

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Wood Green 1902]

Contributors

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Urban District Council of Wood Green.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR 1902,

BY

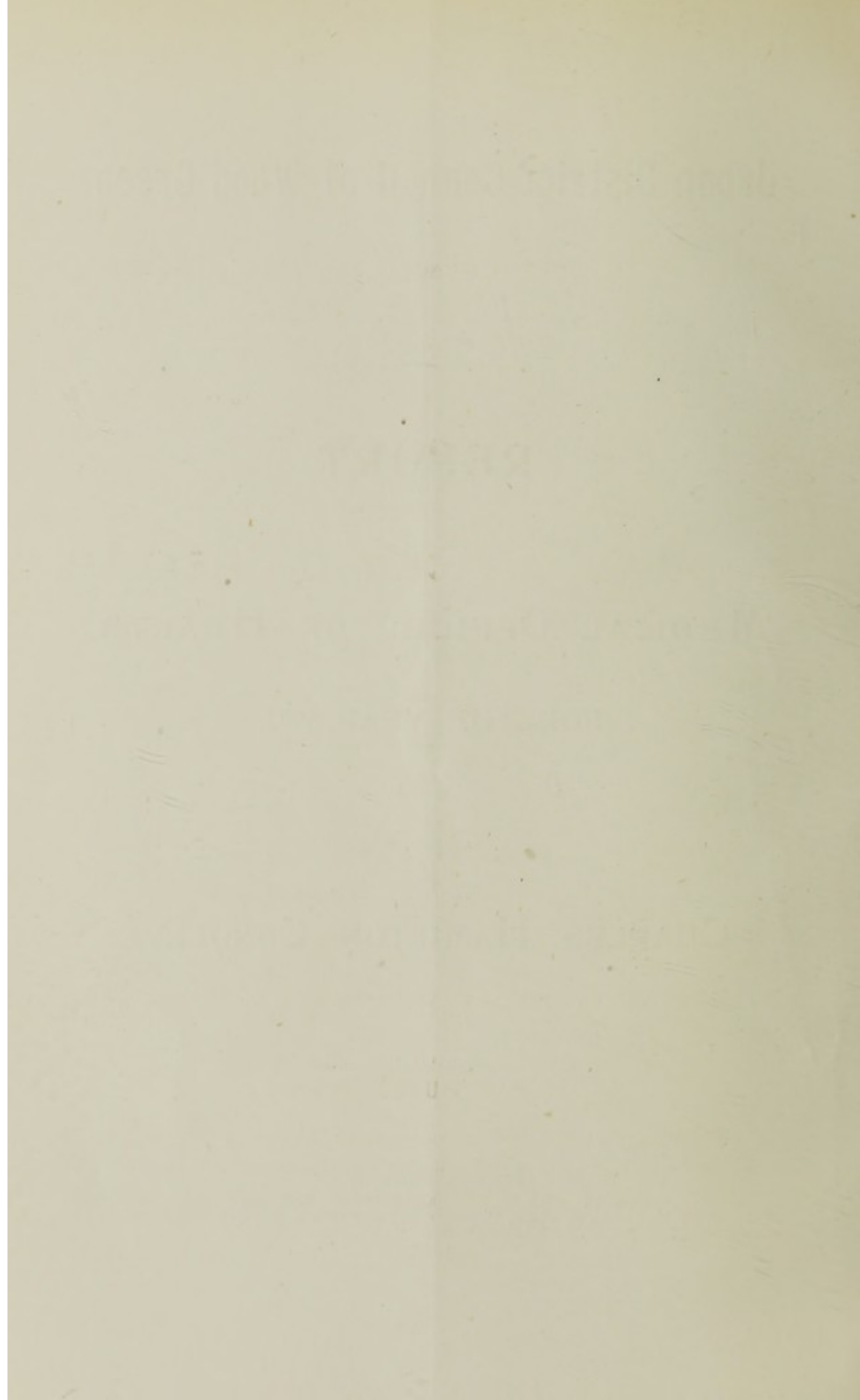
CHARLES HAMILTON CONOLLY,

M.R.C.S.

BOWES PARK, N.

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1903.



URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WOOD GREEN.

REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1902.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Urban
District Council of Wood Green.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Report on the Health of Wood Green for the year 1902.

NEW BUILDINGS.

Total number of dwelling houses in the course of erection during the year was 892 ; of these 375 were commenced in 1901. The number completed and fit for occupation was 349 ; 543 being incomplete at the end of the year.

In addition, the following buildings have been erected :—

Factories and Warehouses	...	...	...	6
Stables and Sheds	...	...	...	7
Public Buildings	...	...	...	5
Alterations and additions to existing buildings				38
Corrugated Iron Sheds and Churches	...			2
Lock-up Shops	...	...	...	5

The total number of plans before the Council was 122, of which 102 were approved and 20 disapproved.

Plans were approved for the construction and sewerage of five new roads, with a total length of carriage way of 7,915 feet.

CENSUS RETURNS.

				1901.		1891.
Population	...	...	...	34,233	...	25,831
Males	...	...	...	16,526		
Females	...	...	...	17,707		
Number of Houses—						
Total Finished	...	...	...	6,502	...	4,872
Inhabited	...	...	...	6,048	...	4,516
Uninhabited	...	...	...	454	...	356
Unfinished	...	...	...	195	...	145
Percentage of unoccupied houses	...			6.908	...	7.307
Number of persons to each inhabited house				5.66	...	5.71
Total Tenements	...	...	...	7,426	...	
Tenements of less than 5 rooms	...			2,870	...	1,498
" " 4 "	...			1,283		
" " 3 "	...			841		
" " 2 "	...			525		
" " 1 "	...			221		
Ecclesiastical Parishes : Population—						
St. Michael's, Wood Green	...			17,851	...	15,372
St. Mark's, Noel Park	...			8,765	...	6,590
St. Michael's, Bowes Park (partly in Southgate)	...	...		9,152	...	3,578

POPULATION.

The total number of houses in December, 1902, was 7,108, allowing 6.908 per cent. for empty houses, and 5.66 persons for each occupied house, the population at the end of the year would be 37,452. I have taken 36,500 as representing the population in June, 1902, for the purposes of this Report.

BIRTHS.

1,023 Births were registered, 534 boys and 489 girls, or a rate of 28.02 per 1,000 of the population. The average rate for the last 10 years was 30.03 per 1,000.

DEATHS.

391 Deaths were registered as occurring in the district; 12 occurred outside the district; 2 in the Edmonton Union Infirmary; 9 in the South Mimms Smallpox Hospital; and 1 in the Isolation Hospital. There were four deaths of persons not belonging to the district in the Cottage Hospital.

The corrected number of deaths is therefore 399, which is equal to a rate of 10.90 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

The average death rate for the last 10 years is 12.73 per 1,000.

There were 113 deaths of *children under one year*, which is equal to 110 deaths to every 1,000 births. The average of the last 10 years is 144 to 1,000 births.

The deaths of *children under five years* amounted to 145, equal to a rate of 3.97 per 1,000 of the general population, against a rate of 5.15 per 1000 in 1901.

There were 47 deaths from the various forms of *Tubercular Disease*, 36 of which were from *Phthisis*.

There were 66 deaths from diseases of the *Respiratory System*, against 61 in 1901.

There were 3 deaths from Accident, and 4 from Suicide.

ZYMOTIC DISEASE.

The Deaths from the seven chief Zymotic Diseases of the Registrar General (Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Fever and Diarrhœa) amounted to 46, giving a rate of 1·26 per 1,000 of the population, which is the lowest for many years.

The two previous years the rate was 2·37 and 2·03 per 1000.

SMALLPOX.

42 cases of Smallpox were notified with 11 deaths, the first case was notified on the 18th January, and the last on the 25th September.

The following table gives the cases according to age and condition as to vaccination :—

Ages.	Vaccinated.				Unvaccinated.			
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
0 to 1 year	0	0	2	1	5	0	6	3
1 " 5 "	0	0	5	0	6	0	0	0
5 " 15 "	2	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
15 " 25 "	7	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
25 " 35 "	12	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
35 " 45 "	4	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
45 " 55 "	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
55 " 65 "	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Over 65 "	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	26	4	16	7				

There was no instance of a case occurring in a person successfully re-vaccinated, although there were several instances of vaccination during the incubation period proving too late to prevent the appearance of smallpox, but even here the facts suggest that a favourable influence was exerted on the course of the disease. It must be remembered that the efficiency of the original vaccination varies very widely, and that amongst the vaccinated are placed all those who stated that they had been vaccinated, although the evidence of the scars was in many cases imperceptible.

The source of infection was distinctly traced in 7 cases to contact with the disease outside the district; in 19 it was not distinctly traced, but from enquiring into the previous history it was, by a process of elimination attributed with reasonable certainty to outside contact; while the remaining 16 we attribute to the spread of infection from within the district.

Of these 16, 13 had never been vaccinated and 3 had been vaccinated in infancy.

We found that one of the main causes of the spread of infection was the very mild nature of the disease in certain previously vaccinated persons—the so-called modified smallpox—which lead the patient to treat it as a trivial complaint, and neglect to seek medical advice for some days, or until several persons had been exposed to infection, owing to ignorance of its true nature.

A typical instance of this kind occurred in Moselle Avenue. A woman suffered from a slight attack with a few spots on her face. She never felt really ill and no doctor was consulted. A neighbour contracted smallpox from her, which was recognised by the doctor and notified to us. On enquiry we heard about the first case, which still presented slight traces of the disease, and found that three of her children were sickening for it and a few days afterwards her husband and another child were ill.

Provision of Hospital Accommodation.

The four beds at the South Mimms Hospital, for which we had for years paid a retaining fee, was manifestly inadequate in view of the general increase in the number of cases in London and its suburbs. After the consideration of various alternatives it was finally decided to increase the number of beds to 14 and a contract with the South Mimms Hospital Authorities to that effect was entered into. We were fortunate enough to escape any serious epidemic, and we had no serious difficulty in removing our cases to South Mimms. In two cases only did the delay in removal amount to more than 24 hours,

owing to want of room. 35 cases were removed to South Mimms, 2 to Metropolitan Asylums Board's Hospital, and 5 were, for various reasons, treated at home.

Vaccination.

In co-operation with the Guardians of the Union, we provided a room at the Branch Public Reading Room in the High Road, where the Public Vaccinator attended every evening for some weeks during the height of the epidemic. In every case we made most strenuous efforts to induce every person who had been in contact with a case to submit to vaccination or re-vaccination, and I am glad to say that it was seldom that the exposed persons refused. I am glad to say also that we derived most loyal and energetic assistance from Dr. Porter in securing prompt and efficient vaccination in many difficult and urgent cases.

Quarantine.

We endeavoured, and in most instances successfully, to secure the isolation of persons who had been in contact with the disease for 14 days. We were empowered by the Council to pay to those who loyally assisted us, any loss of wages they might have suffered. The shelter at the Moat House was useful on several occasions for this purpose as well as for that for which it was originally intended.

Notification of chicken-pox was adopted for six months as a precautionary measure in view of the numerous cases in which this disease had been mistaken for smallpox and the opposite and more dangerous error had been made in other districts.

The extreme rarity of smallpox in most parts of England and the modifying influence of vaccination on the character of the disease, has caused a difficulty in diagnosing it in its early stages by many of the present generation of medical men. In recognition of this fact I was empowered by the Council to provide skilled assistance in any case of doubt, in view of the extreme importance of treating each case as promptly as possible.

Although only 42 cases were notified, each case represented a considerable increase in work for the sanitary staff in tracing all "contacts" and notifying them to the various persons liable to be affected. We have found it necessary to communicate with 30 or 40 different individuals about one case.

SCARLET FEVER.

105 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified with one death, against 117 and 133 cases in the two previous years. 69 of these cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital in St. Ann's Road.

DIPHTHERIA.

31 cases of Diphtheria were notified with 4 deaths, against 56 and 47 cases in the two previous years.

TYPHOID FEVER.

33 cases of Typhoid Fever were notified with 2 deaths, against 23 and 20 cases in the two previous years.

MEASLES.

There were two deaths from Measles in the first half of the year, but there was at no time any undue prevalence of the disease. The deaths in the two previous years were 8 and 14.

DIARRHŒA.

There were 10 deaths from Diarrhoea, 8 of which were in children under 1 year. The deaths in the three previous years were 67, 53 and 36. As the great majority of these deaths are in children under 1 year, the considerable decrease accounts in a great measure for the more favourable infantile death rate.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

The Workshops in the district have been visited from time to time, and the sanitary condition, air space, &c., noted in the register now kept under the above Act.

For the convenience of the occupier of the workshop and the Inspector, the rooms are measured and the occupier requested to hang up in the workroom a card specifying the number of hands that may occupy the workroom. This we find saves any misunderstanding, and the Inspector upon his visit can see at a glance whether the room is overcrowded, and the occupier knows how many hands may be employed in each workroom.

The minimum amount of cubic air space allowed (viz., 250 cubic feet) is absurdly small, and it is a pity the legislature, while consolidating the Factory and Workshops Acts, did not enlarge it. I am however, glad to say the majority of workrooms in this district have plenty of air space, light and ventilation.

There are only two underground bakehouses, with which the Council will have to deal when the time arrives.

CONSTANT WATER SUPPLY.

Owing to representations made by the Council, the New River Company have consented to provide a constant water supply to the whole district after May the 1st, 1903.

General Sanitary Work.

The general sanitary work of the district has been effectually performed, the details of which will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report. It will be noticed that there is a diminution in the number of house to house inspections, which is due to the extra labour imposed on the staff by the Small-pox epidemic.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. H. CONOLLY.

28th January, 1903.

Vital Statistics in the Urban Sanitary District of Wood Green during 1902 and Previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond District.	Rate*	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*
		Number	Rate*									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1892	27,991	983	35.11	116	118	382				10	392	14.04
1893	28,217	917	32.49	113	123	359			10	10	369	13.07
1894	28,647	887	30.96	112	133	326			5	5	331	13.07
1895	29,164	884	30.31	131	148	374			4	4	374	12.82
1896	30,116	911	30.24	138	151	369			11	11	380	12.62
1897	30,500	939	30.78	151	160	381		1	4	4	384	12.51
1898	31,000	890	28.70	147	165	414		1	7	7	420	13.54
1899	32,320	928	28.71	150	161	413		1	5	5	415	12.84
1900	35,000	900	25.71	137	152	393		2	2	5	395	11.28
1901	34,350	939	27.33	125	133	398		2	2	1	397	11.55
Averages for years 1892-1901	30,730	917	30.03	132	144	380		...	...	6.2	385	12.73
1902	36,500	1023	28.02	113	110	391		13	4	12	399	10.90

*Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres

Total population at all ages ... 34,233
 Number of inhabited houses ... 6,048
 Average number of persons per house ... 5.66
 At Census of 1901.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the Year 1902, in the Urban Sanitary District of Wood Green.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Year.					
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.
Small-pox	42	2	5	8	7	19	1
Cholera							
Diphtheria	31	—	9	14	6	2	
Membranous Croup ...	1	—	1				
Erysipelas	29	1	1	2	5	20	
Scarlet Fever	105	1	29	53	18	4	
Typhus Fever							
Enteric Fever	33	—	—	10	10	13	
Relapsing Fever							
Continued Fever							
Puerperal Fever	5	—	—	—	4	1	
Plague							
Chicken-pox	121	11	55	50	3	2	
Totals	367	15	100	157	53	142	1

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1902 in
the Urban Sanitary District of Wood Green.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.							Total Deaths in Public Institutions
	All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up- wards.	
Small-pox	11	1	—	3	—	6	1	
Measles	2	1	1					
Scarlet Fever	1	—	1					
Whooping-cough	16	9	7					
Diphtheria and mem- branous Croup	4	—	1	2	—	1		
Croup... .. .	1	—	—	1				
Fever { Typhus	2	—	—	—	—	2		
{ Enteric								
{ Other continued								
Epidemic influenza... ..	9	1	2	1	1	4		
Cholera								
Plague								
Diarrhoea	10	8	1	—	—	1		
Enteritis								
Puerperal Fever	2	—	—	—	2			
Erysipelas	4	3	—	—	—	1		
Other septic diseases								
Phthisis	36	—	1	—	8	26	1	1
Other tubercular diseases	11	5	3	1	—	2		
Cancer, malignant disease... ..	16	—	—	—	—	13	3	
Bronchitis	41	6	1	—	—	12	22	
Pneumonia	24	4	5	—	2	8	5	1
Pleurisy	1	—	—	—	—	1		
Other diseases of Res- piratory organs								
Alcoholism	2	—	—	—	—	2		
Cirrhosis of liver }								
Venereal diseases	2	2						
Premature birth	16	16						
Diseases and accidents of parturition... .. .	1	—	—	—	—	1		
Heart diseases	36	6	1	2	3	12	12	3
Accidents	3	—	—	—	—	2	1	2
Suicides	4	—	—	—	—	4		
All other causes	144	51	28	7	4	23	51	6
All causes	399	113	32	17	20	121	96	13

SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

Town Hall,
Wood Green,

January, 1903.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE WOOD GREEN
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the ANNUAL REPORT of the work in this Department during the year ending December 31st. 1902.

SPECIAL COMPLAINTS.

There have been 158 Special Complaints received, and the following is a description of the nuisances under this head:—

No. of Drains Opened and Examined ...	...	...	...	...	123
„ „ Unstopped, Repaired ...	...	...	...	...	55
„ „ Re-constructed ...	...	...	...	...	46
„ Soil Pipes Ventilated ...	...	...	...	...	40
„ Disconnecting traps or chambers inserted ...	...	...	...	...	32
„ Waste pipes, rain-water pipes, &c., disconnected ...	...	...	...	...	92
„ New dietary cisterns provided ...	...	...	...	...	1
„ New flush cisterns to W.C.'s ...	...	...	...	...	16
„ New apparatus to W. C.'s ...	...	...	...	...	53
„ W.C.'s cleansed and repaired ...	...	...	...	...	11
„ W.C.'s supplied with water ...	...	...	...	...	11
„ Houses supplied with water ...	...	...	...	...	3
„ Sanitary dustbins supplied ...	...	...	...	...	65
„ Roofs repaired ...	...	...	...	...	7
„ Rain water pipes and gutters repaired ...	...	...	...	...	15
„ Surface of ground adjoining houses paved ...	...	...	...	...	21
„ Accumulations of refuse removed ...	...	...	...	...	16
„ Gipsy vans removed ...	...	...	...	...	70
„ Houses cleansed ...	...	...	...	...	11
„ Cisterns cleansed, repaired, &c. ...	...	...	...	...	9

No. of	Site of (or part of) house concreted	...	...	...	5
"	Air bricks under Ground floors	...	...	...	7
"	Kitchen (or Scullery) floors cemented	...	...	...	2
"	Damp proof course inserted	...	...	...	4
"	Dung pits built	...	...	...	1
"	Floor of Dwellings cleansed	...	...	...	2
"	Enquiry into smallpox contacts	...	...	...	18
"	" " suspected Chicken-pox	...	...	...	10
"	" " other infectious diseases...	...	...	...	4
"	Nuisances keeping animals	...	...	...	41
"	" Overcrowding	...	...	...	9
"	" Ballast burning	...	...	...	2
"	" Smoke	...	...	...	8
"	" Dead Bodies	...	...	...	1

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, & MILKSHOPS ORDER, 1885.

Seven applications have been received, to be Registered as Purveyors of Milk, five of which were granted.

The number carrying on the Sale of Milk on the 31st December, 1902, were as follows :—

Five Cowkeepers.

Abbott Bros., Station Road.

Delahoy, C. H., 57, Commerce Road.

Greenhill, M. A., Brook Road.

Sexton, D., 1, Stuart Crescent.

Savill, A., Devonshire Hill Farm, White Hart Lane.

Thirty-five Purveyors of Milk.

Abbott Bros., 136, Myddleton Road.

Anderson, G., 20, Richmond Road.

Briggs, W. H., 2 & 4, Lymington Avenue.

Briggs, W. H., Co-operative Stores, Lordship Lane.

Boulton, J. W., 5, St. Michael's Terrace.

- Crowhurst, R., 12, Lymington Avenue.
 Clark, R., 36, Selbourne Road.
 Cox, F. W., 4, Springfield Terrace.
 Clifford, H., 8, Eldon Road.
 Cramp, G., Bradley House, White Hart Lane.
 Day, F. W., 28, Sydney Road.
 Daniels, W., 113, High Road.
 Emerton, J., 307, High Road.
 Forney, C., 57, Coburg Road.
 Garnish, H., 29, Acacia Road.
 George, E., 14, Commerce Road.
 Horton, T. M., 3, Clarendon Road.
 Howard, J., 2, Winkfield Road.
 Kemp, T., 13, Crescent Road.
 Laskey, W., 21, Salisbury Road.
 Land, W., 35, Ringsdale Road.
 Lascelles, T. S., 125, Myddleton Road.
 Marlow, A., 40, Western Road.
 Meredith, R., 2, Westbury Parade, Westbury Avenue.
 Marlow, J., 51, Coburg Road.
 Meredith, E., 188, High Road.
 Masters, A. H., 33, Queen's Road.
 Pope, J. H., 117, Lordship Lane.
 Pettengell, J. G., 31, Western Road.
 Rawlings, E., 26, Carlton Road.
 Smee, G., 1, Prospect Villas, Caxton Road.
 Smithson, T. H., 5, Brabant Place, Station Road.
 Taylor, C. H., 40, Finsbury Road.
 Willmott, T., 5, Grainger Villas, Lordship Lane.
 Wells, H. C., 49, Coburg Road.
 Watt, J., 243, High Road.

No. of Visits to above—170.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE (NOTIFICATION AND PREVENTION) ACTS.

No. of Notifications received	...	...	...	...	...	388
„ Articles disinfected at the Council's Station	...	...	...	...	...	6141
Viz. :—No. of Beds	...	...	...	177		
Palliasses...	...	...	...	144		
Bolsters	...	...	...	169		
Mattresses	...	...	...	127		
Pillows	...	...	...	286		
Blankets	...	...	...	541		
Quilts	...	...	...	185		
Rugs	...	...	...	355		
Clothing	...	...	...	2401		
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	1756		
No. of Articles destroyed	...	...	...	...	...	464
	(also Stock of Greengrocer's and Printer's Shop).					
„ Visits to infectious cases	...	...	...	...	...	1388
„ Enquiries into suspected cases of infectious disease...						32
„ Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	244
„ Class rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ Cabs disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Rooms stripped, cleansed, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	200
„ Applicants supplied with disinfectants	...	...	...	...	...	2983
„ Removals to various Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	125
Viz. :—Great Northern Hospital	...	...	...	8		
Liverpool Road	„	...	...	1		
Royal Free	„	...	...	3		
Enfield District Council Hospital	...	...	...	7		
South Mimms (Smallpox)	...	...	...	35		
Council's Hospital	...	...	...	69		
Metropolitan Asylums Board	...	...	...	2		

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are five Licensed Premises in the District as follows :—

Wm. Knight, 301, High Road, Wood Green.
 G. H. Brown, 103, High Road, Wood Green.
 E. A. Fillary, 45, Finsbury Road, Wood Green.
 H. C. Harper, 201, High Road, Wood Green.
 F. G. Jones, 141, Myddleton Road, Bowes Park.

No. of visits to above premises—106.

BAKEHOUSES.

No. in the District	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
„ of visits to above premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	52

TEMPORARY MORTUARY.

No. of Bodies deposited...	...	...	...	...	...	32
„ Inquests held	...	...	...	...	...	31
„ Post mortem examinations	...	...	...	...	...	26

REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

No. of complaints and requisitions	...	...	...	...	63
„ Loads removed (dust)	...	...	...	...	6145½
„ Tins „ (fish offal)	...	...	...	...	1496
„ Visits to Carts in District	...	...	...	...	3500
„ Carts employed	...	...	...	...	7

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS FOR THE YEAR 1902.

NATURE.	RESULT.
Non-compliance with Stat. Notice re 18 to 32, High Road.	Withdrawn.
Breach of Commons Bye-laws.	Fined 20s. and costs, or 14 days.
Breach of Commons Bye-laws.	Fined 20s. and costs, or 14 days.

CLERICAL WORK.

No. of Letters written	...	...	...	...	...	...	1790
„ „ filed (for future reference)	...	...	...	...	...	...	964
„ General Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	146
„ Notices (under P.H.A., 1875)	...	...	...	...	...	...	139
„ Notices under Infectious Disease Prevention Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	104
„ Notifications to schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	700
„ „ Librarian	...	...	...	...	...	...	376
„ Reports to Council	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
„ „ Committees	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

LAUNDRIES & WORKSHOPS ON REGISTER.

No. of Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
„ Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
„ Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	98

In consequence of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, a new Register is in course of preparation revealing a number of Workshops which have hitherto not been known to us, so that the totals given above do not represent all the Workshops and Workplaces in the District.

HOUSE TO HOUSE INSPECTION.

No. of Houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
„ Drains opened and examined	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
„ „ Re-constructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
„ „ Soil pipes ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ Disconnecting traps inserted	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ Waste pipes, rain-water pipes disconnected	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
„ New apparatus provided to W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
„ W.C.'s repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ Roofs „	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ Surfaces of ground adjoining house paved	...	...	...	...	...	...	23

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obediant Servant,

A. E. ADAMS,

Inspector of Nuisances.

COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX.—SANITARY WORK, 1902.

Sanitary Districts.	Inspections.										Notices.					Dwelling Houses.				Houses let in separate Dwellings or Lodgings.			Common Lodging Houses.			Canal Boats used as Dwellings.				Movable Dwellings, Caravans, Tents, &c.		
	Complaints received.	Cases of Infectious Disease Notified.	Number of Premises periodically Inspected.	Houses Inspected from House-to-House.	Total Number of Houses, Premises, &c., Inspected.	Total Number of Re-inspections after Order or Notice.	Total Number of Inspections and Re-inspections.	Letters Written.	Cautionary Notices Given.	Statutory Orders Issued.	Summonses Served.	Convictions Obtained.	Houses, Premises, &c., Cleansed, Repaired, &c.	Closed as Unfit for Habitation.	Re-opened after Repairs, Alterations, &c.	Demolished.	Illegal Underground Dwellings Vacated.	Number Registered under Bye-laws.	Periodical, Frequency, or Number of Inspections.	Number of Contraventions.	Number Registered under Bye-laws.	Periodical, Frequency, or Number of Inspections.	Number of Contraventions.	Number Registered under Acts.	Periodical, Frequency, or Number of Inspections.	Number of Contraventions of Regulations.	Number Observed during the Year.	Number of Nuisances therefrom Abated.	Number Removed from District.			
Wood Green	158	463	94	35	677	1314	1790	146	243	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	70	..	70

NOTE.—Asterisks or other signs appearing opposite a District signify that those columns of the District are taken together.

