

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Westminster].

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ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

PUBLIC HEALTH & SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

UNITED PARISHES

OF

St. Margaret and St. John, Westminster,

FOR THE YEAR 1900,

BY

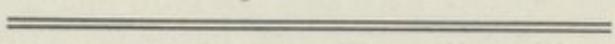
JOHN NORTON, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health,

MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND;

FELLOW OF THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY OF MEDICAL
OFFICERS OF HEALTH;

FELLOW OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH.



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By JOHN NORTON, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health,

Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England; Fellow of the Incorporated Society of Medical Officers of Health; Fellow of the Royal Institute of Public Health.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the City of Westminster.

MY LORD DUKE, MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to place before you my Annual Report on the health, sanitary condition, and vital statistics of the Parishes of St. Margaret and St. John for the year 1900.

METEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY.

(Royal Observatory.)

FIRST QUARTER.

The mean reading of the barometer was 29·661 inches; the mean temperature of the air 39°·2. The amount of rain measured during the quarter was 6·78 inches, and the amount of bright sunshine recorded was 172·8 hours.

The weather during the first two months of the quarter was generally wet and dull, the temperature being above the average, excepting from 12th to 14th January, and from 27th January to 15th February. The coldest period was from 7th to 13th February, when the deficiency of temperature

averaged $9^{\circ}3$. The weather in March was cold, fine, and dry, the temperature being below the average, excepting from 10th to 15th of the month. In the first quarter of 1899, January had been the warmest and March the coldest month; last quarter January was again the warmest month, but February was slightly colder than March.

SECOND QUARTER.

The mean reading of the barometer was 29.793 inches; the mean temperature of the air $52^{\circ}8$. The amount of rain measured during the quarter was 5.11 inches and the amount of bright sunshine recorded was 507.7 hours.

Speaking generally, the weather was fine with little rain during April and May, but dull and wet during June. The mean temperature of the air was generally above its average from 10th to 24th April, from 30th April to 8th May, and from 9th to 19th June, but below its average during the other parts of the quarter.

THIRD QUARTER.

The mean reading of the barometer was 29.861 inches; the mean temperature of the air, $61^{\circ}8$; the amount of rain measured during the quarter was 4.58 inches, and the amount of bright sunshine recorded was 635.7 hours.

The weather was for the most part fine, bright, and warm in July and in September, but dull and wet in August. The mean daily temperature of the air was generally below its average from 1st to 8th July, but above it during the remainder of the month, with a remarkably hot period extending from 10th to 27th; the temperature fell below the average from 1st to 11th August, rose above it from 12th to 21st, and again fell below it from 22nd August until 6th September, after which it was above the average until the end of the quarter, except during a short period from 11th to 13th September.

FOURTH QUARTER.

The mean reading of the barometer was 29.712 inches; the mean temperature of the air, $47^{\circ}6$; the amount of rain measured during the quarter was 5.85 inches, and the amount of bright sunshine recorded was 189.3 hours.

The weather during the quarter was generally mild and dull, with frequent rain from the latter part of October to the end.

of December. The mean temperature was above its average on about three-fourths of the days in the quarter, the excess ranging from $9^{\circ}\cdot4$ to $13^{\circ}\cdot1$ on eight days in the month of December.

The following table shows the Vital Statistics of London for the year 1900.

Estimated population to middle of 1900 ...		4,589,129.
Births	130,868 ...	Birth-rate 28·6
Deaths	83,732 ...	Death-rate 18·3
Zymotic Death Rate		2·19.
Small Pox	4	Enteric Fever 716
Measles	1,928	Simple and undefined
Scarlet Fever	361	Fever 7
Diphtheria	1,539	Diarrhoea 3,532
Whooping Cough	1,945	Phthisis 7,809
Typhus	2	

Deaths of Children under 1 year of age to every 1,000 births—158.

Vital Statistics for England and Wales, 1900 :—

Birth-rate	28·9
Death-rate	18·3
Zymotic Death-rate	2·0

Deaths of Children under 1 year of age to every 1,000 births—154.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS (ST. MARGARET AND ST. JOHN) FOR THE YEAR 1900.

BIRTHS.

The number of births registered during the year, when all corrections have been made, was 1,056, showing a birth-rate of 18·9 per 1,000 of the population. Of these 280 births occurred in St. Margaret's Parish, and 776 in St. John's.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths of parishioners when duly corrected amounted to 1,097, showing a death-rate of 19·7 per 1,000. Of these deaths 373 occurred in St. Margaret's Parish and 724 in St. John's. The death-rate for the whole parish when corrected for age and sex distribution was 22·2.

TABLE I.—ST. MARGARET AND ST. JOHN, WESTMINSTER.
For Whole District.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births.		Deaths under One Year of Age.		Deaths at all Ages. Total.		Deaths in Public Institutions.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in District.	Deaths of residents registered beyond District.	Deaths at all Ages Nett.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*				Number.	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1890 ...	56,085	1,396	24.5	265	189	1,999	19.5	} to March 25th, 1891 and 1892.	248	41	376	No records of the other requirements were kept by Dr. Holt, my predecessor.
1891 ...	55,651	1,449	26.0	256	176	1,148	20.6					
1892 ...	55,217	1,418	25.6	246	173	1,094	19.8					
1893 ...	54,783	1,350	24.6	255	188	1,054	19.2					
1894 ...	54,349	1,219	22.4	180	148	856	15.9	238	222	372	1,006	18.5
1895 ...	53,915	1,278	23.7	246	191	872	16.1	144	137	419	1,154	21.4
1896 ...	53,481	1,222	22.8	209	171	832	15.5	248	239	394	987	18.4
1897 ...	53,047	1,238	23.3	200	161	847	15.9	227	225	383	1,005	18.9
1898 ...	52,613	1,088	20.6	198	182	931	17.7	261	258	420	1,093	20.7
1899 ...	52,179	1,114	21.3	229	205	908	17.4	196	184	450	1,174	22.5
Averages for years 1894—1899.	53,264	1,193	22.4	210	176	874	16.4	219	211	406	1,069	20.0
1900 ...	51,745	1,056	18.9	208	187	878	15.8	266	250	469	1,097	19.7

* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 815; Total population at all ages, 55,760; Number of inhabited houses, 5,781; Average number of persons per house, 9.6. At Census of 1891.

NOTE.—For the purpose of obtaining an estimate of the population of the whole district and the separate parishes at the middle of each year, the populations enumerated in April, 1891, and April, 1896, have been taken as a basis for the whole table, and after correcting the 1891 enumeration by one-fourth of the average annual difference I have each year added 86 to St. Margaret's population, and deducted 520 from St. John, and 434 from the whole district, and I believe that other variations will render this method fairly accurate.

TABLE II.—ST. MARGARET AND ST. JOHN, WESTMINSTER.

Names of Localities		WHOLE DISTRICT.				ST. MARGARET.				ST. JOHN.			
Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under one Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under one Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under one Year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1890 ...	56,085	1,396	1,099	265	21,603	391	499	85	34,482	1,005	600	180*	
1891 ...	55,651	1,449	1,148	256	21,689	419	500	74	33,962	1,030	648	182*	
1892 ...	55,217	1,418	1,094	246	21,775	384	488	73	33,442	1,034	606	173*	
1893 ...	54,783	1,350	1,054	255	21,861	382	525	96	32,922	968	529	159*	
1894 ...	54,349	1,219	1,006	180	21,947	316	363	46	32,402	903	643	134	
1895 ...	53,915	1,278	1,154	246	22,033	322	415	49	31,882	956	739	197	
1896 ...	53,481	1,222	987	209	22,119	335	345	54	31,362	887	642	155	
1897 ...	53,047	1,238	1,005	200	22,205	317	334	39	30,842	921	671	161	
1898 ...	52,613	1,088	1,093	198	22,291	277	373	39	30,322	811	720	159	
1899 ...	52,179	1,114	1,174	229	22,377	259	367	39	29,802	855	807	190	
Averages of Years 1894 to 1899 ...	53,264	1,193	1,069	210	22,162	304	366	44	31,102	889	703	166	
1900 ...	51,745	1,056	1,097	208	22,463	280	373	53	29,282	776	724	155	

* See Note on Table I.

TABLE III.—CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN ST. MARGARET AND ST. JOHN, WESTMINSTER, NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1900.

NOTIFIED DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.		NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.	
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						ST. MARGARET.	ST. JOHN.	ST. MARGARET.	ST. JOHN.
		Under 1	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards				
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	104	2	25	42	18	17	—	44	60	41	57
Membranous Croup ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Erysipelas	55	4	3	4	7	33	4	16	39	9	10
Scarlet Fever	123	1	28	64	18	12	—	43	80	39	79
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	31	—	1	9	8	12	1	7	24	4	21
Relapsing Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	4	—	—	—	2	2	—	2	2	1	1
Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	318	7	57	120	53	76	5	113	205	95	168

NOTE.—The Isolation Hospitals are those of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, and occasionally the London Fever Hospital and the London Smallpox Hospital.

TABLE IV.—THE PARISHES OF ST. MARGARET AND ST. JOHN, WESTMINSTER.
Causes of, and ages at, death during year 1900.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.							DEATHS IN LOCALITIES (AT ALL AGES).		DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.
	All ages.	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards	St. MARGARET.	St. JOHN.	
Measles	21	2	12	6	—	1	—	8	13	2
Scarlet Fever	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Whooping Cough	13	3	9	1	—	—	—	3	10	2
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	8	—	4	4	—	—	—	3	5	3
Enteric Fever	11	—	—	—	4	6	1	5	6	6
Epidemic Influenza	19	—	—	1	2	12	4	8	11	—
Diarrhoea	25	18	4	—	1	1	1	8	17	4
Enteritis	22	13	5	2	—	—	2	8	14	2
Puerperal Fever	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—
Erysipelas	4	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	4	1
Other Septic Diseases	3	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	2	1
Phthisis	121	—	2	—	7	112	—	45	76	65
Other Tubercular Diseases	28	6	7	7	—	8	—	7	21	4
Cancer, Malignant Disease	26	—	—	—	—	20	6	10	16	12
Bronchitis	152	32	15	1	5	48	51	92	60	55
Pneumonia	72	6	2	2	7	40	15	32	40	37
Pleurisy	11	—	—	—	3	6	2	4	7	1
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs	9	2	2	—	1	3	1	3	6	2
Alcoholism—Cirrhosis of Liver	19	—	—	—	—	19	—	4	15	8
Venereal Diseases	3	1	—	—	—	2	—	1	2	—
Premature Birth	28	28	—	—	—	—	—	8	20	3
Diseases & Accidents of Parturition	3	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	2	3
Heart Diseases	118	8	8	1	4	71	26	40	78	52
Accidents	29	5	4	—	—	14	6	10	19	19
Suicides	15	—	—	—	2	13	—	5	10	—
All other causes	334	82	2	2	18	97	133	66	268	202
All causes	1,097	208	77	27	57	479	249	373	724	485

No deaths from Smallpox, Croup, Typhus, or other Continued Fever, Cholera and Plague.

TABLE V., giving the death-rates from certain classes of disease in the district :—

	Years.	Whole District.	St. Margaret's.	St. John's.
1. Chief Zymotic diseases	1894	2·1	1·5	2·4
	1895	1·7	1·0	2·1
	1896	2·0	1·3	2·5
	1897	2·1	0·9	2·9
	1898	2·7	1·5	3·4
	1899	1·4	0·7	1·8
	1900	1·5	1·2	1·5
2. Phthisis...	1894	2·3	2·3	2·4
	1895	2·0	1·6	2·2
	1896	2·1	1·8	2·3
	1897	2·5	2·1	2·7
	1898	2·3	2·1	2·5
	1899	3·1	1·8	3·8
	1900	2·1	2·1	2·2

TABLE VI.—Comparative Table of deaths from the principal zymotic diseases and deaths of infants under one year of age:—

YEARS.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Deaths (Total)	1297	1290	1006	1154	987	1005	1093	1174	1097
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	77	5	37	23	17	23	48	17	21
Scarlet Fever	18	25	8	9	10	14	6	5	1
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup	44	14	22	15	22	20	20	11	8
Whooping Cough	20	15	19	13	28	13	37	5	13
Typhus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	3	7	4	3	10	5	10	9	11
Simple & Ill-defined Fever	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhœa	22	43	11	27	28	40	26	30	25
Deaths of infants under one year of age	233	255	180	246	209	200	198	229	208
Deaths under one year to every 1,000 births re- gistered	169	188	147	192	171	161	182	205	196

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

<i>Institutions.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Institutions.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>
Westminster Hospital	.. 258	Licensed Victuallers' Asylum	... .. 1
St. George's Infirmary	...279	Asylum—Bethlehem Hospital	... .. 1
Station Hospital	... 26	Asylum—Banstead	... 2
Convent	... 2	„ Ilford	... 1
St. George's Workhouse	... 6	„ Caterham	... 1
St. George's Hospital	... 25	„ Darenth	... 1
St. Mary's	... 2	„ Hanwell	... 5
St. Thomas's	... 11	Fever Hospitals—Western	2
St. Bartholomew's Hospital	2	„ South Western	1
King's College Hospital	... 1	„ Grove	... 5
University College	... 1	„ Fountain	... 3
German Hospital	... 1	Incubator—Earl's Court Exhibition	... .. 1
French	... 2	Royal Western Ophthalmic Hospital	... .. 1
Brompton	... 3	St. Peter's House	... 1
Belgrave	... 5	Lambeth Infirmary	... 1
Middlesex	... 2	Chelsea	... 1
Wellington House	... 1	British Hospital for Incurables	... .. 1
Wellington Barracks	... 2	Cancer Hospital	... 1
Hyde Park Barracks	... 2	Greenwich Workhouse	... 1
H.M. Prison, Holloway	... 1	Elsewhere	... .. 6
St. Pelagia's Crèche	... 1		
Royal Free Hospital	... 1		
Charing Cross	... 4		
Hostel of St. John and St. Elizabeth	... 1		

TABLE VII. —VACCINATIONS DURING THE YEAR 1900.

Primary Vaccinations.			Re-Vaccination by Public Vaccinator.	Conscientious Objectors.
Public Vaccination.	Private Practitioners.	Total.		
556	367	923	6	None.

Section 2 (1) of the Vaccination Act, 1898, provides that no parent or other person having the custody of a child shall be liable to a penalty under the Vaccination Act, 1867, if, within four months of the birth of the child, he satisfies two Justices, or a Stipendiary or Metropolitan Police Magistrate, that he conscientiously believes that vaccination would be prejudicial to the health of the child, and within seven days thereafter

delivers to the Vaccination Officer for the district a certificate by such Justices or Magistrate of such conscientious objection. The Section came into operation on the passing of the Act, *i.e.*, the 12th August, 1898, but in its application to a child born before the passing of the Act there was substituted for the period of four months from the birth of the child the period of four months from the passing of the Act.

A Parliamentary Return (No. 89, H. C., Session 1899) showed that between the date of the passing of the Act and the 31st December, 1898, the number of certificates of conscientious objection received by the Vaccination Officers was 203,413, and that the number of children to whom such certificates related was 230,147.

The increases in the numbers of vaccinations for the half-years of 1899 as compared with the corresponding half-years of 1898, were 77,713 and 91,322 respectively, a total increase for the year of 169,035, or 33·8 per cent.

The number of births registered in England and Wales during 1898 was 923,265, and during 1899 was 928,640. The ratios per cent. of successful primary vaccinations to births registered were 54·2 in 1898 and 72·1 in 1899, an increase in ratio of 33 per cent. in 1899 as compared with 1898.

REMARKS ON INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

It is again necessary to note the incidence of infectious cases occurring in Government Buildings, chiefly in Barracks or Married Soldiers' Quarters, in which, this year as last, the special incidence of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria call for notice; but whilst last year's number of cases represented 15 per cent. of those occurring in Wards I. and II. St. Margaret's, the percentage during 1900 has risen to 23. In one house in York-street five cases of Scarlet Fever and in another three cases of Diphtheria occurred, and in each instance it was reasonable to assume that the cases were the result of direct infection from the initial cases prior to their notification.

During the year attention has been called to the danger of disseminating contagion through the medium of dust impurities in public conveyances and places of public resort. Professor Hamilton has recorded the results of a research on the bacteriological impurities of dust in railway carriages. By inoculation experiments, he ascertained that 16·6 per cent. of his samples of dust, that is, two samples out of 12, contained

tubercle bacilli. In each case the compartment from which the tuberculous dust was obtained was from first-class smoking compartments.

Infectious disease has occurred in three instances at premises in which milk is sold. The sale of milk was prohibited in each case until after the necessary fumigation and disinfection had been carried out and a certificate to that effect had been given.

Smallpox.—No case of Smallpox was notified in this district during the year 1900, but on 11th of June last, I made a special report to the Westminster Vestry *re* Smallpox in London during the months of April and May, 1900, which is of sufficient importance to relate here. The report was as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,

In consequence of certain statements which have been reported in the local press, I deem it desirable to submit the following special report on an outbreak of Smallpox that occurred in London during the months of April and May last and its possible connection with an inmate of this parish, who died at "M." Terrace, Westminster, on 9th May.

Investigations which I caused to be made revealed the following facts, viz.:—No case of Smallpox was notified in London between 17th of March and the 10th April.

The case notified on the 17th March was the last of a series of directly connected cases occurring in January, February and March of this year. The steamship "Caledonia" from Bombay, at which port Smallpox has been for some time and is still prevalent, put two persons—one a passenger—ashore at Marseilles, suffering from Smallpox. The ship arrived in London on 29th March last and a large number of passengers and others disembarked.

In Marylebone, on April 10th, a clerk who was employed on the ship referred to, was certified as suffering from Smallpox, and three other persons who had been in contact with the patient were likewise certified as suffering from the same disease on the 23rd, 24th and 25th of April respectively.

In St. Pancras, on April 14th, a Steward from the same ship was certified as having Smallpox, and on the 19th he died. Three other persons who had been in contact with him or his effects were likewise certified on 27th April and 6th and 20th May respectively.

In this district a valet living at the address first mentioned in this report became ill on 30th April, and died on 9th May. Before and after death he was examined by six medical men and neither of them was of the opinion that the man had died of smallpox, and his death was certified as being due to malignant measles and exhaustion. The wife of this man was just before death removed to the lunatic observation ward of St. George's Infirmary and discharged from there, as safe on 16th May, to the house of her son-in-law in Kensington Parish.

In Chelsea, where she had taken apartments, she herself was certified on May 19th as suffering from smallpox. In St. George's, Hanover Square, the ward attendant who attended the woman just mentioned was on May 23rd similarly certified.

In Kensington, on 30th May, two persons at the house to which the valet's wife was discharged on 16th May were also certified to be suffering from Smallpox.

A perusal of this report shows that no known case of Smallpox has occurred in this parish, and the most careful investigations do not reveal a trace of direct evidence of the contact of the valet with any of the persons who have been suffering from this disease or with any other sick person.

A statement as to his contact with a person suffering from Measles at a house in Victoria-street, and a suggestion that a near relative of the valet was employed at a hospital near the various premises in St. Pancras and St. Marylebone, at which Smallpox occurred (and this might be a possible source of the valet's disease) were carefully followed up, but with entirely negative results.

I may state that every possible precaution was taken after the valet's death to have the body, rooms, bedding, &c., thoroughly disinfected.

On June 19th I made a further report to the Vestry, which was as follows:—

With reference to my special report dated 11th inst., on the incidence of Smallpox, which appears on to-day's agenda, I deem it desirable to submit the following additional facts which have come to my knowledge:—

On May 11th last a housekeeper (who lived above the flat where the valet died) was removed to St. Mary's Hospital. She had been under the care of a doctor for some weeks and had kept her bed for a whole month, but no symptoms of any infectious disease were observed.

On May 28th, seventeen days after her admission to the hospital, an eruption appeared and she was removed to an isolation ward, where she died on 4th June.

From 15th to the 18th June, five cases of Smallpox occurred amongst persons in attendance on the housekeeper when she was in the isolation ward.

The coincidence of the housekeeper's residence in Westminster must be read in conjunction with the facts—

- (a) That 19 days elapsed since the death of the valet referred to in the previous report, seventeen days of which period had been spent in a hospital ward.
- (b) That for the ten days prior the housekeeper had kept her bed in Westminster.
- (c) That on June 6th three cases of Smallpox were removed from the Infirmary of St. George's-in-the-East, the primary case having been admitted to the Infirmary on May 17th as a case of Measles, from a house in that parish, where a child had "sores on his body."

It is therefore necessary to note that unfortunately cases of Smallpox are now occurring in London, the origin of which apparently remains untraced.

Scarlet Fever.—One hundred and twenty-three cases were notified compared with 201 in 1899, and only one death occurred compared with five the previous year. Of the 123 cases notified 118 were removed to an isolation hospital. It will therefore be seen that we have been particularly free from Scarlet Fever compared with previous years. I consider that the large number of cases removed to hospital very creditable to the officers of the Sanitary Authority.

Diphtheria.—One hundred and four cases were notified during the year, compared with 99 cases in 1899, and eight deaths occurred from this disease compared with eleven last year. Eighty-nine cases were removed to hospital. Christ Church Schools were closed on two occasions at my request—once in January for five days, and for a few days 8 weeks later, on account of two cases of diphtheria occurring in the Schoolmaster's family residing on the premises. The first case was removed to an isolation hospital, and this patient had not returned from the hospital when the second case occurred. The schools were thoroughly cleansed and fumigated, and no further cases were reported.

Return Cases.—Five cases of disease were notified as Diphtheria and were removed to an isolation hospital as such, but they were afterwards certified by the hospital authorities not to be cases of Diphtheria or any other notifiable disease.

In October last a case of Diphtheria was notified in Tachbrook-street. On enquiry it was found that two other children of a different family, and residing in another part of the house were suffering from bad throats. On a medical man being called in the children were found to be suffering from Diphtheria. Three other cases were subsequently notified in the children of the family in which the first case occurred. Complete disinfection and fumigation were carried out. No defects were found to exist in the sanitary arrangements of the house in which they lived.

Whooping Cough.—Thirteen deaths occurred from this disease compared with five in 1899.

Enteric Fever.—Thirty-one cases were notified, compared with 14 in 1899, and eleven deaths occurred, compared with nine the previous year. 25 cases were removed to hospital.

Erysipelas.—Fifty-five cases were notified against fifty-three the previous year. Four deaths occurred from this disease, one of which was an infant under one year of age. Three deaths occurred in 1899.

Diarrhœa.—Diarrhœa was responsible for twenty-five deaths compared with 30 the previous year. Eighteen of the deaths occurred in young children under one year of age, and chiefly during the months of June, July and August.

Puerperal Fever.—Two deaths occurred from this disease. Four cases were notified during the year against none last year. Two of the cases were removed to hospital.

Influenza.—Nineteen deaths occurred from this disease compared with twenty-two last year.

Influenza was very prevalent at the beginning of the year. As is well known, this is a disease of a most infectious character, and we know absolutely no more how to guard against it and little more with regard to its treatment than when it made its first appearance, in what was called the Russian form, ten years ago.

The curious thing about Influenza is its prevalence in usually healthy districts; and it is emphatically not a disease of the slums.

In London, in 1890, 650 persons died of this disease; but in each of the two subsequent years, the deaths ascribed to it reached over 2,000.

Measles.—Twenty-one deaths occurred from this disease compared with seventeen in 1899.

In consequence of an epidemic of Measles at the Infants' Department, James-street Board Schools, there being only 83 children in attendance out of 178 on the roll, I thought it desirable to have that department closed for sixteen days. This was done with good results. The premises were thoroughly cleansed and disinfected on March 28th.

The investigations then made revealed the following facts:—

On 5th and 6th March, two children, scholars at this school, from the same address, developed measles; on the 15th instant one other case, a scholar, was noted; on 19th twenty-two scholars were excluded, twenty-one actually suffering from measles. In all, 45 children were excluded from the infants' department in consequence of measles, 42 being patients, the remaining three being unaffected by the disease. Further, seventeen of the later cases occurred in fifteen houses, several of which were located at distances of at least half-a-mile from each other, the children apparently having no intercourse other than at school.

In the boys' department, one case of the disease was known to have affected a scholar personally, and ten were excluded in consequence of cases at their homes.

In the girls' department thirteen scholars were excluded in consequence of cases at their respective homes, but no scholar was known to be personally suffering.

Other schools disinfected after the occurrence of several cases of measles were the Horseferry-road Board Schools.

A list of the streets with the number of cases of the principal infectious diseases occurring in such streets, is given below:—

ST. MARGARET'S PARISH.

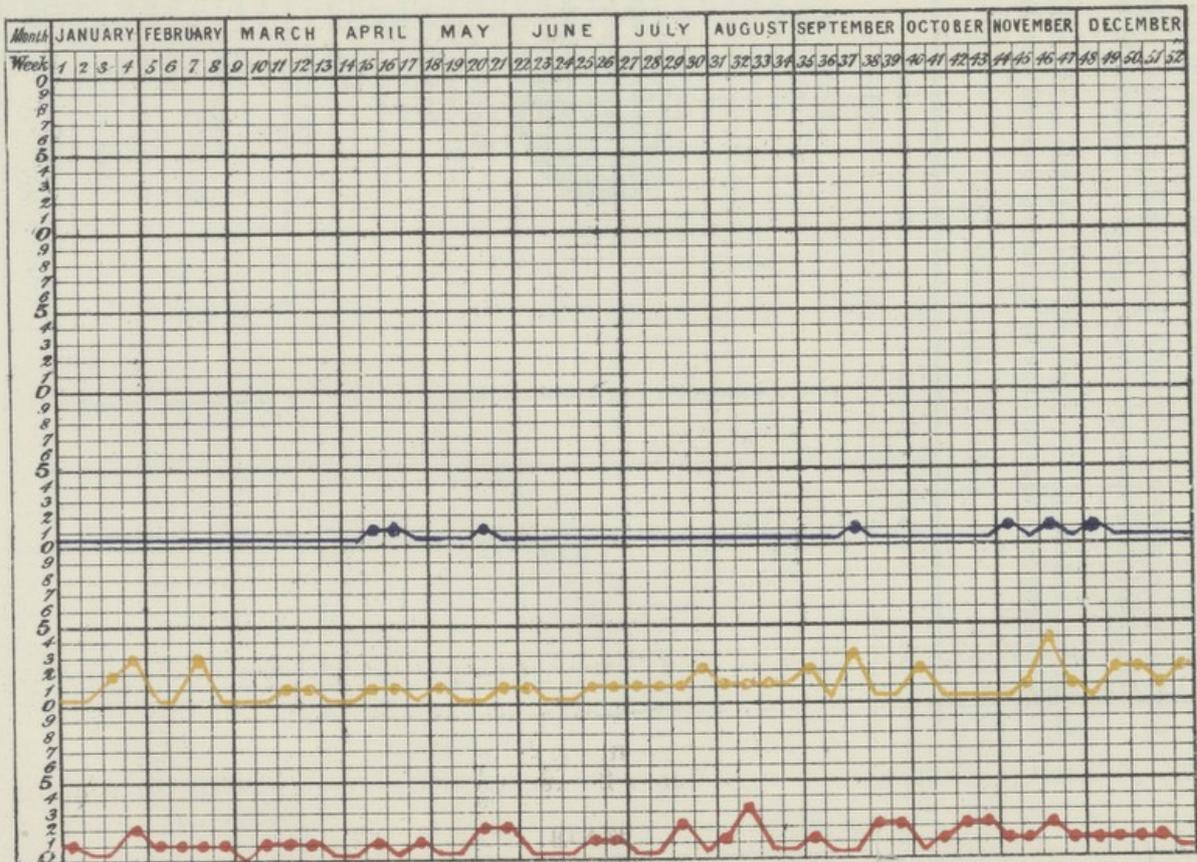
STREET OR PLACE.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever.
Abingdon-street	1	—	—
Ashley-gardens	1	3	—
Broadway.....	1	1	—
Brompton-road ..	1	—	—
Buckingham-gate-mansions	2	—	—
Castle-buildings ..	1	3	—
Catherine-street	2	4	—
Caxton-street	—	2	—
Charles street	—	—	1
Cobourg-row.....	2	4	3
Dacre-steet.....	1	—	—
Delahay-street.....	1	—	1
Ennismore-gardens	1	—	—
Francis-street	1	—	—
Hill-street	1	—	—
Hyde-park-barracks	2	1	—
Lancelot-place	2	—	—
Lewisham-street	—	1	—
Montpelier-place	—	2	—
Morpeth-mansions	—	1	—
Palmer-street	—	2	—
Parker-street ..	—	1	—
Parliament-street	—	1	—
Peabody-buildings, Buckingham-gate	2	1	—
Princes-gate	1	—	—
Queen Anne's-gate	—	—	1
Queen Anne's-mansions	1	—	—
Rutland-gate	3	—	—
South-place	—	—	1
Stafford-place	—	2	—
Vauxhall-bridge-road	1	—	—
Victoria-street	3	—	—
Wellington-barracks	7	8	—
Whitehall.....	—	2	—
Willow-street	1	1	—
York-street	5	3	—

No case of Smallpox was notified in the district during the year.



CHART SHEWING WEEK BY WEEK THE NUMBER OF CASES OF SCARLET FEVER —●— DIPHTHERIA
AND ENTERIC FEVER —●—

Notified by Medical Practitioners as having occurred in the Sanitary District of St. Margaret,
Westminster, during the year 1900.





ST. JOHN'S PARISH.

STREET OR PLACE.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever.
Barton-street	—	—	1
Bell-place.....	2	1	—
Bessborough-gardens	1	1	—
Bessborough-place	11	1	—
Bessborough-street	3	1	—
Causton-street	—	1	—
Chapter-street	2	1	—
Churton-street.....	2	—	—
Dorset-place	—	1	2
Dorset-street	—	2	—
Douglas-street	1	2	—
Esher-street	—	—	1
Frederick-street	1	—	—
Garden-street	1	2	—
Great Peter-street	1	3	1
Great Smith-street	—	3	—
Grosvenor-road	1	1	—
Grosvenor-street	—	2	—
Hide-place	—	—	1
Horseferry-road	6	3	1
Johnson-street.....	1	1	—
Kensington-place	—	—	1
Laundry-yard	—	1	—
Lillington-street	10	1	1
Marsham-street	5	1	—
Medway-street..	—	1	—
Millbank-street	—	1	—
Moreton-street.....	1	—	—
Page-street	4	—	1
Peabody-buildings	6	8	2
Ponsonby-place	1	4	—
Ponsonby-terrace	—	—	1
Purbeck-place	1	1	—
Regency-street.....	2	1	1
Rochester-row	3	—	—
Romney-street.....	3	1	—
Smith-square	—	2	3
Stanford-street	1	—	—
Strutton-ground	1	1	1
Tachbrook-street.....	1	7	—
Tufton-street	1	1	2
Upper Garden-street	4	1	—
Victoria-street	—	1	—
Vincent-square	3	—	1
Vincent-street	—	—	1
Warwick-street	—	—	1
Wood-street	—	1	1

No case of Smallpox was notified in the district during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS AND MILK.

It is with pleasure that I note the early action of the Public Health Committee of the Council in this matter in ordering samples of milk to be taken for bacteriological examination.

The samples have been taken and submitted to the Jenner Institute of Preventive Medicine, and I eagerly await the result of the examination in the hope that grounds may be obtained to press home my conviction of the need of legislation in respect of this important matter.

In connection with this question I should like to say that it formed the subject of careful consideration by the late Vestry, and, to aid them in their deliberations, I reported fully on the matter. The report pointed out that there appeared to be no power under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Acts to deal with milk containing disease germs of any kind, and that the extraordinary precautions necessary to be observed in the collection of the samples for bacteriological examination would tend to further complicate the procedure under the very technical provisions of the Acts. Under the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, section 71 gives power to Sanitary Authorities to deal with "any dangerous infectious disease attributable to milk," but the power, whilst being extensive, could not apply to any form of tuberculosis. Section 47 provides that any article, solid or liquid, intended for food and which is unsound may be seized by a Medical Officer of Health or a Sanitary Inspector, and that, therefore, if it were known that milk was contaminated by tubercle bacilli it might be possible for the milk to be seized, but the practical difficulties in obtaining a knowledge that the milk was so affected in time to seize the bulk were so great, and also the fact that the person to whom the milk belonged had a good defence in saying, and probably truly, that he was not aware of the presence of the disease germs, there would be little hope of obtaining a conviction. The report also went on to say that Section 15 of the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order provides that if at any time disease exists among the cattle in a dairy, &c., the milk from a diseased cow therein (*a*) shall not be mixed with other milk; (*b*) shall not be sold or used for human food. Tuberculosis, however, is not included in the Contagious Diseases Animals Act, under which this Order is made, and that even if it was the London County Council were the authority responsible for the execution of the Order. In the concluding paragraphs of my report I referred to the report of the Royal Commission on the subject, and also to the

report by the late Dr. Thorne-Thorne, in which the dangers arising to man from the source in question were pointed out, and I ventured the suggestion that to obtain the end the late Vestry had in view they direct their attention to obtaining, if possible, an alteration in the law.

Following upon this the late Vestry communicated with the Local Government Board, pointing out the grave danger to which children are exposed by the consumption of milk contaminated with tubercle bacilli, and the need for legislation dealing with the sale of such milk. The other local authorities were communicated with on the subject, with the result that fourteen of them wrote to the Local Government Board, concurring in the views of the Vestry. It was also probably the means of causing the Hackney Vestry to take 100 samples of milk for bacteriological examination, the result of which being such as to influence the Public Health Committee of the late Westminster Vestry, in the absence of legislative power to deal with the subject, to cause a circular to be issued to every ratepayer in the district, advising that all milk should be boiled and the careful cleansing of all vessels in which milk had been stored.

THE CONTAMINATION OF MILK IN TRANSIT.

The "Justice of the Peace" for December contains the following article on the above subject, which I consider to be one of the utmost importance, and to be of general interest from a public health point of view:—

"The Royal Agricultural Society was asked some six months ago by one of its members as to the possibility of milk, during its transit by railway, becoming infected with the germs of tuberculosis. A reply has now been made in the following terms:—(1) It is obvious that milk (even absolutely pure milk, and milk which has been effectually sterilised) is quite capable of being contaminated with tubercle bacilli or other infective organisms, unless means are adopted to keep it from contact with infective matter, which may be conveyed to it at any time by the atmosphere and in other ways. The society is fully alive to the dangers to the public health which may arise from the prevalent habit of expectoration by possibly consumptive persons on railway platforms, highways, and other public places, and has co-operated with other public bodies in endeavouring to arouse public attention to this matter. The possibility must not, however, be excluded that sufficient care is not

always taken on the farms where milk is produced to secure the most scrupulous cleanliness in the vessels containing the milk, and in the returned empty milk churns, as well as in all the surroundings of the milk on the farm, and of the cows themselves. (2) The Committee are advised that the holes in the cone in the centre of the lid of a milk churn are essential to allow the escape of steam, vapour, or gases of any kind which may be disengaged from the milk during transit; but, in the opinion of the Society's scientific advisers, these holes are scarcely worth consideration as a means of the possible contamination of the milk through the agency of the air. (3) A more likely source of contamination is to be found in the too common practice of sending milk by railway in churns with loose lids. Milk which may be splashed out round the lids during a journey, or whilst the churns are being moved about railway platforms, may wash away the dust and other impurities which accumulate on the surface of the lid, and may carry them back into the bulk of the milk in the churn; and in this way it is quite possible that tubercle bacilli might gain access to the milk in the churn through the medium of the dried expectorations of consumptive persons in railway stations, streets, or other public places. (4) This danger, however, may be guarded against by sending milk by railway in locked or sealed churns, the lids of which are tight. There appears to be still considerable misapprehension amongst farmers as to the willingness of railway companies to accept for transit over their lines milk churns thus locked or sealed, although it is a regular practice by farmers serving some of the leading milk-distributing companies in the metropolis. The railway companies have undoubtedly favoured the system of sending churns with loose lids, on the ground that examination of the contents by the railway officials was thus facilitated; but the Dairy Committee of this Society, having had their attention drawn to the matter, passed on January 31st, 1899, a resolution 'That the present custom of sending milk in unsealed churns is unsatisfactory, inasmuch as it exposes the farmer to the risk of having his milk tampered with during transit.' Communications were opened with the railway companies, and an assurance was received that at a meeting held at the Railway Clearing-house on May 10th, 1899, all the companies had agreed that they would not refuse to accept milk churns 'sealed,' provided the conditions under which the companies accept such cans were adhered to. These conditions are thus defined

in a letter addressed on October 12th, 1899, by the Railway Companies' Association to the assistant secretary of the Railway Department of the Board of Trade:—
 'Senders have for a long time been allowed to send milk in sealed cans; the companies accept the declaration of the senders as to the quantity conveyed, no extra charge being made. The only condition the companies require to be fulfilled is that the tare weight of the can shall be stamped upon the outside of the can, so that in case of doubt the quantity of milk within the churn can be approximately ascertained by allowing 10¼lb. for each gallon of milk declared. It does not appear to the companies that there is any difficulty in the senders protecting themselves against alleged loss of milk in transit by sealing, padlocking, or otherwise fastening their cans.'"

SANITARY LEGISLATION OF 1900.

The following list includes the principal Acts of the year 1900, which either wholly or in part relate to local government and sanitary administration:—

Housing of the Working Classes Act.
 Census (Great Britain) Act.
 Census (Ireland) Act.
 County Councils (Elections) Amendment Act.
 District Councillors and Guardians (Term of Office) Act.
 Members of Local Authorities Relief Act.
 Ancient Monuments Protection Act.
 Military Lands Act.
 Elementary Education Act.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT.

Amendment of Part III.

[63 & 64 Vict., Ch. 59.]

This Act is one to amend Part III. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, that is, the Part which deals with the provision of working-class lodging-houses.

Previously to the passing of this new Act a local authority in the exercise of their powers under Part III. of the Act of 1890 were not, as it was considered, enabled to provide lodging-houses for the working-classes outside their district. This difficulty has been removed by Section 1 of the present measure, which provides that where any council, other than a rural district council, have adopted Part III. they may, for supplying the needs of their district, establish or acquire lodging-houses for the working classes under that Part outside their district.

DAIRIES, SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND OFFENSIVE BUSINESSES.

TRANSFER OF POWERS.

Since November 9th the following powers hitherto exercised by the London County Council have been exercised by the Metropolitan Borough Councils—

(1) Power under Section 28 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, of registering dairymen.

(2) Power of enforcing the by-laws and regulations for the time being in force with respect to dairies and milk, and with respect to slaughterhouses, knackers' yards and offensive businesses.

The Vestry offered no objection to the renewal of the licenses of the following Cow-houses and Slaughter-houses by the London County Council during the past year.

COW-HOUSES.

<i>St. Margaret.</i>	<i>St. John.</i>
7, Arthur-street.	13, Marsham-street.
	28, Winchester-terrace.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

<i>St. Margaret.</i>	<i>St. John.</i>
29, Great Chapel-street.	14, Regency-street.

There are Ninety-eight Dairies and Milkshops already registered, and which appear on the register recently the property of the London County Council, in the Parishes of St. Margaret and St. John. They are as follows:—

Only one offensive trade is carried on in the district.

DAIRIES AND MILK SHOPS.

Reg No.	Address.	Date of Registration.	Trade.	Folio.
12,125	14, Artillery-row ...	22nd June, 1896	Purveyor ...	265/4
27,427	7, Arthur-street ...	27th March, 1879	Cowkeeper ...	196/1
3,526	11, Artillery-row ...	24th June, 1896	Purveyor ...	252/1
26,599	10, Broadway ...	23rd May, 1899	„ ...	398/7
22,896	2, Buckingham-chambers	10th March, 1883	General ...	175/3
26,931	47, Buckingham-gate ...	31st March, 1900	Refreshments	428/7
23,511	130, Brompton-road ...	13th May, 1898	Purveyor ...	93/7
24,162	27, Chapter-street ...	28th March, 1896	General ...	173/7
17,631	24, „ ...	9th April, 1898	Purveyor ..	179/4
11,708	53, Cobourg-row ...	20th Aug., 1900	General ...	640/6
1,314	8, Charlwood-street ...	6th May, 1898	Purveyor ...	577/6

Reg. No.	Address.	Date of Registration.	Trade.	Folio.
7,255	2, Carey-street ...	24th June, 1886	General ...	174/4
3,288	11, Churton-street ...	14th Nov., 1893	Purveyor ...	90/7
26,614	22, Catherine-street ...	26th May, 1899	General ...	399/7
26,108	22, Chapel-place, Bromp- ton-road	24th June, 1898	" ...	353/7
24,634	10, Dorset-street ...	7th July, 1896	" ...	217/7
17,123	24, " ...	25th April, 1891	Purveyor ...	205/5
9,796	15, " ...	7th July, 1896	General ...	215/4
24,204	6, Edward-street ...	26th Oct., 1894	Purveyor ...	177/7
4,018	12, Gt. Chapel-street ...	1st Dec., 1898	General ...	69/7
4,013	8, " ...	3rd Dec., 1895	Purveyor ..	229/7
19,175	37, Gt. Peter-street ...	18th Jan., 1888	General ...	169/5
25,793	50, " ...	24th Nov., 1899	" ...	324/7
24,137	61, " ...	20th Aug., 1894	" ...	171/7
22,900	29, " ...	1st April, 1897	" ...	2/7
22,899	21, " ...	8th Dec., 1892	Purveyor ...	2/7
25,954	12, Horseferry-road ...	11th Feb., 1898	General ...	339/7
23,490	23, " ...	10th Feb., 1898	" ...	88/7
22,661	74, " ...	17th Oct., 1899	Purveyor ...	585/6
16,767	154, " ...	29th March, 1887	" ...	241/4
13,604	146, " ...	19th Feb., 1887	" ...	229/4
4,675	11, " ...	21st April, 1879	General ...	31/2
23,030	19, Kensington-place ...	30th May, 1894	Purveyor ...	22/7
5,973	3, Lancelot-place ...	12th April, 1894	General ...	141/7
5,545	2, Lewisham-street ...	31st March, 1898	" ...	70/2
817	58, Marsham-street ...	13th Jan., 1888	General ...	159/5
2,018	13, " ...	13th Jan., 1888	Cowkeeper ...	159/5
3,454	47, Montpelier-square ...	29th March, 1879	Purveyor ...	247/1
24,606	30, " ...	7th July, 1895	General ...	214/7
23,545	23, Moreton-street ...	14th Nov., 1893	" ...	97/7
12,299	7 & 9, " ...	24th July, 1890	Dairyman ...	9/6
19,514	74, Millbank-street ...	10th May, 1888	Purveyor ...	286/5
16,185	35, Medway-street ...	10th June, 1898	General ...	247/6
11,800	24, Montpelier-row ...	31st July, 1895	" ...	127/5
23,134	1, North-street ...	16th Feb., 1900	Provision ...	40/7
22,292	2 & 4, Old Queen-street	22nd Sep., 1897	Dairyman ...	497/6
24,460	26, Ponsonby-place ...	24th April, 1895	General ...	200/7
12,818	37, Page-street ...	12th Feb., 1897	" ...	148/3
8,317	18, " ...	8th July, 1889	Provision ...	15/6
26,849	1A, Parker-street ...	13th Jan., 1900	General ...	421/7
25,625	81, Ponsonby-place ...	11th Feb., 1898	Purveyor ...	308/7
7,718	28, " ...	12th June, 1899	General ...	569/6
25,212	35, Palace-street ...	14th Feb., 1899	Purveyor ...	270/7
24,228	46, Romney-street ...	22nd Nov., 1894	Confectioner.	179/7
21,597	12, " ...	7th Oct., 1890	General ...	308/6
8,127	13, " ...	31st May, 1888	" ...	314/5
14,444	50, " ...	15th June, 1896	" ...	201/3

Reg. No.	Address.	Date of Registration.	Trade.	Folio.
23,719	110, Regency-street ...	3rd July, 1899	General ...	126/7
5,759	149, „ ...	22nd March, 1899	„ ...	248/6
19,322	101, „ ...	15th March, 1888	„ ...	228/5
696	22, „ ...	21st March, 1885	„ ...	62/4
14,120	7, „ ...	18th Feb., 1898	„ ...	176/3
11,978	117, „ ...	12th Oct., 1894	„ ..	77/3
10,142	66, „ ...	14th April, 1881	Purveyor ...	5/3
10,917	94, Rochester-row ...	3rd Dec., 1897	„ ...	22/6
13,358	8, „ ...	13th Nov., 1888	Refreshments	457/5
26,455	52, „ ...	18th Feb., 1899	Purveyor ..	385/7
22,509	25, Strutton-ground ...	12th April, 1892	Provision ...	552/6
24,948	8, „ ...	26th Feb., 1900	Dairy Produce	246/7
431	29, „ ...	7th March, 1879	Provision ...	31/1
1,550	76, Tufton-street ...	24th Aug., 1898	Purveyor ...	134/4
22,895	25, „ ...	15th Dec., 1892	General ...	1/7
26,944	23, „ ...	29th March, 1900	Grocer ..	429/7
12,254	79, „ ...	21st Sep., 1900	General ...	240/4
18,610	59, „ ...	10th Nov., 1892	„ ...	261/4
10,442	3, Trevor-terrace ...	28th April, 1881	Dairy & Pur.	18/3
3,518	6, Tothill-street ...	31st Dec., 1894	Purveyor ...	188/3
25,588	67, Tachbrook-street ...	21st May, 1897	„ ...	305/7
2,737	63, „ ...	13th Nov., 1893	„ ...	92/7
26,496	103B, Victoria-street* ...	3rd March, 1899	Refreshments	388/7
25,309	210, Vauxhall-bridge-road	6th April, 1899	General ...	279/7
24,497	209, „ ...	29th June, 1899	Provision ...	204/7
15,480	30, „ ...	27th Feb., 1894	Purveyor ...	125/7
4,092	34, Vincent-street ...	24th May, 1899	General ...	313/5
11,975	2, „ ...	26th April, 1899	„ ...	312/5
856	47, Vauxhall-bridge-road	23rd March, 1898	Purveyor ...	62/1
1,906	41, Wood-street ...	15th Dec., 1892	General ...	396/6
8,918	23, „ ...	25th May, 1897	Purveyor ...	491/6
13,516	20, Willow-street ...	24th July, 1899	„ ...	95/5
13,665	29, „ ...	8th Sep., 1899	Grocer ...	28/5
14,048	61, Westminster-building	24th May, 1894	General ...	171/3
2,412	28, Winchester-terrace ...	25th March, 1879	Cowkeeper ...	173/1
10,724	41, York-street ...	24th Oct., 1893	General ...	83/7
2,896	69, „ ...	18th July, 1892	„ ...	582/6

* Now No. 3, Artillery-row.

OFFENSIVE TRADE.

8	15, Tothill-street ...	—	Tripe Boiler	—
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ALTERATION OF BOUNDARIES OF WESTMINSTER.

KENSINGTON AND WESTMINSTER.

"The Commissioners having decided that Kensington Palace should be detached from Westminster and added to Kensington, laid down the following boundary line between the two Boroughs :—

The boundary to commence at the point where the present boundary between Paddington and Westminster crosses the Broad Walk and proceeding along the centre of that walk in a southerly direction to the existing boundary in the centre of Kensington-road, eastward along the existing boundary in the centre of Kensington-road, eastward along the existing boundary to a point opposite the centre of Queen's-gate, southward along the centre of Queen's-gate to a point opposite Imperial Institute-road, eastward along the centre of Imperial Institute-road and across Prince's-gate to the entrance of Prince's-mews, along the centre of the roadways of Prince's-mews and Ennismore-gardens-mews to the north end of Rutland-street, along the centres of Rutland-street and Chapel-place, along the centre of Montpelier-street to the centre of Brompton-road, and eastward along the centre of Brompton-road to a point opposite Hooper's-court.

By this adjustment the following properties are affected :—

TRANSFERRED TO KENSINGTON.		TRANSFERRED TO WESTMINSTER.	
Properties.	Rateable Value.	Properties.	Rateable Value.
	£		£
Nos. 10 to 22, Kensington Palace-gardens	11,069	Nos. 170 and 178 to 200, Queen's-gate	10,923
Kensington-palace	1,648	Imperial Institute (part of) ..	2,482
Nos. 1 to 3, Palace-green ...	1,298	Nos. 5, 8, 9, and 186 to 200, Jay-mews	1,514
Nos. 1a, and 2 to 38 (even), Kensington-high-street ...	8,153	Nos. 17 to 25, and Alexandra House, Kensington-gate ...	2,971
Cumberland-yard	92	Nos. 2 to 30 (even), Rutland-street	482
Nos. 1 to 8, Kensington-place	130	Nos. 4 to 46 (even), Chapel-place	524
		Nos. 1 to 11, Middle-street...	226
		Nos. 25 to 37, Montpelier-row	281
		Nos. 2 to 11, Relton-mews ...	953
		Nos. 2 to 18c (even), Montpelier-street	775
		Nos. 38 to 130 (even) Brompton-road	6,891
		Fulham-bridge-yard ...	84
	£22,390		£28,106

Arrangements were made with the Medical Officer of Health for Kensington *re* notification of infectious diseases in the above newly added properties, and the registration of births and deaths are also now duly notified to the proper districts.

COMPULSORY NOTIFICATION OF PLAGUE.

The following notice was sent to each medical practitioner in the district in accordance with the Vestry's instructions:—

By an Order of the Local Government Board, dated 19th September, 1900, the disease known as Plague becomes a notifiable disease within the meaning of section 55 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, and it is therefore the duty of every legally qualified medical practitioner to notify to the Medical Officer of Health for the district, any case of Plague coming to his immediate knowledge.

I am now directed by this Vestry to request that should any case of this disease occur in your practice in this district, you will kindly forthwith notify the same to me.

During the year one passenger arriving from Glasgow was notified me by the Medical Officer of the Port of London—she was found to be ill in bed at a hotel in Westminster—but there were no symptoms of Plague and she soon recovered her usual health.

VERMINOUS PERSONS ACT.

During the year one person availed himself of the provisions of the above Act. This is the first application in this district under this Act since it came into operation.

BLACK SMOKE.

Strict observation has been kept upon various premises within the district with the view of ascertaining where smoke nuisances existed.

Proceedings were taken against the New Vauxhall Bridge Works Company, with the result that they were fined five pounds and costs. The Queen Anne's Mansions Hotel Company were also summoned, but the magistrate was of opinion that the wording of the Act was somewhat obscure and he decided in favour of the Vestry with regard to the

issue of the notices. Eventually the further hearing of the summons was adjourned *sine die*.

Against the Westminster Electric Light Company, Millbank street, four summonses were issued, with the result that the Company were fined £40 and four guineas costs.

A large fan has now been erected in connection with the chimney-shaft in order to create an increased draught, and this has been the means of reducing the nuisance to a minimum.

Numerous intimations have been served, during the year to the owners of various factories in the district with good results.

UNSOOUND FOOD.

The following articles of food were condemned and destroyed as being unfit for human consumption :—

- 105 stones of beef.
- 4 baskets of cherries.
- 100 oysters.
- 10 bushels of peas.
- 2 cases of haddocks.
- 1 box of plaice.
- 1 barrel of cod-fish.
- 9 bags of greens.
- 1 box of skate
- 1 box of mixed fish.
- 3 barrels of pine-apples

WATER SUPPLY TO NEWLY-ERECTED HOUSES.

Under Section 48 of the Public Health London Act, 347 certificates have been granted to the owners of newly-erected dwellings. Several certificates have also been refused, and the premises are still unlet.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

Over one thousand houses are now on the register. In several cases it has been found necessary to require the provision of additional w.c. accommodation.

Summonses were issued in two cases in which the landlords failed to carry out the bye-laws with respect to the cleansing of the walls and ceilings, and in each case the magistrate imposed a fine of five pounds and costs.

WORKSHOPS AND FACTORIES.

Under the operation of the London Government Act the workshops of Messrs. Woolland and Messrs. Harvey, Nichols (who employ several hundred hands) have been transferred to the Borough of Chelsea. Since the re-building of these premises, which extended over a period of several months, the workshops and their sanitary conveniences have been very satisfactory.

In several other large workshops in the district it has only been found necessary to call attention to minor matters, and these were duly remedied.

BAKEHOUSES.

The bakehouses have all been periodically inspected, and the necessary lime-whiting and cleansing have been carried out.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT.

The only house closed during the year under this Act, as being unfit for human habitation, was No. 1, Carey-place, owned by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The premises were subsequently demolished.

A reference from the Vestry on 25th July last was considered:—

That in view of the enlarged powers given to Local Authorities in the Metropolis in reference to the Housing of the Working Classes by the London Government Act, it be referred to the Public Health Committee to make a thorough investigation of the whole question, and to report

1. Whether there are any areas in the parish which can be dealt with under Part II. of the Housing of the Working-Classes Act, 1890; and
2. Upon the practicability of adopting Part III. of the Act in the near future, in order to secure the

erection of working-class dwellings at reasonable rents ;

and that the surveyor and the medical officer of health proceed meanwhile with reports, for the use of the Committee, upon any area or buildings within the parish to which the attention of the Vestry or their successors may be called in this connection.

The following joint report by medical officer of health and the surveyor was presented to the Public Health Committee on September 13th, 1900 :—

13th September, 1900.

GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with the resolution of the Vestry on the 21st July last, we have visited various areas in the parishes, and find that those most likely to come within the meaning of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, and the Local Government Act, 1899, would be Williams-place in Tufton-street, York-buildings in Grubb-street, and Blue Anchor-court in Great Peter-street; each is a *cul-de-sac*, and is without means of through ventilation. Williams-place comprises an area of about 4,140 square feet, has 6 houses with 12 tenements, housing about 40 people.

Nos. 1 to 9, York-buildings, Grubb-street, which is within the area proposed to be taken by the London County Council's Embankment Improvement Scheme, are two-roomed cottages, standing upon an area, including the forecourt, of about 3,772 square feet, and housing about 45 people.

Nos. 2 to 6, Blue Anchor-court, standing upon an area, including the forecourt, of about 3,450 square feet, are four-roomed cottages, housing about 35 people.

We should also like to draw the Committee's attention to a badly-designed block of buildings in Tufton-street, viz., "Lion Buildings," not with the idea that the Vestry could proceed against such under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, as there is through ventilation and the building is structurally good; but with a view of at some future time entering into negotiations with the owners for the purchase thereof, and erecting upon the site more suitable dwellings.

The building in question is a brick structure of 5 floors and a basement containing about 40 tenements of 1 and 2 rooms, principally the latter, let at 3/6 to 7/- respectively per week, and housing about 160 persons; there are 3 w.c.'s, 1 scullery, and dust-bin accommodation on each floor.

After due consideration of the whole of the circumstances relating to these particular areas, we do not see our way to recommending the Vestry to deal with them under the Housing of the Working Classes Act.

With regard to the small houses on both sides of Lewis-ham-street, we are of opinion also that it is not at present a sufficiently insanitary area to be dealt with under the above-named Act.

MILLBANK SITE.

The following new blocks of dwellings are now in occupation, viz. :—

				Accommodation for.
Hogarth-buildings	...	...	...	306 persons.
Leighton	„	...	...	120 „
Millais	„	...	...	120 „
Romney	„	...	...	290 „
Turner	„	...	...	430 „

The blocks nearly completed are :—

Rossetti-buildings	...	...	...	290 „
Ruskin	„	...	...	430 „

The blocks now in course of construction are :—

Reynolds-buildings	...	...	...	400 „
Gainsborough	„	...	...	396 „
Lawrence	„	...	...	296 „
Maclise	„	...	...	296 „
Landseer	„	...	...	230 „
Mulready	„	...	...	230 „
Morland	„	...	...	300 „
Wilkie	„	...	...	300 „

CUSTOMS AND INLAND REVENUE ACT.

(Millbank Site.)

During the year I issued certificates under the above Act that the following premises were provided with suitable sanitary accommodation, viz. :—

Leighton-buildings. Romney-buildings.
Millais-buildings. 3 and 4, Turner-buildings.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

During the year 100 samples of food, &c., have been purchased for analysis. The following is a table of the samples taken, together with the fines and costs imposed in the cases where summary action was resorted to in respect of adulterations :—

Articles Purchased.	No. of Samples.	Genuine.	Adulterated.	Result of summary proceedings.					
				Fines.	Costs.				
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Arrowroot	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Baking Powder	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bread*	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Beer.....	10	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Butter.....	20	18	2	3	0	0	1	5	0
Cheese.....	7	6	1	0	10	0	0	14	6
Cheese (Margarine)	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cocoa	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coffee	4	3	1	No		action.			
Milk*	30	25	†4	1	0	0	0	12	6
				Result of proceedings since the compilation of this report.					
Mustard	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pepper	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sweets*	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Treacle ..	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vinegar	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total.....	100	89	8	£4	10	0	£2	12	0

* The samples of bread, sweets and margarine cheese, and one sample of milk were not analysed.

† In consequence of certain circumstances, summary action was only taken in respect of one of the adulterated samples.

In addition to the above samples, one each of butter and milk was submitted for analysis by a ratepayer, and were afterwards certified as being genuine.

CORONER'S COURT AND MORTUARY.

Summary of work performed during the year 1900.

Number of articles disinfected from the Guards' Hospitals and Quarters	...	...	...	...	8,240
Number of articles disinfected from the United Parishes	...	...	...	...	10,714
Number of rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	368
Number of families removed to the Vestry's Reception rooms	...	...	...	...	12
Number of bodies removed to the mortuary	...	...	...	...	309
Number of inquests held at the Coroner's Court	...	...	...	...	272
Number of bodies to await burial	..	...	...	...	37

As all the inquests from the other parishes of the City are now held at this Court, I append the list of work which was performed for the year 1899, for the sake of comparison.

Summary of work performed during the year 1899.

Number of articles disinfected from the Guards' Hospitals, &c.	...	...	...	...	1,545
Number of articles disinfected from the United Parishes	...	...	...	...	17,200
Number of rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	430
Number of families removed to the Vestry's Reception rooms	...	...	...	...	21
Number of bodies removed to the mortuary	...	...	...	...	272
Number of inquests held at the Coroner's Court	...	...	...	...	230
Number of bodies to await burial	...	...	...	...	42

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

INSPECTOR DEE.

Eight summonses for infringements of the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, were taken out during the year. In six cases the Vestry were successful in recovering £2 3s. 6d. in costs or fines, one case was withdrawn, the work having been completed prior to the hearing, and the other case after two hearings, at each of which the defendants were represented by Counsel, was adjourned *sine die*.

Two summons were also taken out for obstruction caused by flower sellers at Knightsbridge, one against the husband who was fined 2s. and 2s. costs, whilst the summon against the wife was dismissed with 42s. costs against the Vestry.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

INSPECTOR MACNAIR.

Premises.	Offence.	Fine and Costs.		
		£	s.	d.
Vauxhall-bridge Works, Grosvenor-road	Sending forth black smoke ...	6	1	0
8, Strutton-ground ...	Selling margarine cheese as cheese	0	17	6
Do. do. ...	Selling adulterated cheese ...	0	7	0
1, Carey-place ...	Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.—House unfit for human habitation. The house was pulled down before hearing of summons.	0	10	6
58, Vincent-street ...	Defective drain under roadway, work done on hearing of summons.	0	3	0
8, Bessborough-mews ...	Stables without proper manure receptacle, works done before hearing of summons.	0	2	0
41, York-street ...	Margarine Act. — Exposing for sale, and selling unlabelled, margarine.	1	12	6
25, Lillington-street ...	House let in lodgings—failing to cleanse in accordance with bye-laws.	5	2	0
8, Strutton-ground ...	House let in lodgings—failing to cleanse in accordance with bye-laws.	5	2	0
2, Dorset-street ...	Overcrowding of house ...	Order for abatement made. Defendant and family went to Workhouse.		
		£19 17 6		

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

INSPECTOR KIRK.

The following summonses have been taken out by order of the Public Health Committee, the following tabulated statement showing the result of those proceedings.

Act of Parliament or Bye-law under which proceedings were taken.	Situation of Premises.	Offence.	Result.	Fine.	Costs.
Public Health (London) Act, 1891	Electric Light Station (Millbank-street)	Smoke nuisance	Vestry's action upheld	£10	£2 2/-
3 Summonses { Do. do.... Do. do.... Do. do....	Do. do. ... Do. do. ... Do. do. ...	Do. do. ... Do. do. ... Do. do. ...	Do. Do. Do.	} £30	£2 2/-
Bye-laws of the L.C.C. under Public Health (London) Act, 1891	28, Victoria-street	Failing to give notice in writing of intention to fix w.c. and soil pipes	Summons withdrawn upon payment of costs	...	12/6
2 Summonses { Public Health London Act, 1891	Black Horse-yard Do. do. ...	Non-removal of manure Do. do. ...	Vestry's action upheld Do.	10/- £2 2s.	2/- 2/-
Sale of Food & Drugs Act	1, Chapter-chambers, Chapter-street	Selling margarine for butter	Do.	£2	12/6
			Total ...	£44 12s.	£5 13s.

INSPECTOR DEE'S

report for year ending 29th December, 1900. Wards Nos. 1
and 2, St. Margaret, Westminster.

Inspections made	...	...	...	...	871
Defects found	...	...	...	...	1,002
Notices served...	...	...	...	...	593
Works completed	...	...	...	...	610
Notices outstanding, Dec. 30th, 1899	...	...	...	...	55
Notices uncompleted, Dec. 29th, 1900	...	...	...	...	38

Details of defects.

Water closets	...	...	...	...	194
Drains	...	...	...	...	143
Water apparatus	...	...	...	...	143
Dust receptacles	...	...	...	...	41
Premises dirty	...	...	...	...	61
Underground rooms illegally occupied	...	...	...	...	3
Premises improperly ventilated	...	...	...	...	4
Yard paving	...	...	...	...	11
Lime-whiting	...	...	...	...	14
Stables, etc.	...	...	...	...	5
Houses, infectious disease occurred in	...	...	...	...	99
Accumulations of manure or refuse	...	...	...	...	59
Receptacles for manure	...	...	...	...	5
Black smoke	...	...	...	...	40
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	180
					<u>1,002</u>

INSPECTOR MACNAIR'S

report for the year ending 29th December, 1900. Wards Nos. 1
and 3, St. John.

Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	1,088
„ „ defects found	...	...	...	...	1,021
„ „ intimations and notices served	...	...	...	...	641
„ „ works completed	...	...	...	...	674
„ „ notices outstanding at end of 1899	...	...	...	...	54
„ „ „ „ „ 1900	...	...	...	...	21

Nuisances in connection with the following matters were abated, viz. :—

Animals improperly kept	...	...	...	10
Black smoke (including short emissions)	...	...	...	43
Dust receptacles	...	...	...	58
Drains defective	...	...	...	106
Limewhiting	...	...	...	154
Manure receptacles	...	...	...	11
Manure and refuse accumulations	...	...	...	41
Overcrowding	...	...	...	4
Paving to yards, stables, &c.	...	...	...	45
Premises in uncleanly condition	...	...	...	159
Premises and rooms cleansed after infectious cases	...	...	...	138
Registration of houses let in lodging	...	...	...	5
Unsound food	...	...	...	5
Water closets defective	...	...	...	122
Water supply, defective fittings, cistern covers, &c.	...	...	...	89
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	31
				1,021
				1,021

INSPECTOR KIRK'S

report for the year ending December 31st, 1900, for Wards No. 3 St. Margaret, and No. 2 St. John.

Notices brought forward from 1899	...	...	41
Inspections made	...	...	873
Defects found	...	...	1,016
Notices served	...	...	569
Works completed	...	...	561
Notices not complied with, 31st December, 1900	...	...	53

The following nuisances have been abated and defects remedied upon notices served :—

Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	...	...	3
Accumulations of manure and refuse	...	...	31
Black smoke nuisances	...	...	43
Cisterns (dirty) cleansed	...	...	20

Drains, new, defective relaid, &c., including seven stopped drains unstopped	77
Dust receptacles (new provided)	13
Houses in which infectious diseases have occurred ...	104
Limewhiting of premises	116
Overcrowding of premises	11
Premises in an uncleanly condition cleansed ...	181
Receptacles for manure (provided)	4
Rain-water pipes in direct communication with drain	10
Roofs defective	19
Stables, cowsheds, bakehouses, &c., whitened ...	28
Sink wastepipes in direct communication with drain	4
Soil pipes, new fixed	9
Water closets, new fixed, old repaired and unstopped, and water supply apparatus to same repaired ...	77
Water supply apparatus, defective, repaired ...	35
W.C.'s fixed, not complying with bye-laws refixed and complying therewith	3
Miscellaneous	228
Total	<u>1,016</u>

I am, my Lord Duke, my Lords and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN NORTON, M.D., D.P.H., M.R.C.S.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Town Hall, Westminster,

February, 1901.

