

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

Contributors

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ANNUAL + REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

OF THE

BRENTFORD

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,

1907.

BY

HENRY BOTT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., London,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

AND

SUPERINTENDENT, ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF BRENTFORD.

SANITARY COMMITTEE,

1906-7.

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J. B. MILBURN, Esq.

The Chairman of the Council.

W. J. GOMM, Esq., J.P.

The Vice-Chairman of the Council.

J. J. DOREY, Esq.

MESSRS. W. J. NOY, J. CLEMENTS, AND
W. H. WALTER, M.D.

Medical Officer of Health

and Superintendent, Isolation Hospital.

HENRY BOTT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., LONDON.

Sanitary Inspector.

H. COLEMAN, ASSOC., ROYAL. SAN. INST.

Brentford Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR 1907.

*To the Chairman and Members of
the Brentford Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my report upon the health and sanitary condition of the Brentford Urban Sanitary District for the year 1907.

POPULATION

I estimate the population of the whole district at the end of June to be 16,050, and of the several ecclesiastical districts into which it is divided I allot to St. James's with St. George's 4895, St. Paul's 9153 and to New Brentford 2002. Thus the population of Old Brentford is 14048 and New Brentford 2002.

BIRTHS.

The number of births has been 519, of which 263 were males and 256 females. The birth rate is 32.3 per thousand, which is 2.4 higher than last year's, which was the lowest for many years, but is 1.7 lower than the average of the last 10 years.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths occurring in Brentford during the year has been 234, of which 118 were males and 116 females. In St. George's 77, St. Paul's 124, and New Brentford 33. The death rate in the three districts respectively is St. George's 15.7, St. Paul's 13.5, and New Brentford 16.4. The Cottage Hospital is in New Brentford and 3 deaths occurred there, and the Isolation Hospital is in St.

George's district and 12 deaths took place there during the year. The death rate for the whole district is 13.9 per thousand which is .4 higher than last year, but 2.1 lower than the average of the last 10 years.

CORRECTED DEATH RATE.

The County Medical Officer has supplied me again this year with the names and places where inhabitants of Brentford died outside the district. I cannot allot them to their several districts as the addresses are incomplete, but 15 came from New Brentford and 60 from Old Brentford, making a total of 75 who died in the various institutions given below as against 55 last year. These when added to the 234 which occurred in Brentford give a total of 309, which presuming all the deaths which were registered in Brentford all inhabitants is a correct account of the total number of deaths which Brentford suffered during the year and gives a total death rate of 19.2 per thousand. For 1905 when the first correct return was made it was 17.6, and in 1906 it was 17.

Brentford Workhouse Infirmary	...	...	...	...	58
Middlesex County Asylum, Wandsworth	...	...	...	...	7
West London Hospital, Hammersmith	...	...	...	...	5
Cancer Hospital ...	...	...	...	...	2
St. Thomas' Hospital ...	...	...	...	...	1
Charing Cross Hospital...	...	...	...	...	1
River Thames, London...	...	...	...	...	1

21 of these deaths were due to tubercular diseases, 11 to senile decay. 5 to cancer, and 10 to diseases of the lungs.

INQUESTS.

16 inquests have been held, the same number as last year. Death resulted from Heart Disease in 6 cases, Suffocation in bed in 4, Suicide in 2, Drowning in 2, and Strangulated Hernia and Syncope 1 each.

The following epitomises the ages at which death occurred.

Deaths under 1 year	...	...	59	} 101 under 5 years
„ from 1 to under 5 years	...	...	42	
„ „ 5 „ 15 „	...	...	22	} 133 over 5 years.
„ „ 15 „ 25 „	...	...	5	
„ „ 25 „ 65 „	...	...	65	
„ over 65 years...	...	...	41	

11 of these deaths occurred in persons over 80 and 1 was over 90 years.

The next table shows the distribution of the mortality of the 3 districts of the town during the last 10 years.

	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	Average for 10 years
St. George's	13.2	16.6	10.1	18.9	11.7	13.5	19.2	15.6	14.5	15.7	14.9
St. Paul's	18	19.5	17.5	15.4	16.4	11.9	13.2	11.0	12.4	13.5	14.8
New Brentford ..	20.7	22.3	24.3	20.7	20.7	15.8	21.3	19.9	16.4	16.4	19.8

INFANT MORTALITY.

The rate of this mortality on the proportion of deaths under 1 year to every 1000 births is 113.6, which is the lowest recorded for many years (last year it was 140.7). If I could think that this had been caused by greater care on the part of parents I should rejoice exceedingly, but it can be explained by the fact that in consequence of the wet, cool summer there was no Diarrhœa, and although there was an abundance of plums they did not decompose rapidly and so did no harm, still I hope the constant efforts which have been made for many years to teach parents how to feed and clothe their children have been productive of some good. I also hope to organize shortly a committee of ladies whose duty it will be to visit and advise mothers how to bring up their infants in the first year of life. Little however can be done for the class who leave their babies to the care of children little older than themselves whilst they go to the laundry or other work.

The following table gives the rate and average infant mortality for the last 10 years.

1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	Average for 10 years
198.8	187.1	138	193.8	176.6	125	161.4	115	140.7	113.6	155

The following are the deaths from the principal Zymotic diseases.

SMALL POX.—None.

MEASLES.

There were a great number of cases from March to August, and 12 deaths were recorded. I am afraid the general public does not treat this disease seriously. They think all children must have it and take no precautions to check its spreading by isolation. Children suffering from Measles usually mix freely in the home with those who have not got it, and unless great care is exercised by the authorities they go to school and spread it there. The deaths are chiefly caused by lung complications and great care should be taken to keep the little sufferers warm in bed.

SCARLET FEVER.

5 deaths have been caused by Scarlet Fever. Last year I mentioned that we had an epidemic for 2 years and now I am happy to say that at last it has worn itself out, as there have been very few cases and only 1 death since last June.

WHOOPING COUGH.

During the first half of the year there were many cases of this disease and 8 deaths were caused by it. I can only repeat what I have said on many previous occasions, give up the old foolish plan of sending your children out in all weathers as a means of cure. It is exposure which causes the greatest number of deaths.

DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANOUS CROUP.

I am happy to say that there have not been nearly so many cases this year, and they have not been so virulent. 6 deaths have been registered, 4 of which occurred in April. I also think that the lower mortality is due to the fact that most parents recognize the necessity of at once sending for the doctor when a child has a sore throat. Antitoxin is thus used early and the results are invariably satisfactory. Antitoxin is still supplied by the Council free of cost to all Medical men for use in the district.

TYPHUS FEVER.—None.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Again this year there has been only one death from this disease and I must congratulate the Council upon this fact for it is the greatest proof of the care and attention which is given to sanitation.

DIARRHŒA.

For the first time in the sanitary history of Brentford there has been no epidemic of Diarrhœa. In the past it has been a rare thing to have less than 20 deaths per annum. This year I have only 1 to record in July. It is most satisfactory and I hope it may continue for I think it conclusively proves that nearly all cases are preventable and are due to neglect of the simplest rules of diet. Last year there was no hot weather consequently the milk did not go sour and feeding bottles did not require so much care.

The number of deaths from these 8 zymotic diseases has been 33 and the zymotic death rate is two per thousand which is 1.7 lower than last year and 1.1 lower than the average of the last 10 years.

The following tables shows the number of births and deaths and the various birth and death rates for the last 10 years.

	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	Average for 10 years.
Number of births	523	497	500	516	532	536	545	530	476	519	517.4
Birth rate per 1000	34.9	32.8	32.6	33.9	34.7	34.8	34.8	33.6	29.9	32.3	33.4
Deaths from all causes	312	297	244	262	237	200	252	208	216	234	246.2
Death rate per 1000	20.8	19.6	15.9	17.2	15.4	12.9	16.1	13.1	13.5	13.9	15.8
Deaths from Small Pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
„ Measles ..	6	3	10	7	5	0	26	0	4	12	7.3
„ Scarlet Fever	1	3	1	1	0	0	0	4	7	5	2.2
„ Whooping Cough	26	4	0	7	0	7	3	2	3	8	6
„ Diphtheria	4	2	7	2	8	3	3	11	12	6	5.8
„ Typhus Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
„ Enteric Fever	2	2	1	2	0	1	4	1	1	1	1.5
„ Diarrhoea	29	53	23	38	22	13	34	16	32	1	26.1
„ 8 Zymotic diseases	68	67	42	57	35	24	70	34	59	33	48.9
Death rate of Zymotic diseases	4.5	4.4	2.7	3.7	2.2	1.5	4.4	2.1	3.7	2	3.1

OTHER SANITARY WORK.

Early in the year the Local Government Board sent a Medical Inspector to examine the town. Dr. Manby made a long and thorough examination of the whole of the district and a report on his inspection was received in the summer. It was very carefully considered by the Council on several occasions and it was decided to press on the work of closing old and insanitary houses without delay. I, acting on this at once commenced, and I think good progress has been made, but the work has necessarily been slow for it could not be expected that owners of dilapidated, old and huddled together houses should see the necessity of demolition, closure or expensive alterations in the same light as it appeared to me.

Several blocks of insanitary property have been dealt with under the Housing of the Working Classes Act during the past year, the most important being Running Horse yard.

Nos. 1 & 3, Back Lane. The owner having given an undertaking not to relet the premises, the Council stayed proceedings. The houses cease to be inhabited.

Nos. 34, 36 & 38 The Ham. The owners failed to comply with the Notice served upon them. Proceedings were taken, and the Court granted a closing order in each case with costs. The premises now remain unoccupied.

- Nos. 15, 17 & 19 Back Lane. The owner being of opinion that it would not pay to reconstruct in accordance with the requirements of the Council, gave the tenants notice to quit, and demolished the premises. Plans were submitted to your authority and approved for the erection of two self-contained flats.
- Nos. 2 & 3 Troy Town Passage. The owners being of opinion that it would not pay to reconstruct in accordance with the requirements of the Council, gave the tenants notice to quit and demolished the premises.
- Nos. 1, 6 & 7 Troy Town Passage and No. 4 Back Lane. The owner failed to comply with the notices served upon him. Proceedings were taken and the Court adjourned the hearing of Summonses for one month, to enable the defendant to submit a specification for the consideration of the Council.
- Nos. 1, 2, 3 & 4 Cromwell Place, and Nos. 6 & 8 Back Lane. The owner failed to comply with the notices served upon him. Proceedings were taken and the Court adjourned the hearing of Summonses for one month, to enable the defendant to submit a specification for the consideration of the Council.
- Nos. 10 & 11 Back Lane. The houses are still in the same condition as when reported upon, excepting that they are now unoccupied.
- Nos. 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25 Running Horses Yard, and No. 25, Walnut Tree Road. After opposition from the owner of this property, an Order for their immediate closure was granted by the Court with costs. This order has a far more important bearing than the mere closing of this block of houses, by securing the permanent closure of one of the worst pieces of house property in the district. All the houses are unoccupied.
- In no instance have the people who have been turned out of their houses caused overcrowding, or have found any difficulty in finding proper accommodation. Nor have any been driven into the Workhouse as a result of the Council's action.

BYE-LAWS.

Bye-Laws governing houses let in lodgings, and new regulations with respect to dairies, cowsheds and milkshops adopted by the Council, have been approved by the Local Government Board, and will come into operation in February.

Earlier in my report I stated that 21 deaths occurring outside the district were caused by Tubercular diseases, 24 deaths were registered from the same causes in the district, making 45 in all. This is very high, and I feel sure it can be reduced if special care is taken on the following points :

1. Always live and sleep in a room with the windows open.
2. Sleep alone.
3. Expectorate into a pot containing some disinfectant, or into a rag which must be burnt (Note the Council supply disinfectants free to the poor).
4. Do not spit on the floor, in the street, or in any public conveyance.

5. Live as much as possible out of doors, and if travelling by tram ride outside when the weather permits.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The following table shows the number of patients treated at the Brentford Isolation Hospital during the year 1907.

Patients under treatment 31st Dec. 1906 ...	...	24	
Admitted during the year 1907.			
Scarlet Fever ...	...	96	
Diphtheria ...	...	21	
Enteric Fever ...	...	2	
		—	119
			143
Discharged cured during the year 1907.			
Scarlet Fever ...	...	106	
Diphtheria ...	...	15	
Enteric Fever ...	...	1	
		—	122
Died during the year 1907.			
Scarlet Fever ...	...	6	
Diphtheria ...	...	5	
Enteric Fever ...	...	1	
		—	12
Patients under treatment 31st Dec. 1907.			
Scarlet Fever ...	...	8	
Diphtheria ...	...	1	
Enteric Fever ...	...	0	
		—	9
			143

Two cases of diphtheria were received into the Ealing Isolation Hospital early in the year, as we were short of accommodation owing to alterations, and one case of supposed small pox was sent to the Small Pox Hospital at South Mymms.

The work at the Hospital has not this year been as heavy as during the last two years. In 1906, 163 cases were admitted, but many of the cases were very severe, and required skilful and constant nursing. I am happy to say that the Matron and her staff have been unceasing in their devotion, and the nursing has left nothing to be desired, and the popularity of the Hospital is ever on the increase. Nurse Collins, who rendered valuable service during a time of considerable anxiety, has resigned during the year to get married. The Porter has carried out all his duties excellently, and the grounds are a model of tidiness.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE (NOTIFICATION) ACT.

Under this Act I have received 175 certificates as under :

Small Pox	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Enteric Fever
1	52	14	105	3

Last year the number was 291.

SCARLET FEVER.

There has been a decrease in the number of Scarlet Fever during the year, 105 cases being notified as compared with 160 cases in 1906.

The following table shows the School Incidence :

Ealing Road ...	...	...	15
St. Paul's ...	...	...	12
St. George's ...	...	...	11
Rothschild ...	...	...	6
St. Lawrence's ...	...	...	5
Private Schools ...	...	...	4
The Ham ...	...	...	2
Boston Road Temporary ...	...	...	1
Private Schools (outside) ...	...	...	1
Over School Age ...	...	...	17
Under ditto ...	...	...	28
			—
Total ...	...	...	105

A sharp outbreak of Scarlet Fever occurred in North Road and Distillery Road, during the months of September and October, 19 cases being notified in the North Road alone. It threatened to become epidemic, but by careful supervision it was stamped out. The source or origin was traced to a family residing in the North Road, where the Sanitary Inspector discovered four children suffering from the disease. They were removed to the Hospital. Particular attention to disinfection, etc., was immediately given in all cases.

The Council authorised proceedings to be taken against the parents, and they were fined 20/-

DIPHTHERIA.

During the year there has been a decided decrease in the number of cases of Diphtheria, 52 cases being notified, as compared with 106 in the previous year. The following table shows the School Incidence :—

Rothschild ...	...	...	10
St. Paul's ...	...	...	8
Ealing Road ...	...	...	4
St. George's ...	...	...	3
St. John's ...	...	...	2
Private School ...	...	...	1
School outside district ...	...	...	1
Over School Age ...	...	...	7
Under School Age ...	...	...	16
			—
Total ...	...	...	52

ENTERIC FEVER.

There have been 3 cases of Enteric Fever notified during the year. Two cases were removed to the Hospital for treatment.

The following table shows the number of Enteric cases notified during the past five years:—

1903	...	...	9
1904	...	...	30
1905	...	...	6
1906	...	...	5
1907	...	...	8

CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS.

In consequence of the prevalence of Measles and Mumps, two schools were closed during the year for the periods of two and three weeks. In each instance a copy of the Order and representation were sent to the Local Government Board and the Middlesex County Council.

The following table shows the schools closed, period of closure, and nature of the disease:—

School.	Period.	Disease.
St. Paul's (Infants) ..	Three weeks ..	Measles.
The Ham ..	Two weeks ..	Mumps.

I wish again to express my thanks to the Masters and Mistresses of the various public elementary schools for the vigilance they have exercised during the past year. Several cases of infectious disease have been sent to me from the schools, and in more than one instance an outbreak of Scarlet Fever has been nipped in the bud. I earnestly hope that they will continue to assist me, and that they will advise me when any child comes to school habitually in rags and dirty, for it is in the homes of such poor little children that so much can be done by the sanitary authority.

I once more desire to gratefully acknowledge the ever ready help which has been so constantly rendered by Sister Lucas and the nursing staff of the Cottage Hospital. Their constant visits to the poor and suffering have not only done much to smooth the passing of many a weary sufferer, but they have inculcated habits of cleanliness and order which were never understood before and which have made lasting impressions. The loss to the town of such a useful institution would be deplorable, therefore I beg to express a hope that all will subscribe according to their means.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HENRY BOTT, M.O.H.

TABLE I.
Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1907 and
previous years.

Year	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents Registered in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Residents Registered in Public Institutions beyond the district	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		No.	Rate*	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages					No.	Rate*
				No.	Rate per 1000 Births registered	No.	Rate*					
1897	14806	576	38.9	83	144.0	231	15.6	No Public Institutions in District.				
1898	14974	523	34.9	104	198.8	312	20.8					
1899	15142	497	32.8	93	187.1	297	19.6					
1900	15478	500	32.6	69	138.0	244	15.9					
1901	15163	516	33.9	100	193.8	262	17.2					
1902	15330	532	34.7	94	176.6	237	15.4					
1903	15474	536	34.6	67	125.0	200	12.9					
1904	15618	545	34.8	88	161.4	252	16.1					
1905	15762	530	33.6	61	115.0	208	13.1			70	278	17.6
1906	15906	476	29.9	67	140.7	216	13.5			55	271	17.0
Averages for years 1897-1906	15365	523	34.0	82	158.0	245	16.0					
1907	16050	519	32.3	59	113.6	234	13.9		75	309	19.2	

*Calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Total population as per Census.—All ages, 15163.

Number of inhabited houses, 3035.

Average number of persons per house, 6.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 1080.

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.—Brentford Workhouse Infirmary, Isleworth. Middlesex County Asylum, Wandsworth. West London Hospital. Charing Cross Hospital. Cancer Hospital, St. Thomas' Hospital. The Union Workhouse is not in the District.

TABLE II.

Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1907 and previous years.

Names of Localities	Whole District.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year
1897	14806	576	231	83
1898	14974	523	312	104
1899	15142	497	297	93
1900	15478	500	244	69
1901	15163	516	262	100
1902	15330	532	237	94
1903	15474	536	200	67
1904	15618	545	252	88
1905	15762	530	208	61
1906	15906	476	216	67
Averages of Years 1897 to 1906	15365	523	245	82
1907	16050	519	234	59

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1907.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in Whole District.							Total Cases Notified in Each Locality				No. of Cases Removed to Hospital from Each Locality.			
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						St. Lawrence's or New Brentford.	St. Paul's	St. George's	Totals.	St. Lawrence's or New Brentford.	St. Paul's.	St. George's.	Total cases removed to Hospital.
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards								
Small-pox ..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1
Cholera ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	52	1	19	26	2	4	..	43	3	6	52	1	19	3	23
Erysipelas ..	14	1	..	..	2	10	1	2	7	5	14	..	..	..	..
Scarlet fever ..	105	..	33	60	7	5	..	10	55	40	105	7	54	35	96
Typhus fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric fever ..	3	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	..	1	1	2
Relapsing fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Continued fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	175	2	52	86	13	20	2	16	106	53	175	8	74	40	122

Isolation Hospital—Claypond's Lane, Brentford.

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1907.

Causes of death.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.						
	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards
Small-pox .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	16	2	12	2	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	6	..	1	5	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	8	1	7	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	6	..	4	2	..	..	..
Croup .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fever—							
Typhus .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other continued .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Epidemic Influenza	3	..	2	..	..	1	..
Cholera .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhœa	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Enteritis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Other Septic Diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	32	1	..	..	2	27	2
Other Tubercular Diseases	13	2	2	5	..	4	..
Cancer, Malignant Disease	17	..	..	..	..	12	3
Bronchitis	30	9	5	..	..	8	8
Pneumonia	25	6	5	..	..	9	5
Pleurisy .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	6	..	..	..	1	3	2
Alcoholism—Cirrhosis of Liver	2	..	..	..	..	1	1
Venereal Diseases	3	3	..	..	..	..	..
Premature Birth	16	16	..	..	..	..	..
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	2	..	..	..	..	2	..
Heart Diseases	29	..	2	1	1	13	12
Accidents	6	..	..	2	..	4	..
Suicides	2	..	..	..	1	..	1
Senile Decay	16	..	..	..	..	..	16
Suffocation in bed	4	4	..	..	..	..	..
All other causes	64	16	5	7	1	23	12
All causes	309	62	45	24	6	107	65

TABLE V.

Infantile Mortality during the year 1907.

Deaths from stated causes in weeks and months under one year of age.

Cause of Death.			Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All causes.																			
Certified	..	..	17	4	3	1	25	10	4	3	1	1	3	4	1	4	..	2	58
Uncertified	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Common Infectious Diseases—																			
Small-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria: including Mem- branous Croup	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1
Diarrhoeal Diseases—																			
Diarrhoea, all forms	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	3
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wasting Diseases—																			
Premature Birth	..	..	14	..	1	..	15	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Congenital Defects	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	3
Injury at Birth	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Want of Breast-milk, Starvation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	..	..	2	1	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Tuberculous Diseases—																			
Tuberculous Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other Causes—																			
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Syphilis	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
Rickets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Convulsions	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	3	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	9
Laryngitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3
Suffocation, overlying	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Other Causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	..	..	18	4	3	1	26	10	4	3	1	1	3	4	1	4	0	2	59

Births in the year, legitimate and illegitimate .. 519
 Deaths in the year of legitimate and illegitimate infants .. 59
 Deaths from all causes at all ages .. 309
 Population, estimated to middle of 1907 .. 16050

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year
1908, on the Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act,
1901, in connection with Factories, Workshops, Laundries,
Workplaces and Homework.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspection. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	12	—	Nil.
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	83	9	Nil.
Total	95	9	Nil.

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecu- tions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspect'r (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness	2	2	..	..
Want of ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors	1	1	..	..
Other Nuisances	7	7	..	..
Sanitary accommodation—				
Insufficient				
Unsuitable or defective	1	1	..	..
Not separate for sexes				
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of Underground Bakehouse (s. 101)				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for Bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)				
Other Offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part III. of this Report)				
Total	11	11	..	..

3.—HOME WORK.

Nature of Work.	Lists received from Employers.			Addresses of Outworkers received from other Councils	Inspections of Outworkers' Premises.
	Lists.	Outworkers.			
		Con-tractors.	Work-men.		
Wearing Apparel. Making, &c.	3	1	2	6	8

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the Year.	Number.
(1)	(2)
Important Classes of Work- shops, such as Workshop Bakehouses, may be enu- merated here.	Workshops 80
	Under ground 3
	Ditto Above ground 12
Total number of workshops on Register ..	95

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
(1)	(2)
MATTERS NOTIFIED TO H.M. INSPECTOR OF FACTORIES : ..	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)	—
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspectors as remedi- able under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5) }	Notified by H.M. Inspector
	Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector.
Other	—
UNDERGROUND BAKEHOUSES (s. 101) : ..	
Certificates granted during the year	Nil.
In use at the end of the year	2

Mr. Coleman, the Sanitary Inspector, submits the following report.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1907.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
CLIFDEN HOUSE,
BRENTFORD,
15th Jan., 1908.

To the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee,
GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to you my Annual Report of the work done in the Health Department during the year ending December 31st, 1907.

INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

During the year a systematic inspection of the district has been made, in accordance with the General Orders of the Local Government Board, and the nuisances discovered during such inspections have been dealt with in the manner provided by the Public Health Act, and byelaws in force.

In all, some 1955 visits were paid to premises in connection with the work of the department, and include visits to Dairies, Cowsheds, Milkshops, Canal Boats, Common Lodging Houses, ordinary inspections, visits to houses from which complaint of a nuisance had been received, visits to works in progress, and to houses in which cases of Infectious Disease had occurred.

COMPLAINTS.

Sixty-one complaints relating to nuisances in the district have been received.

Each complaint was duly recorded in the Complaint Book, the premises visited, and all necessary steps were taken in respect thereof.

NOTICES SERVED.

As a result of these inspections 277 preliminary notices, and 94 statutory notices were served, of which the following is a summary:—

Preliminary Notices	...	...	...	...	...	227
Notices under Sec. 94 Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	19
" " " 5 Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act	...	...	...	...	...	60
" " Housing of the Working Classes Act	...	...	...	...	...	15
Total						371

Wherever nuisances were found to exist preliminary notices were served upon the person responsible calling attention to the matter, and pointing out the necessary remedial works. If these

notices were not complied with, reports were made to the Sanitary Committee, and the usual statutory notices were authorised to be served.

I regret to record that, in one instance, it was found necessary to institute Police Court proceedings for a breach of the Council's Byelaws with regard to the prevention of Nuisances arising from the keeping of animals, which resulted in the defendant being fined £2 and costs. (*vide* Table I.A.)

The following table shows the number and nature of Nuisances dealt with during the year by notice. These do not include Nuisances abated or prevented at the verbal request of your Inspector.

Nature of Nuisances dealt with.						Number.
Accumulation of offensive matter removed	...	...	...	...	...	12
„ manure removed...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Animals so kept as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	...	...	6
Drains unstopped, cleansed and made efficient	...	...	...	...	...	40
„ reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	31
„ trapped	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	43
Dustpits removed	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dungpits provided	...	...	...	...	...	4
Gutters and Down-spouts repaired or affixed	...	...	...	...	...	30
Yard areas paved and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	24
Roofs repaired and made water-tight	...	...	...	...	...	14
Effective means taken to prevent damp walls	...	...	...	...	...	2
Houses and rooms cleansed and repaired ..	...	...	...	...	...	69
House floors repaired and ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	4
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	17
Sink wastepipes repaired, provided or trapped	...	...	...	...	...	11
„ disconnected from drain	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	3
Water cisterns cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ provided with covers	...	...	...	...	...	9
Water-closets provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ abolished	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ repaired, ventilated or limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	17
„ pans and traps renewed	...	...	...	...	...	21
„ pans cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	11
„ flushing apparatus provided	...	...	...	...	...	10
„ „ repaired and provided with water	...	...	...	...	...	10
Windows of houses made to open...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ventilation shafts repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ „ fixed	...	...	...	...	...	7
Other nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	9
Total						432

N.B.—This total does not include those nuisances existing in houses regarding which notices have been served under the provisions of the Housing of the Working Classes Acts.

UNSOUND FOOD.

There have been thirteen seizures of unsound food. In four instances the seizures were made in accordance with the Public Health Act, and the articles were submitted to a Justice of the Peace, and an order, in each case, was obtained to destroy the food, so as to prevent it being used for the food of man. This was done by burning at the Destructor.

I am pleased to state that only two summonses were issued for food seized, condemned and destroyed. One was for exposing unsound meat for sale at a butcher's shop; the defendant was fined 20s. and costs. The other was for exposing for sale unsound tomatoes, which I seized from a barrow; the defendant in this case being fined 10s. and costs, or fourteen days hard labour (*Vide* Table 1, A.)

The following Table shows the amount of food condemned during the year as being unfit for human food.

No. of Seizure.		Article.		Quantity.
1	...	Whittings	...	2 Trunks.
1	...	Potatoes	...	2½ Tons.
2	...	Tomatoes	...	208 lbs.
1	...	Rabbits	...	4
1	...	Pork	...	31 lbs.
1	...	Cauliflowers	...	108
1	...	Mackerels	...	109
1	...	Plums	...	100 lbs.
1	...	Kippers	...	2 Boxes.
1	...	Bananas	...	200
2	...	Haddock	...	2 Trunks.

DAIRIES, COW-SHEDS and MILK-SHOPS.

The above have been inspected as occasion required. In several instances it has been found necessary to warn occupiers of Cow-sheds and Milk-shops for contravening the Regulations. Two Cow-sheds were found to be occupied by more occupants than allowed under the Order. The Cows were found to be in a very dirty condition, their hind quarters being plastered with dung, no attempt being made to groom them. The premises referred to are now under new management, and are kept in a better sanitary condition. The interiors of the Cow-sheds have been lime-washed, cleansed and repaired, floor relaid with concrete, with suitable channels to carry off the liquid. A manure pit has also been built in connection with the premises.

Two applications for registration as purveyors of milk have been made during the year. In each case the premises were inspected, and their condition reported to the Sanitary Committee, and the applications were granted. One business carried on as Cow-keepers, Dairymen and Purveyors of Milk has been transferred. The dairy and cow-shed, situate in the Boston Fields, have been discontinued as such, and the premises are now used for other purposes.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The premises whereon offensive trades are conducted have been regularly inspected, and kept, as far as the nature of the business would allow, in a clean condition. During the year one application was received, and permission granted to carry on the trade of a tripe boiler. The premises have since been closed.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are six slaughter houses in use at the present time, all situated in, or adjacent to, the High Street. Only one of the above is subject to annual renewal, the remainder being perpetual licenses to the present occupiers. They have all been inspected during the year, and the Bye-laws enforced.

CARAVANS.

The dwelling vans of showmen who visit the town for the purpose of attending the Fairs were inspected in order to ascertain their sanitary condition, and also for the purpose of detecting any Infectious Disease which might exist among the inmates. The condition of the vans was satisfactory, and no cases of Infectious Diseases were found among the occupants.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are seven common lodging houses in the District, all situated in, or adjacent to, the High Street. They contain thirty-one rooms for sleeping purposes, and afford accommodation for one hundred and seventy-eight lodgers nightly.

They have been inspected both by day and night, and kept, as far as possible, in a clean condition. I am pleased to report that no cases of Infectious Disease have been notified at, or traced to, any of these houses.

No.	Situation of Premises.			Rooms Registered.	Accommodation for
1	Old Spring Gardens	...	...	3	12 Lodgers
2	" "	...	...	2	8 "
5	" "	...	...	2	8 "
3	High Street	...	...	4	25 "
4	"	...	...	6	24 "
6	"	...	...	12	94 "
7	Market Place	...	...	2	7 "

HOUSE DRAINAGE.

The drains of thirty-one houses and premises have been entirely reconstructed, and brought up to date. The materials used in the construction of new drains are generally of stoneware, but in several instances I have induced owners to relay drains under houses with cast iron pipes, and in one instance the drains throughout the system were constructed of the latter material.

The following is a list of premises the drains of which have been relaid under my supervision.

Situation of Premises.	Materials used in the Construction.		
216, High Street	...	Stoneware Pipes and Iron Pipes under building.	
33, " "	...	" "	
34, " "	...	" "	
410, " "	...	" "	
411, " "	...	" "	
13, Glenhurst Road	...	" "	
15, " "	...	" "	
93, Ealing Road	...	" "	and Iron Pipes under building.
95, " "	...	" "	... ditto
97, " "	...	" "	
99, " "	...	" "	
25, Windmill Road	...	" "	
27, " "	...	" "	
29, " "	...	" "	
31, " "	...	" "	
33, " "	...	" "	
35, " "	...	" "	
37, " "	...	" "	
39, " "	...	" "	
41, " "	...	" "	
49, Enfield Road	...	" "	
51, " "	...	" "	... Iron Pipes under building.
53, " "	...	" "	... ditto
55, " "	...	" "	... ditto
57, " "	...	" "	... ditto
13, New Road	...	" "	... ditto
14, " "	...	" "	... ditto
Glenhurst House, Glenhurst Road	...	" "	... ditto
Inverness Lodge, Boston Road	...	Iron Pipes throughout.	
St. Paul's Vicarage	...	Stoneware Pipes.	
" Church	...	" "	
Stables, The Ham	...	" "	

BAKEHOUSES.

There are fifteen bakehouses on the Register, classified as follows:—Underground bakehouses, 3 ; Other bakehouses, 12. One of the former is at present unoccupied. They have all been inspected, and a good standard of cleanliness has been found to exist. No certificates have been granted for the use and occupation of an underground bakehouse during the year.

The following defects have been met with and remedied:—

Cleansing and lime-washing	...	...	2
Defective drains	...	...	1
Defective W.C.	...	...	1
Defective eaves gutters	...	...	1
Accumulation of refuse	...	...	1
Dilapidated floor	...	...	1
Absence of ash-bins	...	...	3
Defective paving	...	...	1

CANAL BOATS.

Brentford is the Registration Authority for the whole of the surrounding District. There are 307 boats on the Council's Register, one new boat having been registered.

During the year 16 boats were examined, and with one exception the condition of the boats and their occupants was satisfactory. Five infringements of the Acts and Regulations were detected. They are as follows:—

Boat not registered	...	...	1
Master without Certificate	...	...	2
Cabin dirty	...	...	1
No water vessel	...	...	1

No legal proceedings were taken in respect of any infringements. Three complaints notes were issued, all of which have been returned to me signed by some duly appointed inspector of Canal Boats.

I am pleased to report that no cases of Infectious Disease have been notified upon any of the boats, and therefore it has not been necessary to detain any vessel for the purpose of cleansing and disinfection.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives the nature and number of the diseases investigated and removed to Hospital, as compared with the previous year.

Nature of Disease.	Investigated.		Removed to Hospital.	
	1906	1907	1906	1907
Small Pox .. .. .	..	1	..	1
Diphtheria	106	52	26	23
Membranous Croup .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	5	3	3	2
Erysipelas	19	14	1	..
Scarlet Fever	160	105	133	96
Typhus .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Puerperal	1	..	..	..
Totals	291	175	163	122

I regret to have to record that it was found necessary to institute legal proceedings in two instances connected with the prevention of Infectious Disease, viz., for removing a case of Diphtheria in a public conveyance without notifying to the driver as to the nature of the disease, a person was fined 40/- and costs; for failing to notify the Medical Officer of Health that his children were suffering from Scarlet Fever, a person was fined 20/- (*Vide* Table 1A).

Reference to Table 3c shows the precautions taken in order to prevent the spread of disease.

DISINFECTION.

One hundred and fourteen rooms have been disinfected upon the removal, recovery, or death of a patient, and all bedding and other articles likely to retain infection were removed to the Hospital for steam disinfection.

Sixty notices were served on owners and occupiers of infected houses to strip and cleanse the interior walls of infected rooms. These notices have been complied with, and therefore in no instance has it been necessary for this Authority to proceed with the work.

CONCLUSION.

In concluding, I desire to express my keen appreciation of the support which every Member of the Urban District Council has extended to me in my efforts to carry out the difficult and dangerous duties imposed by the Public Health Acts.

I am, Gentlemen, Your obedient Servant,

H. COLEMAN (Assoc. Royal San. Inst., London).

Sanitary and Workshop Inspector and Canal Boats Officer.

TABLE I A.

PROSECUTIONS.

The following particulars are extracted from the Register of Prosecutions.

No.	Nature of Offence.	Fines.			Costs.			Total.			Remarks.
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
1	Exposing unsound food for sale	1	0	0	0	6	0	1	6	0	
2	Failing to comply with Council's byelaws	2	0	0	1	8	0	3	8	0	
3	Causing a person suffering from infectious disease to travel in a public conveyance without previously notifying driver	2	0	0	1	1	0	3	1	0	
4	Exposing unsound fruit for sale	0	10	0	1	1	0	1	11	0	or 14 days imprisonment
5	Failing to notify M. O. H. that children were suffering from infectious disease	1	0	0				1	0	0	
6	3 houses unfit for human habitation	..			5	5	0	5	5	0	Order made to close each house.
7	Houses unfit for habitation										Order made to close.
8	Ditto										do.
9	Ditto										do.
10	Ditto	..			10	10	0	10	10	0	do.
11	Ditto										do.
12	Ditto										do.
13	Ditto										do.
14	Ditto										do.
15	Ditto	..			..			..			Case adj'd for one month.
16	Ditto	..			..			..			do.
17	Ditto	..			..			..			do.
18	Ditto	..			..			..			do.
19	Ditto	..			..			..			do.
20	Ditto	..			..			..			do.
21	Ditto	..			..			..			do.
22	Ditto	..			..			..			do.
23	Ditto	..			..			..			do.
24	Ditto	..			..			..			do.
		6	10	0	19	11	0	26	1	0	

TABLE 2 B.

Table showing number of cases of Infectious Disease notified in various Streets in the URBAN DISTRICT OF BRENTFORD during the year 1907—alphabetically arranged.

Street or Road.	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric	Erysipelas	Small-pox.
Adelaide Road ..	..	3	..	..	..
Albany ..	12	..	..	2	..
Avenue ..	3	1	..	..	..
Bangor ..	1	..	..	..	..
Boston ..	5	1	..	..	..
Boston Park Road ..	..	3	..	..	..
Braemar Road ..	..	1	..	..	..
Brentside ..	..	1	..	..	..
Brook Road ..	2	2	..	..	..
Catherine Wheel Yard..	..	1	..	..	..
Clifden Road ..	2	1	..	..	..
Distillery Road ..	6	..	..	..	..
Ealing Road ..	6	1	..	..	..
Eastbourne Road ..	2	..	..	..	..
Enfield Road East ..	..	3	..	..	..
Enfield Road ..	1	1	..	..	..
George's Court ..	1	..	..	..	..
Glenhurst Road..	1	2	..	..	..
Goat Wharf ..	..	2	..	..	..
Green Dragon Lane ..	2	..	..	..	..
Grosvenor Road ..	2	..	..	..	..
Grove Road ..	1	..	..	..	..
Hamilton Road..	..	1	..	..	..
High Street ..	3	2	..	3	1
Ivy Crescent ..	1	..	..	..	..
Kenley Road ..	1	..	..	..	..
Kew Bridge Road ..	..	2	1	..	..
Lamb Passage ..	2	..	..	..	..
Lateward Road..	5	3	..	2	..
Layton Road ..	1	1	..	..	..
Mercury Road ..	2	1	1	..	..
Mafeking Avenue ..	3	1	..	..	..
Netley Road ..	..	..	..	1	..
Netley Road East ..	1	..	..	1	..
New Road ..	2	2	..	..	..
North Road ..	19	1	..	1	..
Old Spring Gardens ..	..	1	..	..	..
Orchard Road ..	3	2	..	1	..
Paradise Place ..	1	..	..	..	..
Pottery Road ..	3	1	..	2	..
Red Lion Yard ..	2	..	1	1	..
Starnage Road East ..	1	2	..	..	..
" " West ..	1	..	..	..	..
Somerset Road ..	1	..	..	..	..
Sussex Place ..	1	1	..	..	..
The Ham ..	3	..	..	..	..
Town Meadow ..	..	2	..	..	..
Whitestile Road ..	..	3	..	..	..
Windmill Road..	1	2	..	..	..
York Road ..	1	1	..	..	..
Totals ..	105	52	3	14	1

TABLE 3 c.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Number of cases investigated and reported upon ...	...	...	175
" re-visits to infected houses ...	...	...	107
" rooms disinfected ...	...	...	114
" wards " ...	...	...	1
" cabs " ...	...	...	1
" schools " ...	...	...	2
" books " ...	...	...	8
" reports to Head Masters and Mistresses	...	...	145
" " School Attendance Officer ...	...	...	80
" " Librarian ...	...	...	5
" prosecutions under Infectious Disease Act	...	...	2
" convictions ...	...	...	2

STEAM DISINFECTION.

The following articles were removed from infected houses to the Isolation Hospital and subjected to steam disinfection :

Number of beds and mattresses	...	...	...	107
" pillows ...	...	...	...	165
" bolsters ...	...	...	...	74
" blankets ...	...	...	...	193
" sheets ...	...	...	...	177
" quilts, counterpanes, etc.	...	...	...	117
Total				1180