

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Hornsey, Borough of].

Contributors

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No. 24.

HORNSEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report dealing with the sanitary condition of this District for the year 1898. In the Quarterly Reports for the same period the number of inhabitants has been estimated at 70,054, being an increase of 4,972 over that for the previous year. At the middle of the year 1897 the number of inhabited houses in the District was 10,847 giving a population of 65,082; whereas at the middle of 1898 the number of the houses had increased by 828, giving in round figures a population of 70,054. The increase in the Wards has been greatest in the Hornsey and least in the Crouch End Ward, but each Ward shows an increase as will be seen from the following table:—

Ward.	Population 1898.	Population 1897.	Increase 1898.
Highgate	9,614	8,688	926
Muswell Hill	3,012	2,478	534
Crouch End	5,070	4,992	78
Hornsey	16,284	14,856	1,428
North Haringey	10,852	10,200	652
South Haringey	7,098	6,792	306
Stroud Green	10,386	9,438	948
Finsbury Park... ..	7,738	7,638	100
	70,054	65,082	4,972

The total area of Hornsey is 2,809 acres, divided into eight Wards, and the following table gives the area of each Ward with the number of houses in it, the population of each with the number of persons to an acre and also the acres to a person :—

WARD.	Acres.	Persons to an Acre.	Acres to a Person.	Number of Houses.	Population.
Highgate	709	13	0·07	1,602	9,614
Muswell Hill	599	5	0·19	502	3,012
Crouch End	376	13	0·07	845	5,070
Hornsey	423	38	0·02	2,714	16,284
North Haringey	125	86	0·01	1,808	10,852
South Haringey	109	65	0·01	1,183	7,098
Stroud Green	269	38	0·02	1,731	10,386
Finsbury Park	199	38	0·02	1,289	7,738
	2,809	24·9	0·04	11,675	70,054

From this table it will be seen that the densest population is in North Haringey Ward, viz., 86 persons per acre, followed by South Haringey with 65 per acre, and then by Hornsey, Stroud Green and Finsbury Park, each with 38 persons per acre. Highgate and Crouch End had at this time (the middle of the year) 13 persons per acre, and Muswell Hill 5, but in the last named Ward building operations have been proceeding at such a rapid rate that the population there has now materially increased.

In connection with the density of the population due regard must be given to the open spaces which exist in parts of the District, as these materially decrease the space which can actually be built on, and the population in the Wards in which such open spaces are situated must to a corresponding extent be more closely packed. These spaces have at various times been handed over to the authorities and dedicated to be kept as open spaces for ever. They consequently cannot be built over and serve the useful purpose of recreation grounds, at the same time assisting greatly in purifying the atmosphere.

They consist of the Finsbury Park of 120 acres; about two-thirds of this park is in Finsbury Park Ward, and the remaining one-third in South Haringey. The Highgate Woods, consisting of the Gravel Pit Wood of 69 acres, situated chiefly in the Highgate Ward, with a smaller portion in the Muswell Hill Ward; this Wood has now been open to the public for several years. The Queen's Wood of 50 acres was acquired and opened during the year; this Wood is almost entirely in the Highgate Ward, a very small portion being in Crouch End. The Pleasure Grounds of rather more than 9 acres are entirely situated in the Hornsey Ward.

These spaces altogether amount to $248\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

The Births during the year amounted to 1,342, being 5 more than were registered in 1897. This gives a birth-rate of 19·15 per 1,000 inhabitants, comparing with 20·54 for 1897, 20·84 for 1896, 21·2 for 1895, and with 29·4 per 1,000 for the whole of England and Wales. This rate is constantly getting lower, that for the past year being in fact the lowest so far recorded.

The Deaths for the year from all causes amount to 579, giving a death-rate of 8·26 per 1,000 inhabitants, comparing with

8·11	per 1,000 inhabitants for 1897,
8·42	„ „ 1896,
10·49	„ „ 1895, and
9·85	„ „ 1894.

This, however, has to be corrected as regards the deaths occurring outside the District amongst inhabitants belonging thereto, namely, 20 deaths at the Edmonton Workhouse and 2 at other places. Also the exclusion of 7 deaths occurring among non-residents dying within the District. Dr. Charles D. Green, the Medical Officer of Health for Edmonton, has again kindly sent to me details as to the number of inhabitants and the deaths occurring amongst inhabitants of Hornsey in the Edmonton Workhouse during the year in question, these being 42 and 20 respectively. These facts being taken into account, the population of the District is increased to 70,096, and the deaths to 594, giving a corrected death-rate of 8·47.

The death-rate for England and Wales for 1898 was 17·6 per 1,000 inhabitants, and that for London 18·3 per 1,000 inhabitants.

The death-rate for Hornsey is again very low, but rather higher than for last year.

The death-rate for the first quarter of 1898 was 9·02

"	"	second	5·7
"	"	third	9·82
"	"	fourth	8·5

The following table gives the deaths which have been registered in each of the eight Wards of the District during the four quarters of the year :—

	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Total Deaths.	Death rate.
Highgate ...	31	11	23	15	80	8·32 per 1,000
Muswell Hill ...	6	1	5	4	16	5·31 "
Crouch End ...	11	5	7	7	30	5·91 "
Hornsey ...	42	29	54	43	168	10·31 "
North Haringey ...	18	10	34	35	97	8·96 "
South Haringey ...	16	6	16	12	50	7·04 "
Stroud Green ...	10	13	15	17	55	5·29 "
Finsbury Park ...	24	25	18	16	83	10·72 "
Total deaths ...	158	100	172	149	579	8·26 per 1,000

In this calculation 7 deaths which occurred at the Isolation Hospital in the Muswell Hill Ward were taken from the number of deaths occurring in that Ward and added to the deaths in the North Haringey, Crouch End, Hornsey (3), Finsbury Park and Highgate Wards from which the patients were received.

The Ward death-rate for 1898 compared with that for 1897 and 1896 is shown in the following table:—

WARD.	1898		1897.		1896.	
	Deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000.	Deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000.	Deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000.
Highgate	80	8.32	80	9.20	76	8.73
Muswell Hill ..	16	5.31	11	4.43	20	9.03
Crouch End ..	30	5.91	30	6.0	27	5.77
Hornsey	168	10.31	158	10.63	139	10.04
North Haringey..	97	8.96	86	8.43	82	8.19
South Haringey..	50	7.04	50	7.36	51	8.52
Stroud Green ..	55	5.29	42	4.45	62	6.80
Finsbury Park ..	83	10.72	71	9.29	66	8.75

From this table it will be seen that the deaths in the Highgate, Crouch End and South Haringey Wards were exactly the same in number as for the year 1897, while there were 5 more deaths in the Muswell Hill, 10 in the Hornsey, 11 in the North Haringey, 13 in the Stroud Green, and 12 in the Finsbury Park Wards, making up altogether the increase of 51 deaths as compared with 1897. It will be noted that the Wards which show the lowest death-rates are Stroud Green, Muswell Hill and Crouch End, whilst the highest is in Finsbury Park followed closely by Hornsey. North Haringey, with a density of population of 86 persons to the acre, has a higher death-rate when compared with South Haringey which is less densely populated, having 65 persons to the acre.

The Zymotic Death-rate amounts to 0.74 per 1,000 inhabitants, 52 deaths having been registered as due to the eight

principal Zymotic diseases. Twelve occurred in the first, 3 in the second, 30 in the third, and 7 in the fourth quarter. This death-rate compares with 0·98 for 1897, 0·93 for 1896, and 1·11 for 1895, and 1·12 for 1894.

The following table shows the Deaths in the District from the eight principal Zymotic diseases for the last seven years :—

	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
Small Pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	7	5	5	13	6	7	14
Scarlet Fever ...	4	9	1	3	8	2	—
Diphtheria ...	11	16	23	21	12	16	11
Fever ...	3	6	6	5	6	—	4
Whooping Cough	13	2	22	10	17	10	8
Diarrhœa ...	6	9	1	8	9	29	15
Cholera ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	44	47	58	60	58	64	52

No mortality from **Small-pox** or **Cholera** has occurred in the District for the last nine years.

Measles has proved twice as fatal when compared with the previous year, 14 deaths having been attributed to it. It will be noted that 8 of the deaths occurred in the first quarter of the year, the disease at that time was prevalent in the District to a considerable extent, and 4 deaths had occurred from it in the last quarter of 1897. In the second quarter there was only one death from it. Then again it became more fatal, causing 5 deaths in the third, and finally, during the fourth quarter the cases became more mild in character and caused no mortality.

Scarlet Fever.—No mortality has been caused by this disease. This is, I believe, the first time that such a statement could be made, and it points to the fact that the type of this disease during the whole of the year must have been of a peculiarly benign nature.

Diphtheria was credited with 11 deaths, 2 in the first, 1 in the second and 4 in each of the third and fourth quarters. These deaths were 5 less when compared with the previous year, and we must go back to the year 1892 before the mortality due to it was so small as for 1898.

Typhoid Fever caused 4 deaths, compared with none for the previous year. The deaths from this disease are about the average for the last ten years, so that taking the increase of population into account the mortality per 1,000 inhabitants has considerably decreased.

Whooping Cough has caused 8 deaths, 6 of them having occurred in the third quarter. Six of the cases were in children under 5 years of age.

Diarrhœa was fatal to the extent of 15 cases, 13 being in the third and 2 in the fourth quarter. All the deaths occurred in children under 5 years of age. This mortality was considerably less than for the previous year, but still larger than that for any year from 1896 to 1892 inclusive. From the fact that most of the deaths occurred in the third or warmest quarter, and all in young children, it is very probable that a good deal of the disease was due to improper feeding, as milk—which is, or should be, the staple article of diet in young children—is under these circumstances very apt to become sour, and if taken more or less in that condition, proves a very fertile source of diarrhœa. In connection with the feeding of infants attention should also be drawn to the fact that milk is being sold as condensed separated milk. It cannot be too generally known that such milk is totally unfit to be given as the entire food of infants, as the fat necessary for nourishment has been partly taken out, leaving only about one per cent. instead of three and a-half to four per cent., and it follows that very much more of such milk has to be taken in order to get the amount of fat required for nutrition; in fact, it is stated that

ten half-pound tins of such condensed separated milk are required to make up as much fat as should be contained in one pint of good new milk.

The use of such milk should be absolutely condemned, but it is cheap, and therefore likely to be used in the poorer parts of the District unless intending buyers are warned in time as to its comparative worthlessness.

The deaths from diseases other than zymotic are as follows :—

	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898.
From Pulmonary Consumption ..	28	35	40	43	30	43	36
„ Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and other Pulmonary Diseases ..	118	139	87	105	96	100	121
„ Brain Diseases	63	69	68	50	58	47	69
„ Heart „	46	61	40	64	68	56	52
„ Rheumatism	1	5	4	4	3	1	5
„ Ague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ Puerperal Diseases	10	3	2	—	1	2	—
„ Pyæmia	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
„ Erysipelas... ..	2	4	—	—	—	1	1
„ Malignant Diseases, Cancer, &c.	24	37	31	22	31	30	31
„ Injuries	12	11	15	15	11	10	9
„ Various other Causes	160	139	153	202	166	174	203
TOTALS	464	503	441	505	465	464	527

The number of deaths from phthisis pulmonalis is 7 less than for 1897, but is about the average when compared with the six previous years. This cause of death does not include the deaths due to tuberculosis affecting other parts of the body than the lungs, these being included under the heading various causes, and affecting chiefly young children. In addition to this, many children die from lung and wasting diseases, where the cause of death, although not directly attributable

to tuberculosis, certainly is much influenced by the presence of the tubercle bacillus in the system. The mortality amongst children from these tuberculosis diseases does not diminish, and for the last few years much attention has been paid in order that meat and milk shall be supplied to the public absolutely free from any suspicion of the tubercle bacillus. Public opinion has been so brought to bear upon this most important matter that many proprietors of the larger dairies are now prepared to guarantee that their herds are under the supervision of veterinary surgeons, and that any animal showing the slightest suspicion of tuberculosis is at once submitted to the tuberculin test, and condemned if found to re-act. The milk is also constantly tested both as to its quality and freedom from bacteriæ. In the report on tuberculosis, issued by the British Medical Association in January of this year, exactly the same line of argument is used as appeared in my report for last year, viz.: That although the infection of tuberculosis in milk can be destroyed by boiling, or sterilisation, that as milk can be obtained free from tuberculous infection if the cows which yield it are ascertained to be free from tuberculosis by the tuberculin test, it appears to be undesirable to relieve wholesale and retail vendors of their responsibility in this regard, by recommending the boiling of milk as the only safeguard.

As regards the risk of tuberculosis from eating meat from infected animals, the time will come when the carcasses of all animals slaughtered will have to be passed by competent inspectors as fit for consumption, and all imported meat will have to undergo the same ordeal, but at present, and so long as private slaughter-houses are in existence this inspection can hardly be said to be practicable.

The question of notifying phthisis pulmonalis and other diseases of a tuberculous nature, can, I think, hardly be recommended from the standpoint of utility; but it would be decidedly advisable that the rooms vacated, from any cause, by patients suffering from pulmonary consumption should be thoroughly disinfected, and that during the treatment of a case due regard should be paid to the disposal of the sputa, and all such other precautions taken as to prevent, as far as possible, the spread of the disease.

The deaths from the other classes do not call for any particular remarks, as, taking into account the increased population, they only show about an average mortality. It is, however, satisfactory to note that there has been no death from puerperal disease. The deaths from various other diseases have been set out in detail in the reports of the Public Health and Hospital Committee, and it is unnecessary to refer to them again.

AGES AT WHICH THE DEATHS OCCURRED.	1897.	1898.
One year and under	138	158
One year to five years	58	55
Five years to fifteen years	22	17
Fifteen years to twenty-five years	36	17
Twenty-five years to sixty-five years...	129	194
Sixty-five years and over	145	138
	528	579

The deaths under one year to births registered works out at 117·73 for 1,000 inhabitants, and compares with London with 166 per 1,000 for the same period and with 108·21 for 1897 for Hornsey, and the deaths under five years to 158·71 against 146·67 for 1897, and the percentage of deaths under one year is 27·28 compared with 26·1 for 1897.

The mortality under one year per 1,000 inhabitants amounts to 2·25, and under five years to 3·04, and the mortality for 65 years and over amounts to 1·96 per 1,000 inhabitants.

For the purpose of comparison I again append a table giving the deaths, &c., in London (made up of 43 sanitary areas), Hampstead, St. Pancras, Islington, Finchley and Hornsey. From this will be seen the general sanitary condition of these districts compared one with another. I also state the annual general death and zymotic death-rates of the 33 largest English towns.

Sanitary Area.	Estimated population in the middle of 1898.	Notified cases of Infectious Disease.											Deaths from Principal Infectious Diseases.											Deaths from all causes.	Death-rate per 1,000 living.	Deaths of Infants under One Year to 1,000 Births.
		Small Pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria. *	Typhus Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Other continued Fevers.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Cholera.	TOTAL.	Annual rate per 1,000 persons living.	Small Pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria. †	Whooping Cough.	Typhus Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Other continued Fevers.	Diarrhoea.	Total.	Annual rate per 1,000 persons living.			
London ..	4,604,766	32	16,894	11,855	16	3,024	55	247	5,169	23	37,315	8.3	1	3,069	581	1,756	2,157	3	554	9	4,352	12,482	2.77	82,037	18.3	166
St. Pancras ..	243,416	2	980	499	—	220	2	18	321	4	2,046	8.4	—	111	53	96	87	—	41	—	214	602	2.49	4,651	19.2	170
Islington ..	344,616	—	1,336	545	2	237	1	19	280	—	2,420	7.0	—	334	26	90	180	1	36	—	291	958	2.78	5,712	16.6	159
Hampstead ..	78,755	—	242	135	—	47	—	1	41	—	466	5.9	—	26	3	19	27	—	10	1	24	110	1.40	917	11.7	125
Finchley ..	21,007	—	91	12	—	9	—	—	6	—	118	5.6	—	6	—	—	6	—	3	—	24	39	1.85	218	10.3	136
Hornsey ..	70,054	—	168	100	—	31	—	—	51	—	350	4.9	—	14	—	11	8	—	4	—	15	52	0.74	594	8.47	117
33 great towns	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.85	—	19.0	178

* Including cases of Membranous Croup.

† Including deaths from Membranous Croup.

The Compulsory Notification of Infectious Diseases has been in force in this District since the 1st of January, 1890, and under the Act the following cases have been reported during the year—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	168	in 1897	264
Diphtheria	...	...	99	„	87
Typhoid Fever	...	...	31	„	31
Puerperal Fever	...	...	—	„	2
Erysipelas	...	...	51	„	39
Continued Fever	...	...	—	„	—
Membranous Croup	..	...	1	„	3 and
Small Pox	...	...	—	„	—
			350		426

The number 350 compares with 426 for 1897, 709 for 1896, 615 for 1895, 410 for 1894, 618 for 1893, and 340 for 1892.

81 cases were reported in the first quarter of the year,					
72	„	„	„	second	„
77	„	„	„	third	„
120	„	„	„	fourth	„
350					

The following table gives in detail the cases of Infectious Disease as notified for each quarter of the year, and a comparison with other years—

	Scarlet Fever.			Typhoid Fever.			Diphtheria.			Erysipelas.			Small Pox.			Continued Fever.			Puerperal Fever.			Membranous Croup.		
	1898	'97	'96	'98	'97	'96	'98	'97	'96	'98	'97	'96	'98	'97	'96	'98	'97	'96	'98	'97	'96	'98	'97	'96
During 1st quarter	29	95	40	2	8	4	31	21	23	19	14	10	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	1	—
During 2nd quarter	37	54	139	6	4	8	18	9	16	11	4	13	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—
During 3rd quarter	43	48	214	9	10	13	17	21	33	7	8	8	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
During 4th quarter	59	67	137	14	9	14	33	36	23	14	13	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Total ...	168	264	530	31	31	34	99	87	95	51	39	39	—	—	4	—	—	1	—	2	5	1	3	1

No case of Cholera or Small Pox has been reported during the year, and the District has also been free from Continued and Puerperal Fever.

From the following table will be seen the various Wards in which the 350 cases notified occurred :—

14

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever.	Erysipelas.	Small Pox.	Membranous Croup.	Continued Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	TOTAL.
Highgate ...	26	9	4	11	—	—	—	—	50
Muswell Hill ...	9	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	15
Crouch End ...	8	2	5	1	—	—	—	—	16
Hornsey ...	45	34	7	17	—	1	—	—	104
North Haringey	25	16	7	10	—	—	—	—	58
South Haringey	20	23	1	5	—	—	—	—	49
Stroud Green ...	20	9	3	3	—	—	—	—	35
Finsbury Park	15	3	3	2	—	—	—	—	23
TOTALS ...	168	99	31	51	—	1	—	—	350

Scarlet Fever again shows a decrease, the number of cases reported being 96 less when compared with 1897, and 362 less when compared with 1896. The largest number of cases (59) were reported in the fourth quarter and the least in the first quarter (29). The Wards most affected were the Hornsey with 45 cases, Highgate with 26, North Haringey with 25, South Haringey and Stroud Green with 20, followed by Finsbury Park with 15, Muswell Hill with 9, and Crouch End 8.

Diphtheria.—Twelve more cases were reported compared with 1897, and 4 more with 1896. Most of the cases occurred in the fourth quarter (33), followed by 31 in the first, 18 in the second, and 17 in the third. Four of the Wards show a decrease, viz.:—Finsbury Park 8, Highgate 5, Crouch End 4, and North Haringey 2, total 19. Whilst 19 more cases were reported in Hornsey, 6 in Stroud Green, 4 in South Haringey, and 2 in Muswell Hill, total 31. In looking at the map marked blue in the places where the disease has occurred, it will be noted that the great majority of the cases occurred in the thickly populated neighbourhood of the Boyton Road School. A great many children attend this school from outside Districts where diphtheria has been very prevalent, and in all probability the increased amount of this disease in the Hornsey Ward may be attributed to children from more or less infected Districts attending this and other large schools in the neighbourhood. These schools are constantly visited to ensure that they shall be kept in good sanitary condition, and whenever a case of diphtheria or other notifiable disease is known to exist amongst children in attendance, a notice is invariably sent to the Head Teacher informing him of the fact in order that scholars from the infected house, as well as the patient, shall be excluded until a medical certificate is received stating that the period of danger from infection is over.

Typhoid Fever.—Exactly the same number of cases has been reported this year as for 1897, viz.:—31. This compares with 34 for 1896, and 46 for 1895. Most of the cases (14) occurred in the fourth quarter and the least in the first quarter (2). Hornsey and North Haringey show the most cases (7 each), and Muswell Hill and South Haringey the least (1 each). No Ward has been free from this disease. In order to find out if possible the source of this disease (as well as is

also the rule in cases of diphtheria and puerperal fever), the Medical Officer personally visits the houses where the disease occurs. The causes to which it is attributed vary considerably—several of the cases were imported, 2 said to be caused by eating oysters, 1 from drinking bad water, and others from smells from gullies and drains. In three cases at least the diagnosis proved to be wrong, the patients respectively suffering from tubercular meningitis, abdominal influenza and appendicitis.

Erysipelas.—51 cases have been reported comparing with 39 for 1897 and 1896, and 45 for 1895. The notification of this disease is, in my opinion, of very doubtful use.

Membranous Croup.—One case only has been reported—this occurred in the Hornsey Ward.

Isolation Hospital.—164 cases have been treated during the year, comparing with 202 for 1897, and with 298 for 1896. Of these 7 died, 133 left the Hospital well and 4 were discharged as ineligible, leaving on the 31st of December 20 still under treatment. Six deaths occurred from diphtheria and 1 from tubercular meningitis.

Of the patients in the Hospital on the 1st of January, 18 were cases of scarlet fever, 4 of diphtheria, and at the termination of the year the 20 cases still under treatment consisted of 18 cases of scarlet fever and 2 of diphtheria.

The following table shows the number of cases admitted during each of the twelve months of the year, and the diseases for which they were admitted :—

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever.	Total.
January	6	5	—	11
February... ..	3	4	—	7
March	5	6	—	11
April	12	5	—	17
May	5	3	—	8
June	6	1	—	7
July	8	1	1	10
August	6	3	1	10
September	7	4	2	13
October	13	6	1	20
November	14	4	3	21
December	4	3	—	7
	89	45	8	142

Scarlet Fever.—89 cases were admitted during the year, 2 however of these proved to be measles and were discharged as ineligible. Two cases were also transferred from the diphtheria ward. Rather more than half of the total cases notified were admitted to the Hospital and every case with the exception of those still under treatment at the end of the year left the Hospital well.

Diphtheria.—Including the 4 cases in the Hospital at the commencement of the year 49 cases have to be accounted for. Of the 45 cases admitted during the year 1 was discharged as ineligible (Follicular Tonsillitis) and 2 transferred to the scarlet fever ward, 6 died, the remaining 38 were discharged cured and 2 were, at the end of the year, still under treatment but convalescent.

Notwithstanding the fact that the antitoxin treatment when applied early to the cases is now undoubtedly acknowledged as the best, I must draw your attention to the fact that only 2 of the cases had been so treated before admission, and that in my opinion an unnecessarily long delay had occurred prior to admission. Only 1 of the cases was admitted on the 1st day of the disease, 7 on the 2nd, 14 on the 3rd, 8 on the 4th, 1 on the 5th, 8 on the 6th, 3 on the 7th, 2 on the 8th and 1 on the 9th. Tracheotomy was necessary in 4 of the cases owing to extension of the disease to the larynx, 2 of these recovered and 2 died. The fatal cases were 1 a child aged 3 years, admitted on the 9th day of the disease, antitoxin was injected but as expected, owing to the lengthened stage of the disease, without beneficial result, and the operation also failed to relieve. The other fatal case was that of an infant 10 months old, admitted in a nearly moribund condition on the 6th day of the disease. In neither of these cases had antitoxin been used before admission.

The other fatal cases were:—

1. A child aged 12 years admitted on the 6th day of the disease.
2. " 3 " " " 2nd " "
3. " 4 " " " 7th " "
4. " 8 " " " 3rd " "

In neither of these cases had diphtheritic antitoxin been injected before admission. I may here state that in order to prevent any delay in the early use of antitoxin the Council has given orders that a supply shall be kept at the Medical Department at Southwood Lane, where it can be obtained at cost price. A circular was sent out to the medical gentlemen practising in the neighbourhood to this effect last October, and five applications for it have been made.

Typhoid Fever.—Application for admission were made for 8 patients suffering from this disease. Of these 1 was discharged as ineligible (abdominal influenza), 1 died (tubercular meningitis) and the remainder left the Hospital well.

The case of tubercular meningitis was sent in as being one of typhoid, the symptoms of both these diseases being often very similar. Before the disease could with certainty be pronounced as not one of typhoid fever the patient became too ill for removal and, as is almost invariably the case with this disease, died. The diagnosis was verified by a *post-mortem* examination,

Discharge Rooms and Baths.—During the year a great improvement has been effected as to the manner in which the patients take their final disinfecting baths. They now leave the bathroom for another small room, in which they put on perfectly clean and disinfected clothes, and then walk from this room into the open air, and so out of the Hospital without again entering either the bathroom or ward.

Washing, &c.—As in previous years all the washing for the patients and resident staff has been done in the laundry, and the necessary disinfecting of clothes done on the premises, both the laundry and disinfector being in the Hospital grounds.

The Nursing Staff.—The great advantage of training nurses as adopted last year, has again proved very satisfactory, and the

nurses and probationers are at the present time a very capable and willing body of workers. During the autumn, when, for a considerable period, three diseases were being treated at the same time (necessitating the use of three block and five or even six wards), it was only by great tact on the part of the Matron and willingness shown by the Sister and nurses that the work was done without getting in any extra aid, but it necessitated united effort for all, and convinced me that it would not be well at any time to have less than the present number of nurses, and that if such times of pressure were to occur often, or to be of long duration, an increase to the nursing staff would be imperative. That the nursing staff must be kept up as regards numerical strength and efficiency is absolutely necessary, as at any time patients suffering from different infectious diseases may be admitted, and it would be false economy, as well as disorganising to the Hospital generally to be under the necessity, as was formerly the case, of getting in extra nursing aid on every such occasion. In such a Hospital as this the nursing staff should, at any rate, be a little over the numerical strength required for the average number of patients, otherwise, what with the changes from night to day duty, relieving during meal times, half-holidays and holidays, also ambulance duty, which necessitates the absence of a nurse for some time, and the probability of illness among the staff, and above all the necessity of having many wards open, the work to be done collectively and individually becomes too hard and, possibly, altogether beyond what can reasonably be expected to be done, whereas, if the numerical strength is such that the Matron can apportion to each nurse her fair share of the work, and still have a little nursing strength in hand, then the work goes on better than it could if all were constantly working at high pressure, and when the necessity arises for this, all willingly comply with the demand.

The Matron has, as usual, carried out her duties very efficiently, and I have much pleasure in testifying to the thorough efficiency of the Sister, who was appointed during the year, and who does her utmost for the patients and the nurses under her charge.

Cost of Maintenance of Patients and Resident Staff at the Hospital.—This works out at 7s. 7d. for each person per week, comparing with 7s. 9d. for 1897, and with 7s. 10½d. for 1896.

Sanitary Defects, Nuisances and Sanitary Work.—I append tabular statements of the sanitary work carried out in the District during the year, and also Table A of the Deaths, and Table B of the Population, Births, and new cases of Infectious Disease coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year. The number of complaints received are 51 in excess of the previous year, rather less houses have been inspected but the total number of inspections and re-inspections comes to within 22 of the year before. The District has been free from the nuisance caused hitherto by movable dwellings, caravans, tents, &c. The large schools in the District have been visited monthly and three found defective, and the defects remedied. The bake-houses, slaughter-houses, cow-sheds, dairies and milk-shops are periodically visited and the numbers are the same as for 1897. Sixty-nine houses have been visited from house-to-house. Of these 7 situated in Southwood Lane have been pulled down. In the case of 54 the necessary work to remedy the defects has been done and in 8 others part of the work has been done, the remainder being in hand. Special attention has again been given to the water-closets which are without water supply, in order to see that they are kept properly hand flushed and clean. Thirty closets have been supplied with larger flushing tanks and the supply made efficient. Fourteen water-closets have been ventilated and 36 new constructed.

Analysis of Water.—The water has been chemically examined at stated periods, and found on each occasion to be of good quality. There has been no need for any bacteriological examination.

The Engineer and Surveyor has again kindly furnished me with details as to matters more particularly dealt with in his Department.

Stable Manure.—Wherever new stabling is erected within the District, the applicants are advised to provide proper manure baskets or trolleys instead of constructing manure pits, which require frequent attention and watching, and if great care is not taken to keep them clean often become a nuisance. This is almost invariably done now in connection with new buildings of this kind with satisfactory results

as the limited capacity ensures the refuse being carted away with more regularity than when the larger manure pits are in use.

Water Supply.—The extension of the area of constant supply during the year has been more in connection with newly laid-out estates than in the alteration of the supply to existing buildings. Pressure is, however, being brought to bear upon the New River Company in relation to this matter.

Disposal of House Refuse.—The burning of the whole of the house refuse of the District has been carried out uninterruptedly throughout the year in the 12 cell Destructor furnaces at the Sanitary Depôt at Hornsey, and, as before, without causing a nuisance of any kind.

The quantity of refuse consumed during the last four years has been as under :—

		Year 1895.	Year 1896.	Year 1897.	Year 1898.
Loads	...	7,846	9,451	11,260	12,788
Tons...	...	10,092	12,106	14,267	16,105

The decision arrived at by the Council in January last that in future all trade vegetable refuse and the general sweepings of shops would, if taken to the Sanitary Depôt, be burnt free of cost, is being taken advantage of by a number of tradesmen in the District, nearly 10 tons having been disposed of in this manner last month. The burning of refuse of such an objectionable character cannot fail to be of advantage to the District as a whole from a health point of view, and is doubtless a great convenience to the tradesmen, who often experience considerable difficulty in getting rid of it.

302 applications for the removal of house refuse were received during the year, which gives an average of 5·8 per week. The complaints numbered 170, the average being 3·2 per week.

Sewer Flushing.—Careful attention has been paid to the flushing of the sewers and culverts, the quantity of water used for this purpose during the last three years being as under :—

	1896.	1897.	1898.
Gallons	19,866,000	18,765,000	24,084,000

The fortnightly flushing of the sewers in the Haringey District instead of monthly, as hitherto, accounts to a large extent for the increased quantity of water used during the past year. Care is taken

that the brick culverts and open watercourses are kept in a cleanly condition, and all cases of pollution are followed up closely and disconnected.

Gullies.—Wherever old gullies, mostly of brick construction and untrapped, have been found defective they have been replaced with stoneware pot gullies with proper water seal.

Sewers.—The length of new sewers laid and reconstructed during the year is about $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles, compared with $4\frac{2}{3}$ miles during the corresponding period of 1897. These figures are made up as follows :—

	1897.	1898.
	Yds.	Yds.
New foul-water sewers	2680	3975
New surface-water sewers	4860	5025
	7540	9000
Sewers reconstructed	670	620
Total ...	8210 say $4\frac{2}{3}$ miles.	9620 say $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

Sewer Ventilation.—The erection of vertical cast-iron ventilating shafts up the flank walls of buildings or in other suitable positions has been continued during the year, the total number erected

being 19 as compared with 16 in 1897. I am informed by the Engineer that a considerable number of positions have been agreed with estate owners for the erection of these shafts, and they will be put up at the expense of the owners, when the buildings to which they are to be affixed are erected.

The efficient ventilation of the sewers is manifestly of the greatest importance, and it is satisfactory to note that every opportunity continues to be taken to secure this end.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HENRY CLOTHIER, M.D. Lond.,

Medical Officer of Health.

March 10th, 1899.

(C III.)

COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX.—SANITARY WORK, 1898.

Sanitary Districts.	Water Supply and Water Service.										Privy & Ash Pits, Ash & Earth Closets.	Drainage and Sewerage.																				
	Wells.			Houses, Water Laid on to. Percentage of Houses Supplied from Mains.	Cisterns.		Flush Cisterns Provided to W.C.'s. Draw-Taps Removed from Cisterns to Mains. Percentage of Houses supplied on Constant System.	Above Ground Receptacles Substituted for Pits. Movable Receptacles Sub- stituted for fixed. Water Closets Substituted for Dry Receptacles.	Water Closets.				Percentage of Houses Provided with Water Closets. Examined, Tested, Exposed, &c. Unstopped, Repaired, Trapped, &c. Waste Pipes, Rain Water Pipes, &c., Disconnected. Soil Pipes and Drains Ventilated. Disconnecting-Traps or Chambers Inserted. Reconstructed. New Laid.	Drains.				Cess- pools.	Sewers.													
	New Sunk.	Cleansed, Repaired, &c. Closed as Polluted.			New, Provided.	Cleansed, Repaired, Covered, &c. Overflow Pipes Discon- nected from Drains.					New Constructed.	New Apparatus Provided.		Repaired, Cleansed, &c. Supplied with Water, or supply rendered efficient. Ventilated.								Rendered Impervious, Emptied, Cleansed, &c. Abolished, and Drain Con- nected to Sewer. Percentage of Houses Draining into Sewers.	Yards of New Sewers Laid.	Yards of Sewers Recon- structed.								
HORNSEY URBAN DISTRICT.	—	—	1	100	1	56	—	34	—	—	—	—	—	36	89	137	30	14	100	164	179	105	83	36	127	—	6	1	100	9437	620	
			All excepting few isolated Cottages.																											Foul water Sewer: 4063 yards.	Surface water Sewers 5374 yards.	

COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX.—SANITARY WORK, 1898.

[illegible]



M 3.

(A)

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1898, in the Hornsey Urban District; classified according to DISEASES, AGES and LOCALITIES.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities.	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES.							MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.																					TOTAL.							
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	(i)	FEVERS.									Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria and Croup.	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Malignant Disease.	Injuries.		All Other Diseases.						
									Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Furuncul.																			
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22						
HORNSEY URBAN DISTRICT	579	158	55	17	17	194	138	Under 5																												
								5 upwds.																												
								Under 5																												
								5 upwds.																												
								Under 5																												
								5 upwds.																												
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								5 upwds.																												
								Under 5																												
								5 upwds.																												
TOTALS	579	158	55	17	17	194	138	Under 5	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	7	15	—	1	40	1	—	4	127	213						
								5 upwds.	—	—	4	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	—	5	35	81	51	31	5	145	366						
The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.																																				
Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto.								Under 5	—																											
								5 upwds.	2																											
Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto.								Under 5	1																											
								5 upwds.	6																											

HENRY CLOTHIER, M.D., LOND.

M 11.

(B) TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1898, in the HORNSEY Urban District; classified according to DISEASES, AGES and LOCALITIES.

NAMES of LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.													NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.															
	Census 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1898.			Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	FEVERS.							Typhus.	Erysipelas.	Cholera.	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	FEVERS.							Typhus.	Erysipelas.	Cholera.	
									Typhus.	Enteric Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Purpural.	Typhus.	Enteric Typhoid.								Continued.	Relapsing.	Purpural.	Typhus.	Enteric Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.				Purpural.
(a)	(b.)	(c.)	(d.)	(e.)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
	44,305	70,054	1,342	Under 5																													
				5 upwds.																													
HIGHGATE WARD	9,614			Under 5		26	9			4					11			4	1			—											
				5 upwds.														9	4			1											
MUSWELL HILL WARD (H) .. .	3,012			Under 5		9	3			1					2			—	—			—											
				5 upwds.														3	1			—											
CROUCH END WARD	5,670			Under 5		8	2			5					1			—	—			—											
				5 upwds.														4	1			3											
HORNSEY WARD	16,284			Under 5		45	34	1		7					17			4	11			—											
				5 upwds.														22	12			1											
NORTH HARINGEY WARD .. .	10,852			Under 5		25	16			7			—		10			2	1			—											
				5 upwds.														9	3			2											
SOUTH HARINGEY WARD .. .	7,098			Under 5		20	23			1					5			1	1			—											
				5 upwds.														10	7			—											
STROUD GREEN WARD .. .	10,386			Under 5		20	9			3			—		3			4	—			—											
				5 upwds.														9	1			1											
PINSBURY PARK WARD .. .	7,738			Under 5		15	3			3					2			1	—			—											
				5 upwds.														7	2			—											
				Under 5																													
				5 upwds.																													
				Under 5																													
				5 upwds.																													
TOTALS	44,305	70,054	1,342	Under 5		168	99	1		31			—		51			16	14			—											
				5 upwds.														73	31			8											

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District.—Yes. Since when?—January 1890. Besides the above-mentioned Diseases, insert in the columns with blank headings the names of any that are notifiable in the District, and fill the columns accordingly. State here the name of the Isolation Hospital used by the sick of the District. Mark (H) the Locality in which such Hospital is situated; and if not within the District, state where it is situated.—Isolation Hospital within the District, situated at Coppett's Road, Muswell Hill. HENRY CLOTHIER, M.D., Lond.