There was little frost and no snow. The mean temperature was 40.3°. Winds, westerly. Rain fell on 20 days, amounting to 2.16 inches. Sunshine generally was deficient.

The weather of February was bad and uncomfortable beyond precedent; 13 out of the 28 days were rainy. On two days fog prevailed, and on five days there were heavy snowstorms. The total rainfall was 3.2 inches. The minimum temperature was 20°, the mean 37.7°; the winds N.E.

The weather of March was of the normal character—dry, with cold north and north-east winds. On seven days rain fell equalling 0.85 inch. The mean temperature was 42.1°.

JUNE QUARTER.

Summer weather prevailed during the two latter weeks of April, a higher temperature being reached than for the corresponding period during half a century. The month was generally fine. The maximum temperature was 77° , the mean 43.5°. On eight days rain fell (0.59 inch).

May was a fine and fairly bright month. Rain fell on seven days—0.75 inch. The sunshine registered ranged from 17 per cent. to 41 per cent. of the possible. Winds, westerly. Mean temperature 54° .

June was characterised by warm summer weather, with occasional thunderstorms. The temperature reached 88.6° , the mean was 62.7° . The sunshine varied from 32 to 46 per cent. There were 12 rainy days, the total rainfall being 1.57 inch Winds mostly S.W.

SEPTEMBER QUARTER.

Most of July was a month of tropical heat, the minimum temperature being 40.3°, the maximum 94°, the mean 64.9°. The mean temperature of the weeks ending July 14th and 21st was above 65°, and hotter by 3° and 9° respectively than the average temperature for the corresponding week for 50 years. During the month there were seven rainy days, the rainfall being 1.62 inch. From 20 per cent. to 74 per cent. of the possible sunshine was received.

Three out of four weeks of August were fine and warm; one week very wet. The rainfall for the month was 1.88 inch, rain falling on 11 days. The maximum temperature attained was 82.1°, the mean being 61.5°.

September was a dry, fine month. Rain fell on only three days—0.72 inch. The mean temperature was 61.2° , the extremes ranging between 41° and 75° . The sunshine received in Regent's Park varied from 23 per cent. to nearly 50 per cent.

DECEMBER QUARTER.

October was a month of fine autumnal weather, with but nine rainy days—0.96 inch. The sunshine received varied from 17 per cent. to 46 per cent.

November was overcast and wet. On 15 days rain fell, the rainfall being 1.91 inch. The sunshine ranged from 7 per cent. to 22.5 per cent. The mean temperature was 48.5°, the maximum 63°.

December was gloomy and mild. 1.10 inch of rain fell in 11 days. The lowest temperature was a degree above freezingpoint; the highest 57.5° and the mean 47.4°. The sunshine varied from 4 per cent. to 15 per cent.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

The number of births registered during the 52 weeks ending December 22nd, 1900, when all essential corrections have been made, was 3,125.

The number of deaths (corrected) of parishioners was 2,700.

This gives a birth-rate of 21.9; a death-rate of 18.9 per thousand.

The birth- and death-rates for 1900 of the sub-districts were as follows :---

All Souls birth-rate		17.0	Death-rate	 15.6
Rectory birth-rate		20.2	Death-rate	 20.7
St. Mary birth-rate		23.8	Death-rate	 17.8
Christchurch birth-rate		23.7	Death-rate	 19.8
St. John birth-rate	• •	25.7	Death-rate	 21.9

The following is a statement of the average death-rates of St. Marylebone and its sub-divisions for five years—from 1895 to 1900:—

	17.0	Death-rate	 15.2
Rectory birth-rate	23.2	Death-rate	 22.5
St. Mary birth-rate	23.7	Death-rate	 19.9
Christchurch birth-rate	24.1	Death-rate	 20.7
St. John birth-rate	26.4	Death-rate	 21.9
The whole district birth-rate	22.9	Death-rate	 20.3

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

St. Marylebone Infirmary, Notting	Hill		524
North-Western Fever Hospital			a second and
Eastern Fever Hospital	• •	••	29
Western Fever Hospital	••	• •	4
South Western Far II 't l	• •		9
South-Western Fever Hospital			3
Hospital Ship "Atlas"			1
St. Mary's Hospital	· · ·		70
Children's Hospital, Paddington			9
Children's Hospital, Gt. Ormonde Stre	eet.		7
Westminster Hospital			1
King's College Hospital			4
University College Hospital			2
St. George's Heavital			14
St. George's Hospital			12
St. Bartholomew's Hospital		1 2 2	1
St. Thomas's Hospital			5
Charing Cross Hospital			7
London Hospital			2

Carried forward

703

Brought for	rward		703
Guy's Hospital			2
West London Hospital			$\frac{2}{1}$
Royal Free Hospital.			1
St. Saviour's Hospital			
St. Mark's Hospital			$\frac{2}{1}$
St. Peter's Hospital			2
Hospital for Women, Euston Road			3
Homeopathic Hospital, Euston Road			
Lying-in Hospital, Endell Street			î
London Temperance Hospital			5
National Hospital, Queen Square			
Abbey Road Hospital			2 1
Dolinghaska Hamital			í
North London Consumption Hospital			1
	••	•••	1
Cancer Hospital	• •	••	3
Brompton Hospital	••		6
French Hospital	••		7
Italian Hospital	• •	• •	1
German Hospital		• •	2
Italian Hospital			
Great Northern Central Hospital			1
Central London Sick Asylum			2 2 5
Caterham Asylum			2
Banstead Asylum			
Cane Hill Asylum			1
Colney Hatch Asylum			19
Ilford Asylum			12
Leavesden Asylum			20
Hanwell Asylum			24
City of London Asylum			1
Camberwell Asylum			1
Hoxton House Asylum			1
London County Asylum			2
Middlesex Asylum			$\frac{2}{3}$
Middlesex Asylum Licensed Victuallers' Asylum			1
City of London Chest Hospital			î
Royal Hospital for Incurables.		•••	
Friedenheim			$\frac{2}{6}$
04 D 1 1 1 0 4 1	••		
	• •		4
Infants' Incubator, Earl's Court	••		5
St. Pancras Infirmary	••		5
Paddington Infirmary	••	••	$\frac{2}{1}$
St. George's Infirmary			
Kensington Infirmary	••	••	1
St. Luke's Home	• 4		3
Butchers' Alms-houses, Fulham			1
Salvation Army Home, Hackney			1
Otherwise			13

SMALLPOX.

Smallpox was imported into the district in April from a P. & O. steamship (*see* "Sanitary Chronicles," April and May). Four cases were notified. By means of prompt removal to hospital, retention in the shelter of persons who had been in contact with the patients, revaccination, and disinfection, there was no spread.

SCARLET FEVER.

Scarlet fever (as shown by the curve, opposite page 16) was generally below the average up to the end of October. In that month there occurred a localized outbreak in the St. Marylebone Charity School for Girls; the effect of this outbreak is clearly seen in the rise of the curve in the 43rd week. The seasonal maximum, which usually takes place in the first week of October, was displaced to the last week of October.

The outbreak and the measures which were so successful in controlling it have been detailed briefly in the "Sanitary Chronicles" for October, 1900. From a medical point of view the illness of the children possessed some unusual features. With a few cases of undoubted ordinary genuine scarlet fever, there were several others in which a diagnosis was difficult, the more especially if they were considered alone and without reference to the true cases. The safe course, however, was taken, so far as isolation and other preventive measures were concerned, of considering all the patients suffering from a mild attack of an infectious fever. The total number of cases of scarlet fever notified in the whole district during 1900 was 358; of these 18, or 5 per cent., terminated fatally. This is equal to a mortality per million living of 125.

Partly owing to a change of type in the disease, partly to early isolation, and improved methods of medical treatment, scarlet fever has altered its character.

Formerly a malignant malady, leaving in a large percentage of cases that recovered, deafness, or more or less permanent injury to the kidneys, or both, at the present time a vast number of cases produce scarcely as much disturbance as a common cold.

MEASLES.

Measles was twice as fatal as scarlet fever, 36 deaths being registered from that cause—equal to a death-rate per million of 254. There is neither notification of measles nor facilities for isolating such cases in hospital. The writer fails to see the logic of taking precautions against the less fatal and allowing the more fatal malady to run its course.

Even although it must be allowed that the spread of infection may not be materially influenced by early isolation of cases of measles, yet without doubt the removal of children when ill of so serious an infantile disorder from unsuitable surroundings and placing the patients in institutions where they would obtain skilled nursing with the requisite medical attention, would reduce the mortality.

DIPHTHERIA.

Diphtheria was generally above the average until December, when it declined. There were three decided rises above the mean (*see* curve), viz., in the third week of May, the last week of July, and the second week of November.

The number of cases notified amounted to 199; of these 36 died, giving a case mortality of about 18 per cent.—a deathrate per million living, of 254.

During the year 43 specimens from suspected diphtheritic throats were examined bacteriologically at the Jenner Institute, and 22, or about 51 per cent., were pronounced to contain the true diphtheria bacillus.

ENTERIC OR TYPHOID FEVER.

Typhoid was under the average until December, when the cases rose to their maximum. The maximum number of cases usually occurs in the autumn. Indeed, one of the old names for typhoid is "autumnal fever." Hence so far as this district is concerned, there is a displacement in the period of maximum. The Medical Officer of Health for St. George's has noticed the same thing, and since typhoid is a water-borne disease, suggests, with some confidence, that the abnormal rise is caused by impurities in the water-supply derived from the Thames. The winter rains surcharge the river with filth, the filters get overtaxed, imperfectly filtered water is drunk, some of which contains the specific germs. This suggestion is ingenious, and may be true, since the winter service of water is slightly more impure than the summer. There is, however, another explanation of a similar character. As it is well known and acknowledged that during the heavy winter rains, estuaries, rivers, and

so forth are more impure than in the summer, it follows that shellfish are more likely to be contaminated during those seasons, and the increase may point to typhoid from shellfish rather than to water direct.

Seventy-five cases of typhoid were notified; of these 13 were fatal, giving a case mortality of 17 per cent., or about 92, per million living. This rate in itself is not high. The last annual return of the Registrar-General's Return (1898) gives rates for all England varying in 25 years from 137 to 231.

PROSECUTIONS UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH (LONDON) ACT.

A recurring nuisance in the summer months is the nonremoval of stable manure. The Borough, owing to the extension of the suburban districts, is continually being, as it were, removed farther and farther from the country districts, where the manure is required. The railway rates for such an article as stable manure are prohibitory, and at certain seasons it is only possible to get manure removed by paying a relatively high price. It may, however, be stated generally that the stable manure was better and more regularly removed in 1900 than in any previous year. In two instances it was necessary to summon offenders for breaches of the byelaws. The occupiers of John's Yard and the occupiers of Boston Mews were brought before the magistrate in respect to offences connected with manure, and orders for abatement obtained.

The owners of certain houses in Linhope Street, Melina Place, Harrow Street, Lisson Grove, Shouldham Street, Burne Street, Boston Place, Abbey Gardens, and Upper Dorset Street were summoned for disobedience of the notices of the Local Authority to reconstruct drains or to abate serious nuisances. Magistrate's orders were obtained; in a few cases the defendants were fined.

THE SHELTER.

The St. Marylebone Shelter, established for the purpose of receiving for short periods families temporarily turned out of their homes during the operation of disinfection, has been used 10 times, and has afforded accommodation for 17 adults and two children. During the year 1899 it was used 11 times and accommodated 49 persons. The following is the complete return :—

1900.	Days or Hours of Occupation.	Disease.	No. of Persons.
April 14	4 days	Smallpox	1 adult
,, 18	8 "	,,	1 "
,, 20	2.,	,,	1 "
,, 24	4 ,,	.,,	1 "
,, 27	1 day	,,	2 adults
,, 27	1 "	,,	1 adult
May 7	4 days	,,	5 adults
,, 8	1 day	31	1 adult
Aug. 13	1 "	"	${2 \atop 2}$ adults, ${2 \atop 2}$ children
Dec, 12	1 "	Scarlet Fever	2 adults

DISINFECTION.

In January, 1900, an additional steam disinfector was erected adjacent to the Baths, established under the Cleansing of Persons Act, for the purpose of disinfecting the extremely filthy clothing of the persons cleansed in these baths. In other words, the ordinary disinfection after cases of infectious disease was henceforward separated from the disinfection for vermin and for dirt.

No district in the Metropolis has a more complete installation than St. Marylebone.

The disinfection by superheated steam was established in 1899, and the apparatus, with but few intermissions for repair, has been working since that year.

The list of articles disinfected in 1900 is as follows :---

Beds	 		335
Mattresses		·	732
Bolsters	 		516
Pillows	 		1,295
Sheets	 		916
Blankets	 		2,399

The disinfecting vans have been used 580 times.

CLEANSING OF PERSONS ACT

There is now accommodation in the shape of hot baths and simultaneous disinfection of clothing for both sexes. The extension of the bath accommodation for women was completed in 1900. Steps were taken to notify the fact to various institutions and common lodging-houses frequented by women of the class likely to take advantage of the Act. A much smaller number of females have used the baths than expected. There are, however, signs of a gradual increase. During 1900, 3,352 males and 28 females underwent the cleansing process and had their clothing disinfected.

A considerable number of these poor persons were most offensive, swarming with parasites, and generally in a deplorable state—so much so that they would have infected any public seat or public vehicle that they made use of.

The great majority of the applicants come from the Salvation Army Home in Burne Street, the remainder from common lodging-houses.

SANITARY LEGISLATION, 1900.

The only Act, passed in 1900, bearing directly on sanitary matters (with the exception of the Census Act) is an amendment to the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.

The amended Act (63 & 64 Vict., c. 59) gives power to this Borough, in common with other Boroughs, to establish and acquire "lodging-houses" for the working classes, under Part III. of the Act, *outside the district*. In other words, the Council may, if they choose, establish in Willesden, Hampstead, Hendon, or elsewhere "lodging - houses." What "lodging - houses" exactly means can only be gathered by inference. They may evidently be structures like Lord Rowton's lodging-houses—that is, places furnished and provided with appliances for cooking, and so forth, or they may be unfurnished dwellings, or they may be even single cottages with land attached not exceeding half an acre.

The expenses incurred under the Act are to be defrayed as part of the ordinary expenses of the Council. Ample borrowing powers under easy terms are provided. Section 5 of the amended Act provides that the Local Authority may lease any land acquired to a lessee under the condition that the lessee will carry the Act out. The Local Authority "shall insert in any lease provisions binding the lessee to build on the land as in the lease prescribed, and to maintain and repair the buildings," so as to secure the buildings being used exclusively as lodging-houses within the meaning of the Act.

The amended Act is of some considerable interest just now, the Improvement and Housing Committee having its provisions under consideration.

CLERICAL WORK OF THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

Mr. J. Curtis, assisted by Mr. W. J. Howe, continues to perform the clerical duties of the department, which include the preparation and despatch of the many notices and letters arising from the employment of the inspectorial staff and out of Committee meetings, the keeping of the registers of nuisances, of infectious disease notifications, and of registered houses, the preparation for Committee meetings and reports to the Council, enquiries by the public, and numerous smaller matters. Among the latter may be mentioned acting as a telephonic exchange for the whole establishment, this necessitates many and constant interruptions. It must be added that this clerical workcomprising all the above details and the drafting of important letters and reports-has to be performed in an office used by seven Sanitary Inspectors, two Disinfectors, the Dust Contractors' Foremen, and the general public; circumstances which make the duties of the Clerks less easy of execution than if the surroundings were quieter.

Mr. Curtis' exceptional abilities have received somewhat tardy recognition by his appointment as Clerk to the Public Health Committee at a slightly increased salary. The duties of such a post, owing to the transfer of all questions of sanitary detail from the Council to the Committee, entail longer office hours, more responsibility, and work generally.

PRACTICAL SANITARY WORK, 1900.

A tabular statement is given of the work of each of the seven Inspectors at page 29. 1,218 complaints of sanitary defects were received and promptly attended to. The number of inspections of all kinds amounted to nearly 15,000. The majority of these conditions were remedied by simply calling the attention of the proper person to the nature of the nusance by a written communication, in only 244 cases formal notice of the Local Authority was issued. No small portion of the work of the Inspector was taken up in the supervision of new drainage works. 385 houses have been entirely or partly drained under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors. Each of these houses will have been visited several times, the smaller schemes about three times, but the larger schemes of drainage require the drains to be tested in sections, and as many as 20 visits are often required.

Two of the Inspectors (Mr. Richard Phillips and Miss O'Kell) have special duties, and the writer has asked them to furnish Reports as follows:

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I beg to present to you a Report of my work during the year 1900.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS.

At the beginning of the year considerable attention was given to the compilation of a new Register and the proper division of work between myself and Miss O'Kell. The number of workrooms (occupied exclusively by men) at present on the register is 179, representing 139 employers, mostly tailors and outfitters. These establishments have been regularly visited, cleansing orders have been issued where necessary, and many sanitary defects have been detected and remedied. The new workrooms have been measured and registered in the usual way. I have also been able to render some assistance to Miss O'Kell in the measurement of some of the large workrooms under her care.

BAKEHOUSES.

The number of bakehouses at present in use in the Borough is 92; in addition there are 11 bakehouses registered, but not in use. Two bakehouses have been pulled down in Wells Street and Market Place and rebuilt as private houses.

SMOKE NUISANCES.

• The number of complaints of smoke nuisance have considerably increased during the year 1900. Many cases of nuisance have been satisfactorily and permanently abated, and others are still under strict observation.

TRADE NUISANCES, ETC.

During the year several complaints of trade nuisances have been received. These have each been exhaustively dealt with. Smells alleged to come from the Regent's Canal were complained of from various sources, and the necessary investigations covered a period of some weeks.

Appended is a statement of that part of my work which admits of tabulation.

Workshops, Tailors, &c.	No. of Visits	 	139
Bakehouses	,,	 	184
Smoke Nuisance	,,	 	231

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

RICHARD PHILLIPS.

January 1st, 1901.

To the Medical Officer of Health for the Borough Council of St. Marylebone.

Sir,

I beg to submit to you a Report of my work during the year 1900.

WORKSHOPS AND LAUNDRIES IN WHICH WOMEN AND GIRLS ARE EMPLOYED.

Number of Workrooms on Register, December 31st, 1899	876
Number of Workrooms added to Register during year ending December 31st, 1900	201
Number of Workrooms removed from Register during year ending	1,440
December 31st, 1900	122
in the table have been and the second of the second of the	1,318

It will be seen from the above statement that there are at present on the Register 1,318 workrooms. These represent 681 businesses, of which 31 are laundries and the remainder principally dressmaking, millinery, and tailoring businesses, with a few miscellaneous trades.

During the year I have paid 460 first visits and 1,662 visits of re-inspection to workshops and laundry workshops. I have also paid about 300 calls on miscellaneous business (leaving workroom cards, making enquiries, etc.). In the course of these visits I found several workshops which had not previously been visited by any Inspector. The cubic measurement of each new workshop has been taken, and ventilation and sanitary conditions investigated before placing on the Register. In measuring the larger workrooms, I have had the help of Mr. Phillips, whom I would take this opportunity of thanking for the ready assistance he has always rendered me, both in this part of the work and in some of my initial difficulties. I have served 124 written intimations of nuisances and three statutory notices for the abatement of nuisances. Workroom cards showing the number of persons permitted in each room have been distributed. Each new workshop where women or girls are employed has been duly notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories, as required by the Factories and Workshop Act of 1801.

WORKS CARRIED ON UNDER SUPERVISION.

(a) Cleansing, Limewashing, etc.—144 rooms found to be dirty have been cleansed. In many cases (particularly in laundries) staircases, passages, yards, etc., leading to or adjoining workplaces have been cleansed.

(b) Sanitary Conveniences.—Further accommodation was required and has been provided in 20 workplaces. In three others new waterclosets have been substituted for old and insanitary ones, while 18 waterclosets found to be defective in water-supply were renovated. In many cases it has been necessary to draw the attention of the employers to the general dirty state of the waterclosets and lavatories.

(c) Ventilation, Lighting, and Heating.—Improvement in ventilation has been effected in 12 workrooms; three have been discontinued as unsuitable; 10 gas stoves used for heating irons have been removed from the workrooms or provided with means for carrying off the fumes generated. In three washhouses a ventilating-hood with a pipe conducting the steam into the outer air has been-fixed over the copper. Of the 1,318 workrooms on the Register, 1,004 are lighted by gas, 204 by electricity, and 110 by lamps. The more general adoption of electric lighting for workrooms is hindered by the fact that gas has warming powers which electric lights have not. I refer to the very harmful practice, so much in vogue, of warming the rooms by burning gas. I think that, in the interests of the workers, there should be a definite regulation that, should gas be used for warming purposes, it should only be through the medium of properly ventilated stores.

OVERCROWDING.

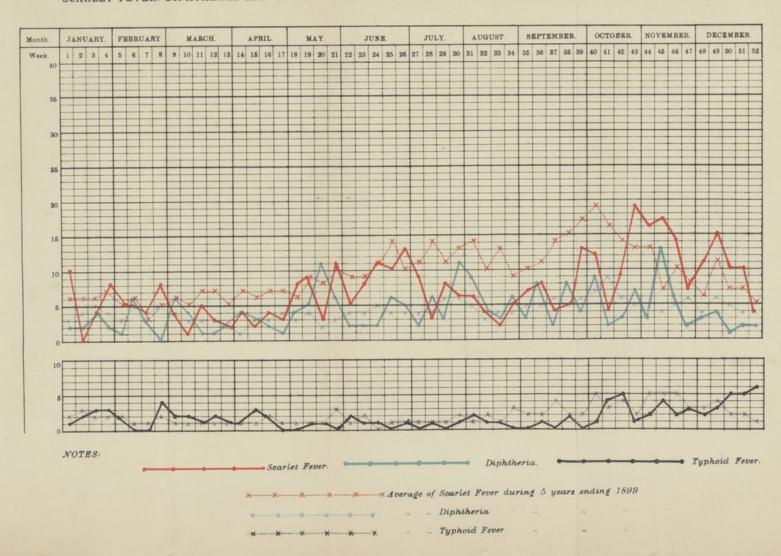
Twenty-one cases of overcrowding have been detected during the course of the year's work. In every instance the nuisance was at once abated; and after closely watching these places, I have only to report a second offence in one case.

COMPLAINTS.

Sixty-four Complaints relating to workshops have been received and carefully investigated. Those regarding overtime have been forwarded to H.M. Inspector of Factories. Several anonymous letters have been received, alleging overcrowding in the bedrooms provided for the use of the employées in drapery establishments, etc., but in each case the statements made have proved, on investigation, to be incorrect.

OUTWORKERS.

There are on the Register 184 outworkers 'iving in the Borough. These have each been visited at least once during the year, and my visits have resulted in the detection of a large number of nuisances, some of which I have been able to deal with myself, and others which I have reported to the District Sanitary Inspectors. The names and addresses of 204 outworkers non-resident in the Borough have been forwarded to the Medical Officers of Health of the Districts in which they reside.



CURVE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED WEEK BY WEEK OF SCARLET FEVER. DIPHTHERIA. AND TYPHOID FEVER DURING 1900. AS COMPARED WITH A FIVE YEARS' AVERAGE.



I am happy to be able to state that, speaking generally, I find employers perfectly willing to conform to the regulations imposed upon them. When I have to call attention to any breach or omission, I frequently receive a ready promise of immediate attention, which renders formal notice unnecessary. In evidence of this, I would call attention to the large number of nuisances abated in excess of the written notices served.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

In obedience to your instructions, I have, during the year, inspected twice or thrice weekly each of the Women's Public Conveniences. I have invariably found these places clean and well kept by the attendants. I have been able to suggest a few trifling alterations, which were in each case sanctioned by the late Vestry.

I beg to remain, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

L. MARGUERITE O'KELL,

Sanitary Inspector.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

A full list of substances analysed under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts is given in table II. It will be seen by that table that out of 639 samples only eight were reported against. Of the eight, five samples were milk, the samples being either diluted with water or deprived of cream, or both.

In November the attention of the whole country was directed to possible poisonous contamination of beer. 15 samples, taken by the various Inspectors from different parts of the Parish, were analysed, but found to contain no arsenic. A large number of samples of beer have been examined since, and although the results belong to the present year (1901), it may be well to state that no arsenic as yet has been found.

In a work published in 1879*, the writer distinctly pointed out the possibility of beer becoming contaminated by arsenic

^{*} A Manual of Practical Chemistry, "The Analysis of Foods and the Detection of Poisons," p. 169, by A. Wynter Blyth, Lond., 1879. The subsequent editions of this work appeared in two volumes, the one devoted to foods, the other to poisons. In the article on "Beer" the statement relative to arsenical glucose was repeated in each edition.

by the use of glucose, and gave determinations of the amount of arsenic actually found in certain glucoses by a French chemist (T. Clouet, "Du Glucose Arsenical." Ann. d'Hygiene Publique, XLIX., January, 1878). The possibility of its occurrence has therefore been known to the scientific world from the date of T. Clouet's research in 1878, and the chief facts accessible in the English language since 1870. It was not, however, until midsummer, 1000, that the attention of the medical profession in the Manchester district was directed to a considerable number of cases of skin and nervous affections, generally connected with the result of inflammatory action of the ends and trunks of the nerves-hence the scientific name of "peripheral neuritis." These cases continued to increase, and were generally ascribed to the action of alcohol, but Dr. Reynolds, by a process of inductive reasoning, came to the conclusion in November that they were due to probably arsenic in beer. Within a very short time of the announcement of the nature of the poison, Dr. Kelynak and Mr. Kirby, of Manchester, had localised the main source of the poison, and immediate measures for its detection and for arresting, as far as practicable, the consumption of arsenical beer had been taken.

A strict investigation has conclusively proved that the injury has been by no means confined to persons drinking beer to excess. In one case a young woman suffered from very characteristic symptoms after partaking of a pint of stout daily, a quantity she had been accustomed to for years. Examination of the stout showed it to contain $\frac{1}{25}$ of a grain of arsenious acid per gallon. Presuming that this was the usual amount of contamination of the stout drunk, it shows that so small a quantity as $\frac{1}{200}$ of a grain of arsenious acid taken daily may cause serious illness.

The poisoned beer appears confined to the Manchester district and the Midlands. Up to the date of preparing this Report an enormous number of samples of beer have been tested in the Metropolitan District—a district containing a population, it must be remembered, of several millions—but no arsenic has been found. Nor does there appear to have been a sufficient number of cases of neuritis treated in the hospitals in this district or in the neighbouring district to justify suspicion of poisoning. The writer believes that the beer in the district at present is free from metallic contamination, and the brewers whose trade has already been affected by the arsenic scare may be depended upon in the future to take especial precautions. On the other hand, in golden syrup, and in various kinds of confectionery, glucose is from time to time used. Golden syrup, or treacle, should be the product of the sugar-cane and should contain no starch glucose syrup. This is a more probable source of poisoning now than beer, because the glucose syrup, if added at all, is usually added in considerable amount. Glucose syrup does not necessarily contain arsenic. It has never been found, for example, in American glucose made by the action of hydrochloric acid on starches; and in the English system of making starch-glucose by acting on the starch with some 3 or 4 per cent. of sulphuric acid, if the acid is free from arsenic, the glucose also will be free from arsenic. Attention is now being directed to all products in which glucose may enter as a proper or improper addition, and such articles are carefully tested for arsenic.

REPORT OF MORTUARY KEEPER

FOR THE YEAR 1900.

TABLE I.

Number of bodies received from January 1st to December 31st, 1900.

	Males.	Females.		males.
- Total Barto				26
January	29	23	July 32	24
February	21	23	August . 24	16
March	25	21		21
April	24	22	October 10	16
May	26	22	November 21	16
June	23	15	December 21	18
Forw	ard 148	126	74 2 Total 511	37

Number of Inquests from January 1st to December 31st, 1900.

					Brought for	ward	 118
January				20	T. L.		 29
February				22	August		 15
March				23	Carton Law		 15
April				22	Oatohan		 6
May				16	Monorhan		 18
June	•			15	December		 17
			Forward	118	L	lotal	 218

INFECTIOUS CASES RECEIVED.

Diphtheria		 			11
Scarlet Fever		 			1
Smallpox	••	 		• •	1
Typhoid Fever Enteric Fever	••	 • •	••	• •	$\frac{1}{3}$
Enteric rever	••	 •••	•••	•••	0
			Total		17

			100	Genuine.	Adulterated.	Total.
DAIRY PRODU	CTS :			-		
	Milk	1		148	5	153
	Butter			60		60
	Margarine			17		17
	Cream			3		3
	Cheese .		•••	1		1
Condiments :	Cheese .	• •				
CONDIMENTS :	Mustard			18		18
		• •		14	3	17
	Pepper		•••	1		1
	Curry Powder	• •	• •	5		5
~	Vinegar	• •		0		9
SPIRITS :	~			95		00
	Gin			32		32
	Whisky			55	• •	55
	Brandy			19		19
	Rum .			13		13
BEVERAGES :						
	Beer			15		15
	Port Wine			5		5
	Tea			10		10
	Coffee		1.	15		15
	Cocoa			3		3
STARCHY AND						
SUBSTAN						
DUBSTAN	Thema			6		6
		 a		4		
	Rice, Sago, Per	affour		10		. 10
	Honey					· 10
	Treacle			12		12
	Jam			35		35
	Sweets			7		
	Sugar		*	2		2
DRUGS :					12100.00	
	Seidlitz Powder	·		1		1
	Jalap			1		1
	Quinine			1		1
	Laudanum			4		4
	Limewater			1		1
	Tartarie Acid			1		1
	Bicarbonate of		•••	1		1
	Soda Water	Soura	•	1		1
MISCELLANEO						
	T 3			9		9
		• •	•••	3		
	Olive Oil	• •		0		3
	Cocoa Butter	• •	• •	2		$\frac{2}{1}$
	Apple Green			1	••	1
	Lemonade			1		1
	Lemon Quash			3		3
	Mincemeat			1		1
	Sauce			5		5
	Tinned and Bo	ttled I	Toods	85		85
				631	0	-
	1	TOTAL	and the second se	631	8	639

TABLE II.—SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.—Total number of Samples analysed during the year ending December 31st, 1900.

TABLE III.- TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, in the Sanitary District of ST. MARYLEBONE, during 1900; classified according to DISEASES, AGES, AND LOCALITIES.

-													-
	(a)		STUDS THY		RECTORY	C- 11	21. 21.4.11.2		CHMSF CRUKCH	Ge Taxes	21, 40BN	Totala	
Popu	(δ) Census 1896	36,	,495	19,	798	19,	637	32,		32,0		141,	
(c)]	Registered Births		638		409		459	1	94	8	25	3	125
(d) .	Aged under 5 or over 5.	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards	Under 5	5 upwards
LTY CAL	1 Smallpox								1		4		5
LEDI	2. Scarlatina	26	92	13	25	6	23	13	56	40	64	98	260
E L	3. Diphtheria	8	22	5	10	1	12	30	36	31	44	75	124
NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN RACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.	4. Membranous Croup								1		1		2
S IN DGE HEJ	/5. Typhus												'
OWLEI OWLEI SR OF	6. Enteric or Typhoid	-1-	21		13	2	15	1	11	2	9	6	69
SIG SIG	Typhoid Au 7. Continued												
THU S	8. Relapsing												
ASEA	9. Puerperal		3						1		2		6
W O	10. Cholera										•		
NECON	11. Erysipelas	1	29	1	63		22	8	55	4	29	14	188
ő é	/1. Smallpox					·			1		4		5
THE	3. Scarlatina	21	73	9	19	5	16	20	49	25	41	80	198
ROM DR J	3. Diphtheria	5	20	3	6	2	8	24	22	22	35	56	91
NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TAKAT- MENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITALS.	4. Membranous Croup												
TALLANC	(5. Typhus												
ASES H	6. Enteric or Typhoid	1	11		10	1	9		7	1	4	3	41
EVER ISO	Typhoid 7. Continued										·		
SUC (E S) C IN	8. Relapsing												
N TH	9. Puerperal			·					1				1
BEB ESI	10. Cholera												
MUM HOM	11. Erysipelas	1	7		35		5	1	10		7	2	64
	(

.

Names of Localities.		ALL 8	SOULS			RECT	ORY.			S. M	IARY.		СНІ	RIST	CHUR	СН.		s. J	OHN.		
YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each Year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each Year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each Year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	
	a	Ъ	- 0	<i>d</i>	a	<i>b</i>	с.	d	a	Ъ	C	d	a	в	С	đ	đ	в	с	ð	
1895	36,595	725	591	126	19,798	526	446	84	19,637	486	411	92	32,547	908	777	191	32,611	890	629	166	20
1896	,,	779	588	143	"	526	461	80	.,	423	365	75	,,	892	788	198	"	833	673	166	
1897	,,	696	522	118	"	445	424	67	"	448	346	74	"	806	632	163	,,	867	651	184	
1898	.,	662	559	128	,,	436	454	70	,,	478	381	81	"	800	637	162	"	823	572	140	
1899	,,	545	506	102	"	423	494	65	.,	450	412	80	"	766	608	148	,,	822	556	136	
Averages of Years 1895 to 1899.	36,595	681	555	103	19,798	471	456	73	19,637	457	383	80	32,547	802	688	172	32,611	847	616	138	
1900	36,595	642	575	114	19,798	409	420	59	19,637	459	342	68	32,547	790	659	154	32,611	825	704	174	

.

TABLE IV.

	The whole District.	All Souls.	Rectory.	St. Mary.	Christ Church.	St. John.
Zymotic Diseases	2.64	2.17	2.57	2.49	2.34	3.61
Pulmonary, other than Phthisis	4.31	2.86	4•44	3.58	5.62	5.02
Tubercular	2.01	2.15	1.78	1.66	2.16	2.05

TABLE V.—Giving the death-rate per thousand of population of the five Registration Districts for certain classes of Disease, 1900. TABLE VI.—Giving the Causes of Deaths during the 52 Weeks ending December 22nd, 1900, at the Middlesex Hospital, Queen Charlotte's Lying-in Hospital, Samaritan Hospital, the Workhouse, and the Marylebone Infirmary, Notting Hill, W.

	Middlesex Hospital.	Queen Charlotte's Hospital.	Samaritan Hospital.	Workhouse.	Notting Hill Infirmary.
			•		
Influenza					
Scarlet Fever					
Diphtheria	3				1
Typhoid Fever	5				3
Diarrhœa	4	1		3	10
Erysipelas	1				3
Pneumonia and Pleurisy	26	2	i	5	20
Pyæmia	1		2		3
Syphilis	1				4
Cancer	137		1		44
Phthisis and Tuberculosis	40	1			131
Rheumatism	2				6
Apoplexy	9	3			12
Paralysis	2				16
Bronchitis	15				96
Asthma				2	
Peritonitis	8	1	2		2
Disease of Brain	2		-	5	ĩ
,, Heart	30	2		4	34
,, Kidney	17	-		Т	5
,, Liver	7				8
" Uterus	2		7		0
", Ovary	2	2	4		• •
Parturition	-	ĩ	T		••
Diabetes		-		••	
Fractures and Injuries	20		••	2	17
Old Age					17
Low Vitality, Infants		2		2 5	34
Premature Birth	ï	13		3	
Other causes	74	11	3.	9	÷.
	11		. 0.	9	74
Total	*309	+39	‡ 20	52	524

* Of the 309 deaths in the Middlesex Hospital, 226 were those of non-parishioners.

† 37 of the 39 deaths in Queen Charlotte's Hospital were those of non-parishioners.

‡ 17 of the 20 deaths in the Samaritan Hospital were non-parishioners.

Johnson Constant		Death		whole				D	eaths (at	in L all A		ies
CAUSES OF DEATH.	All Ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	13 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards,	All Souls.	Rectory.	St. Mary.	Christ Church.	St. John.
Smallpox	2				1	1						2
Measles	39	13	21	5		***		2	6	6	12	13
Scarlet Fever	22	5	9	8				-4	2	5	6	5
Whooping Cough	48	30	16	2				11	9	2	8	18
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup Croup	29 3	4	13 2	12				5	1	2	8	13
Typhus												
Fever { Enteric								7	2	1	2	3
Other continued												
Epidemic influenza	75	4			3	40	24	20	14	13	5	-23
Cholera												
Plague												
Diarrhœa	137	101			1	5	10	29	17	17	36	38
Enteritis												
Puerperal fever	2					2			1	1		
Erysipelas	4					4		2			1	1
Other Septic Diseases	22		1		6	10	5		3	4	13	2
Phthisis	275	14	10	15	52	164	20	80	34	30	68	63
Other Tubercular	12	10	2					1	2	2	4	3
Diseases Cancer, Malignant	137	1		1	3	85	47	47	27	20	15	28
Bronchitis	355	63	25	4	5	121	137	62	55	39	102	97
Pneumonia	216	57	41	9	5	84	20	36	27	23	73	57
Pieurisy	3	1				1	1	1			1	1
Other Diseases of	41	2	4		2	20	13	2	8	7	11	6
Respiratory Organs Alcoholism Cirrhosis of Liver }	4					4			1	1	1	1
Venereal Diseases	9	7				2			3	2	4	
Premature Birth	70	70	·		i			22	3	6	15	24
Diseases and Accidents	1					1			1			
of Parturition Heart Diseases	228	2	1	10	11	119	85	41	41	30	50	57
Accidents	83	26	8	- 6	5	25	13	16	9	9	30	19
Suicides	11				1	9	1	. 1	1		5	4
All other causes	857	158	58	22		376	243	177	153	121	180	226
All causes	2700	569	232	101	95	1084	619	575	420	342	659	704

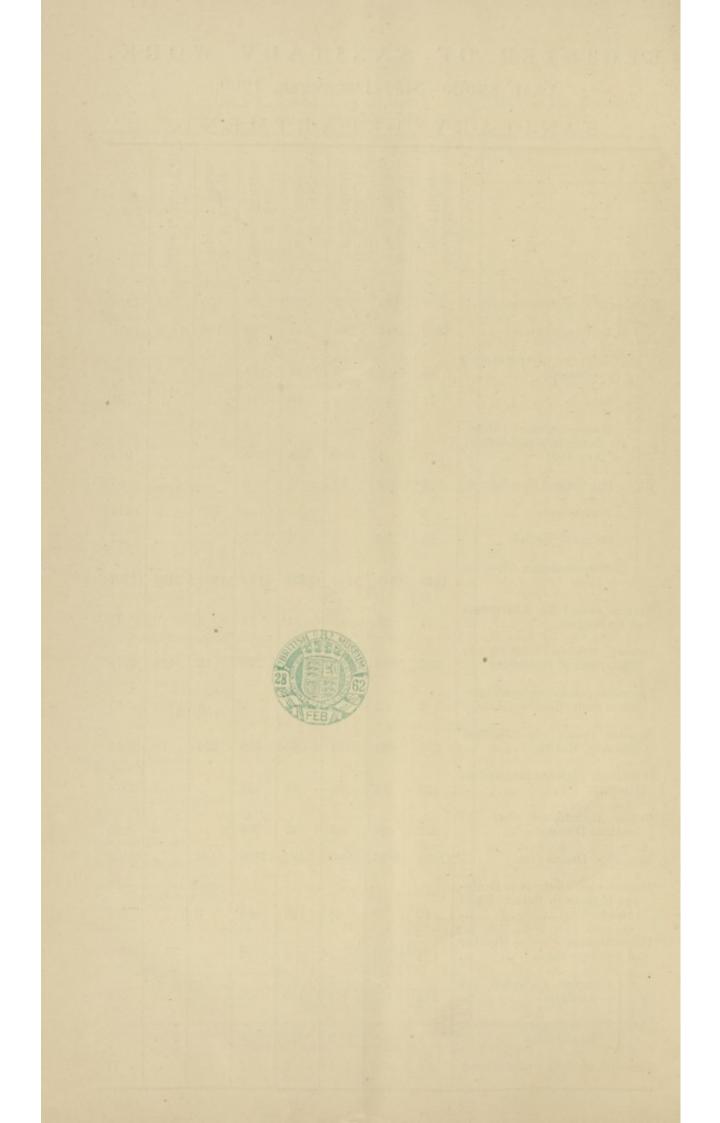
TABLE VII.—Causes of, and Ages at, Death during 1900, in the Borough of St. Marylebone.*

"The deaths include deaths in the Public Institutions. enumerated in Table VI., with the exception of deaths of non-residents in the district.

REGISTER OF SANITARY WORK, YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1900.

SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

		Mr. J. Hodges, No. 1 District.	Mr. A. Perry, No. 2 District.	Mr. T. Gorniot, No. 3 District.	Mr. D. J. Andrews, No. 4 District.	Mr. W. Yeo, No. 5 District.	Mr. R. Phillips, Special Duties.	Miss L. M. O'Kell	Total.
Nui	nber of Complaints received	134	163	232	299	278	50	62	1218
	Of Dwelling Houses	385	347	289	433	296	193	8	1951
	" Kitchens (separately occupied)	56		36	241	149		4	486
	" Schools	11	18	9	10	10			58.
Inspections.	., Houses registered under PublicHealth(London) Act, 1891	275		183	228	287			973
Ins	" Dairies and Cow-houses	24	12	11	3	5			55
	., Bakehouses	2					509		511
	" Slaughterhouses …	24	15	7	4	7			57
	" Miscellaneous Inspec- tions	1841	1948	1989	1923	1672	1838	3496	14707
	tices issued for Abatement f Nuisances	44	25	67	31	72	· 3	2	244
Let A	ters written relating to batement of Nuisances [*]	233	218	211	344	229	19	124	1378
	ceedings taken beforeMagis- rates under Sanitary Acts	4		16	5				25
	orts made to Medical officer of Health	361	404	451	360	596	254	90	2516
	ectious Patients removed to Iospital	156	74	. 86	89	158		5	568
	oms Disinfected after In- ectious Disease	252	164	151	142	304		25	1038
Ne	w Pipe Drains (feet)	12658	15646	9880	9480	17126	136		64926
a	uses where defects in Drain- ge have been detected and emedied	- 69	79	60	109	64	3		385
	wholesome Food—Number f Seizures made	1			2	2			5
Food .	Samples collected for Analysis	124	115	122	130	120	25	3	639
	The second s	1.		2		·			3
Rei	noval of Bodies to Mortuary	9	2	1	- 8	2			17



INDEX TO MONTHLY REPORTS, 1900.

January February March April	:	:	:	•	2
March			1		63.75
					20
Ammil					31
April					46
May					56
June					69
July			-		84
August					95
September					95
October					114
November		-			124

в

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Bethell, Pitt,							
relative to M	fanur	e, Bos	ton 1	Mew	s .		4
Birth and Death	-Rates	s					
January .							2
							20
March .							31
April .							46
May	•	:					
May June July	•		•	-	•		69 84
August .					•	•	95
August	• •				•		95
September October				:			114
November							124
			1		÷.,	•	
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					rable	H.	12
February	30,	mable	17 0	20,		VI.	24 37
March.	. 00,	THOIG	V. 0	12		W.	51
April . May . June .	• •	•	• 3	10,		v.	63
Juno .	. RR 1	Cable	IV'	20,			
Jule .	. 00, 1	Labre	17.1	24		W.	75 89
July . August	: :	•		14,			89
August			2	14.			104
September .	94 7.	hleV	III i	04		X.	
October	,			0.1			119
October November				124,			132
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							10

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January	•	• •	•		•		2 20
February March	•	• •		•	•		31
April .	•		•	•		•	46
May .	•					•	56
June .	-		:			•	69
July .					1		84
August				-			95
September						-	95
October						. 1	114
November							124
leansing of Pe	rsons	Act					32
reasoning of a c							
		D					
Deaths, causes	of-						
January		21 122		Tal	ble	v.	15
February			4		1	VI.	25
March					37	II.	38
April .						v.	52
May .				,		V.	64
June .					, VI	п.	78
July .						V.	90
August							106
September							107
September	Quar	rter .			, х		108
October		• •	•				120
November	•	•		•		.v.	131
		F	L				
Einabler Boad	Smo	II in					72
Finchley Road	, one	ai in			•	•	10
		G					
		-					
Golden Syrup	Adu	lterat	ion of	ι.			33
		H	(
Harrow Street of under P	ublic	Healt	osecut th Act	tion of	. owi	ier ,	3
Harrow Street	No.	14, Pr	osecu	tion of	f own	ner	
of under P	ublic	Heal	th Act	• •			70
Health of Dist	rict di	uring	March	h Qua	rter		32
Hot Weather a	nd H	ealth					85
House Refuse.	colle	ction	of .				126
					/Da	-	
Housing of the Street Sch		king	Ciasse	is Act	(Du	ine	86
Bureet Sen	eme)		· •		•	•	00
		-					
		I					
		-					

Infant Morts Wasting I				Con	vulsi	ve	and	
January								3
February								21
March								31
· April .				+				47
May .	+							57
June .		,						69
July .	in.		1			•	. +	85
August an	id Se	epter	nber			•		95
October November		1	1		1	:		115 126

January			Table	III.	15
February				П.	- 25
March .				II.	34
April .				II.	- 45
May .	4			II.	61
June Quart	er			III.	74
July .				II.	87, 101
August		-		IV.	10:
September				V.	103
October	2			III.	118
November				III.	130

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February .							19
Manah					1		29
				+			45
						+	55
							67
							83
August .			10			•	93
September . October				•			93
November	• •		•		•		113
			,			•	123
Middlesex Hosp	ital,	Caus	es of				
January					Table		14
February		•				III.	23
March			•			IV.	36
		• •			++	ш.	50
May	*		• •		3.9	Щ.	62
June		•			* 9	VI.	76
July August		• •			12	III. IV.	88
Contombon		•				V.	101 102
October					11	m.	118
November					**	II.	129
roronition							100

N

Notting Hill In	firmar	y, Cau	ses of	Death	in	
January		•		Table	IV.	14
February					III.	23
March					IV.	36
April .					III.	50
May .					III.	62
June .					VI.	76
July .					III.	88
August					IV.	101
September		Table	V. 102		VI.	103
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