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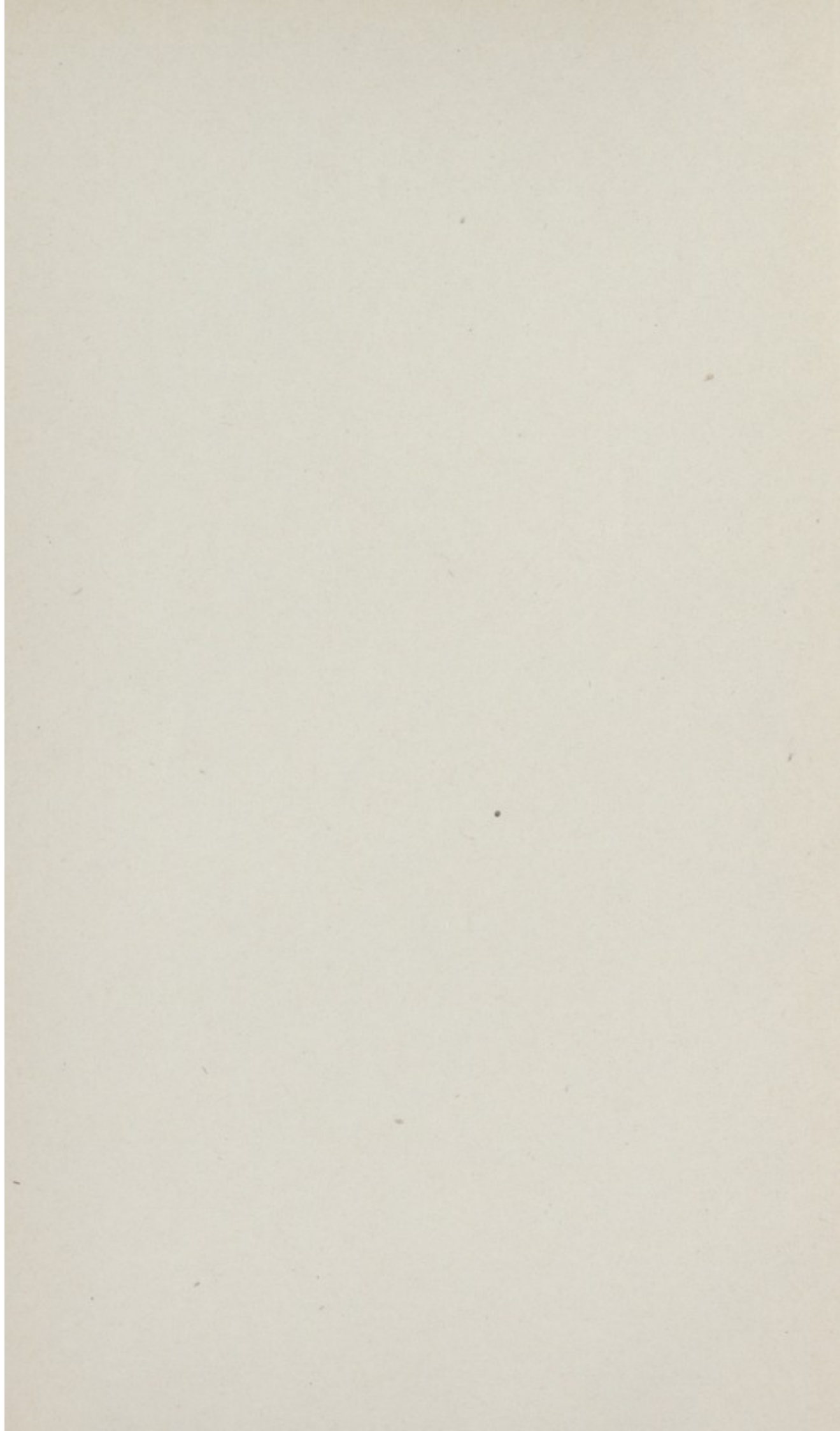
Woolwich

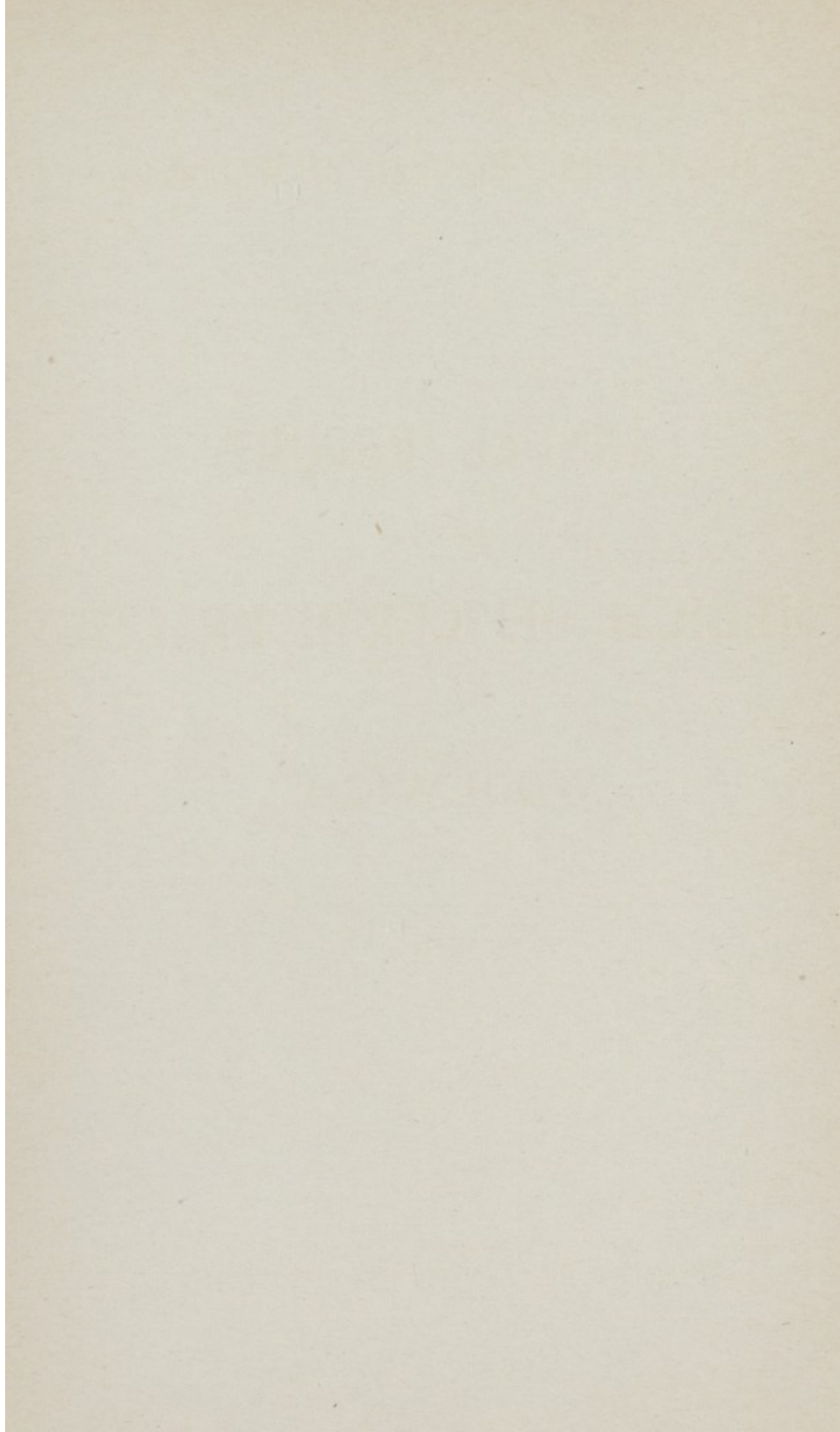
Metropolitan Borough of Woolwich.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR
WOOLWICH.

1915.

Woolwich :
Pioneer Press, Ltd. (T.U. Federation), 3, New Road.





Metropolitan Borough of Woolwich.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR

WOOLWICH.

1915.

Woolwich :

Pioneer Press, Ltd. (T.U. Federation), 3, New Road.

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District Sanitary Inspectors :

JOHN W. RANCE (Cert. San. Inst.).

WILLIAM LITTLE (Cert. San. Inst.).

WILLIAM WOOD (Cert. San. Inst.).

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Mortuary Keeper :

FRANK LEASON.

Medical Officer of Health :

SIDNEY DAVIES, M.A., M.D., Oxon. ; D.P.H. Camb.

Fellow of the Incorporated Society of Medical Officers of Health,
and Fellow of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Summary of Statistics, 1915.

Area of Borough	...	...	...	...	8,276·6 Acres
Population—Census, 1911	...	...	...	...	121,376
Do. estimated to middle of 1915	...	...	...	...	134,828
Inhabited Houses—Census, 1911	...	...	...	...	21,463
Persons to an Acre	...	...	...	...	14·7
Persons to a House—Census, 1911	...	...	...	...	5·65
Marriages	...	...	...	...	1,829
Births	...	...	...	...	2,815
Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	20·9
Deaths	...	...	...	...	1,841
Death Rate	...	...	...	...	13·7
Infantile Mortality	...	...	...	...	95 per 1,000 births

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PREFACE.

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

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In presenting my Fifteenth Annual Report (which is the Twenty-fourth Annual Report on the Health of Plumstead), I have to state with regret that the steady fall in the death-rate which characterised successive years previous to the War was not maintained in 1915. It is satisfactory, however, to note that the rise in the death-rate last year was less than in London as a whole. This is as it should be, considering the great increase the population has received from young munition workers, who are housed in new buildings erected by the Government, and whose death-rate should be, and probably is, very low.

War conditions have influenced the public health in different ways. Miss Middlebrooke, in her interesting comments on her work, describes one way in which the improved labour conditions in Woolwich, due to the War, have very favourably influenced the care of the children in the homes of the poorer classes ; but on the whole it must be admitted that, in spite of abundance of money and food, war conditions have been unfavourable to health. The effect of war conditions on the death-rate is dealt with in paragraph 14.

Excessive emotions, especially grief and fear, unfavourably influence all, but especially women, and through the women their children. To these emotions must be added the resulting tendency to indulge in alcohol. This, no doubt, has been to a large extent counteracted by the wise regulations which have been adopted by the Government, but there is no doubt that it has unfavourably influenced the health of women and children.

The effects of the Lighting Order, too, in addition to causing accidents, have been to interfere with ventilation, often unnecessarily, and this may be one reason of the greatly increased mortality from respiratory diseases.

Then there has been the fear of Zeppelin raids. Many miscarriages and cases of loss of maternal milk have been attributed to this cause. Overwork by long hours has no doubt been a contributory cause, shortening the life of those who were already feeble from disease or age.

I have again to thank you for the careful attention you have given to my recommendations and the wise measures you have taken to carry them out.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

SIDNEY DAVIES.

Fifteenth Annual Report

ON THE

HEALTH OF THE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF WOOLWICH,

Year ending 31st December, 1915.

PART I.

STATISTICS.

Population.

1. The population of the Borough of Woolwich, as estimated at the Census of 1911, was 121,376. The estimated population to the middle of 1915 is 134,828.

The population of the four Registration Districts at the last three Censuses was as follows :—

	Census, 1891.	Census, 1901.	Census, 1911.	Estimated to Middle of 1915.
Woolwich Parish	40,848	41,625	36,710	39,055
Plumstead Parish				
West } ..	52,436	38,569	40,328	43,124
East }		29,758	30,888	34,233
Eltham Parish ..	5,710	7,226	13,450	18,416
	98,994	117,178	121,376	134,828

This population is estimated on the number of houses occupied in each Registration District, and the estimate has been checked by the result of the census taken for the National Register in August last.

The population of the Borough has been rapidly increasing since the war began.

The estimated population to the middle of 1915 is calculated as follows :—

		Census— Population, 1911.	Unoccupied Houses at Census, 1911.	Unoccupied Houses, May, 1915.	New Houses from April, 1911, to June, 1915.	Additional Houses Occupied June, 1915.	Persons to a House.	Estimated Increase in Population, Census to June, 1915.	Addition Estimated on National Register.	Estimated Population to June, 1915.
Woolwich		36,710	432	53	26 Subtract 119 houses demolished since Census 1911.	286	6.38	1,825	520	39,055
Plumstead	West ..	40,328	362	6	69	425	5.19	2,206	590	43,124
	East ..	30,888	235	7	315	543	5.4	2,678	455	34,233
Eltham ..		13,450	204	40	802	966	4.77	4,720	246	18,416
		121,376	1,233	106	1,212 -119	2,220	—	11,429	1,811	134,828

In East Plumstead 106 new houses and huts are calculated at 5.0 persons to a house, and in Eltham 490 new Government houses at the same rate.

NOTE.—The number of persons to a house is that found at the Census, with the exception of Woolwich parish, for which the number in Dockyard and River Wards has been taken, omitting the Barracks.

The following figures show how the number of persons to a house in Woolwich and Plumstead has varied during the past four Censuses :—

				Woolwich.		Plumstead.
Census	1891	..	..	—	..	6.08
„	1896	..	..	—	..	6.14
„	1901	..	..	7.85	..	6.05
„	1911	..	..	7.27	..	5.34

2. The population of soldiers in Barracks on July 15th was 8,695.

The Registrar-General estimates the civil population to the middle of the year at 129,505, making the total population 138,200.

The death returns include a considerable number of combatants, and the total population, including Army and Navy, has therefore been used as more satisfactory for comparing the health of the Borough in 1915 with previous years. For comparing Woolwich and other Boroughs the Registrar-General's figures must be used.

Though the population has rapidly increased since July, it was probably nearer 134,828 at that date than the figure taken by the Registrar-General, and the lower estimate is used in the succeeding birth and death rates.

In the Annual Report for 1913, on pages 15 to 19, tables were given showing the age distribution and condition as to marriage of the population, the proportion of males and females compared with London and England, and the classification of buildings, and in the Report for 1914 the number to a house in each Ward.

3. The following table shows the number of new houses certified for water each year since the Census of 1911 :—

New Houses, April 1st to June 30th, 1911	..	..	34
„ July 1st, 1911, to June 30th, 1912	..	..	93
„ July 1st, 1912, to June 30th, 1913	..	..	141
„ July 1st, 1913, to June 30th, 1914	..	..	254
„ July 1st, 1914, to June 30th, 1915	..	..	170

New Houses 1914-15 :—

Woolwich	..	..	..	1
West Plumstead	..	..	..	19
East Plumstead..	..	..	..	86
Eltham	..	..	..	64

These figures do not include houses and huts erected by H.M. Government (see page 72).

4. *Unoccupied Houses.* At the 1901 Census there were 234 unoccupied houses in the Borough, viz. : 46 in Woolwich, 86 in Plumstead, and 102 in Eltham. At the 1911 Census there were 1,296, viz. : 450 in Woolwich, 387 in West Plumstead, 250 in East Plumstead, and 209 in Eltham.

In May, 1915, the Rate Collectors found 106 houses unoccupied, viz. : 53 in Woolwich, 4 in West Plumstead, 9 in East Plumstead, and 40 in Eltham. It may be assumed that the majority of these houses were either unfit for occupation or were not to let.

BIRTHS.

5. The number of births was 2,815, viz. : 874 in Woolwich parish, 866 in West Plumstead, 776 in East Plumstead, and 299 in Eltham (corrected for children born in the Infirmary,

the Female Hospital, and the Wood Street Home for Mothers and Babies, whose parents reside outside the Borough, and births in outlying institutions added on). The birth-rate 20·9 compares with 22·0 in the previous year, and with 25·3, the average for the ten years 1905-14. The rate for the County of London was 22·6.

Of the 2,815 births, 81 were illegitimate.

Notification of Births. 2,445 live births were notified under the Notification of Births Act (1,240 males, 1,183 females, 22 not stated). This is at the rate of 87 per cent. of the registered births, compared with 93, 91, 94, 92 and 89 per cent. in the five preceding years. 1,407 births were notified by midwives, 203 by the Home for Mothers and Babies and Military Families Hospital, 435 by medical practitioners, and 400 by other persons. 75 still-births were notified (64, 79 and 59 in 1912, 1913 and 1914 respectively). Of the 75 still-born, 36 were males, 35 females, and 4 not stated.

The Notification of Births Act was adopted on March 1st, 1908. There were 351 births last year which were not notified. Five midwives were warned for neglect to notify.

774 live births, or 89 per cent., were notified in Woolwich parish, 1,422, or 87 per cent., in Plumstead parish, and 249 or 84 per cent., in Eltham.

The proportion of still-births to live births was highest amongst those attended by midwives (4 per cent.) and lowest among those born at institutions (2 per cent.).

6. The following table gives the birth-rate of the Borough during the years 1901-5, 1906-10, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914 and 1915, and for the purposes of comparison the corresponding rates of the neighbouring Boroughs, London, and England :—

BIRTH RATE.

	1901-5.	1906-10.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Greenwich							
Borough	27.6	26.5	24.9	25.0	26.0	25.1	24.5
Lewisham ..	25.7	23.3	21.2	20.4	20.5	19.8	19.2
West Ham ..	33.1	31.4	29.9	29.6	31.0	29.8	28.2
East Ham ..	33.8		25.8	25.8	24.9	23.5	21.8
Erith '... ..	34.1		25.7	23.6	26.4	27.3	20.9
London ..	28.2	26.5i	25.5	24.7	24.5	24.3	22.6
England and Wales	28.2	26.0	24.4	23.8	23.9	23.6	21.8
Woolwich							
Borough	29.2	25.3	23.2	22.3	22.5	22.0	20.9

7. The following table gives the birth-rate for the Borough and each Registration District for the four past Quinquennia and last five years. Correction has been made for births in the Infirmary, Female Hospital, the Wood Street Home for Mothers and Babies and outlying institutions, and the births distributed to the parishes to which they properly belong.

West Plumstead and Eltham had the lowest birth-rate of the four Registration Districts. Although the birth-rate has again fallen, the apparent fall in Woolwich is less than the decrease in London. The greatest decrease since 1911 is in the parishes of Woolwich and Eltham.

	1891-1895.	1896-1900.	1901-1905.	1906-1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Woolwich									
Borough	32.5	30.2	29.2	25.3	23.2	22.3	22.5	22.0	20.9
Woolwich Parish	31.1	30.1	29.0	27.9	27.1	24.8	26.6	25.2	22.4
Plumstead—									
West	33.3	31.0	30.1	24.7	20.6	21.9	19.7	21.0	20.1
East					23.4	21.3	23.7	22.4	22.8
Eltham Parish ..	22.8	20.6	24.0	21.6	18.5	19.0	16.5	16.3	16.2

8. *Illegitimate Births.* 81 of the births registered were illegitimate, giving a rate of 29 per 1,000 births, compared with 19, 13, 17, 23 and 21 in the five preceding years. Although this is a marked increase, it is less than many expected and smaller than the rate in London in peace time.

MARRIAGES.

9. There were 1,829 marriages. The marriage-rate was 27·1, compared with 16·0, 16·4 and 17·7 in the three preceding years. This is the highest marriage-rate recorded since the Borough was constituted. The chief increase was in Plumstead. The marriage-rate in England and Wales was 19·2.

DEATHS.

10. Table I. gives the gross and net deaths and death-rates in 1915, and each of the past eleven years, and shows how the net deaths are arrived at.

11. The net deaths were 1,841, and the net death-rate 13·7, compared with 12·3 and 13·2 in the two preceding years and 12·5, the average of the ten preceding years ; 13·7 is the highest rate recorded since 1904.

12. By multiplying by 1·0249, the factor for age distribution, we get the standard death-rate, viz., 14·0, which rate should be used in comparing Woolwich with other places in which the death-rate is similarly corrected. The following table shows the net and standard death-rates of Woolwich compared with London and the adjoining Boroughs :—

			Net.		Standard.
England and Wales	..	..	15·1	..	14·8
97 Great Towns	..	..	15·6	..	15·9
London	..	..	16·1	..	16·1
Greenwich	..	..	17·7	..	—
Lewisham	..	..	12·3	..	—

				Net.		Standard.
West Ham	..	..	..	16.1	..	—
East Ham	..	..	..	11.1	..	—
Erith	..	..	..	10.5	..	—
Woolwich	..	..	..	13.7	..	14.0

Three Metropolitan Boroughs had a lower death-rate than Woolwich, viz. : Hampstead, Lewisham and Wandsworth.

13. The following table gives the average death-rate in each Registration District of the Borough during the past six Quinquennial periods.

Woolwich parish had the highest death-rate, and Eltham the lowest.

	1886-1890.	1891-1895.	1896-1900.	1901-1905.	1906-1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Woolwich Borough	—	17.2	16.9	13.9	12.5	12.8	11.5	12.3	13.2	13.7
Woolwich Parish*	20.4	19.3	20.1	16.5	14.8	15.6	13.2	14.0	16.0	15.5
Plumstead—										
West	16.4	16.0	15.1	12.9	12.0	13.4	11.5	12.6	14.3	14.4
East						11.4	11.0	11.5	11.6	13.6
Eltham Parish ..	—	13.0	14.6	10.2	10.1	8.3	8.4	8.8	8.8	10.1
London	20.0	19.8	18.5	16.1	14.9	15.0	13.6	14.2	14.4	16.1

* Three Years—1888, 1889 and 1890.

This table shows that the increased death-rate affected each part of the Borough, and that there was a still greater increase in London. In both Woolwich and London the death-rate has increased each year since 1912.

14. The following table gives the numbers dying at various ages in the past twelve years from all causes, and the deaths at all ages from certain diseases not hereafter referred to :—

ANNUAL DEATHS—1903 TO 1915.

Year.	AGE PERIOD.											
	Under 1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 and over.
1903-7 (average)	402.4	162.8	43.4	27	31.4	44.8	104.2	138.4	155.6	174.8	201.4	171
1908-12 (average)	250.4	131.4	41.4	23.4	33.2	33.2	87.4	127	146.6	199.2	211.6	203.8
1913	229	93	34	25	44	48	109	134	177	208	240	239
1914	239	141	52	33	47	35	97	147	184	225	246	244
1915	268	136	62	28	47	41	93	170	210	246	269	263

Deaths From.	Average, 1903-07.	Average, 1908-12.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Apoplexy and all other diseases of the heart and blood-vessels ..	217.4	258.8	312	332	351
Nephritis and Bright's disease ..	44	47	57	46	47
Respiratory diseases—all forms (except Phthisis)	260.8	228.4	254	287	385

Compared with the last three years there was last year a marked increase of deaths under 1 and over 35. There was an increase also of deaths from apoplexy and diseases of the heart and blood-vessels, and a great increase from respiratory diseases (bronchitis and pneumonia).

In order to estimate, so far as possible, the effect of war conditions on the death-rate, it is important to compare the deaths during 1915 (1,841) with those in 1913 (1,580), the last year before the war began. There was a total increase of 261 deaths, viz. : 104 males and 157 females. Of these, 36 represent an increase in measles, 19 tuberculosis of the lungs, 27 congenital debility and premature birth, 29 heart disease, 46 bronchitis, 55 broncho-pneumonia, 26 pneumonia, 22 cirrhosis of the liver, and 30 violence. The only disease showing a large diminution is diarrhoea (including enteritis).

Taking the diseases which mainly affect adults and comparing males with females, it is found that the increase of deaths from tuberculosis was nearly equal in the two sexes. The increase of heart disease and violence was much greater in males than females, whereas the increase in bronchitis, pneumonia and cirrhosis of the liver was much greater in females than in males.

It is interesting to find that while there was a total diminution of deaths from nephritis of 10, the diminution (15) was confined to males, there being an actual increase of deaths in females.

If we assume that the chief cause affecting the health of males has been the increase of overwork on munitions, and in females anxiety and excitement causing increased indulgence in drink, this might offer an explanation of the above figures

so far as they affect heart disease, cirrhosis of the liver and, to some extent, tuberculosis and nephritis ; but there is no obvious reason which would explain the great increase of respiratory diseases, particularly in females.

If we examine the figures of different age periods, we find that the increase of deaths between 15 and 35 is slight or *nil*, the increased death-rate in adults being confined to those over 35.

When we refer to the figures for 1913, we find that already in that year it was noted that the number of deaths from apoplexy and diseases of the heart and blood-vessels, as well as those from respiratory diseases, reached the highest point recorded. Though there can be no doubt that overwork is causing much injury to health in the delicate and older men, there is not sufficient ground for associating the major part of the increased death-rate with overwork on munitions. War conditions have injuriously affected women more than men. Cirrhosis of the liver can be definitely attributed to the causes which give rise to intemperance, and with this is probably connected the increased mortality from congenital debility and premature birth.

Woolwich is not alone in having a greatly increased death-rate from respiratory diseases, heart disease, phthisis and violence. There is a similar increase in the County of London. As regards cirrhosis of the liver, however, there was a diminution in London.

15. Owing to the steady fall of the birth-rate and the recent rise of the death-rate the natural increase of the population (*i.e.*, the excess of births over deaths), 974, has reached the lowest point recorded since 1891. Though war conditions

must be held to a large extent responsible for this serious condition of things, it cannot but occasion grave anxiety.

INFANT MORTALITY.

16. The deaths under 1 year were 268, compared with 239 in 1914. The infant mortality (deaths under 1 year per 1,000 births) was 95. This is the highest rate since 1911.

The following table gives the infantile mortality in the Borough since 1901, compared with the neighbouring Boroughs, London and England :—

	1901 to 1905.	1906 to 1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Lewisham	112	92	104	70	78	74	80
Greenwich	107	112	129	84	103	98	101
West Ham	158	126	141	102	107	108	112
East Ham	131	106	119	71	64	63	82
Erith	112	80	70	69	81	91	73
London	138	114	128	90	105	104	112
97 Great Towns ..	—	127	140	101	116	113	117
England & Wales..	135	115	130	93	109	105	110
Woolwich Borough	119	97	98	73	80	84	95

Four Metropolitan Boroughs only had a lower infantile mortality than Woolwich, viz.: Hampstead, Lewisham, Wandsworth and Westminster.

17. The following table gives the infantile mortality during the past five years, and the five preceding Quinquennia in the Borough and each Registration District :—

	1886-1890.	1891-1895.	1896-1900.	1901-1905.	1906-1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Woolwich Parish	*151	157	170	134	109	110	94	85	94	123
Plumstead— West	.. 121	120	132	113	91	104	53	67	77	73
East						82	81	84	68	91
Eltham	—	163	160	97	89	64	52	62	72	84
Woolwich Borough	—	140	146	119	97	98	73	80	84	95

* 1888, 1889 and 1890.

There was a marked increase in Woolwich parish, East Plumstead and Eltham, but most in the former.

18. Table IV. gives full details as to the ages at death and causes of death of the 268 infants dying in 1915 under 1 year. It shows that 30 per cent. of those who died under 1 year were under one month old, compared with 41 per cent. in 1914 and 38 per cent. in the previous ten years ; 50 deaths were from premature birth, compared with 51, 51, 52, 41 and 53 in the five preceding years. The number of deaths under one week in the past five years was 62, 61, 58, 68 and 55 respectively.

The number of deaths from suffocation or overlying was 6, compared with 1 in 1913 and 2 in 1914. In the previous four years the deaths from suffocation in bed averaged 4 a year, and in the four years 1904-7 they averaged 7. This return to higher figures may be correlated with the increase of alcoholism among women.

The death-rate per 1,000 births from premature birth in Woolwich Borough was 19·5, compared with 17·9, 18·1, 18·9, 14·2 and 20·5 in the five preceding years. In London it was 17·6.

There were 19 deaths of illegitimate infants. The death-rate of illegitimate infants under 1 year was 234 per 1,000 births, compared with 119 in 1914, and that of legitimate children 89.

19. Compared with 1914, the past year had among infants more deaths from measles, convulsions, wasting, bronchitis and pneumonia, and fewer from whooping-cough.

20. *Deaths Between 1 and 5 Years.* 80 deaths (67 in 1914) occurred between 1 and 2 years, and 56 (74 in 1914) between 2 and 5. The corresponding figures in 1913 were 55 and 38 respectively. The death-rate between 1 and 5 was 13·1 per 1,000 children of that age found at the Census (viz., 10,357), compared with 9·0 and 13·6 in the two previous years.

21. *Zymotic Death Rate.* The number of deaths from scarlet fever, diphtheria, measles, whooping-cough, enteric fever and from diarrhoea and enteritis (under 2 years of age as regards diarrhoea and enteritis) was 128, and the death-rate per 1,000 population 0·95, compared with 0·77, 0·74 and 0·98 in the three previous years.

The zymotic death-rate has fallen greatly since 1901, when it was 1·51.

22. *Inquests.* There were 180 inquests, compared with 121, 128, 115, 105, 107, 123, 105, 123, and 146 in the nine preceding years.

The following table gives particulars as to the cause of death :

1. Natural Causes	100
2. Alcoholism	5
3. Accidental Causes—	
Burns and Scalds.. .. .	5
Drowning	8
Vehicular Traffic :	
(a) By Road	13
(b) By Rail	2
Explosions	3
Suffocation—Overlying	7
Other Accidental Causes.. .. .	25
	— 63
4. Homicidal Cases—	
Suicide	11
Murder and Manslaughter	1
	— 12
Total	180

The “ Accidental Causes ” were 42, 44, 35, 37 and 39 in the five preceding years. The “ Homicidal Causes ” were 6, 11, 11, 21 and 13 in the same years.

SMALL-POX.

23. Not a single case of small-pox was notified. In London there were 11 notifications and 3 deaths.

MEASLES.

24. There were 45 deaths from measles, giving a rate of 0·33, compared with 0·24, 0·07 and 0·19 in the three preceding years. The rate in London County was 0·50.

25. Of the 45 who died from measles, 40 were under five years of age ; 22 were males and 23 females.

26. 1,179 notifications were received from school teachers, compared with 396, 801, 775, 387 and 967 in the five preceding years. The mortality per cent. of notifications was 3·8, compared with 5·3, 3·5, 3·9, 2·3 and 2·6 in the five preceding years.

Five cases were removed to the fever hospital on the certificate of the Medical Officer of Health that hospital isolation was necessary.

27. The following table gives the number of deaths and death-rates from measles for the past four years, and four preceding quinquennia in each parish and the death-rate in London :—

Year.	Woolwich.		Plumstead.		Eltham.		The Borough.		London
	Aver. No.	Rate.	Aver. No.	Rate.	Aver. No.	Rate.	Aver. No.	Rate.	Rate.
1891-5	20	0·49	29	0·51	Not recorded		49	0·51	0·59
1896-1900	34	0·81	36	0·57	Not recorded		70	0·67	0·57
1901-5	9	0·22	15	0·22	1	0·13	26	0·21	0·44
1906-10	17	0·43	18	0·23	3	0·20	37	0·30	0·40
1911..	7	0·19	17	0·24	4	0·30	28	0·23	0·57
1912..	12	0·32	17	0·24	1	0·07	30	0·24	0·40
1913..	3	0·08	3	0·04	3	0·21	9	0·07	0·34
1914..	14	0·37	11	0·15	—	—	25	0·19	0·31
1915..	22	0·56	22	0·28	1	0·06	45	0·33	0·50

The actual reduction in measles mortality is not quite so large as appears from the above table, owing to the fact that the falling birth-rate has caused a diminution in the number of children living under five years.

The following table giving the deaths and death-rate per 1,000 births shows the reduction more accurately :—

	No.	Rate.
1891-95 (average)	49	14.7
1896-1900 „	70	20.9
1901-05 „	26	7.2
1906-10 „	37	11.8
1911 „	28	10.0
1912 „	30	10.9
1913 „	9	3.1
1914 „	25	8.8
1915 „	45	16.0

It appears from these tables that whereas from 1891-1900 Woolwich had a somewhat higher measles mortality than London, since that date the measles death-rate has greatly diminished, and diminished much more in Woolwich than in London.

28. Owing to the prevalence of measles, the Medical Officer of the London County Council closed or excluded unprotected children from 40 classes. In many cases this was done immediately on the occurrence of one case. The period of exclusion or closure was usually for a few days only, in some cases for two weeks.

Every effort was made to prevent children under five from attending school where measles was prevalent, and instructions as to sanitary measures for dealing with measles were left at the home of all notified cases and, where possible, the woman inspector paid a visit to enforce personally the directions.

The reason of the high mortality last year is the fact that measles had prevailed very little in the two previous years,

and consequently a large number of children were unprotected.

Compulsory Notification. By Order of the Local Government Board made under S. 130, P.H.A., 1875, Measles and German Measles were made compulsorily notifiable from January 1st, 1916 (*see* Council's Minutes, December 22nd, page 93).

WHOOPING-COUGH.

29. There were 17 deaths from whooping-cough. The death-rate was 0·13, compared with 0·25, 0·08 and 0·19 in the three preceding years, and 0·25 in the County of London. Twelve of the deaths were under two years of age.

The following table gives the deaths and death-rates per 1,000 population since the Borough was formed, compared with London :—

				<i>Woolwich.</i>		<i>London.</i>	
				No.	Rate.	Rate.	
1901-05 (averages)	..	..	..	34	0·28	..	0·35
1906-10	„	..	..	26	0·21	..	0·29
1911	..	..	..	6	0·05	..	0·23
1912	..	..	..	28	0·23	..	0·22
1913	..	..	..	10	0·08	.	0·17
1914	..	..	..	25	0·19	..	0·20
1915	..	..	..	17	0·13	..	0·25

The death-rate per 1,000 births was 5·3.

346 cases were notified by school teachers, compared with 41, 439, 265 and 321, in the four previous years. 84 were under five years of age, 253 between five and ten, and 9 over ten. The fatality or deaths per 100 notifications was 4·9.

In 1913 an Order was issued by the Local Government Board giving permission to the Asylums Board to admit to their hospitals children under 14 suffering from whooping-cough, on the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health. Two cases were admitted during the year.

Instructions printed on cards are left at houses where cases are notified by school teachers. The instructions were printed in the Annual Report for 1910.

It is satisfactory to note a further great reduction in the mortality of this disease in the five years during which this practice has been in force.

SCARLET FEVER.

30. There were 581 cases of scarlet fever notified (deducting 20 cases of mistaken diagnosis), equivalent to a rate of 4·31 per 1,000 population, compared with 5·46 in 1914.

31. The following table shows the case-rates of scarlet fever in the Borough and each Registration District during the past fifteen years, compared with London :—

		AVERAGE.						
		1901-5.	1906-10.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Borough	..	3·15	5·90	4·09	3·80	4·80	5·46	4·31
Woolwich								
Parish		2·99	5·66	2·89	2·41	5·44	6·11	4·48
Plumstead—								
West	}	3·24	6·33	3·77	4·96	4·68	5·45	4·0
East				7·51	4·88	5·11	4·18	6·55
Eltham Parish		3·21	4·94	2·09	2·64	4·36	7·45	3·85
London								
County		3·57	4·22	2·32	1·76	3·89	5·53	3·94

32. Table III. gives the age distribution, the number in each parish, and the number removed to hospital. East Plumstead was most affected.

33. *Deaths.* There were 8 deaths, giving a death-rate of 0·06 per 1,000 population, compared with 0·07 in 1914, 0·06 in 1913, 0·08 in the five years 1908-12, and 0·19 in the ten years 1891-1900. The death-rate in London was 0·07 compared with 0·07 in 1909-13. The case mortality (or deaths per cent. of notifications) was 1·4, compared with 0·8, 1·3 and 1·3 in the three preceding years. One case died three days after confinement, and would have properly been said to have died of puerperal fever. One was in work at the Arsenal Canteen.

34. *Hospital Isolation.* Of the 601 cases notified, 511 (or 85 per cent.) were removed to one of the fever hospitals, compared with 90, 80, 88, 90 and 88 per cent. in the five preceding years. 20 cases were reported, after observation at hospital, not to be scarlet fever.

35. *Return Cases.* There were 40 cases (or 6·9 per cent. of notifications) in which infection was attributed to patients recently returned from hospital, compared with 27, 29, 37, 31 and 12 in the five preceding years. Of the infecting cases, 9 had some form of rhinitis on or after their return, 3 otorrhœa, 2 sores on face, and 3 catarrh.

As a rule, the children returning from hospital are quite well at the moment of leaving, but in many cases develop some nasal discharge on arriving home, or within a few days. Illustrative cases of this were given in the 1908 Report.

The parents of all children with any discharge are recommended to obtain medical assistance, and the district nurse is often requested to visit and syringe the ear or nose. Parents are always advised as to treatment, and children suspected to be infectious are kept at home and from association with other children.

The hospital superintendents forward the names of any children discharged while still suffering from rhinorrhœa.

36. *Home Isolation.* 15 certificates of efficient home isolation were given to enable men to continue their employment in the Arsenal, and so obviate unnecessary removal to hospital, compared with 25, 12 and 31 in the three preceding years.

In the Annual Report for 1911 a comparison was made between home and hospital isolation, showing that, whereas there were only 1·6 per cent. of failures in home isolation, there were 4·6 per cent. in hospital isolation. Failure means the occurrence of secondary cases attributed to the primary case.

37. The Annual Report for 1905 contained a special report on a statistical investigation into school incidence of scarlet fever and diphtheria during the ten years 1896–1905.

DIPHTHERIA.

38. 240 cases of diphtheria were notified (excluding 46 cases of mistaken diagnosis). The case-rate (number of cases per 1,000 population), corrected for cases of mistaken diagnosis was 1·77, compared with 3·09, 1·91 and 2·72, in the three preceding years, and 1·99, the average of the ten years 1901–10.

39. There were 20 deaths, compared with 20, 17 and 34 in the three preceding years. The death-rate was 0·15, compared with 0·26 in 1914, 0·13 in 1913, and 0·14, the average of the five preceding years.

The London death-rate was 0·15, compared with 0·12 in the five preceding years.

40. 87 of the total cases notified were in Woolwich parish, 85 in West Plumstead, 98 in East Plumstead, and 16 in Eltham. The following table shows the case-rate in each

registration district (not corrected for mistaken diagnosis) in the past thirteen years, compared with London and the Borough :—

	1901-5.	1906-10.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Borough ..	1.71	2.20	1.68	3.09	1.91	2.72	1.77
Woolwich Parish	1.63	2.34	2.40	4.38	4.43	4.92	2.23
Plumstead Parish	1.87	2.40	{ W. 1.19	3.79	2.32	2.36	1.99
			{ E. 2.33	2.81	1.02	2.39	2.87
Eltham Parish ..	1.62	2.22	2.30	1.71	1.29	3.33	0.88
London	1.90	1.63	1.64	1.57	1.70	2.02	2.01

The table shows that the rate in East Plumstead was the highest for several years past, but the other parts of the Borough had a much lower rate than any year since 1911.

41. 264 cases, or 92 per cent. of total notifications, were removed to hospital, compared with 92, 81, 93 and 94 per cent. in the four preceding years. A certificate of efficient home isolation was given in 10 cases, compared with 1, 3, 12, 1 and 7 in the five preceding years.

The case-mortality was 8.3 per cent., compared with 3.4, 5.4, 5.2, 7.0 and 9.7 in the five preceding years.

12 carrier cases, with or without slight symptoms, were discovered by your Medical Officer of Health. The usual steps were taken.

42. *Mistaken Diagnosis.* 46 cases, or 15 per cent. of notifications, were, after removal to hospital, stated to be not diphtheria. The percentage of the four preceding years was 15, 11, 19 and 16 respectively.

43. *Source of Infection.* In 45 cases a probable source of infection was noted, viz. :—In 32 other inmates of the house were known or suspected to be the source ; in 1 school ; 4 neighbours and friends ; 1 return case ; and in 7 the infection was due to the Fever or other Hospitals.

The return case well illustrates the difficulty in certain cases. A.D. returned from hospital after two months' isolation 24/12/14. Another case occurring at his home, he was swabbed and found negative. A third case occurring, he was again swabbed 1/3/15, and found positive. He had otorrhœa and rhinorrhœa, and was sent back to hospital, whence he was finally discharged in July, after 6½ months in hospital.

44. *Bacteriological Diagnosis.* Since January, 1913, the Council's bacteriological work has been done by the Bacteriological Department of the Seamen's Hospital, Greenwich. 776 (915 in 1914) swabs were examined for the presence of diphtheria bacilli. In 84 (95 in 1914) the true Klebs Löffler bacillus was found, in 54 (47 in 1914) Hoffman's bacillus was found, and 638 were found free from either the Klebs Löffler bacillus or Hoffman's.

Of the 776 swabs examined, 168 were taken from school children by the Medical Officer of Health. Of these, 12 contained the true Klebs Löffler bacillus (so-called positive cases), and 16 Hoffman's bacillus. Most of the children were contacts seen about ten days after notification of a primary case for the purpose of preventing pupils returning to school in an infectious state. Others were examined with the object of finding possible sources of infection, *e.g.*, where the first case notified in a house was a child not attending school; others, again, were children suspected to have diphtheria by the School Teacher, the Attendance Officer or Sanitary Inspector.

Eight positive cases had some symptoms, viz.: running or sore nose, mild clinical diphtheria or follicular tonsilitis. These were notified and sent to Hospital or strictly isolated. Positive cases without any symptoms were excluded from

school and from mixing with other children outside the house. Of the 168 cases, 47 had some symptoms.

During 1915 it was for purposes of economy decided not to swab all the contacts coming for examination, but only those showing some abnormal condition, and those who, for any reason, were specially likely to be carriers; but all were carefully examined as to the presence of any pharyngitis, rhinorrhœa or other symptoms.

Unfortunately it has been found by experience that a negative bacteriological result is no guarantee that a contact will not within a few days or weeks develop diphtheria. One examination, too, is insufficient, and where rhinorrhœa or special suspicion exists, a second swab is taken if the first is negative or shows Hoffman's bacillus. In two cases last year this practice led to the discovery of carriers.

One contact was brought to me with marked symptoms of clinical diphtheria, but the mother stated that she had made no complaint and she had observed nothing wrong with her.

Diphtheria antitoxin is kept at the Town Hall and the Plumstead and Eltham Free Libraries and supplied to medical practitioners on application at cost price, or free where there is inability to pay. Last year 18 quantities were supplied on payment and 7 gratis.

ENTERIC FEVER.

45. There were 23 cases of enteric fever, not including 8 cases of mistaken diagnosis notified as enteric. The case-rate was 0·17, compared with 0·15, 0·06 and 0·09 in the three preceding years. For the ten years 1892–1901 the rate never fell below 0·41. The case-rate in London was 0·14.

46. There were 5 deaths from this disease, giving a death-rate of 0·04. The death-rate in London was 0·03.

In the preceding five years the death-rate in Woolwich was 0.01 and in London 0.03.

47. The following are the cases notified in each parish during the past fifteen years :—

AVERAGE.							
	1901-05.	1906-10.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Woolwich ..	12.6	7.6	10	10	7	6	11
Plumstead ..	21.2	11.4	{ W. 3 E. 2	4	3	6	13
				2	2	4	5
Eltham ..	8.6	2.8	1	4	2	2	2

In my last Annual Report a full account was given of a mild outbreak of enteric occurring in December–January, 1914–15. 10 of the cases occurred before February 2nd. Of the 13 cases which have occurred since that date, 6 were soldiers, all of whom contracted the infection outside the Borough, either at the Front or at other Camps ; 3 were probably infected at the seaside, viz., at Bournemouth, Weymouth and Southend respectively (the latter had oysters at Southend) ; 1 in Hertfordshire ; 1 boy had partaken of cockles. The 2 remaining cases were a policeman and a boy for whom no source of infection was discovered.

Of the 31 cases notified, 27 were removed to a Fever Hospital and 8 were reported as mistaken diagnosis.

A report was made on the prevention of fly-carried infection of enteric fever (*see* Zymotic Enteritis).

48. *Bacteriological Diagnosis.* 20 samples of blood were sent to the Seamen's Hospital to be examined for Widal's reaction. A positive result was obtained in 11.

DIARRHŒA OR ZYMOTIC ENTERITIS.

49. The deaths from diarrhœa and enteritis under two years of age were 30, or 10.7 per 1,000 births, compared with

3.65, 17.4 and 9.9 in the three preceding years. The rate for London was 25.0. The total number of deaths from these diseases at all ages was 33.

Notification. Voluntary notification of zymotic enteritis during July, August and September, commenced in Woolwich in 1905. Compulsory notification commenced August 25th, 1913.

173 cases were notified in the past year, compared with 129, 338, and 199 in the three preceding years. 1 case was notified in January, 2 in March, 2 in April, 1 in May, 10 in June, 34 in July, 61 in August, 47 in September, 11 in October, and 4 in December.

The fatality rate (deaths under two years per 100 notified cases under two) was 17.3.

Zymotic Enteritis. Many persons interested in the public health were afraid that owing to the exceptional conditions prevailing during the war, such as the large number of horses kept in the vicinity and the delay in removing manure, there would be heavy prevalence of Diarrhoeal diseases during the past summer.

Special efforts were made both by the Military Authorities and your own Public Health Department to obviate any such occurrence, and it is satisfactory to be able to report, whether owing to the success of these efforts, or to other factors that the amount of diarrhoea or zymotic enteritis during the summer has been less than for several years past.

In view of the total number of deaths during the year being greater, but the number of notifications and of deaths during the summer quarter being less, one is led to the supposition that the infectious form of diarrhoea which specially prevails

in the summer was less prevalent this year and that certain other conditions which cause children to die of diarrhoea at all times were more prevalent than in previous years.

A spot map was prepared showing the localities in which the cases occurred. This map shows a distinct grouping in certain districts. The chief groups occurred in the district between High Street, Plumstead, and Marmadon Road, and in Beresford Street, Ropeyard Rails and High Street, Woolwich. Smaller groups occurred in the neighbourhood of Princes Road, Ann Street, Joseph Street and Sand Street, and Elizabeth Street, North Woolwich.

As compared with the County, Woolwich had a very low death-rate from diarrhoea and enteritis during the summer quarter. Per 1,000 births, the death-rate was 54.01 in London, and only 16.25 in Woolwich. Only the City and Stoke Newington had a lower rate.

The death-rate from this disease in Woolwich is much less than in London, owing no doubt mainly to notification of cases; but even the comparatively small number of deaths that occur could doubtless be much diminished if medical aid were summoned more quickly, notification made more promptly, and the mother properly advised as to feeding the patient. Most of the infants who died were found to be improperly fed.

50. The appended tables give particulars of the cases notified each year since notification commenced. The rainfall was much below and the average temperature of the summer quarter was above the average of the five preceding years. In spite of these unfavourable conditions the number of deaths and notified cases was below the average.

TABLE A.

DIET OF CASES UNDER 1 YEAR AT TIME OF
NOTIFICATION.

	Totals 1905-10.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Breast only . .	49	24	3	9	4	9
Breast and other foods . .	78	43	7	15	21	8
Hand-fed only . .	408	179	17	80	63	67
No information . .	26	16	3	11	7	3
	561	262	30	115	95	87

N.B.—Of 30 children under 1 year having fresh cows' milk, 28 had it boiled, or were said to do so.

Of the 67 hand-fed children, 28 had Nestlé's milk.

TABLE B.

NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED EACH WEEK, WITH MEAN TEMPERATURE OF 3 FEET
GROUND THERMOMETER DURING WEEK, SUMMER QUARTER.

Cases.

Year.	1st Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week	5th Week	6th Week	7th Week	8th Week	9th Week	10th Week	11th Week	12th Week	13th Week
1915	9	9	9	5	5	8	21	22	7	10	9	17	12
Average. 1905-14	2.7	3.6	8.0	7.6	13.0	23.2	35.8	42.6	35.1	24.3	25.7	12.7	12.6

Temperature.

1915	65.3	59.2	61.5	61.5	63.6	66.4	61.5	62.5	56.0	58.2	64.5	60.4	49.0
Average for 10 Years	59.41	60.13	61.19	61.54	62.07	62.13	62.22	61.87	61.25	60.73	59.92	58.85	57.94

TABLE C.

DIARRHŒA MORTALITY AND TEMPERATURE OF SUMMER QUARTER IN
LONDON AND WOOLWICH.

		Aver- age 1901-4	Aver- age 1905-10	1911			1912	1913	1914	1915
Annual Death Rate from Diarrhœa and Enteritis in Summer Quarter per 1,000 living*	{ LONDON .. WOOLWICH	2.27 2.30	1.40 0.97	3.82 2.87†	Annual Death Rate from Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years) per 1,000 births for whole year	{ LONDON .. WOOLWICH	12.42 3.65	27.5 17.44	27.6 9.9	12.7 4.3
Max. weekly aver- age Temperature of 3ft. ground thermometer in 13 weeks of Sum- mer Quarter	—	62.72	62.61	67.06	Max. weekly aver- age Temperature of 3ft. ground thermometer in 13 weeks of Summer Quarter	—	63.65	60.63	63.24	Air 66.4
Average Temperature of 3ft. ground thermometer in Summer Quarter	—	60.84	60.30	64.01	Average Temperature of 3ft. ground thermometer in Summer Quarter	—	60.24	59.82	61.51	Air 60.7

* In and after 1911 Deaths under 2 Years only are included.

† If Deaths over 2 Years were included, this figure would be 3.64, and the figure for London would also be increased.

TABLE D.

ZYMOTIC ENTERITIS AND METEOROLOGY.

(Summer Quarter.)

	Average, 1902-11.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Number of Cases Notified..	269.6	115	286	183	142
Number of Deaths* ..	48.9	2	49	21	12
Mean Temperature of Air ..	60.0	58.0	59.1	60.7	60.7
Mean Temperature 3 feet below ground	60.71	60.24	59.82	61.51	60.6
Mean Humidity	74.5	76	79	73	80
Number of Days on which which Rain fell ..	35.0	42	36	34	35
Rainfall in Inches	6.09	5.64	5.43	3.3	8.5
Number of Hours' Bright Sunshine	575.7	399	376	628	541

* Enteritis included in and from 1911. Up to 1911 all Deaths are given. After 1911, only Deaths under 2 Years.

Conveyance of the Infection of Enteric and Zymotic Enteritis by Flies. A special report was made on this subject and by your instructions pictorial posters and handbills were printed and distributed in June. These notices called attention to the danger of accumulation of refuse of all kinds and the importance of cleanliness and the destruction of flies. Two cinematograph theatres, at the request of the Medical Officer of Health, exhibited films giving the life history of the fly, and showing his connection with dirt and refuse. Special efforts were made during the spring and summer to secure the regular removal of manure and business refuse.

ERYSIPELAS.

51. There were 138 cases of erysipelas notified, compared with 87, 70 and 107 in the three preceding years. There were 8 deaths, one under one year of age and the remainder over 45. The case-rate was 1.02, and the death-rate 0.06, compared with 0.02, nil, and 0.05 in the three preceding years. The case-rate was the highest recorded, but the death-rate was higher in 1911. Three cases were removed to the Fever Hospital on the special recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health. The London case-rate was 0.89, and the London death-rate, 0.04.

CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

52. Cerebro-spinal meningitis was made notifiable in 1907 under the Public Health (London) Act, by the London County Council. One case was notified in the Borough in each of the two years 1907-8. One case was notified in 1911, one in 1912, *nil* in 1913, and one in 1914. 46 cases occurred in 1915, excluding 4 cases of mistaken diagnosis. There were 9 deaths, 2 of which were under two years of age. The case rate was 0.34 in Woolwich, compared with 0.06 in London.

31 cases occurred in Woolwich Parish and 9 in Eltham. 28 of the cases were soldiers in barracks and 12 were under 15 years of age. The large majority of the cases occurred in the first three months of the year.

Of the 18 civilian cases, in only one instance did more than one case occur in the same house. This was the case of a girl aged 11, who began to be ill March 23rd. Apparently she was not acutely ill, but did not finally recover sufficiently for discharge from hospital for nearly five months. She was not notified until April 9th, when her mother too was severely ill. The mother's illness began April 6th and she died on the 10th.

Active steps were taken to deal with the outbreak. Notified cases (with one or two exceptions) were immediately removed to the fever hospital. Contacts were examined and those in close association were bacteriologically examined by a Medical Officer of the L.C.C. Several doubtful cases were seen by the Medical Officer of Health on request of the medical attendant and when the former had any doubt as to the diagnosis a bacteriological examination was made.

The measures taken in the Garrison included steps to enforce the maintenance of thorough ventilation in barracks and huts and to this is attributed the rapid disappearance of the outbreak among soldiers.

ANTERIOR POLIO-MYELITIS.

53. This disease, commonly known as infantile paralysis, was made compulsorily notifiable in 1911, by an Order of the London County Council under Section 55, Public Health (London) Act. 2 cases were notified in 1915. There were no deaths.

3 cases were notified in 1911, 3 in 1912, *nil* in 1913, and *nil* in 1914.

It is interesting to note that the Woolwich Invalid Children's Association dealt with 52 cases of infantile paralysis last year. Evidently all the cases that occur are not notified.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

54. There were 6 cases of puerperal fever notified, compared with 7, 16, 2, 8, and 7, in the five preceding years. There were 3 deaths. The case-rate per 1,000 births was 2.14, compared with 2.78 and 2.50 in the two preceding years. The death-rate was 1.07, compared with 1.05, 0.36, and 1.05 in the three foregoing years. The London case-rate and death-rate per 1,000 births were 3.57 and 1.67 respectively.

In the ten years, 1891-1900, the case-rate per 1,000 population was 0·07, and the death-rate 0·03. In 1901-5 the case-rate was 0·06, and the death-rate 0·03, and in 1906-10 the case-rate was 0·05, and the death-rate, 0·016. There has been a decided fall in the death-rate from this disease. Although the apparent fall in the case-rate appears to be but slight, it is probably just as great as that of the death-rate. Many cases are now notified which in former years would have been passed over.

INFLUENZA, BRONCHITIS, PNEUMONIA.

55. Influenza caused 33 deaths, compared with 39, 19, 25, 35, and 25 in the five preceding years. Bronchitis and pneumonia caused 380 deaths, compared with 232, 200, 208, 253, and 285 in the five preceding years.

There has been a remarkable increase of deaths from bronchitis and pneumonia during the past two years which is not easy to account for. The increase is less in males than females. The following table shows the figures for the past six years. The death-rate was 2·8, compared with 1·8 in 1912. The increase is as great in London as in Woolwich.

	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Pneumonia over 5	.. 63	67	61	54	63	78	99
Bronchitis over 5	.. 101	50	84	84	120	113	160
Bronchitis and pneumonia under 5	.. 81	66	55	70	70	94	121
Bronchitis and pneumonia over 5	.. 164	166	145	138	183	191	259
Bronchitis and pneumonia..	..	..	..	M.	144	149	196
„	„	„	„	F.	109	136	184

TUBERCULOSIS.

56. *Deaths.* There were 232 deaths from tuberculous disease, giving a death-rate of 1·72, compared with 1·46, 1·65, 1·34, 1·69, and 1·68 in the five preceding years.

57. The following table gives the number of deaths from each of the various forms of tuberculosis in the past 10 years, and also the deaths from simple meningitis :—

		<i>Average.</i>						
		1901-5.	1906-10.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Tuberculous Menin-								
gitis		20·0	22·8	20	23	14	29	18
Simple Meningitis		22·0	15·0	16	13	10	15	16
Tuberculosis of In-								
testines and Peri-								
toneum		13·0	10·8	5	5	10	13	5
Tuberculosis (other								
forms)		20·8	22·2	29	16	10	11	8
Phthisis		192·0	151·4	146	124	182	163	201

58. The deaths from phthisis were 201, giving a death-rate of 1·49, compared with 1·08, 1·20, 1·01, 1·42, and 1·27 in the five preceding years. The rate of the last three years is higher than it has been since 1906, but is considerably below that of the quinquennia 1891-5, 1896-1900, and 1901-5, as is shown in the following table.

The rise in the phthisis death-rate is parallel with that of bronchitis and pneumonia. In each case 1912 showed a minimum, and the three subsequent years a marked rise.

Comparing 1915 with 1913 the increase in phthisis mortality is nearly equal in both sexes, but whereas there is an increase at ages over 35 of 29, at ages between 15 and 35 there is a decrease of 19.

The rise is not confined to Woolwich—London also had the highest death-rate since 1905.

PHTHISIS (TUBERCULOSIS, LUNGS).

	1891-5.		1896-1900.		1901-5.		1906-10.		1911.		1912.		1913.		1914.		1915.	
	No.	Rate.	Aver. No. per year.	Rate.	Aver. No. per year.	Rate.	Aver. No. per year.	Rate.	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.
Woolwich Parish :	—	2.80	92	2.23	89	2.15	56	1.46	66	1.80	48	1.30	61	1.58	76	1.99	72	1.84
Plumstead { West	—	1.78	92	1.42	97	1.34	87	1.20	W 41	1.02	31	0.76	66	1.56	51	1.21	67	1.55
Plumstead { East									E 33	1.07	37	1.18	40	1.23	32	1.00	52	1.52
Eltham Parish ..	—	—	9	1.28	6	0.63	8	0.64	6	0.45	8	0.57	15	1.02	4	0.28	10	0.60
The Borough ..	—	—	193	1.74	192	1.56	151	1.22	146	1.20	124	1.01	182	1.42	163	1.27	201	1.49
LONDON	—	1.88	—	1.80	—	1.57	—	1.33	—	1.32	—	1.34	—	1.30	—	1.39	—	1.50

59. There was a marked decrease last year of deaths from tuberculosis other than pulmonary.

60. 125 of those who died from phthisis were males, and 76 females. The increase of deaths has been greater among males than among females.

Notification Statistics. 489 cases were notified (excluding second notifications), viz. :—Tubercle of lung, 420 ; tuberculous meningitis, 11 ; tuberculosis of the intestines and peritoneum, 3 ; other forms, 55.

The 420 cases of phthisis compare with 375, 689, 532, and 400 in the four preceding years. 28 of these were in the Woolwich and Eltham Poor Law Infirmaries ; 2 others were notified by the District Medical Officers of the Poor Law Union, 79 by the Medical Officers of the Royal Arsenal and Army, 169 from hospitals and dispensaries, including 143 from the Woolwich Tuberculosis Dispensary, 8 from School Medical Officers, and the remainder by private medical practitioners.

£28 19s. 0d. was paid during the year for the notification of tuberculosis.

Duration. Of the 489 cases notified during 1915, at least 114 have since died, and of 498 cases notified during 1914 at least 145 have since died (February, 1915).

61. The source of infection of the notified cases was probably as follows :—

Family or Personal :—Father, 10 ; Mother, 12 ; brother,						
7 ; sister, 9 ; husband, 5 ; members of family (not						
defined), 40	..	..	..	..	..	83
Workshop and Office	..	..	..	..	..	9
Navy and Army	..	..	..	..	..	67
Undetermined	..	..	..	..	..	330

62. *Age and Sex Distribution.* The following table, required by the Local Government Board, gives the age and sex distribution of pulmonary and non-pulmonary cases, and shows also the source of notification :—

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF WOOLWICH.
PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1912.
Summary of Notifications during the year 1915.

	Number of Notifications on Form A. from Private Medical Practitioners.												Number of Notifications on Form B. from School Medical Officers.				Number of Notifications Form C.			
Age Periods.	Primary Notifications.												Total Notifications, <i>i.e.</i> , including cases previously notified by other doctors.	Primary Notifications.				Total Notifications, <i>i.e.</i> , including cases previously notified by other doctors.	Poor Law Institutions.	Sanatoria.
	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and upwards.	Total.		Under 5.	5 to 10	10 to 15	Total.			
Pulmonary Males	2	2	26	9	25	31	52	63	28	16	4	258	280	—	1	2	3	3	35	66
„ Females	2	5	17	20	13	14	27	30	18	9	—	155	168	1	—	3	4	5	18	51
Non-Pulmonary Males	4	8	11	6	2	3	1	1	—	—	—	36	38	1	1	2	4	6	3	6
„ Females	—	7	10	4	2	1	2	1	—	—	—	27	27	—	—	2	2	2	5	7
Total ..	8	22	64	39	42	49	82	95	46	25	4	476	513	2	2	9	13	16	61	130

63. *Visiting.* Cases notified by the Tuberculosis Dispensary are visited by the Dispensary Medical Officers and Nurses, and full particulars provided to the Public Health Department, which follows up any sanitary defects reported. Other cases (except where the social conditions are exceptionally favourable) are visited by the Medical Officer of Health, or one of the Sanitary Inspectors, instructions as to precautions and open-air treatment given, and examination of contacts advised. Printed instructions are sent to every notified case. Advice and assistance is given as to sanatorium treatment. Revisits of such cases as most need it are made by the Health Visitor. Cases returning from sanatoria are notified to the medical practitioners under whose care they were before going to the sanatorium. If it was a private practitioner he is asked if he proposes to keep the patient under observation for after-care ; if not, the case is referred to the Tuberculosis Dispensary. In this way it is attempted to secure that all cases shall have after-care, that the advantage of sanatorium treatment is not lost, that the lessons learnt at sanatoria are practised as much as possible at home, and that the patient is not discouraged by initial difficulties.

64. *Bacteriological Diagnosis.* Sputum from 254 cases of suspected phthisis was examined at the Seamen's Hospital and tubercle bacilli were found in 50 cases. The number of examinations for the five preceding years was 210, 191, 151, 231, and 273 respectively. In addition, the Medical Officer examined 515 specimens of sputum at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, 73 being found positive.

65. In my Annual Report for 1904 some figures were given as to the "Public-house as a Source of Infection" and "Chronic Tuberculosis in Children" (see page 50 of the Report).

66. Disinfection was performed by the Public Health Department at 243 premises, compared with 194, 247 and 166 in the three preceding years. Disinfection was performed after the death of the patient, and also after removal to hospital, sanatorium, or other occasion of the house or bedroom being vacated.

67. *Sanatorium Treatment.* Altogether 281 notified persons were admitted to some sanatorium or hospital for the treatment of tuberculosis, most of them being sent by the London Insurance Committee. The following table shows the number sent to the chief institutions :—

CASES ADMITTED AS IN-PATIENTS TO SANATORIA,
HOSPITALS, ETC., 1915.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Infirmary	43	24	67
Downs Sanatorium	41	—	41
Northern Hospital (Winchmore Hill)	1	27	28
Harpenden Sanatorium	3	7	10
Nayland Sanatorium	5	6	11
Treloar's Home, Alton	1	4	5
Herbert Hospital	56	—	56
East Anglian Sanatorium	—	5	5
Brompton Hospital	4	11	15
Carshalton Children's Hospital	3	3	6
All others	22	15	37
Total	179	102	281

68. *Shelters for Consumptives.* The use and provision of these shelters has been described in previous Reports. There are 13 shelters available. All were in use during the summer and autumn; 9 have been in use all through the winter. The use of 1 was discontinued on account of air raids. 5 are occupied by men and 4 by women.

They are lent at a small rent varying from 1s. 6d. to 3d. per week, according to means. Only those who have no source of income are now exempted from payment. The weekly call to collect the rent insures that the shelter is being used. Shelters were lent to 24 persons last year, 18 men, 4 women, 1 boy and 1 girl. 4 of these had the shelter free, 1 paid 3d., 16 paid 6d., 1 paid 9d., and 2, 1s. a week. Two have been occupied by married women for nearly four years. Most of the patients using shelters are now under the supervision of the Tuberculosis Dispensary.

3 bedsteads with bedding are also being lent to needy cases too poor to provide such.

69. *Tuberculosis Dispensary.* A Dispensary for the treatment of tuberculosis was opened in September, 1911.

The following is the summary of the work referring to the period 1st January to 31st December, 1915 :—

Insured persons treated	..	..	..	444
Uninsured	..	..	..	2,065

In attendance on January 1st, 1915 :—

TREATMENT.		OBSERVATION.	
Insured.	Uninsured.	Insured.	Uninsured.
163	424	29	407
Total attendances year ending Dec. 31st		..	13,086
Number of new patients examined		..	1,486
..	with definite pulmonary tuberculosis	..	235
..	with surgical tuberculosis	..	24
..	of suspect and observation cases	..	555
..	found non-tuberculous	..	672
..	of home visits of medical officers	..	2,739
..	 nurses	..	2,543
..	of sputum examinations	..	515
..	found positive	..	73
..	of children in 1,486 new cases	..	866
..	of contacts examined	..	719

The Medical Officer of Health acts as Administrative Tuberculosis Officer, and is a member of the Tuberculosis Dispensary Committee.

SCHEME FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

The Borough Council's scheme for the Treatment of Tuberculosis—particularly for the provision of a Tuberculosis Dispensary—was set out in the last Annual Report. Some difficulties arose as to the proposed agreements with the Tuberculosis Dispensary and the Dreadnought Hospital, and these have undergone some modification.

It is hoped that a complete understanding has now been arrived at and that the scheme will shortly receive the approval of the Local Government Board and the London County Council.

70. 4 spitting flasks were supplied at cost price (6d.), compared with 25, 20, 21, 20 and 9 in the previous five years.

TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE.

70A. Poor persons suffering from tuberculosis now receive attention from several bodies and officials. The number of these and the number of steps which are taken and inquiries made render the routine somewhat complicated.

Care Committees were originally started specially to help consumptive persons after returning from a sanatorium to continue to carry out the healthy life which had been inculcated at the sanatorium and to assist, if necessary, in providing necessary means of subsistence.

When the London County Council undertook the provision of sanatorium treatment for uninsured persons and decided

to assess those who were able to pay for such assistance it was found convenient to make the Care Committees the bodies responsible for such assessment and collection of contributions.

The Care Committee was constituted by the Tuberculosis Dispensary Committee in 1914, and now meets at the Dispensary every fortnight. It consists of members of the Tuberculosis Dispensary Committee, along with representatives of the County Council, Children's Care Committees, Invalid Children's Aid Association, and Borough Council. All cases treated at the Tuberculosis Dispensary which are recommended for sanatorium, or for other reasons require any material assistance, are considered by the Committee.

It is interesting to give a summary of the various steps in the way of assistance which accompany the provision of sanatorium treatment for the poor consumptive :

- (a) Notification to the Medical Officer of Health.
- (b) The Sanitary Inspector visits and obtains particulars as to institution treatment required or received, the home and sanitary conditions, cause of illness, and isolation.
- (c) The home contacts are referred to the Tuberculosis Dispensary, or their private doctor, for examination, with a view to discovering undetected cases of tuberculosis.
- (d) Occasional visit by the Medical Officer of Health and Woman Sanitary Inspector to see that open-air treatment and other necessary steps are being taken.
- (e) The Dispensary Medical Officer recommends the case to the L.C.C., through the Medical Officer of Health, for sanatorium treatment.

- (f) Form A (medical certificate) is filled up by the Dispensary Medical Officer and sent to the Medical Officer of Health. Form B (general environmental conditions) is filled up by a Sanitary Inspector, and both forms, together with a consent form in the case of children, are sent to the London County Council by the Medical Officer of Health.
- (g) The case is brought before the Care Committee, and a visitor is sent to obtain particulars of the financial circumstances and the special aid required.
- (h) The Care Committee considers the visitor's report, and assesses the contributions of the patient or friends towards the cost of treatment.
- (i) The case is sent to a sanatorium and returns.
- (j) Notice of discharge of patient from sanatorium is sent to the Medical Officer of Health by L.C.C., together with report of progress while at sanatorium and condition on discharge. A copy of this report is sent to the Tuberculosis Medical Officer or private doctor by the Medical Officer of Health, together with a request for a report on progress at intervals of three months, for transmission to the London County Council.
- (k) The case is again considered by the Care Committee as to after-care.

CANCER.

71. There were 121 deaths from cancer (malignant tumour), giving a death-rate of 0.90, compared with 0.88, 1.02, 0.97, 1.01 and 1.06 in the five preceding years. 50 of the deaths were in males and 71 in females; 58, or nearly

one-half, of the deaths were in persons over 65. The highest mortality was in West Plumstead. The London death-rate was 1.16. One-third of the deaths occurred in public institutions. Of the 121 deaths, 5 were from sarcoma and 116 from carcinoma.

72. The following table shows the sex and region affected in all cases of sarcoma for males and females :—

	SARCOMA.				Male.		Female.
Orbit	..	..	..	..	2	..	—
Lung	..	..	..	..	1	..	—
Colon	..	..	..	..	—	..	1
Ovary	..	..	..	..	—	..	1
					—		—
					3		2

73. The deaths from carcinoma have been classified under the organs affected, since 1903, and the following table shows the result for males and females respectively :—

CARCINOMA.

Males.

Seat of Primary Disease.	Aver. 1903-5	Aver. 1906-10	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915
Head and face	1.7	1.2	3	1	1	1	—
Mouth, jaw and tongue ..	4.0	4.8	5	6	7	11	7
Pharynx, œsophagus, larynx and neck	5.0	8.6	11	13	11	13	4
Pleura, lung, mediastinum	0.3	0.4	—	1	—	1	—
Stomach and Pylorus ..	5.3	10.4	8	10	6	4	18
Intestines (excluding rec- tum)	2.7	3.2	5	2	4	9	3
Rectum and anus	4.0	4.8	5	10	7	4	3
Peritoneum and omentum	0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Liver	8.0	6.4	8	7	6	9	5
Kidney and Bladder ..	—	1.6	2	1	2	1	3
Genital organs	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Prostate and external urinary	2.7	0.8	2	1	3	4	1
Pancreas	0.3	1.4	4	2	1	1	1
Pelvis and groin	0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Undefined	0.3	2.2	6	3	2	—	—
	35.3	45.8	59	58	50	58	47

Females.

Seat of Primary Disease.	Aver. 1903-5	Aver. 1906-10	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915
Head and face	0.7	1.4	1	1	1	—	—
Mouth and tongue	1.7	0.6	—	1	—	2	—
Pharynx, œsophagus, larynx, and neck	1.7	1.4	2	1	5	1	1
Pleura, lung, mediastinum	0.7	0.6	1	1	—	1	—
Stomach and Pylorus	5.7	7.6	7	5	9	10	14
Intestines (excluding rectum)	0.7	4.2	6	5	4	3	3
Rectum and anus	3.0	6.8	5	6	5	11	7
Liver	7.3	8.6	6	8	12	7	7
Peritoneum and omentum	0.3	0.4	1	1	—	—	—
Kidney and bladder	—	1.2	2	1	2	—	—
Genital organs	16.0	13.6	15	11	16	16	12
Breasts	9.7	8.6	9	11	11	18	19
Limbs	—	0.4	—	—	—	—	1
Pancreas	—	0.2	1	1	—	2	—
Pelvis and groin	0.7	—	—	—	—	1	—
Undefined	0.7	1.6	1	3	3	—	5
	48.9	57.2	57	56	68	72	69

Last year had the lowest cancer death-rate for five years, but the reduction was mainly confined to men. As compared with 1913, in men there was a decrease under carcinoma of the throat and intestines; and in both men and women an increase of cancer of the stomach.

Causes of Cancer. The special inquiry into the habits of persons suffering and dying from cancer since 1912 was continued. For the scope of this and the standards taken, see previous Annual Reports.

The following table shows the sex and age distribution of the cases investigated:—

	Under 50.	50-60.	60-70.	Over 70.	Total.
Males ..	24	42	46	23	135
Females ..	11	28	24	14	77
					212

The following gives the parts affected for males and females :—

CARCINOMA.

Cases Specially Investigated and Parts Affected.

Seat of Primary Disease.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Face, Mouth, Jaw and Tongue ..	31	7	38
Pharynx, Œsophagus, Larynx and Neck	32	4	36
Stomach and Pylorus	26	21	47
Intestines (excluding Rectum) ..	13	12	25
Rectum and Anus	16	16	32
Peritoneum and Omentum	—	1	1
Liver	8	4	12
Breasts	—	6	6
Uterus	—	4	4
Limbs	2	—	2
Kidney and Bladder	1	1	2
Prostate and External Urinary Organs.. .. .	2	—	2
Pancreas	3	1	4
Lung	1	—	1
	135	77	212

Cancer Cases. 65 of the patients were stated to be excessive users of alcohol, 19 took the standard quantity, and 116 below the standard. There were thus 32 per cent. of excessive alcohol drinkers.

82 smoked excessively, 16 consumed an average quantity of tobacco, and 101 below the average, giving 41 per cent. of excessive smokers.

58 were excessive tea drinkers, 81 moderate, and 46 small tea drinkers, giving 31 per cent. of excessive tea drinkers.

88 were large eaters, 71 moderate, and 39 small eaters, giving 44 per cent. large eaters.

59 were large meat eaters, 85 moderate, and 48 small meat eaters, giving 31 per cent. of large meat eaters.

117 had a daily action of the bowels, and 38 suffered from constipation, giving 75 per cent. of persons with a regular action.

Non-Cancer Cases. These figures may be compared with those obtained for 155 persons under similar circumstances *who did not die of cancer*. (For details of these, see Annual Report, 1915.)

Comparison. It will be seen that, comparing persons who suffer from cancer with those living at advanced ages or who died at advanced ages through other causes, the great differences are as to habits with respect to alcohol, smoke, and the action of the bowels, viz. :—

Cancerous persons had 32 per cent. of excessive alcohol users, 41 per cent. excessive smokers, and 25 per cent. of constipation. Non-cancerous persons living to a greater age had 14 per cent. of excessive alcohol users, 16 per cent. excessive smokers, and 17 per cent. of constipation.

The percentage of excessive alcohol drinkers and large smokers among those dying from cancer is more than twice as high as among other persons.

Mouth and Throat. These differences are still more marked with respect to alcohol and smoking if only those who died from cancer of the mouth and throat are considered. Of 68 persons dying from cancer of the lips, tongue, jaws, fauces, larynx, œsophagus and cervical glands, 31 (or 46 per cent.) took alcohol excessively, while 51 (or 75 per cent.) smoked excessively. 23 of these smoked chiefly a clay pipe, 16 a briar or other form of pipe, and 10 sometimes a clay and sometimes a briar, 2 cigarettes, and 2 cigars. There were only 4 out of the 21 cases of cancer of the mouth or tongue who did not smoke; 2 of these had bad teeth. Among the

non-cancer cases all the smokers smoked pipes (29 clay and 19 briar, and 3 both), except one, who smoked cigarettes. Of 134 cases with cancer of other parts than the mouth and throat, 34 (or 24 per cent.) took alcohol excessively, and 31 (or 22 per cent.) smoked excessively. It would appear, then, that both alcohol and smoking (especially alcohol) have some general effect in promoting cancer, but chiefly exert their injurious influence locally.

Of the 64 cases of cancer of the mouth and throat, 18 (or 28 per cent.) were excessive tea drinkers. Tea drinking does not seem to be specially injurious locally or generally as far as cancer is concerned. If the injurious effect of smoking were chiefly due to the local effect of heat one would have expected excessive drinking of hot tea to have had a similar bad result.

The following table gives the above results in tabular form :

	All Cancer Cases.	Cancer of Mouth and Throat.	Cancer of other Parts.	Control Cases (Non- Cancer).
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Excessive alcohol drinkers	32	46	24	14
„ smokers..	41	75	22	16
„ tea drinkers	31	28	34	31
Large eaters	44	—	—	49
„ meat eaters..	31	—	—	29
Constipation	25	—	—	17

42 cases had cancer of the stomach. Of these, 15 (or 35 per cent.) drank excessively, 16 (or 38 per cent.) were large eaters, and 11 (or 26 per cent.) were large meat eaters.

As regards cancer of the bowels, out of 46 persons dying from cancer of the intestines, 25 had a regular daily action, 20 had constipation, and 1 was not quite regular—*i.e.*, 43 per cent. had constipation. Thus constipation seems to pre-
ispose to cancer of the bowels.

ALCOHOLISM.

74. There were 7 deaths from alcoholism, 3 from peripheral neuritis, and 33 from cirrhosis of the liver, making a total of 43 deaths probably due to alcohol, compared with 23, 31, 23, 18 and 31 in the five preceding years. Of the 43 deaths, 17 were males and 26 females. As compared with 1913, the deaths show an increase of 6 males and 19 females. Excessive drinking among women, especially among wives receiving separation allowance, was noted by many observers. It is no doubt one cause of the increased infant mortality 11 deaths occurred in the first quarter of the year, 6 in the second, 12 in the third, and 14 in the fourth.

75. The death-rate from alcoholism, peripheral neuritis and cirrhosis of the liver was 0.32. Though higher than for 14 years, this rate is lower than it was from 1899-1901, during the South African War.

SYPHILIS.

76. There were 3 deaths from syphilis, compared with 7, 6, 3, 9 and 9 in the five preceding years. All of these occurred in public institutions. All were infants under one year. There were, in addition, 27 deaths from general paralysis, tabes dorsalis (locomotor-ataxy), and aneurism, diseases which are considered to be due to syphilis, compared with 25, 30, 29 and 23 in the four preceding years. These figures are far from representing the total mortality caused by venereal disease. Many of the deaths from epilepsy, premature birth, congenital debility, and diseases of the brain, heart, blood-vessels and other organs are due to this cause. Private practitioners—for obvious reasons—rarely certify a death as due to venereal disease, so that the total amount of mortality from this cause can only be guessed at.

For the purpose of instructing patients and the public generally as to the prevention of venereal disease, a card of instruction has been issued to the local medical men for distribution to their patients. The instructions are similar to those used in the Army and by Dr. Mott, Pathologist to the London County Council Asylums.

Arrangements have also been made with the Pathological Department of the Seamen's Hospital to make bacteriological examination at the public expense for the diagnosis of syphilis on the request of medical practitioners. No request was received during the year.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

(Inflammation of the Eyes of the New-born. The bad cases are usually due to Venereal Disease in a Parent).

77. Notification of this disease is compulsory on medical men under the Public Health (London) Act, and on midwives under an L.G.B. Order. Midwives are paid 1s. for each case notified.

19 cases were notified, compared with 14 and 18 in the two preceding years. The case rate was 0.14 in Woolwich and 0.12 in London. One case was removed to hospital and two were treated as hospital out-patients. The others were all reported to be receiving effectual treatment at home. The district nurses attended seven.

PART II.

ADMINISTRATION.

WATER SUPPLY.

1. *Plumstead Well.* Dr. Houston reports that on February 22nd this water contained no typical bacillus coli in 100 c.c. The chemical sample collected on the same date showed :—

Albuminoid Nitrogen	..	..	·0017
Oxidised Nitrogen	..	..	·78
Chlorine	..	..	5·40
Oxygen abs. from Perm.	..	..	·0082

Houses with Water Supply outside the House. A report on this subject was contained in the Annual Report for 1912.

2. *Water Supply in Tenement Houses.* Under London County Council (General Powers) Act an additional supply was required and provided at seven houses last year, making a total of 78 houses in the eight years, 1908-1915. 34 of these houses were in the Dockyard and St. Mary's Wards, 16 in River Ward, 26 in St. George's Ward, and 2 in Eltham. There were three prosecutions in 1909, which were recorded in full in the Annual Report for that year.

3. Defective and foul storage cisterns were found and remedied at 40 houses, compared with 55, 33, and 93, in the three preceding years. At 24 houses the supply was found insufficient or temporarily cut off, and the necessary steps taken for obtaining a proper supply.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

4. 495 samples were submitted to the Public Analyst, and 39, or 7·9 per cent., were found to be adulterated, compared with 3·3, 4·6, 2·7, 5·6 and 7·3 in the five preceding years, and 8·4 in the Metropolis in 1912. The average of the five years 1904-08 was 6·3.

107 of the samples taken were informal. 6 of these were found to be adulterated.

5. Proceedings were taken in 33 cases ; fines were inflicted in 22. In 7 there was proof of warranty ; in one, costs were given against the defendant ; and 2 were dismissed. One of the cases was dismissed because the place of delivery was held not to be in the Borough.

6. A total of £24 13s. 0d. was imposed in fines, and £19 12s. 6d. in costs.

7. 330 of the samples were fresh milk. 33 of these, or 10 per cent., were adulterated, compared with 4·8, 7·2, 3·5, 7·9 and 9·7 in the five preceding years.

55 samples were bought as butter, and 2 were found to be adulterated.

Table XIII. shows the other 110 articles analysed. 4 of these were found to be adulterated, viz., 2 samples of preserved cream, 1 of condensed milk and 1 of vinegar.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK AND CREAM) REGULATIONS 1912.

8. The following tabular statement shows the work done under these regulations, which forbid the adding of preservatives to milk and require the amount in cream to be declared on a label.

1. Milk ; and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream :—

	(a) Number of samples examined for the presence of a preservative.	(b) Number in which a preservative was reported to be present.
Milk ..	330	0

2. Cream sold as Preserved Cream :—

(a) Instances in which samples were submitted for analysis to ascertain if the statements on the label as to preservatives were correct :—

(i.) Correct statements made .. 5

(ii.) Statements incorrect .. 2

(b) Determinations made of milk fat in cream sold as preserved cream :—

(i.) Above 35 per cent. .. 7

(ii.) Below 35 per cent. .. 0

(c) Instances where (apart from analysis) the requirements as to labelling or declaration of preserved cream in Article V. (1) and the proviso in Article V. (2) of the Regulations are not observed—2.

(N.B.—The label was not fixed on the jar containing the cream.)

3. Thickening substances. No evidence of their addition to cream or to preserved cream.

4. No other observations.

9. Of the 33 adulterated milk samples for which proceedings were taken the adulteration varied from 4.36 to 22.23 per cent. of added water, and from 3.33 to 29.33 per cent. deficiency in fat.

The fines varied from 2s. 6d. to £4.

The higher percentage of adulteration found in the last two years is no doubt evidence not of lower trade morality but of more successful sampling and enforcement of the Food and Drugs Acts.

21 samples were taken in course of delivery of which 18 were taken on arrival at Railway Stations; 3 of the latter were found adulterated.

Informal Samples. The reasons for taking informal samples were detailed in my 1913 Annual Report. 107 such samples were taken in 1914 and 6 were found adulterated.

10. A record is kept of all analyses of milk made by the Public Analyst. The average percentage of fat in unadulterated samples has been found to be the same each year, viz., 3.68, and of non-fatty solids, 8.79 per cent.

FOOD AND PATRIOTISM.

11. A leaflet with this title was printed and circulated with the object of showing how a hygienic and nourishing diet could be supplied at a low cost.

FOOD INSPECTION.

12. The inspection of meat and other food received the usual attention. Inspector Shaw made special inspection of the slaughter-houses.

There were 61 surrenders of unsound food, including 320 lbs. of tuberculous beef and 2,281 lbs. of black spotted lamb. A full list is given in Table XV.

FOOD POISONING.

Five persons were taken ill in August after eating sausages. The symptoms were pain, diarrhoea and vomiting, and commenced from 12 to 24 hours after taking the sausages. The sausages were cooked directly they

were purchased, none were left over, so that no analysis could be made. The source was traced and the place of preparation inspected. It was in a dirty condition and swarming with flies. Inquiries were made, but no other cases were discovered. It seems probable that small portions of the sausages made were contaminated at the butchers by some carrier, perhaps flies. The cases were notified as zymotic enteritis. The sanitary conditions of the butcher's premises have since been much improved.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

13. On January 1st, 1915, there were 109 milkshops on the register ; 6 were added, and 10 removed, during the year, leaving a total of 105 on the register at the close of 1915. There were 171 inspections made, and 16 notices served. There were no prosecutions.

Three purveyors gave up selling milk on getting work in the Arsenal and 2 because, having been convicted of retailing adulterated milk, they came to the conclusion that the risks of the business were greater than its profits.

Owing to the steps taken by the Health Department requiring persons not to sell milk in unsuitable general shops the number of milkshops has been reduced from 196 to 105 in the eleven years 1905-15.

During 1915, 2 applications for registration were refused. The requirements of the Health Department for securing the purity of milk were detailed in the 1912 Annual Report.

14. No cowshed was closed and none opened, leaving 16 on the register. There were 54 inspections, and 6 notices were served for dirty conditions, etc.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

15. The number of slaughter-houses on the register remained the same, viz., 10. 40 inspections were made, and 5 notices served and complied with.

NUISANCES (*see* Table VIII.).

16. 614 complaints of sanitary defects were received and investigated, compared with 361, 441, and 454 in the three preceding years.

43 complaints of non-removal of dust were made and attended to, compared with 29, 38, and 55 in the three preceding years. 11 of the dust complaints came from Woolwich Parish, 21 from Plumstead, and 11 from Eltham.

The dust in Woolwich is collected by your Council's employees, but that in Plumstead and Eltham by contractors, Messrs. Tuff & Hoar.

17. *Drains and Water-Closets.* 26 defective combined drains were investigated and reported upon by the Chief Sanitary Inspector, compared with 16, 7, and 12, in the three preceding years. These drains affected 143 houses.

475 private drains, found choked and defective, were examined, cleared, and relaid, compared with 399, 448, and 450 in the three preceding years. The largest number, 107, was found in St. Nicholas Ward.

843 water-closets and w.c. cisterns were repaired, compared with 890, 785, and 782, in the three preceding years. 255 foul w.c. pans were cleansed by tenants, compared with 238, 209, and 181 in the three preceding years.

18. *House Inspection.* 4,707 houses were inspected, house to house, compared with 5,830, 5,489, and 4,538, in the

three preceding years; 7,707 were inspected *re* infectious diseases and complaints, compared with 6,678, 6,516, and 7,267. In addition to these, 576 inspections of registered houses were made.

19. At 2,703 houses, interiors were cleansed, or defective roofs repaired, compared with 2,206, 2,620, and 2,337 in the three preceding years. 646 houses with damp walls were remedied, compared with 571, 629 and 393 in the three preceding years.

Improved ventilation was provided in 55 houses, compared with 62, 41, and 55 in the three preceding years.

561 new dust pails were supplied, compared with 525, 545, and 474 in the three preceding years.

20. *Medical Officer's Special Inspections.* These amounted to a total of 547. 31 inspections were made of cowsheds and milkshops, 42 of bakehouses, 28 of factories and workshops, 61 inspections were on account of tuberculosis, 66 cancer, 7 diphtheria, 21 scarlet fever, 21 cerebro-spinal meningitis, and 14 other infectious diseases. Many of these visits were made by request of the medical attendants for the purpose of diagnosing doubtful cases of infectious disease. Other visits *re* infectious disease were made at the request of school teachers and others. 150 premises were inspected *re* housing conditions. Special inspections were made of Ann Street, Palmerston Road, Francis Street and Ogilby Street, and of all the houses reported as unfit for human habitation.

21. *Overcrowding.* 97 cases of overcrowding were found and remedied, compared with 91, 101, and 93, in the three preceding years. The overcrowding was 2.1 per cent. of house-to-house inspections, compared with 1.6, 1.8 and 2.0

per cent. in the three preceding years. Three persons were convicted of allowing overcrowding and fines of 10s. and 5s. inflicted, with costs of £2 2s. 0d. in one case.

The overcrowding is less than might have been expected, but it must be remembered that overcrowding depends on two factors, lack of housing accommodation and inability to pay rent. While the former is acute the latter is almost absent and consequently the majority of occupiers keep their rooms to themselves and do not sub-let.

22. *Smoke Nuisance.* 44 observations *re* smoke nuisance were made, and 6 nuisances of black smoke observed. The nuisances were abated on service of notices.

There was no prosecution.

Considerable nuisance occurred from smoke at one of the Dockyard chimneys. An undertaking was given by the officer responsible to abate it.

5 complaints of smoke nuisance were received from the London County Council. These related to the Electric Light Works, Globe Lane and White Hart Lane, Woolwich and Plumstead Baths.

23. *Defective Light.* At 62 houses new windows were supplied or existing ones enlarged, or other work done to improve the lighting by daylight, compared with 38 in 1914.

24. *Verminous Rooms.* 198 verminous rooms were cleansed under the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1904, or were dealt with as dirty rooms under the Nuisance Section of the Public Health (London) Act, compared with 248, 214, 220, and 122, in the four preceding years.

DUST REMOVAL.

25. The collection of dust is weekly throughout the Borough, with the following exceptions ; in Plumstead there is a collection twice a week from houses in Plumstead Road and High Street ; in Woolwich Parish there is a collection twice a week at High Street flats (40 houses) and Ropeyard Rails (8 houses), and a collection two or three times a week at several large business premises and public buildings (about 57).

In Woolwich Parish, 7,322 loads of house refuse, and 416 loads of inoffensive trade refuse were removed by direct labour, and destroyed at the Woolwich Destructor. In the three preceding years, 5,866, 6,058, and 5,160 loads of house refuse respectively were removed.

In Plumstead, 18,344 loads of house refuse, weighing 16,142 tons were removed by the Contractors, Messrs Tuff and Hoar, and destroyed at the Plumstead Destructor.

In addition, 1,080 loads of trade refuse weighing 648 tons were removed to the Plumstead Destructor and destroyed (the contractors removed 300 loads and were paid for the removal by the tradesmen at the rate of 1s. 6d. per load). £3,043 14s. 4d. was paid for collection in Plumstead, compared with £2,929 5s. 8d. in 1914.

In Eltham, the sum of £953 4s. 0d. (£860 in 1914) was paid to the contractors for removal of dust. 71 loads of trade refuse were removed at the tradesmen's cost.

TRADE REFUSE.

26. During the past year there have been 2,076 (1,709 in 1914) receptacles of offensive trade refuse removed. There are now 24 (12 in 1914) tradesmen on the books from whom

offensive trade refuse is removed. Certain manure manufacturers recently collected offensive trade refuse free of charge, but this collection has now ceased.

The charge made for inoffensive refuse is 2s. per load (raised from 1s. 6d. in April, 1916), and for offensive refuse at the rate of 3d. per receptacle, charged per quarter in advance on the amount collected in the previous quarter.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACTS.

27. 16 houses were dealt with under the Housing Act, compared with 18, 52, and 18, in the three previous years. Two notices were served under Section 15; Closing Orders were served for 9 houses and 4 underground rooms, and 1 house was closed by the owners without notice. The work required was done at 7 houses and demolition orders have been made for 4.

The procedure usually adopted and the requirements made of the owners before allowing a house to be re-occupied were detailed in the 1914 report.

The following table summarises the action taken:—

Number of houses inspected <i>re</i> Housing and Town Planning Act	4,707
Dwelling-houses considered on inspection to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	11
Number of representations made to Borough Council under Section 17 (2) with a view to making of Closing Orders	11
Number of Closing Orders made	9
Number of dwelling-houses remedied without making Closing Order	1

Number of dwelling-houses put into fit state for human habitation after making Closing Order ..	6
Number of dwelling-houses closed in 1914, demolished by Orders made in 1915	—
The following are the 11 houses represented :—	

33 and 35, Barnfield Road.
 5, 6 and 7, Globe Lane.
 37, 39, 41 and 43, Abbey Grove.
 33, Red Lion Lane.
 3, Scott's Place.

HOUSES—INSUFFICIENCY.

GOVERNMENT HOUSING SCHEME.

28. In October, 1913, I reported that there was a very great demand for working-class houses in the Borough, and that the demand was not being met by the supply.

In response to the request of a deputation of the Borough Council following that report, the Government has erected 1,200 new houses at Well Hall. This was done with unexampled celerity, and on a plan which in variety, beauty and convenience probably constitutes a record in State housing, and will compare favourably with any garden suburb yet built.

The report on the house famine was made in December, the deputation was received in January, and in February the ground was laid out and the houses were going up. Not half of them were finished, however, by July, so that the increase of population in the second half of the year was much greater than in the first half.

The houses comprise :—

212 flats	of 3 rooms	at rents of	7s. 0d. to	7s. 6d.	per week.
613 houses	„ 4	„	„	10s. 0d. to 11s. 6d.	„
358	„ 5	„	„	12s. 0d. to 14s. 0d.	„
113	„ 6	„	„	14s. 6d. to 16s. 6d.	„

Number of houses to the acre—13.

The houses are arranged in a great variety of design, including semi-detached blocks and blocks up to groups of 15. The blocks are variously grouped so as to afford a maximum of light and air.

In addition to the Well Hall houses the Government has erected or are erecting 1,904 temporary four-roomed huts which constitute self-contained houses for one family. These are situated in East Plumstead and at Eltham adjoining the Corbett Estate. Six hostels are also erected or in course of construction. 1,460 of the huts are in Eltham.

Comparatively few new houses have been supplied by private enterprise, but in spite of the excessive cost of materials there has been some increase of building in East Plumstead. The houses built are all for sale, so that they only appeal to the more affluent of the workers.

Government Buildings occupied by Civilians. In addition to the new houses in Eltham, and the newly erected huts in Eltham and Plumstead, the married quarters in Artillery Place and some huts erected for soldiers on Bostall Heath are or have been occupied by civilian munition workers. It was arranged with the Chief Superintendent of the Royal Arsenal and the Assistant Director of Medical Service that these should be under the sanitary supervision of the Public Health Department. Notices of sanitary defects are sent to the Chief Superintendent and attended to by the Building Works Department.

HOUSING IN ST. NICHOLAS WARD.

29. Mr. Little inspected 3,029 houses in St. Nicholas Ward during the last two years and has tabulated the results

according to number of rooms occupied. The figures work out at 5.46 persons to a house and slightly over one person to a room. The following are the total figures.

No. of houses	No. of rooms	Number of Persons living in Tenements of ;—							More than 7 rooms	Total
		1 room	2 rooms	3 rooms	4 rooms	5 rooms	6 rooms	7 rooms		
3,029	15,653	63	759	4,005	3,862	5,124	1,763	678	107	16,361

30. *Council's Houses.* All the Council's 25 houses in North Woolwich were occupied throughout the year with the exception of two which were vacant for one week.

All of the Council's 9 houses in Gossage, Park, and Parkdale Roads, which are under the care of the Health Committee, were occupied throughout the year.

HOUSES REGISTERED UNDER THE BY-LAWS.

31. At the commencement of the year, 418 houses were on the register, 5 were newly registered, and 3 taken off the register, leaving 420 on the register at the close of the year, compared with 409, 429, 432, 432, and 432, in each of the five preceding years.

32. These houses were inspected, some quarterly, others half-yearly or yearly. 576 inspections were made in all, and 259 notices served. Two occupiers were summoned for overcrowding. Fines of 5s. and 10s. respectively were inflicted.

The registered houses were under the care of Inspector Shaw.

The houses were situated as follows :—

River Ward, North	..	..	22
do. South	..	..	105
St. Mary's	..	..	35
Dockyard	..	..	67
St. George's	..	..	57
Herbert	..	..	4
Burrage	..	..	25
St. Margaret's	..	..	16
Central	..	..	3
Glyndon	..	..	18
St. Nicholas	..	..	68

The following are the particulars of the inspections made :

Houses Let in Lodgings.

Total number on register	..	..	..	..	420
Number of inspections	..	..	..	..	576
„ found unsatisfactory	..	..	..	..	365
„ found satisfactory	..	..	..	..	211
„ of notices served	..	..	..	..	259
„ of nuisances, defects and offences against the by-laws, dealt with and remedied	..	..	..	..	347
„ of cases of overcrowding remedied by redistribu- tion without notice	..	..	..	..	14
„ of houses measured	..	..	..	..	5

Notices.

On Owners for Cleansing (under P.H.L. Act)	..	..	140
On Tenants for Cleansing (under By-laws)	..	..	55
On Landlords for Overcrowding	..	..	11
On Tenants for Overcrowding	..	..	14
On Landlords and Tenants for other defects	..	..	95
On Landlords and Tenants for Verminous Rooms	..	..	24
Verbal Notices on Tenants for Cleansing—carried out	..	..	81

INHABITED HOUSE DUTY.

33. A certificate under the Inland Revenue Act was granted for the house, 6, Ripon Road, Plumstead, containing four separate flats on two floors.

UNDERGROUND ROOMS.

34. Nine underground rooms occupied for sleeping were found not in accordance with the regulations made under Section 17, Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act. Four Closing Orders were made and the occupation of five rooms for sleeping was stopped on service of notice.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES.

35. There were, at the close of the year, 197 (201 in 1914) workshops on the register. 390 inspections were made and 22 notices served and complied with. 149 (96 in 1914) inspections of factories were made regarding sanitary accommodation, and 37 (15 in 1914) notices served and complied with. 369 (490 in 1914) inspections of homeworkers' premises were made and 9 (14 in 1914) notices sent and attended to. Table X. gives full particulars of the work done under Section 107, Factory Act.

Miss Middlebrooke devoted a large amount of her time to the inspection of workshops, factories, and houses where women are employed ; 17 new workrooms were measured up and put on the register. Seven matters under the Factory Act were reported to H.M. Inspector, including three failures to affix abstracts of the Factory Act.

BAKEHOUSES.

36. The number of factory bakehouses is 9, and of workshop bakehouses in use is 36, 11 of the latter being underground. They were all inspected twice. I inspected most of them personally, and found them generally satisfactory. 14 certified underground bakehouses are not in use.

ICE-CREAM SHOPS.

37. 87 Ice-cream shops were on the register at the close of the year, compared with 89, 82, and 83, in the three previous years. 5 were added and one removed during the year. There were 124 inspections made and 6 notices served. Regulations, embodying the provisions for premises where food is sold, contained in the London County Council (General Powers) Act, are distributed at every shop on the register. The shops are inspected in April, June, and August, by Inspector Potter.

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

38. There are 39 fried fish shops in the Borough. These were all inspected one or more times. 34 were found to comply with the L.C.C. regulations (*see* Annual Report, 1914). 5 notices were served.

DISINFECTION.

39. The mode of disinfection, cost of appliances, staff, etc., were fully described in my Annual Report, 1903, pages 73-76. Rooms at 1,252 houses were disinfected in 1915, compared with 1,195, 1,278, and 1,344 in the three preceding years.

The disinfecting apparatus was used 1,252 times for 27,544 articles after infectious disease and 76 times for special disinfection.

Books from the Free Libraries and Public Schools were disinfected.

The sum of £63 13s. 6d. was received for disinfection in special cases on request of the occupier.

A large quantity of horsehair was disinfected for the Army Ordnance Store Department, for the sum of £8 6s. 6d.

Disinfectants are supplied by the Department for disinfecting infected soiled linen, infected stools, sputa in phthisis, for personal use in infectious disease, and for use by the contractor in dust receptacles. They are dispensed at the Maxey Road Depot (145 persons supplied in 1915), the Sun Street Mortuary (31 persons supplied), 14, Barge House Road, North Woolwich (31 persons supplied), and at 144A, High Street, Eltham (25 persons supplied). The cost of disinfectants used by the Department in 1915 was £42 8s. 6d.

The disinfectants used were Corrosive Sublimate ; Sulphur and Formalin (for fumigation) ; Formaldehyde (for spraying and disinfecting books, and for use in the Mortuary) ; Cyllin (for summer diarrhoea, and sputa in phthisis) ; Permanganate of Potash. The use of disinfecting powder for dust pails has now been discontinued, and the practice of cleansing the receptacles recommended ; nearly £50 was saved last year in this way without any prejudice to the public health.

HEALTH SHELTER.

40. The Health Shelter was not used during 1915. It was used once in 1914 and twice in 1906. In view of the small demand for it, the upper of the two flats was let in 1908, and was occupied until September, 1914, on a weekly tenancy. The flat from that date was kept empty until October, 1915, in view of the possibility of an outbreak of small-pox or other epidemic during the war. The flat was re-let on October 11th, 1915, at a weekly rental of 8s.

THE MORTUARIES.

41. The Sun Street Mortuary was used for 277 bodies, compared with 143, 179, and 189, in the three preceding years. 255 were deposited for inquest, and 22 for custody. 148

post-mortem examinations were made. 1 body was deposited in the infectious mortuary, compared with 4, 3, and 2 in the three preceding years.

The Eltham Mortuary was used for three bodies compared with 5 in 1912, 2 in 1913, and 1 in 1914.

CEMETERIES.

42. The two Borough Cemeteries were well maintained and no complaint was received. 720 bodies were buried in Woolwich Cemetery, compared with 540, 627, and 667 in the three previous years. There were 834 interments in the Plumstead Cemetery, compared with 602, 764, and 842 in the three previous years. 46 burials took place in Plumstead Churchyard, compared with 47, 60, 34, and 51 in the four preceding years.

CLEANSING OF VERMINOUS PERSONS.

43. The station for cleansing verminous persons was opened in November, 1906. During 1915 it was used by 954 persons, compared with 590, 509, 430, 651, and 811 in the five preceding years. The users were 88 adults (viz., 16 females and 72 males) and 866 children (viz., 551 females and 315 males).

6,654 articles were disinfected. The adults came mainly from common lodging-houses, and the children from County Council Schools.

An agreement was entered into with the London County Council, dated August 21st, 1911, to allow the London County Council to use the Borough Council Cleansing Station for cleansing school children. The Station is reserved for school children on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, between 9 a.m. and 4.30 p.m., girls being cleansed between 9 and 1,

and boys in the afternoon. The Borough Council must properly cleanse the children and their clothes to the reasonable satisfaction of the London County Council, the children cleansed not to exceed 10 in one day or 20 in one week.

The Borough Council for this purpose employs a female attendant for the three days, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, at a cost of 4s. per day.

£37 4s. 0d. was paid by the London County Council for the school children cleansed last year.

The cleansing of children is supervised by a school nurse.

The Station was found inadequate for its purpose, especially as regards water-closet accommodation. It was extended during 1912 by the provision of another bath, and 2 closets, according to plans prepared by the Borough Engineer.

A box of stavesacre ointment is supplied to each bather, with instructions for its use. The names and addresses of bathers are entered in a book, and the Lady Inspector calls at the homes and arranges for necessary disinfection and cleansing of verminous bedding and rooms.

The County Council, until this year, paid the Borough Council at the rate of 2s. for each child cleansed, such payment to cover any number of cleansings during one month.

Experience has shown that the number of re-cleansings required is greater than was expected, and the payment was found to be inadequate, besides involving complicated accounts for the children who needed repeated cleansings. On the representation of the Borough Council the County Council has now agreed to make payment at the rate of 1s. for every cleansing, with a minimum payment during the year of £63, which will be much simpler and more satisfactory.

TENTS, VANS, AND SHEDS.

44. During the year 48 tents, vans, and sheds were inspected (6 in 1914), and one notice served under the By-laws for this class of dwelling. 41 were in Eltham and 5 in St. Margaret's Ward.

NOTICES AND PROSECUTIONS.

45. 3,386 written intimation notices and 773 statutory notices were served. 106 of the latter, not having been complied with in the time specified, were referred to the Town Clerk, who, before taking proceedings, wrote a warning letter in each case. Finally, 28 defaulters were summoned at the Police Court. This is the largest number of prosecutions instituted in one year. The results are given in TableXII. Convictions were obtained and orders made in every case.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

46. The Council's bacteriological work is done by the Bacteriological Department of the Seamen's Hospital.

1,050 bacteriological examinations were made for the Public Health Department, viz., 776 for diphtheria, 254 for phthisis, and 20 for enteric fever. The total cost was £156 13s. 0d., compared with £186 7s. 6d. in 1914.

INFANT CONSULTATION.

47. The consultation for mothers and infants continued to be held every Wednesday afternoon in two rooms at the Town Hall. Mothers bring their infants for advice and weighing between 2.30 and 4 p.m. Miss FitzGerald and the Medical Officer of Health attended and were assisted by a voluntary worker. Infants under one year and children from one to five are received as far as the Medical Officer of Health can find time. The Consultation was attended last

year by 946 infants, compared with 460, 863, 1,408, and 1,196 in the three previous years. For particulars see Miss FitzGerald's report.

48. *Maternity and Child Welfare.* In 1914 the Local Government Board suggested that local authorities should carry out a complete scheme for maternity and child welfare embracing :—

- (1) The local supervision of midwives.
- (2) An ante-natal clinic for expectant mothers with home visiting and the provision of a maternity hospital.
- (3) By assistance to ensure skilled and prompt attendance at birth.
- (4) By an infant consultation for infants and children up to school age.

Numbers 1 and 3 are in the province of the London County Council which is the supervisory authority for midwives.

As regards (2), at the suggestion of the Local Government Board arrangements were made by the Borough Council with the British Hospital for Mothers and Babies to establish an ante-natal clinic, the Hospital providing the services of a medical woman together with an experienced member of its nursing staff and the Borough Council supplying the rooms and the necessary appliances.

An ante-natal clinic on these lines was commenced in the rooms used by the infant consultation at the end of November and it has continued to work satisfactorily. The midwives and doctors of the district were circularised inviting them to send their patients to the clinic. The numbers so far attending have not been very large, but

are slowly increasing. A detailed account of the work will be given in the Annual Report for 1916. The Acting Medical Officer is Dr. Agnes M. Swanson.

Miss FitzGerald attends the clinic and does the home visiting which is necessary and the British Hospital provides hospital treatment where requisite.

One half of all expenses is repaid by the Treasury.

In order to carry out a proper child-welfare scheme I recommended that an assistant Medical Officer should be appointed to conduct the infant consultation at the existing centre and at an additional one to be instituted in East Plumstead, and that an additional woman inspector and health visitor should be appointed.

In view of the necessity of economy during the war no action has been taken as to the Medical Officer, but steps are now being taken to appoint an additional woman Inspector and Health Visitor. Two-thirds of the new officer's salary will be allotted for health visiting and one-third as Sanitary Inspector, and the Local Government Board have made themselves responsible for repaying one-half the amount allotted for health visiting.

WOMEN SANITARY INSPECTORS' WORK.

49. There are two Women Sanitary Inspectors, one of whom, Miss FitzGerald, is also a Health Visitor.

Miss Middlebrooke inspects workshops where women are employed, restaurants, and eating-houses, *re* kitchens, etc., public lavatories for women, houses where certain infectious diseases (*e.g.*, measles) occurred, and houses reported as being verminous or in a dirty condition. Special efforts are made to deal with verminous children, and for these efforts

to be successful it has been necessary to inspect the homes of such children, and arrange for the cleansing of those found to be verminous. Infested bedding at the homes is destroyed or disinfected.

Miss FitzGerald's duties comprise advising mothers as to the care of infants, and the prevention of infant mortality, visiting homes where phthisis exists, and notified cases of certain infectious diseases, as enteritis, measles, and ophthalmia neonatorum. During part of the year the services of an unpaid Health Visitor were obtained.

Miss Middlebrooke's report gives striking testimony to the improvement in the condition of homes resulting from increased wages. Her report is as follows :—

Women's Lavatories at Railway Stations, etc.

Number of Inspections	99
„ found dirty and defective	8

Restaurants and Eating-houses.

Number of Inspections	95
„ Defects and dirty conditions found and remedied	15

Factories and Workshops.

Number of Inspections of Factories and Workshops .. .	261
„ Notices served .. .	11
„ new workrooms measured .. .	17

Homeworkers' Premises.

Number of Inspections	369
„ Cases referred to District Inspectors .. .	9

Miscellaneous.

Total number of houses visited re Phthisis, Measles, Scabies, Whooping-Cough, and Zymotic Enteritis ..	49
--	----

Visits paid for various causes, complaints, etc.	443
„ verminous and dirty houses and bedding	878
Re-visits—estimated	1000
Cases where bedding was found to be in a dirty and verminous condition, and cleansed or destroyed	390
Total number of cases referred to District Inspectors	171
„ Early-morning Inspections	5
„ Overcrowding—cases found and abated	41
Notices served on tenants <i>re</i> dirty conditions	150
„ „ landlords and tenants—various	131

In reviewing the general aspect of the work during 1915, one comes to the conclusion that it has been of a most unusual nature. The frequent crowding together into one room of all the children, caused by the exceptional circumstances and expected air raids, could not be dealt with harshly. Reasoning with the parents as to the danger to health of this practice has generally induced an abatement of this special kind of overcrowding.

I have spent a good deal of time in connection with the Cleansing Station. It may be owing to war conditions that Scabies and Impetigo cases have been numerous. The explanation as to how school children are affected is not far to seek. Very often the mothers of the children take in soldiers' washing. The children fetch and return it, and so easily become infected. Verminous conditions are also produced in this way. When a definite case of the kind has come to our notice, the regimental Medical Officer has been communicated with, and the soldiers' clothes and bedding have been disinfected.

With our great increase of population the disinfecting officers and machinery have been kept extremely busy. It has therefore been expedient to reduce the number of beds

disinfected for verminous conditions. It is much more practical to get new bedding substituted where possible. Very little difficulty is experienced in getting parents to accomplish this instead of having to submit to the disgrace of the visit of the disinfecting van at the house for all the neighbourhood to see and comment upon.

With better financial conditions, many of the homes I almost despaired of have become improved almost beyond belief, which goes to prove very emphatically that if we want to eliminate the slum type of human being and the slum type of home, the surest and quickest way is to give the workman a good living wage. It is only natural that wives and mothers get tired of struggling against a tide of difficulties which every day threatens to engulf them. One endless struggle of boot-buying and repairing, clothes wanted, rent and coal to be paid for, the pawnbroker in possession of the bedding and spare clothing. With more wages coming in, all these difficulties disappear as if by magic, and the housewife begins to buy comforts for her family and home which never could have been afforded before. She gradually improves in health and spirits and is anxious to make her surroundings correspond with her own improvement.

50. The following is Miss FitzGerald's report :—

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Visits to houses after notification of births	1300
Re-visits	225
Visits <i>re</i> infant deaths	37
Domiciliary visits to children attending Consultation	304
Zymotic Enteritis cases investigated, including re-visits	201
Tuberculous cases	103
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	31
Ophthalmia (reported by schools)	12

Infants weighed at Consultation	946
Health Lectures given	4
Unsuccessful visits (occupiers absent from home) ..	750
Visits <i>re</i> dirty conditions	23
Visits not otherwise classified	96
Ante-Natal Clinic—attendances	5

Reported to District Inspectors :—

Contraventions of Housing Acts	3
Dirty interior walls	12
Other defects	28
Visits paid by pupils who did temporary health visiting under my supervision	547

The forecast that I ventured to make in my last Annual Report, that some rise in the infant death-rate might be expected as the result of the disturbed conditions through which the country is passing, has unhappily been fulfilled.

As a result of the increased prosperity in the Borough, the homes are better furnished, the provision of bedding is more satisfactory, and the children are better clothed. The infant death-rate, however, seems to be influenced more by the subtle factors of environment which are included in the term "good mother-craft." The marked drop in the attendances at the Infant Consultation which occurred directly the war broke out has continued through 1915. The number of attendances had been steadily rising year by year as the mothers learnt to value the opportunity of coming for advice and having their infants weighed regularly, and medically supervised. In 1913 the total attendances were 1,408, in 1914 only 1,196, with a very marked drop in the last five months of the year (war began on August 4th), and in 1915 they had fallen as low as 946. It seems as if distractions of some sort are preventing the mothers from taking the same

interest in the progress of their babies. Industrial occupation has not so far been a factor, but there are now indications that married women are going into the munitions factories in considerable numbers, and the effect of this on the welfare of their children has yet to be reckoned with. The excitements and alarms incidental to the country being in a state of war have, without doubt, acted prejudicially on the well-being of both mothers and children. I have not been able to obtain direct evidence as to the results of alcoholism of the mothers on the children, but there is little doubt that an increase in alcoholism amongst women has to some extent influenced the death-rate amongst infants.

In view of the foregoing it is well to be able to comment on the starting of the ante-natal clinic at the Town Hall on November 26th. We have now at last an opportunity of advising the mothers and supervising their health during pregnancy.

PUBLIC AMBULANCE.

51. The Woolwich Public Ambulance, for accidents and non-infectious illness, was used 97 times, compared with 147, 127, 150, and 120 in the four preceding years. The following were the journeys made :—

To Guy's Hospital	15
Cottage Hospitals	17
Seamen's and Miller Hospitals	17
King's Hospital	1
St. Thomas's	2
Union Infirmary	19
Other hospitals	7
Private houses	13
Asylums	6

There are now in the Borough three separate means of provision of ambulance service for accidents and non-infectious cases, viz. : (1) The London County Council ambulance, which is free for all places in the County, but only available for accident (anywhere) and for sudden illness in public places. (2) The Metropolitan Asylums Board ambulance, which is available for accidents and all cases of non-infectious illness. The charge is 10s. to a place within the Metropolis including the services of a male attendant. Outside the Metropolis, an additional charge of 1s. per mile is made. (3) The Woolwich Ambulance, Mr. Chick, Herbert Road. This can be used for all non-infectious cases and the charge is the same as cab fare except that a minimum charge is made of 2s. 6d.

It would thus appear that for accidents and sudden illness in the street the London County Council service offers both the cheapest and best means of conveyance to a hospital or other place. For illness occurring at home or in private places if the patient is to be conveyed a distance of ten miles, the Metropolitan Asylums Board ambulance would probably be the best means of conveyance. If, however, the distance is shorter than that, the Woolwich ambulance offers the cheapest mode of removal.

52. *Co-operation with the Royal Army Medical Corps and Royal Arsenal Medical Officers.* Co-operation with the Army Medical Officers of Medical Officers of Health was requested by the Local Government Board and willingly offered by your Medical Officer of Health. Information has been given and received with respect to billeting. All possible assistance has been given in disinfection of articles and premises. I have been repeatedly consulted by the Medical Officers of the Army and Royal Arsenal on sanitary matters and infectious diseases.

53. *Health Leaflets.* The following leaflets were issued by the Public Health Department during the year :—

Food and Patriotism, about 3,000 distributed.

Teeth and Diet, about 250 distributed.

Advice to Mothers (Ante-Natal), about 200 distributed.

How to Bring up a Baby, about 3,000 distributed.

Kill that Fly, about 1,000 distributed.

And 3,500 copies of "How to be Healthy," and instructions *re* infectious diseases.

STAFF.

54. The following changes were made in the duties of the staff :—

Mr. Collyer, clerk, joined the Army and a temporary female clerk was appointed to take his place. Miss Wheeler stayed only 12 weeks and was succeeded by Miss Saunders.

My sincere thanks are due to the Chief Sanitary Inspector and the Staff of the Department for their loyal co-operation. Three members of the clerical staff, Messrs. Britter, Collyer, and Prescott, have joined the Army (Mr. Britter obtaining a commission). The Sanitary Inspectors are all over the age for military service.

TABLE I.

BOROUGH OF WOOLWICH.

Vital Statistics of the whole District during 1915 and Previous Years.

Year.	Population Estimated to Middle of Each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-Residents Registered in the District.	Deaths of Residents Registered Beyond the District.	Net Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age.		At All Ages.					Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births Registered.	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1902	122505	3730	29.9	466	124	1678	13.7	278	43	208	1843	14.7
1903	123172	3691	30.0	399	106	1511	12.3	272	41	175	1637	13.3
1904	125791	3531	28.1	479	132	1636	13.0	261	40	169	1765	14.0
1905	125885	3549	28.2	366	103	1463	..	313	50	192	1605	12.7
1906	123644	3524	28.5	396	111	1530	..	293	48	183	1666	13.5
1907	123644	3295	26.5	372	111	1479	..	296	50	184	1613	13.0
1908	123644	3082	24.9	298	95	1374	..	333	60	170	1487	12.0
1909	123644	2937	23.8	240	82	1415	..	323	51	223	1585	12.8
1910	123644	2844	23.0	241	84	1296	..	314	42	156	1410	11.4
1911	121376	2814	23.2	273	98	1402	..	327	53	212	1561	12.8
1912	123311	2747	22.3	201	73	1249	..	297	42	196	1420	11.5
1913	125686	2876	22.5	229	80	1378	..	298	50	252	1580	12.3
1914	128556	2824	22.0	239	84	1505	..	369	61	246	1690	13.2
Average for Years 1902-14	124192	3188	25.6	323	99	1455	..	306	49	197	1605	12.9
1915	134828	2815	20.9	268	95	1725	..	390	117	233	1841	13.7

* Rates in Columns 4, 8 and 13 calculated per 1,000 of Estimated Population.

NOTE.—The deaths included in Column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-Residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity and dying in Public Institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity and have died in Public Institutions elsewhere.

The "Public Institutions" taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as Hospitals, Workhouses and Lunatic Asylums.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water)	8239.7	Total Population at all Ages	121,376	At Census of 1911.
		Number of Inhabited Houses	21,463	
		Average Number of Persons per House	5.6	

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified under S. 55, P.H.L.A., during the Year 1915.

Notifiable Diseases.	Total Cases Notified in whole District.							Cases Notified in each locality.				Cases of Mistaken Diagnosis included in the preceding figures.	Cases removed to Hospital.
	All Ages.	Age—Periods.						Woolwich.	Plumstead.		Eltham		
		Under 1	1—5	5—15	15—25	25—65	65 and Upwards.		West	East			
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	601	3	111	357	98	32	—	175	172	202	52	20	511
Diphtheria	286	4	72	153	35	22	—	87	85	98	16	46	264
Membranous Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid or Enteric Fever	31	—	1	7	10	12	1	11	13	5	2	8	27
Erysipelas	138	2	1	8	21	91	15	48	41	38	11	—	3
Puerperal Fever	6	—	—	—	1	5	—	2	1	2	1	—	2
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	50	2	3	7	21	17	—	31	5	5	9	4	45
Ant. Polio Myelitis	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	19	19	—	—	—	—	—	9	4	5	1	—	—
Zymotic Enteritis	173	85	73	6	4	5	—	40	55	67	11	—	—
Total	1306	115	261	540	190	184	16	403	378	422	103	78	853

TABLE III.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the year 1915.

Disease.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.																	Woolwich.	Plumst'd		Eltham.	Residents in Outly- ing Institutions,	Public Institutions in Borough.	Residents and Non- residents.
	All Ages.	Male.	Female.	Under 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 25.	25 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 55.	55 to 65.	65 to 75.	75 to 85.	Over 85.		West.	East.				
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	45	22	23	11	17	12	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	17	5	1	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	8	4	4	—	1	1	2	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	17	3	1	8	—	—
Epidemic Influenza	33	25	8	2	—	—	1	—	1	1	4	5	4	4	4	3	—	10	11	7	5	1	10	—
Whooping Cough	17	4	13	7	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	4	5	1	—	—	1
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	20	5	15	1	4	8	4	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	8	6	1	18	—	—
Enteric Fever	5	1	4	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	5	—	—
Asiatic Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea	6	4	2	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	1	—	1	—	1
Enteritis	27	15	12	21	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	11	3	11	2	4	3	—
Acute Anterior Polio Myelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	9	5	4	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	5	1	1	2	5	—	—
Other Continued Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	1	2	5	—	—
Erysipelas	8	4	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	1	2	3	4	—	1	—	4	—
Puerperal Fever	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	—	—
Other Septic Diseases	12	7	5	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	—	5	4	1	2	2	5	1
Syphilis	3	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	3	—
Rheumatic Fever	5	2	3	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	1	2	—	—	—	—
Gout	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Intermittent Fever and Malarial Cachexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Meninges	18	9	9	3	3	2	9	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	8	2	2	3	2	—
Tuberculosis of Lungs (Phthisis)	201	125	76	3	2	1	6	6	24	15	33	55	33	19	4	—	—	72	67	52	10	18	36	5
Tuberculosis of Intestines & Peritoneum	5	4	1	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	—	—	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	8	5	3	1	—	1	1	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	3	1	2	1	2	1
Alcoholism	7	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	2	—	—	—	—	5	2	—	1	4	1
Cancer	121	50	71	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	7	23	29	38	15	5	31	45	31	14	19	18	3
Diabetes	17	6	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	2	2	6	3	—	2	4	5	6	5	3	1
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	110	66	44	107	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	44	30	22	14	4	5	2
Old Age	88	46	42	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	15	47	24	21	39	13	15	12	35	1
Meningitis	16	8	8	1	1	3	3	1	3	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	7	3	2	3	3	—
Inflammation and Softening of Brain	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—
Epilepsy	6	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	2	—	1	—	—	2	1	3	—	3	1	—
General Paralysis	8	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	2	—	—	—	—	2	4	1	1	8	—	—
Tabes Dorsalis and Locomotor Ataxia	5	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	—	—	—	2	2	1	—	—	1	—
Peripheral Neuritis	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Brain and Nervous System	19	8	11	7	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	1	4	1	—	1	—	8	4	4	3	2	1	—
Organic Diseases of the Heart	178	107	71	—	1	—	4	4	6	1	11	20	28	35	47	20	1	55	54	49	20	11	35	10
Cerebral Hemorrhage, Embolism and Thrombosis	81	36	45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	10	22	27	15	3	27	25	18	11	4	16	3
Apoplexy and Hemiplegia	19	7	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	6	4	2	3	10	4	2	—	3	—
Aneurism	14	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	7	1	1	—	—	5	4	3	2	2	—
Other Diseases of Blood Vessels & Heart	63	31	32	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	1	2	9	7	24	9	6	16	25	13	9	14	8	—
Bronchitis	191	96	95	27	1	3	1	—	—	2	2	7	13	33	49	42	11	62	67	48	14	9	32	2
Lobular (Broncho) Pneumonia	96	51	45	40	25	9	3	1	—	2	—	1	1	3	3	7	1	44	25	24	3	7	1	—
Pneumonia	93	49	44	9	5	2	5	1	1	1	12	12	12	14	8	9	2	24	37	20	12	10	17	3
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	5	3	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	3	—	2	—	—	—	—
Diseases of Stomach	13	4	9	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	4	4	—	—	1	2	5	5	1	2	1	—
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	8	6	2	—	—	—	3	1	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	3	3	1	1	4	3	—
Obstruction of Intestines	13	6	7	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	4	1	3	—	3	4	5	1	5	5	—
Cirrhosis of Liver	33	14	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	12	14	3	—	—	12	13	6	2	6	13	1
Other Diseases of the Digestive System	13	7	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	2	2	2	—	3	4	3	3	3	4	—
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	47	23	24	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	1	8	15	9	8	1	1	16	17	11	3	2	8	—
Tumours and other Affections of Female Genital Organs	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy, Parturition	5	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	1	—	—	1
Violence	66	46	20	7	4	3	5	1	1	2	4	6	11	8	7	3	4	29	22	10	5	12	32	20
Suicide	11	6	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	2	2	2	—	—	3	5	1	2	1	—	—
Ill-defined Diseases or Unknown	8	5	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	3	—	2	1	2	3	—	1	1
Other Defined Diseases	48	25	23	4	2	—	3	2	1	2	2	5	5	10	8	3	1	11	22	9	6	13	11	1
TOTAL	1841	972	869	268	80	56	62	28	47	41	95	171	212	247	271	196	67	605	624	424	188	233	330	60

TABLE IV.

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1915.

Net Deaths from Stated Causes at Various Ages Under 1 Year of Age.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 Weeks.	4 Weeks and under 3 Months.	3 Months and under 6 Months.	6 Months and under 9 Months.	9 Months and under 12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	7	11
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping-Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	7
Diphtheria and Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Tuberculous Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3
Abdominal Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	4
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Convulsions	—	1	—	1	2	1	—	—	4	7
Laryngitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	—	—	1	1	2	6	8	7	4	27
Pneumonia (all forms)	—	—	—	1	1	6	14	10	18	49
Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	5	9	3	4	21
Gastritis	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	3
Syphilis	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	3
Rickets	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2
Suffocation—Overlying	3	—	—	—	3	2	1	—	—	6
Injury at Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis	6	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6
Congenital Malformations	3	—	—	1	4	—	2	1	2	9
Premature Birth	38	8	3	1	50	4	1	—	—	55
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	4	3	2	1	10	17	7	2	1	37
Other Causes	1	—	—	1	2	3	2	—	3	10
TOTALS	55	13	6	7	81	47	52	36	52	268

Net Births registered in the Year (Legitimate, 2734.
(Illegitimate, 81.

Net Deaths registered in the Year (Legitimate Infants, 245.
(Illegitimate Infants, 23.

TABLE V.

Rates per 1,000 Population, estimated to the middle of the Year.

Year.	Small-pox.		Erysipelas.		Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.		Scarlet Fever.		Enteric and Continued Fevers.		Puerperal Fever Per 1,000 Population.		Puerperal Fever Per 1,000 Births.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Average.														
1891-5 ..	0.15	0.01	0.87	0.05	1.38	0.38	6.05	0.25	0.94	0.17	0.09	0.03	—	—
1896-1900 ..	0.01	—	0.89	0.04	2.74	0.48	5.48	1.34	0.54	0.08	0.06	0.04	—	—
1901-5 ..	0.43	0.06	0.62	0.02	1.71	0.16	3.14	0.07	0.34	0.07	0.06	0.03	—	—
1906-10 ..	—	—	0.76	0.03	2.28	0.14	5.90	0.09	0.12	0.03	0.05	0.02	—	—
1911.. ..	—	—	0.68	0.07	1.68	0.09	4.09	0.02	0.10	<i>Nil</i>	0.13	0.02	5.71	1.07
1912.. ..	0.02	0.01	0.71	0.02	3.09	0.16	3.80	0.03	0.15	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.73	0.36
1913.. ..	—	—	0.55	<i>Nil</i>	1.91	0.13	4.80	0.06	0.06	0.01	0.06	0.02	2.78	1.05
1914.. ..	—	—	0.83	0.05	2.72	0.26	5.46	0.07	0.09	0.03	0.05	0.02	2.50	1.05
1915.. ..	—	—	1.02	0.06	1.77	0.15	4.31	0.06	0.17	0.04	0.04	0.02	2.14	1.07

TABLE VI.

London and the Metropolitan Boroughs—Births and Deaths of Persons belonging to London and the Metropolitan Boroughs during the 52 Weeks ended 1st January, 1916.*

BOROUGH.	Population estimated to the Middle of 1914.	Births.	Birth Rate.	DEATHS FROM.										Deaths under 1 Year of Age.	Rate per 1,000 Births.
				All Causes.	Rate.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 Years).	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		
COUNTY OF LONDON ..	4,516,612	101,649	22.5	72,399	16.03	120	3	2272	332	1146	699	2542	6782	11,369	112
West.															
Paddington ..	142,055	2746	19.3	2266	15.9	6	—	93	11	31	20	91	169	316	115
Kensington ..	170,817	3118	18.2	2607	15.3	2	—	111	11	21	16	69	193	367	118
Hammersmith ..	124,750	2707	21.7	1932	15.5	2	—	47	13	27	14	45	197	275	101
Fulham ..	158,849	3870	24.4	2349	14.7	5	3	122	20	50	27	75	197	445	115
Chelsea ..	63,791	1099	17.2	1116	17.5	—	—	40	5	8	6	17	110	106	96
City of Westminster ..	152,346	1969	12.9	2229	14.6	4	—	38	11	11	12	39	205	182	92
North.															
St. Marylebone ..	112,892	1823	16.1	1700	15.0	2	—	53	9	16	8	46	134	181	99
Hampstead ..	86,731	1317	15.2	1014	11.7	1	—	22	2	6	10	17	55	103	78
St. Pancras ..	212,497	4755	22.3	3527	16.6	8	—	64	22	51	24	102	415	496	104
Islington ..	324,764	7544	23.2	5555	17.1	5	—	152	40	105	58	164	525	812	107
Stoke Newington ..	50,454	916	18.1	778	15.4	2	—	24	7	7	9	7	55	94	103
Hackney ..	223,724	4844	21.6	3259	14.6	6	—	67	7	43	29	122	309	526	108
Central.															
Holborn ..	45,861	672	14.6	759	16.5	1	—	19	1	12	11	13	80	68	101
Finsbury ..	83,212	2198	26.4	1643	19.7	1	—	54	10	45	9	83	169	281	128
City of London ..	17,129	150	8.7	308	17.9	—	—	4	—	1	3	3	20	18	120
East.															
Shoreditch ..	108,869	3114	28.6	2052	18.8	3	—	68	11	36	22	130	260	450	144
Bethnal Green ..	127,662	3514	27.5	2110	16.5	4	—	101	11	41	39	135	199	430	122
Stepney ..	273,265	7512	27.5	4603	16.8	3	—	111	29	53	72	236	520	867	115
Poplar ..	160,222	4742	29.6	3046	19.0	5	—	118	9	72	34	173	252	628	132
South.															
Southwark ..	186,941	5239	28.0	3727	19.9	3	—	131	12	46	37	148	389	693	132
Bermondsey ..	124,213	3547	28.5	2504	20.1	3	—	110	9	79	21	134	239	527	148
Lambeth ..	296,724	6571	22.1	4944	16.6	13	—	102	19	49	45	139	460	693	105
Battersea ..	167,338	3824	22.8	2648	15.8	6	—	164	9	77	29	79	240	428	112
Wandsworth ..	338,998	6278	18.5	4195	12.4	9	—	165	22	66	54	117	335	589	94
Camberwell ..	262,020	6149	23.4	3918	14.9	6	—	95	8	40	30	146	366	635	103
Deptford ..	109,182	2956	27.0	1948	17.8	4	—	55	9	65	10	96	173	390	132
Greenwich ..	96,037	2335	24.3	1710	17.8	8	—	46	3	43	14	46	165	237	101
Lewisham ..	172,433	3317	19.2	2124	12.3	3	—	51	5	29	16	39	155	267	80
Woolwich ..	122,836	2823	22.9	1828	14.8	5	—	45	7	16	20	31	196	265	94

* For the purpose of this Table, the Births registered in London have been corrected by distributing those which occurred in the principal Institutions receiving maternity cases to the Boroughs in which the mothers resided. In 1,592 cases the residence was outside the County of London, and these cases have been excluded. On the other hand, 53 Births that occurred outside the County have been included. With regard to the Deaths of London residents, all transferable deaths (i.e., those of persons who, having a fixed or usual residence in England and Wales die in a district other than that in which they resided) occurring in Greater London and in certain Metropolitan Institutions outside Greater London, have been distributed to the Metropolitan Borough to which the deceased belonged. Of the deaths registered in London, the previous residence was outside the County in 3,529 cases, while, on the other hand, the deaths of 3,507 London residents occurred in the Outer Ring or in Metropolitan Institutions outside Greater London.

TABLE VII.

Weekly Deaths from various causes for the whole Borough, 1915, corrected for Public Institutions.

Week Ending.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Epidemic Influenza.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria and Mem. Croup.	Enteric Fever.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years).	Enteritis (under 2 years).	Erysipelas.	Puerperal Fever.	Rheumatic Fever.	Tubercle of Lung & Acute Tuberculosis.	Other Tuberculous Diseases.	Alcoholism and Cirrhosis of Liver, and Per. Neuritis.	Cancer and Sarcoma.	Bronchitis.	Broncho-Pneumonia.	Pneumonia.	Violence.	Suicide.	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.	Post-Basal Meningitis.	Simple Meningitis.
1915.																								
Jan. 9	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	6	1	2	—	9	5	—	1	1	—	1	—
16	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	4	9	4	3	2	—	—	—	—
23	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	1	2	6	4	1	1	—	—	—	1
30	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	8	—	1	3	4	5	2	3	—	—	—	1
Feb. 6	—	2	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	2	4	7	3	3	1	—	—	—	1
13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	8	6	4	—	1	—	—	1
20	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	12	5	6	—	—	—	—	—
27	—	2	—	3	1	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	6	9	5	3	—	—	—	—	—
Mar. 6	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	6	4	—	1	1	—	—	—
13	—	3	1	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	12	4	2	1	—	—	1	—
20	—	5	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	2	5	2	2	2	—	1	1	1
27	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	8	1	1	1	3	2	1	1	—	—	—	—
April 3	—	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	4	1	2	2	—	—	—	—
1st Qtr.	—	23	3	14	3	8	2	1	6	—	—	—	60	6	11	24	94	50	29	15	4	2	3	5
April 10	—	1	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	1	2	8	1	1	—	—	1	—	—
17	—	4	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	4	4	5	2	1	—	2	—	—
24	—	4	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	1	4	—	8	4	—	—	—	—
May 1	—	5	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	1	2	—	3	1	—	—	—	—
8	—	2	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	1	4	1	4	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	3	—	2	—	—	1	—	—
22	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	5	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	—
29	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	3	1	—	1	—	—
June 5	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	—	3	1	—	1	3	—	—	—	—
12	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	1
19	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	1	—	2	1	—	3	—	—	—	—
26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	3	—	6	1	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
July 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
2nd Qtr.	—	22	1	9	6	5	—	—	3	3	1	1	37	13	6	26	33	8	31	17	1	6	—	1
July 10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	7	—	—	3	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	2	4	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
24	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	3	5	3	—	—	—	—
31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	3	3	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Aug. 7	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	1
14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	1	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
21	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	1	—	1	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
28	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	4	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Sept. 4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	4	—	—	4	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
11	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	4	—	—	3	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
25	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	1	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
Oct. 2	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	4	1	1	2	—	2	1	2	—	—	—	—
3rd Qtr.	—	—	—	3	4	5	1	2	10	2	1	1	42	6	12	36	11	10	16	13	2	—	1	1
Oct. 9	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	1	1	1	2	1	—	—	1
23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	4	5	3	1	2	1	—	—	—	—
30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	3	1	1	2	1	—	—	—
Nov. 6	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	3	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	—	3	5	3	1	2	2	1	—	—	1
20	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	—	1	2	3	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
27	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	1	2	5	1	3	—	—	—	—	—
Dec. 4	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	1	7	4	3	—	—	—	—	—
11	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	1	2	5	5	3	4	4	1	—	—	—
18	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	1	3	11	2	3	2	—	—	—	—
25	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	—	—	1	5	2	1	—	—	—	—	1
1916.																								
Jan. 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	3	4	—	4	2	—	—	—	—
4th Qtr.	—	—	3	6	3	2	1	2	6	3	1	2	52	10	14	33	53	16	24	19	4	—	—	4
Total for Year	—	45	7	32	16	20	4	5	25	8	3	4	191	35	43	119	191	84	100	64	11	8	4	11

TABLE VIII.

Summary of Nuisances Abated, Notices Served, and General Work of Public Health Department, 1915.

	St. Mary's and Dockyard.	River.	Burage and Herbert.	Central and St. Margaret's.	St. Nicholas.	Glyndon.	Eltham.	St. George's.	Total.
PREMISES INSPECTED.									
No. of Houses inspected, house to house	560	1099	806	925	629	236	278	168	4707
„ Re-inspections after service of Notice (estimated)	1591	1373	1565	1713	1388	987	655	407	9669
„ Houses and premises specially inspected, including infectious diseases and com- plaints	1331	874	1259	657	1359	1051	821	375	7707
„ Houses where drains have been tested by smoke test	19	10	25	16	15	10	8	9	112
„ Houses where drains have been tested by water test	9	11	18	9	4	8	10	3	72
„ New Houses inspected for Water Cer- tificates	—	—	6	18	64	—	25	—	113
NUISANCES ABATED—DRAINS.									
Waste-pipe from baths, lavatories and wash- house sinks repaired or disconnected	24	24	65	44	45	9	14	16	241
Choked and defective drains	91	98	67	52	107	14	19	27	475
Defective traps	10	1	19	14	—	7	5	10	66
Defective and unventilated soil pipes	4	—	7	3	—	1	3	4	22
W.C.'s.									
W.C.'s repaired, new traps or pans provided ..	56	43	82	79	31	28	22	15	356
Water supply apparatus repaired or renewed ..	89	64	64	57	125	38	24	26	487
Foul pans cleansed	91	32	26	30	19	19	20	18	255
Additional W.C.'s provided to Factories and Workshops, etc.	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Do. do. dwelling-houses	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
PREMISES.									
Underground rooms not in accordance with Act ..	1	4	—	—	1	—	—	3	9
Interiors cleansed and defective roofs repaired ..	410	725	398	251	346	196	167	220	2703
Damp walls remedied	83	128	69	143	86	52	42	43	646
Paving in yards and wash-houses repaired ..	41	59	41	63	48	8	35	45	340
Improved ventilation provided	1	25	10	3	10	6	—	—	55
Wash-houses provided with sinks and outlets for waste water	3	2	—	12	—	1	—	—	18
Defective guttering and rain-water pipes ..	77	35	113	65	90	33	20	40	473
Dustbins supplied	108	139	53	49	81	36	41	54	561
Dung-pits provided	—	—	1	2	—	1	3	1	8
Cases of overcrowding remedied	25	17	12	—	15	9	7	12	97
Deficient light—windows supplied or enlarged, or other works	1	3	—	35	8	—	9	6	62
Dampness in premises from defective water pipes	36	9	25	10	17	14	7	8	126
ANIMALS.									
Animals (including pigs) kept in such a state as to be a nuisance	6	8	6	6	5	2	5	3	41
Accumulations of manure removed	66	51	52	27	17	8	16	15	252
WATER.									
Detective and foul cisterns used for dietary pur- poses	1	16	1	—	11	—	12	—	40
Defective and foul rain-water tanks remedied ..	6	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	7
Insufficient supply and water cut off by Water Board	5	5	2	—	4	1	5	2	24
Additional water supply for two or more families	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
MISCELLANEOUS.									
No. of observations made of chimneys in connec- tion with smoke nuisances	39	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	44
No. of smoke nuisances observed	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Tents, Vans, etc., inspected	1	—	—	5	1	—	41	—	48
Notices served with respect to tents and vans ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Inspection of Urinals accessible to the public ..	73	76	62	45	45	22	40	21	384
Vermineous rooms cleansed	29	92	4	32	13	6	10	12	198
Intimation notices served	529	752	474	571	517	240	132	171	3386
Statutory „ „	154	62	71	70	227	57	65	67	773

TABLE IX.

SUMMARY OF WORK OF CHIEF INSPECTOR.

Premises Inspected	1215
New Buildings Inspected	47
Defective Combined Drains Investigated and reported on ..	26
Number of Houses referred to in such Combined Drains..	143
Cow-houses and Slaughter-houses Inspections	33
Complaints Investigated	153
Attendances at Police Courts	51

MISCELLANEOUS, INCLUDING WORK OF CHIEF INSPECTOR,
DISTRICT INSPECTORS, AND CLERKS.

Plans submitted for Repairs to Drains	42
Number of Cases of Inattention to Notices reported to Town Clerk for Proceedings	106
Summonses at Police Courts under P.H.L.A. and H.T.P.A. ..	28
Bakehouses Inspected and Cleansed twice during the Year ..	72
Number of Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease..	1252
Letters Written	5859
Notifications received	3464
Certificates Issued after Disinfection	1771
„ of Infectious Disease forwarded to Schools..	1162
Complaints of Sanitary Defects	614
„ of Non-removal of Dust, viz. :—	
Woolwich	11
Plumstead	21
Eltham	11
	—
	43

TABLE X.
Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces, and Homeworkers' Premises.

1.—*Inspection.*

Premises.	Number of	
	Inspections.	Written Notices.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	149	37
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	241	15
Workplaces	149	7
Homeworkers' Premises	369	9
Total ..	908	68

2.—*Defects Found.*

Description.	Number of Defects.	
	Found.	Remedied.
<i>Nuisances under Public Health Act :</i>		
Want of Cleanliness	35	35
Want of Ventilation	18	18
Overcrowding	3	3
Want of Drainage of floors ..	—	—
Other nuisances	18	18
Sanitary Accommodation { insufficient— unsuitable or defective not separate for sexes }	13	13
	2	2
	89	89

TABLE X.—*continued.*3.—*Other Matters.*

Class.	Number.	
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—		
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133)	3	
Action taken in matters remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act (S. 5).	Notified by H.M. Inspector ..	2
	Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors	2
Underground Bakehouses (S. 101) :—		
In use during 1903	24	
Certificates granted {	in 1903	24
	in 1906	1
	in 1910	1
In use during 1915	11	
Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at end of 1914 :—		
Workshop Laundries	14	
„ Bakehouses	36	
Other Workshops	147	
Total number of Workshops on Register	197	

TABLE X.—*continued.*4.—*Home Work.*

Outworkers' Lists (Section 107).								Number of Inspections of Outworkers' Premises	Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108.			Outwork in Infected Premises, Sections 109, 110.			
Nature of Work.	Lists received from Employers.				Number of Addresses of Outworkers received from other Councils.	Number of Addresses of Outworkers forwarded to Other Councils.	Prosecutions.		Instances.	Notices Served.	Prosecutions.	Instances.	Orders Made (Sect. 109).	Prosecutions (Secs. 109, 110).	
	Twice in the Year.		Once in the Year.				Failing to keep or permit Inspection of Lists.								Failing to send Lists.
	Lists.	Outworkers.	Lists.	Outworkers.											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Wearing Apparel	40	175	7	29	26	21	—	—	53	5	5	—	—	—	—
Tennis Balls, etc.	6	375	—	—	—	79	—	—	315	4	4	—	—	—	—
Furriers ..	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lace Making ..	2	5	—	—	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Artificial Flowers	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE XI.

Proceedings during 1915.

Premises.	Number of Places.				Number of Inspections.	Number of Notices.	Number of Prosecutions.
	On Register at end of 1914.	Added in 1915.	Removed in 1915.	On Register at end of 1915.			
Milk Premises ..	109	6	10	105	171	16	—
Cowsheds	16	—	—	16	54	6	—
Slaughter-houses ..	10	—	—	10	40	5	—
Ice Cream Premises	83	5	1	87	124	6	—
Registered Houses let in Lodgings ..	418	5	3	420	576	259	2
<i>Overcrowding—</i>							
Number of Dwelling Rooms overcrowded							97
Number remedied							97
<i>Underground Rooms—</i>							
Illegal occupation dealt with during year							9
Number of rooms closed							5
<i>Insanitary Houses—</i>							
Number closed under the Housing-Town Planning, etc., Act							9
<i>Number of Prosecutions under By-Laws under Public Health Act, 1891</i>							
							2
<i>Mortuaries—</i>							
Total number of Bodies received							280
Total number of Infectious Bodies received							1
<i>Inspections of Premises where Food is Prepared for Sale</i> ..							131
<i>Number of Public Sanitary Conveniences Removed or Altered</i> ..							—
<i>Number of Fixed Ashpits Removed</i>							—

TABLE XII

Prosecutions under Public Health, Housing, Town Planning, etc., and London County Council
(General Powers) Acts.

No.	Date of Hearing.	Offence.	Situation.	Result.
1	1915. Jan. 7	An accumulation of foul and offensive slops	128 Ann Street ..	Order to abate in 24 hours. Fine £5 or 1 month.
2	Feb. 4	Dilapidations and dirty conditions	117, Elm Street ..	Fine 40s. and order to abate in 7 days.
3	Feb. 25	Unsound Turkeys	Lakedale Road Stores ..	} Costs £6 6s.
4	Do.	do.	Herbert Road Stores ..	
5	Do.	Disobedience of Closing Order ..	2, New Street	Order to quit in 14 days and 4s. costs.
6	Do.	do.	3, do.	do. do.
7	Do.	do.	3, do.	do. do.
8	Do.	do.	4, do.	do. do.
9	Do.	do.	4, do.	do. do.
10	Do.	do.	4, do.	do. do.
11	April 15	do.	5, do.	do. do.
12	Do.	do.	6, do.	do. do.
13	Do.	do.	7, do.	do. do.

TABLE XII.—*continued.*

No.	Date of Hearing.	Offence.	Situation.	Result.
14	1915. May 4	Dilapidations and dirty conditions	18, Samuel Street	.. Order to abate in 14 days ; 4s. costs.
15	Do.	Non-provision of dustbin	18, do. ..	.. 2s. costs.
16	Do.	Dilapidations and dirty conditions	5, Acorn Street	.. 2s. costs.
17	June 1	Dilapidations and dampness ..	63, Sand Street	.. 2s. costs.
18	June 22	Overcrowding	1, Tewson Road	.. (Tenant.) Order to abate in 14 days. Fine 10s.
19	July 6	do.	1, do. ..	.. (Occupier.) Order to abate in 10 days. Fine 10s. and £2 2s. costs.
20	June 1	Dilapidations and dirty conditions	4, Acorn Street	.. Fine 10s.
21	Do.	Dampness	14, Samuel Street	.. Fine 10s.
22	July 6	Non-compliance with Nuisance Order	18, do. ..	.. Fine 6d. per day for 26 days 13s. and £1 ls. costs.
23	Aug. 20	Defective flushing apparatus in w.c.	169, Ann Street..	.. Fine 20s.
24	Do.	Dilapidations and dirty conditions	169, Ann Street..	.. Order to abate in 14 days ; 4s. costs.
25	Do.	do.	171, do. ..	.. Order to abate in 14 days ; 4s. costs.
26	Nov. 10	Carrying on the trade of a purveyor of milk without being registered	82, Brookhill Road	.. Fined £5 and 21s. costs.
27	Dec. 7	Permitting basement room of house registered under the By-Laws to be overcrowded	25, Dicey Street	.. Fine 5s.
28	Do.	Overcrowding basement room ..	25, do. ..	.. Fine 10s.

TABLE XIII.

Summary of Articles Analysed, under the Sale of Food and Drugs
Acts, during the Year ended 31st December, 1915.

Article.	Number Analysed.	Number Adulterated.
Milk	330	33
Separated Milk	6	—
Condensed Milk	5	1
Butter	55	2
Coffee	13	—
Vinegar	16	1
Lard	14	—
Preserved Cream	7	2
Drugs	22	—
Flour	12	—
Rice	4	—
Pepper	3	—
Ground Ginger	4	—
Cheese	4	—
	495	39

TABLE XIV.

Prosecutions under Food and Drugs Acts during Year 1915.

No.	Article.	Nature of Offence.	Name and Address of Vendor.	Result of Proceedings.
1	Milk	7.88% added water	W. J. Gittings, Cold Blow, Grosmont Road	Fined £4 and 23s. costs
2	Milk	13.0 % added water	S. Curtis, 181, Abbey Wood Road	Fined £1 17s. and 23s. costs
3	Milk	25.3% deficient in fat	S. A. Smith, 4, High Street, Eltham	Fined £1 and 12s. 6d. costs
4	Milk	7.0% added water	R. G. Dalton, 55, Eglinton Road	Costs 12s. 6d.
5	Milk	3.33% deficient in fat	J. W. Hearn, 61, Bannockburn Road	Warranty proved. Dismissed
6	Milk	13.33% deficient in fat	F. J. Sansom, 24, Ingledew Street, Brixton	Fined £2 and £2 2s. costs
7	Milk	6.94% added water	Eastern Counties Dairy Farmers' Co-operative Society, Ltd., 106, Windmill Lane, Stratford	Warranty proved. Dismissed
8	Milk	10.66% deficient in fat	C. Voice, 102, Ann Street	Fined £2 9s. 6d. and 10s. 6d. costs
9	Milk	5.0% deficient in fat	S. Cornwell, 14, Frances Street	Fined 10s. 6d. and 10s. 6d. costs
10	Milk	9.41% added water	W. F. Corp, 3, Wellington Street	Warranty proved. Dismissed
11	Milk	4.36% added water	F. W. Webb & Co., 16, Lakedale Road	Warranty proved. Dismissed

TABLE XIV.—*continued.*

No.	Article.	Nature of Offence.	Name and Address of Vendor.	Result of Proceedings.
12	Milk	6.0% deficient in fat	E. A. Smith, 12, The Broadway, Eltham	Fined 2s. 6d. and 12s. 6d. costs
13	Milk	11.41% added water	H. Woolsey, 50, Francis Street	Warranty adjourned <i>sine die</i>
14	Vinegar	40.0% deficient in acetic acid	H. Hoadley, 25, Ascot Street, Canning Town	Fined 40s., including costs
15	Milk	29.33% deficient in fat	K. F. Mumford, 22, Cross Street	Fined 9s. 6d. and 10s. 6d. costs
16	Milk	4.33% deficient in fat and 1.76% added water	E. Hiscock, 27, Wickham Lane	Warranty proved. Dismissed
17	Milk	14.66% deficient in fat	G. Corp, 142, High Street, Woolwich	Fined 3s. and £2 7s. costs
18	Milk	10.0% deficient in fat	W. M. Forward, Huntingdon Farm, Mere, Wilts	Dismissed
19	Milk	5.0% deficient in fat	G. Jones, 6, Samuel Street	Fined 2s. 6d. and 12s. 6d. costs
20	Milk	10.0% deficient in fat	C. Attenborough & Son, 60, Sand St.	Fined 10s. and 12s. 6d. costs
21	Milk	7.0% deficient in fat	Lord Hollenden, Hall Place, Leigh, Kent	Dismissed. Place of delivery was Hildenborough Station, not Woolwich Dock-yard
22	Milk	22.23% added water and 24.66% deficient in fat	G. Corp, 142, High Street, Woolwich	Fined £2 and 21s. costs.

TABLE XIV.—*continued.*

No.	Article.	Nature of Offence.	Name and Address of Vendor.	Result of Proceedings.
23	Milk	8.66% deficient in fat	H. D. Virgoe, 13, Eton Road.	Fined 10s. and 12s. 6d. costs
24	Milk	17.53% added water and 13.67% deficient in fat	J. Willis, 2, Ritter Street	Fined £1 10s. and 21s. costs
25	Milk	11.66% deficient in fat	J. Buckingham, 74, Little Heath, Old Charlton	Warranty proved. Dismissed
26	Milk	9.66% deficient in fat	A. G. Look, Keightley House, South- wood Road, New Eltham	Fined 20s. and 10s. 6d. costs
27	Margarine	Sold in package not marked	R. A. Pearce, 175, Plumstead Com- mon Road	Fined 20s. and 11s. 6d. costs
28	Butter	Wholly Margarine	do. do.	Fined 2s. and 11s. 6d. costs
29	Milk	9.0% deficient in fat	J. McGee, 42, Mulgrave Place	Fined 2s. 6d. and 10s. 6d. costs
30	Milk	10.35% added water	E. Godden, 276, High Street, Plum- stead	Fined £1 and 21s. costs
31	Milk	12.3% added water	H. Melville, 120A, Plumstead Road	Fined 4s. and 21s. costs
32	Milk	11.2% added water	W. J. Gittings, Cold Blow, Grosmont Road	Fined 40s. and 23s. costs
33	Milk	4.94% added water and 4.67% deficient in fat	W. F. Corp, 3, Wellington Street	Warranty proved. Dismissed

TABLE XV.

Summary of Food Seized, or Surrendered by Owners, as Unfit for Consumption, 1915.

Articles.	Quantity.	Reason.
Beef	320 lbs.	Tuberculous
Lambs (59) and 1 sack pieces	2,281 lbs.	Black spotted; all unsound
Ox Livers ..	37	Flukey, Abscesses, Cirrhosis
Ox Kidney	1	Cysts
Ox Lungs	2	Tuberculous
Sheep's Pluck	21	Strongyli
Sheep's Livers	3	Ternicolis Cysts
Sheep's Caul	5	do.
Pig's Liver	1	Cirrhosis
Haddocks	4 boxes	Unsound
Whelks	6 bags	do.
Mackerel (smoked)	12 boxes	do.
Codfish	10 stone	do.
Coalfish	1 box	do.
Rabbits	1 case	do. (Green)
Black Currants	$\frac{1}{2}$ bushel	do.
Condensed Milk	36 boxes	do.

TABLE XVI.

List of Applicants Registered as Purveyors of Milk during 1915.

No.	Name.	Address.
110	Couzens, J. H. ..	10, Chapel Street, Woolwich
111	Margetts, S. C. ..	307, High Street, Plumstead
112	Wallace, J. M. ..	107, Pattison Road, Plumstead
113	Smith, S. A... ..	4, High Street, Eltham
114	Pitcher, A. M. ..	87, Plumstead Road, Plumstead
115	Godden, E.	276, High Street, Plumstead

TABLE XVIb.

List of Applicants Removed from Milk Register during 1915.

Name.	Address.
Dalton, R. G. ..	55, Eglinton Road, Plumstead
Godden, A. & A. ..	276, High Street, Plumstead
Stevens, H. ...	27, Church Street, Woolwich
Finnimore, W. J. ..	21, Walpole Place, Woolwich
Challis, P. W. ..	4, High Street, North Woolwich
Hoar, J. (Jun.) ..	40, Saunders Road, Plumstead
Hearn, J. W. ..	61, Bannockburn Road, Plumstead
Cheesman, C. ..	126, High Street, Plumstead
Burley, A. R. ..	40, Saunders Road, Plumstead
Adams, E. J. ..	1, Shooters Hill Gardens, Eltham

