

## **[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Wood Green].**

### **Contributors**

Wood Green (London, England). Urban District Council.

### **Publication/Creation**

1918.

### **Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/xcmsj3ya>

### **License and attribution**

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution, Non-commercial license.

Non-commercial use includes private study, academic research, teaching, and other activities that are not primarily intended for, or directed towards, commercial advantage or private monetary compensation. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

Urban District of Wood Green.

---

**REPORT**

OF THE

**Deputy Medical Officer of Health**

**For 1917.**



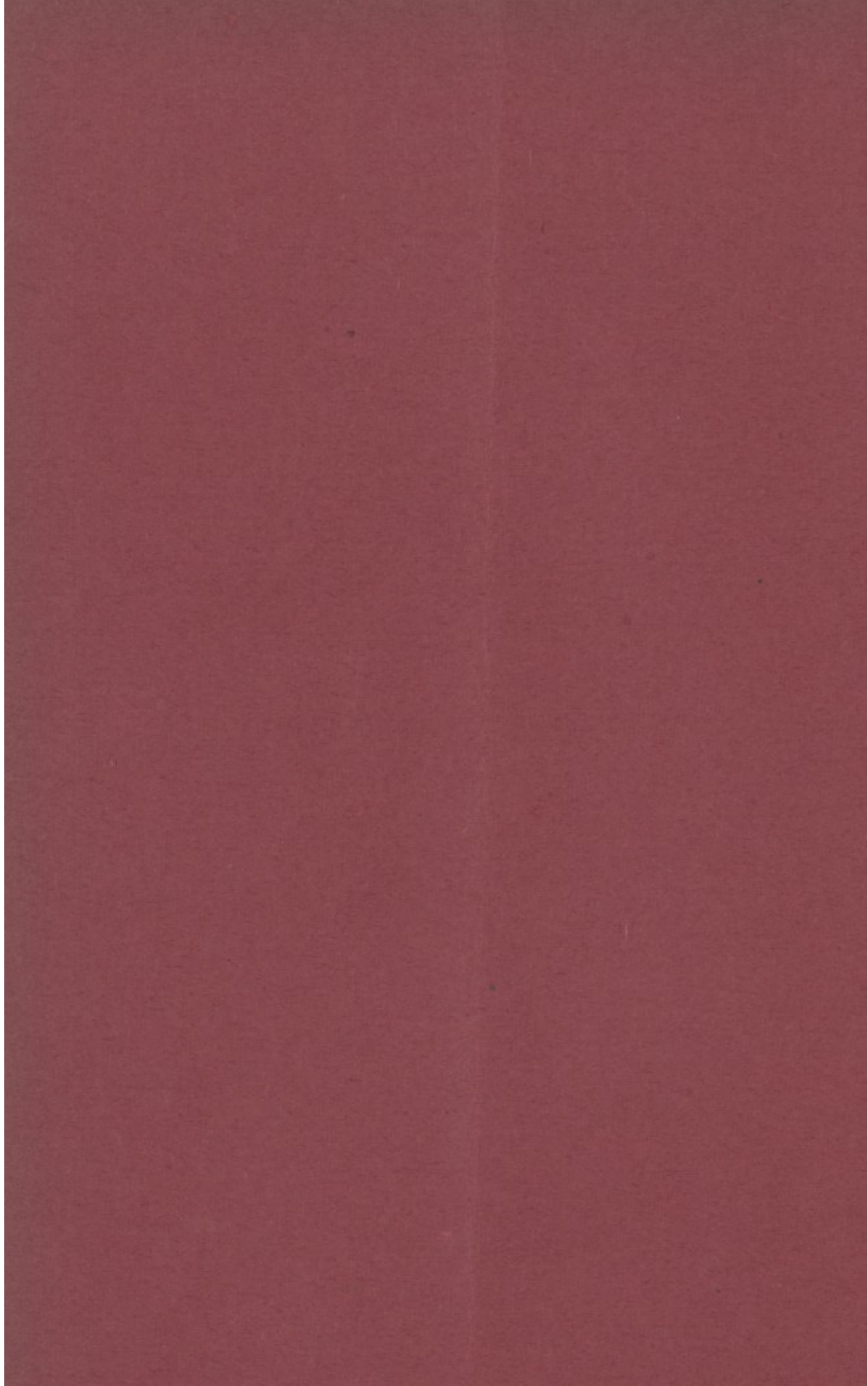
**W. E. PORTER, M.D., D.P.H.,**

**Deputy Medical Officer of Health.**

*22nd July, 1918.*

---

CRUSHA & SON,  
PRINTERS, TOTTENHAM AND WOOD GREEN.



REPORT  
OF THE  
DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF  
HEALTH

For 1917.

---

---

SANITARY DEPARTMENT,  
TOWN HALL,  
WOOD GREEN, N. 22.

*22nd July, 1918.*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

My Annual Report for the year 1917 is considerably curtailed, and only includes the details which are requested by the Local Government Board.

**Population.**

The Registrar-General has supplied me with the estimated civil population for the year 1917, which is, for the purposes of birth-rate, 51,996, and for the death-rate 46,645.

The estimated population for each Ward, based on the above figures, is as follows:—

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.
Town Hall ... ..	11,770	10,625
Bowes Park ... ..	7,930	7,100
Alexandra Park ... ..	7,500	6,700
Central ... ..	10,886	9,700
Noel Park ... ..	13,910	12,520
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	51,996	46,645
	<hr/>	<hr/>

## Births.

There were 882 births, as against 1,017 in 1916. The births were:—379 males and 403 females; of these, 33 were illegitimate, viz., 10 males and 23 females; this corresponds to an annual rate of 16.96, compared with 18.68 per thousand in 1916, and 19.82 in 1915.

The birth-rate for England and Wales was 17.8.

The following table shows the number of births registered within and without the district and the birth-rate for each Ward:—

		Births Registered.		Birth Rate.
Town Hall	...	192	...	16.31
Bowes Park	...	151	...	19.04
Alexandra Park	...	128	...	17.06
Central	...	202	...	18.55
Noel Park	...	209	...	15.02
		—		—
		882	...	16.96
		—		—

## Deaths.

The total number of deaths was 540, including residents dying within and without the district; the death-rate is therefore equal to an annual rate of 11.57 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 14.4, the death-rate for England and Wales for the same period.

The number of deaths in 1916 was 512, an annual rate of 10.23 per 1,000 of the population.

The following are the number of deaths and death-rate per 1,000 in each Ward:—

Ward	No. of Deaths.	Death Rate.
Town Hall ... ..	135	12.70
Bowes Park ... ..	95	13.38
Alexandra Park ... ..	68	10.14
Central ... ..	113	11.64
Noel Park ... ..	129	10.30
	540	11.57

There were 49 deaths of children under one year, which corresponds to a death-rate of 55.55 for every 1,000 births, against 66, or a rate of 64.89, in 1916, in comparison with a rate of 97.00 for the whole of England and Wales (93.00 in smaller towns).

The deaths of children under five years were 79, which corresponds to a rate of 1.69 per 1,000 of the general population, against 102 deaths, or a rate of 2.00 per 1,000 in 1916.

### Zymotic Diseases.

The seven principal diseases caused 41 deaths, which corresponds to an annual rate of .87 per 1,000 of the population, against .39 per 1,000 in 1916.

The following are the numbers of deaths from each of these diseases:—

Disease.	No. of Deaths.
Small Pox ... ..	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—
Diphtheria ... ..	6
Enteric Fever ... ..	—
Measles ... ..	7
Whooping Cough ... ..	4
Diarrhœa ... ..	24
	41

## Cases of Notifiable Diseases.

Ward.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Cerebro- Spinal Fever.
Town Hall ...	36	10	—	—
Bowes Park ...	19	4	—	1
Alexandra Park ...	5	12	—	1
Central ...	9	9	1	1
Noel Park ...	30	13	1	—
	—	—	—	—
	99	48	2	3
	—	—	—	—

Ward.	Erysipelas.	Ophthal. Neonatorum.	Measles.	German. Measles.
Town Hall ...	3	1	194	96
Bowes Park ...	3	1	131	59
Alexandra Park ...	7	—	112	59
Central ...	3	2	217	34
Noel Park ...	4	—	316	99
	—	—	—	—
	20	4	970	347
	—	—	—	—

	Pulmonary Tuber- culosis.	Other Tuber- culosis.	Puerperal Fever.
Town Hall ...	15	5	1
Bowes Park ...	9	3	—
Alexandra Park ...	12	1	—
Central ...	11	3	—
Noel Park ...	13	8	—
	—	—	—
	60	20	1
	—	—	—

## Infectious Cases Removed to Hospital.

Ward.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Cerebro- Spinal Fever.	Enteric Fever.
Town Hall ... ..	34	10	—	—
Bowes Park ... ..	15	2	1	—
Alexandra Park ... ..	3	8	1	1
Central ... ..	9	8	1	1
Noel Park ... ..	28	10	—	1
	—	—	—	—
	89	38	3	3
Error in Diagnosis ... ..	—	—	—	1
	—	—	—	—
	89	38	3	2
	—	—	—	—

	Erysipelas.	Total.	P.c. of cases removed.
Town Hall ... ..	—	44	95.65
Bowes Park ... ..	—	18	74.10
Alexandra Park ... ..	1	14	56.00
Central ... ..	—	19	90.47
Noel Park ... ..	—	39	84.09
	—	—	—
	1	134	87.58
Error in Diagnosis ... ..	—	1	—
	—	—	—
	1	133	87.58
	—	—	—

### Age Periods of Infectious Disease.

Disease.	At all Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Diphtheria ... ..	99	—	20	64	11	4	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	48	—	6	32	8	2	—	—
Enteric Fever ... ..	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever...	3	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	20	—	—	1	1	7	6	5
Ophthal. Neonatorum...	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	970	19	216	650	55	26	4	—
German Measles ... ..	347	8	46	203	61	27	2	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	60	—	—	8	6	35	11	—
Other Tuberculosis ... ..	20	—	3	9	4	4	—	—
Puerperal Fever ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1574	31	291	967	149	107	24	5
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

## Total Cases and Deaths for the Whole District for the Years 1916 and 1917.

Disease.	No. of Cases.		No. of Deaths.		Incidence of Disease.	
	1917.	1916.	1917.	1916.	1917.	1916.
Diphtheria ... ..	99	78	6	5	2.12	1.55
Scarlet Fever ... ..	48	122	—	2	1.02	2.42
Enteric Fever ... ..	2	6	—	—	.04	.11
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	3	3	<del>12</del> 2	2	.06	.05
Erysipelas ... ..	20	22	2	—	.42	.43
Measles & German Measles	1317	351	7	1	28.23	7.01
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	60	68	43	46	1.28	1.35
Other Tuberculosis ...	20	20	10	6	.42	.39
Puerperal Fever ... ..	1	—	—	—	.02	.00

### Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

Three cases were reported during the year (the same number as in 1916); all the patients were adults.

No source of infection could be traced in any of the cases.

In one case there was an element of doubt, as the bacilli were not definitely identified, while some of the usual symptoms were not present; but after communicating the facts to the Local Government Board, it was decided that the case should be treated as one of Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

The ages of the patients were 21, 40 and 34 respectively.

All were employed outside the District, and the attacks came on suddenly.

## **Enteric Fever.**

Three cases were notified, but one, after observation at the Isolation Hospital, proved to be appendicitis, and was removed to the Passmore Edwards' Hospital for operation

One patient, aged 21, was employed in a munition factory in an adjacent district, while the second, aged 55, had been visiting her soldier son in Hospital with "Nephritis," but no source of infection could be traced in either case.

I am glad to report that both patients made good recoveries in the Isolation Hospital.

## **Puerperal Fever.**

One case was reported in the Town Hall Ward.

The patient was confined of a still-born child, only a relative being present at the birth.

## **Maternity and Child Welfare.**

It was found necessary, owing to the increase in the numbers attending the White Hart Lane Centre, to open an additional Child Welfare Centre in more convenient and commodious premises. These were found at the Congregational Hall, Lordship Lane, which is fairly central for the Noel Park and the Southern part of the Town Hall and the Central Wards. From the figures given below I am sure the Council will agree that this was absolutely necessary, and has more than justified the extra accommodation provided.

I again take the opportunity of calling attention to the work of the voluntary helpers at the Child Welfare Centres, and to their regular attendance thereat. Without their assistance it would have been impossible to deal with the numbers of mothers who avail themselves of the Centres.

A rota is arranged, so that the helpers know on which date they are to attend, and a meeting of all the lady helpers is held monthly. I have found the suggestions which they have made from time to time, very useful.

This meeting brings the voluntary helpers into closer touch with each other, and with the lady members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and is a source of enthusiasm in connection with this important work.

Number of Births Registered within the District ...	776
Number of Births Notified within the District ...	687

Notifications equal 88.53 per cent. of births registered within the District, against 850, or 83.54 per cent. in 1916.

Number of visits paid to homes (birth cases) ...	2,911
Number of visits paid to homes (pre-natal cases)	83
Enquiries into deaths of children (under 1 year) ...	12
Enquiries into Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	18
Special Visits to Sick Children ...	48
Visits to Creche ...	11
Special Visits to Surgical Case ...	2
Special Visits to Mental Case (Birth) ...	2
Special Visits to Puerperal Fever ...	4
	<hr/>
	3,091
	<hr/>

During the period under review, 72 pre-natal cases were under our care; 54 babies were born, leaving 18 pre-natal cases at the end of the year. Twenty of these visited the Centre, and made a total of 79 attendances.

## Attendances at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

			1917.		1916.
January	...	...	184	...	218
February	...	...	280	...	204
March	...	...	377	...	262
April	...	...	272	...	246
May	...	...	366	...	295
June	...	...	390	...	346
July	...	...	426	...	329
August	...	...	359	...	115
September	...	...	549	...	279
October	...	...	377	...	322
November	...	...	411	...	344
December	...	...	310	...	153
			—————		—————
			4301		3113
			—————		—————
Number of Babies Visiting					
Centres	...	...	317	...	272
Number of Children Visiting					
Centres from ages 1 to					
5 years	...	...	292	...	132
Number of Pre-Natal Cases					
Visiting Centres	...		20	...	61
			—————		—————
			629	...	465
			—————		—————

Babies.	Children, Ages 1—5.				Total Attendances.
62	73	Made 1	Attendance	... ..	135
33	40	„ 2	Attendances	... ..	146
22	28	„ 3	„	... ..	150
26	23	„ 4	„	... ..	196
23	18	„ 5	„	... ..	205
19	14	„ 6	„	... ..	198
13	19	„ 7	„	... ..	224
15	10	„ 8	„	... ..	200
10	10	„ 9	„	... ..	180
4	1	„ 10	„	... ..	50
5	5	„ 11	„	... ..	110
9	5	„ 12	„	... ..	168
76	46	Over 12	„	... ..	2260
<hr/>	<hr/>				<hr/>
317	292				4222
		Attendances by pre-natal cases	...		79
<hr/>	<hr/>				<hr/>
317	292				4301
<hr/>	<hr/>				<hr/>

The number of still-births during the year was . . . 18  
 Attended by Medical Practitioners ... 9  
 Attended by Midwives ... .. 9

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. E. PORTER, M.D., D.P.H.,

*Deputy Medical Officer of Health.*



